

Greenfield+Good News!

September 2025

Pastor Kurt Bockoven—563-202-0725—pastorbockoven@gmail.com
Josh Krage—Children, Youth, & Family—kragefamilymn@yahoo.com
Kris Fultz—Administrative Assistant—office@greenfieldlutheran.com



Back to the routine

As we come back from summer vacation to the routine of school or back to Greenfield, I recognize that returning from summer can be a bit overwhelming for many of us. We're not just returning to Greenfield for another wonderful program year; we're diving back into school, work, and facing a busier schedule than we've enjoyed recently.

With so much happening and events piling up on your calendar, it might be easy to let church attendance slip. But here's why I encourage you to resist that temptation: neglecting the routine of Sunday worship and church involvement can add unnecessary stress to your life.

Why is staying engaged so important? Because intentionally nurturing your spiritual life through our church provides a foundation that helps everything else fall into place. You'll discover renewed purpose in your actions as you see your life as a ministry of Christ. You'll encounter a vibrant community filled with children and youth who are growing in their faith. You'll find support during challenging times and numerous opportunities to make a positive impact in our community and beyond, through meaningful expressions of God's love and justice.

In essence, our church offers a sanctuary for spiritual grounding or Christ centering a place where you can redefine yourself and engage in community service. Regardless of whether your summer was fulfilling or tough, and whether your fall has begun with chaos or tranquility, this new program year gives us a chance to express gratitude for God's unwavering presence in our lives. Let's take this moment to reframe our lives as cherished children of God.

Blessings,
Pastor Kurt



Finley Thomas Russell

August 24, 2025

We welcome you into
the body of Christ
and into the mission
we share.



GF 2025 EVENTS



HELLO
September

Calendar Events may be added after the Newsletter has gone out, information is subject to change. Groups and events may change times or

dates. Please check with your members for more information. Please watch the Bulletins, Facebook and our website for updates.

SEPTEMBER 2025

- **Wednesday, Sept 3** – Bible study at Gabby Lou's 8:15 am
- **Wednesday, Sept 3** – Confirmation Orientation. 6:30 PM

• **Sunday, Sept 7** – Worship at 9 am **RALLY SUNDAY WITH BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**. Church Choir practice after service.

• **Monday, Sept 8** – 2nd Annual **Holiday Bazaar CRAFT NIGHT—Diamond Art Coasters** 6 pm. No skills needed just the willingness to come together and have some fun making items to sell at the Bazaar! See page in this issue for more details.

- **Wednesday, Sept 10** – Bible study at Gabby Lou's 8:15 am
- **Wednesday, Sept 10** – Miriam Circle meets at 10 am
- **Wednesday, Sept 10** – Confirmation 6 PM Meal, 6:30 PM Class
- **Thursday, Sept 11** – Bazaar Committee Meets at 6 pm

• **Sunday, Sept 14** – Worship at 9 am **1ST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL** Church Choir practice after service. Pastor to Union Prairie after Service.

• **Tuesday, Sept 16** – 2nd Annual **Holiday Bazaar CRAFT NIGHT—Cookie Baking** 6 pm. No skills needed just the willingness to come together and have some fun making items to sell at the Bazaar! See page in this issue for details.

- **Wednesday, Sept 17** – Bible study at Gabby Lou's 8:15 am

September EVENTS continued...

- **Wednesday, Sept 17** – Confirmation 6 PM Meal, 6:30 PM Class
-

- **Sunday, Sept 21** – Worship at 9 am. Church Choir practice after service.
 - **Sunday, Sept 21** – Church Council meets at 11 am.
 - **Monday, Sept 22** – Quilters Meet today.
 - **Tuesday, Sept 23** – 2nd Annual **Holiday Bazaar CRAFT NIGHT—Sports Pillows** 6 pm. No skills needed just the willingness to come together and have some fun making items to sell at the Bazaar! See page in this issue for more details.
 - **Wednesday, Sept 24** – Bible study at Gabby Lou's 8:15 am
 - **Wednesday, Sept 24** – Confirmation 6 PM Meal, 6:30 PM Class
-

- **Sunday, Sept 28** – Worship at 9 am. Church Choir practice after service. Pastor to Union Prairie after Service.

CIRCLES & COMMITTEES AND EVENTS COMING BACK:

Martha Leah, Children's Choir, Coffee Fellowship, and Church Committees all will be back in September. This is not a complete list. Please contact group members or watch the bulletin for more information on dates and times for these groups.

Contact the office for information about getting your event into the Greenfield Good News!

We hope your September is SPECTACULAR!!



CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION

will be held on
September 3rd
at 6:30 pm.

Confirmation class will
Continue on Wednesdays
with a meal at 6 pm
and class at 6:30 pm.

Please contact Pastor for more information
or with questions and if you are needing
a refresher or help with Acolyte duties.



Confirmation Class
2025

A Note to Acolytes & Acolyte Families:

New Schedules will be coming out for October 2025 thru January 2026.
Contact the office asap with any dates in that DO NOT WORK for you.
We understand that things come up and we can adjust as needed, so
no stress! As always, we will do our best to accommodate!

**WE LOVE AND APPRECIATE OUR ACOLYTES, HELPER
FAMILIES AND ALL OF OUR HELPERS!**

Thank You for all you do!!



RALLY SUNDAY
is September 7

**Blessing of the Backpacks
And so much more!**

Who's getting ready for the beginning
of the new Sunday School year and
excited for fall activities at Greenfield!!

*Let's "Rally" with Renewed
Energy & Purpose!*

**FIRST DAY
OF SUNDAY
SCHOOL
is Sept.14**

Contact Josh for
more
information!



VBS

2025



VBS

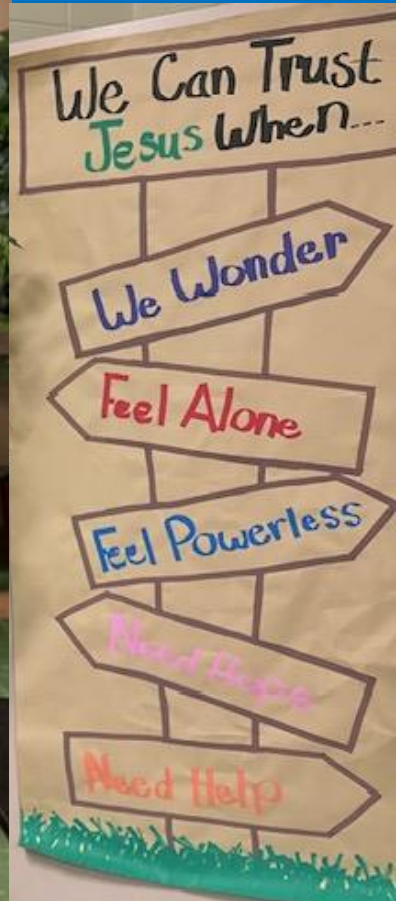
2025





VBS

2025



CHILDREN'S YOUTH MINISTRY

Greetings!

FROM THE GREENFIELD YOUTH PROGRAM

Vacation Bible school was a success as we had 26 kiddos attend this year. A significant increase from last year. A special shout out to the Lions Club for Breakfast on Saturday, Rochelle Pepin/Brenda Afseth for supper on Friday, Mary Beth Ostrom, Teresa Michel and family for teaching. Grayson Ostrom, Maddie Zwart, Brooke Zwart and Kiera Whitehill for helping guide the kiddos to their classes.

Peace,
Josh Krage
Youth Director

THANK YOU to Everyone who worked so hard for Our Kids VBS Program!

What you'll find . . . at the Bazaar

On Saturday, August 23, a group of volunteers, under the direction of Jaimie Diersen, came together to make Salsa to sell at the Holiday Bazaar!



Salsa



Look for this tasty delight on sale November 15, 2025!



November 15, 2025
9:00 am—1:00 pm

Craft Nights

*Serving Cups of cheer,
Plates of Treats, and
Time to Chat!*

No skills needed just the willingness to come together and have some fun making items to sell at the Bazaar!



Monday, September 8	Diamond Art Coasters If you have any diamond dot supplies—such as the sticking pen, tray & wax; please bring or let us borrow. And bring a beverage of your choice	6:00 pm
Tuesday, September 16	Cookie Baking We will be baking cookies to be packed in kits which we will sell at the Bazaar	6:00 pm
Tuesday, September 23	Sports Pillows No sewing skill s required—just come and have fun!	6:00 pm



If you haven't returned your postcard, please do—or let one of the committee members know what you are planning on contributing to this Fundraising Effort! The success of the Bazaar depends on **You!!!**

Check out the Bulletin Board and Face Book for more information !

Donation Idea: Gift Baskets



Are You Hard to Buy For?

Believe it or not—there are a lot of people like you! Why not put together a gift basket that you would

love to get! Make it reasonably priced, and it will be a lovely gift from someone who struggles to find the perfect gift for a very special person who may be hard to buy for!



Lefse

It's probably not a surprise that our Lefse was a huge hit at last year's Bazaar. We sold out in the first hour! We are needing more! This year, use your own recipe and make the lefse at home. We'll provide you with the instructions for packaging the lefse.



Good Things Are Always Happening at Greenfield!

Men's Breakfast

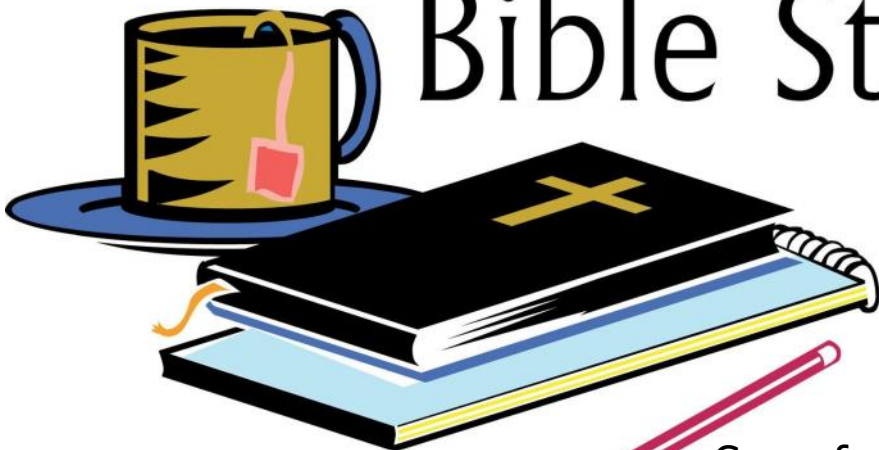
Variety is often called, "the Spice of life", where one may move out of the ordinary & predictable & embrace the unexpected surprise that falls into our laps.

This was the theme of the Men's Breakfast held on August 9th in the Greenfield Lutheran Church Dining Room. The Men were treated to a delicious breakfast prepared by the Adult & Family Committee members.



DNR Naturalist, Larry Reis, a conservationist from Winneshiek County Iowa opened our eyes to the world of Mushrooms. Who knew there were so many kinds of edible mushrooms here in southeastern Minnesota!

Bible Study With Pastor Kurt



Bible Study starts back on Wednesday, September 3rd at 8:15 in the back room at Gabby Lou's.

All are Welcome!

Come for a short scripture reflection with Pastor Kurt. Coffee's on us. Treats are on you. Let's gather together in fellowship, reading and study of the Word.

Good Things Are Always Happening at Greenfield!



You guys **ROCKED IT**
again this year!

You all are really a cut
above the rest! You are the
reason the grass is greener
on the Greenfield side!

You all are true Mow-
tivators! Take a bow you
magnificent Lawn-scapers!

All puns aside, We truly thank you for mowing through rain,
heat, more rain, mosquitos, more rain, and all the
muggy days... and especially... for taking time out
of *your* summer to help your Greenfield Family!!



Have you been missing a little Harmony in your life? Come Join the Greenfield Church Choir!

If you spontaneously burst into song during everyday
activities, been looking for a note-able way to serve, or
singing in the shower just isn't cutting it anymore, we
need you! We are like a musical family, except we only
disagree about tempo not who gets the last cookie :)

Be part of something bigger than yourself and get to
wear a fancy robe once in a while! Bring a friend,
bring a family member, grab a coworker! Practice is on
Sundays just after worship. Contact Stephanie for more
information.

Come Make a Joyful Noice

With the Greenfield Church Choir!



SIGN UP FOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP!

WE NEED YOU! to make coffee, bring a treat - homemade or store bought - it's all good and so very welcomed! Come join coffee fellowship with our church family on Sundays after service.

Sign up in the fellowship hall
or contact the church office for more information.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN HOW TO RUN THE SOUND AND VIDEO SYSTEM AT THE CHURCH?!!

NEW VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Help bring services to those who are unable to attend in person. Come JOIN the Rotation!

Learn about running the church video recording system. Our video team rotation already in place means you only need to help about once every six weeks or so. Please reach out to Pastor or the office for more information.



~ Thank You ~ Thank You ~ Thank You~ Thank You~ Thank You~ Thank You~ Thank You



SCRIPTURE READERS TEAM...

New Schedules will come out in October and go through January of 2026. Please contact the office with any dates that do not work for you to read. As always, we can change and trade dates as things come up.

New Readers are always welcome! Please contact the office to join!

~ Thank You ~ Thank You ~ Thank You~ Thank You~ Thank You~ Thank You~ Thank You

ALTAR GUILD TEAM..

We will have a new schedule in October that runs through January of 2026.

As always, we can change and trade dates as things come up. Please let the office know if you have any dates in that time that do not work for you.

Our Altar Guild Team is open to all. Join the rotation, we have a great team, you only serve about once every month and a half. Please contact the office for more details.



~ Thank You ~ Thank You ~ Thank You~ Thank You~ Thank You~ Thank You~ Thank You

Greenfield Lutheran Church PRAYER CHAIN

Thank you to those Greenfield Members who have opened their hearts and answered the call to be a prayer warrior on Greenfield's prayer chain. We want our Church Family to feel comforted in knowing that they are held close to our hearts in their time of need as we unite to think of them, stand by them, and uplift their loved ones and needs in prayer. Prayers can and do move mountains! ~Janet Ewalt

Please contact Janet Ewalt or Pastor Kurt to become a Prayer Warrior or to be added to the Prayer Chain.





Church Council Officers: **President** - Mary Beth Ostrom ~ **Vice President** - Gretchen Olson
Secretary - Matt Anderson ~ **Treasurer** - David Kiehne

Church Council Members: Matthew Anderson, Janet Ewalt, Ashley Haugerud, Zach Haugerud, David Kiehne, Mindy Kingsley, Gretchen Olson, Mary Beth Ostrom, Clayton Schoepski, Scott Snyder

Church Council Aug 17, 2025

Members Present

X MaryBeth Ostrom
Scott Snyder
X Mindy Kingsley
X Matt Anderson
X Dave Kiehne
Gretchen Olson
X Ashley Haugerud
X Pastor Bockoven
X Janet Ewalt
Zach Haugerud
Clayton Schoepski
Sam Grabau was present.

Call to Order – Mary Beth, President 11:00 AM

Devotions: Janet led devotions.

Code of Conduct

Any additions to the agenda:

Committee Reports:

Stewardship

Worship and Music

Property

Children, Youth, Family

Adult and Family

Endowment

Holiday Bazaar

Reports reviewed by the council.

1. Consent Agenda:

a. Approval of June 2025 Minutes

Change date on top of minutes to June 12, 2025.

Motion to approve by Mindy, 2nd by Janet. Motion carried.

Continued on next page...



2. Financial Report

Adjusted Bank Balance is \$51,171.

Right now, the church is sitting well financially. We have not had to take out a line of credit yet.

The Church is going to set up the Icon accounting program.

Gmail is now working for church emails. Email addresses haven't changed.

Email addresses for the church will remain the same.

3. Old Business

a. Sim Sound equipment

Sim sound is coming Tuesday. They will be adding the new label and hook up the streaming in the sound booth.

b. HVAC Update

Vis hooked up the HVAC in the historical room and the pastor's office.

4. New Business

a. Carpet Cleaning

Hauser Chem-dry gave an estimate of \$1,858.12 to clean carpets and pews. The pews are the most expensive part. They could get it done in 1 or 2 days. Janet motioned to approve the entire quote of Hauser Chem-dry to clean carpets and pews at the price of \$1,858.12. 2nd by Matt Anderson. Motion carried.

b. Tuck pointing needs to be done around the bell tower. Water is leaking in. We will wait until we hear back from the Organ costs before we make decisions on fixing the tuck pointing. We will need congregational approval to have this fixed.

c. Organ went out in late June. Dobson out of Lake City, Iowa, has agreed to come down to look at. He will come this week to look at. They will charge us mileage, \$100 for coming, pay for time here, and then mileage back. It will cost around \$700-\$1,000 for them to look at it.

d. The dishwasher at the parsonage has quit working. The pastor will look into costs for a dishwasher and get back to the council on prices.

e. Council member Zach Haugerud is leaving for Australia for about 9 months and maybe more. We will need to fill his position on the council. If anybody would like to fill out his term, please contact the office or the pastor.

Continued on next page...



5. Youth and Children Director Report

No report at this time.

6. Pastor's report

We will possibly have 6 new kids coming into confirmation. Hopefully 12 altogether. Teresa Michael and Josh Krage will still be helpers for confirmation. The pastor would like to do one week of confirmation and then one week of youth group. The youth group will be open to all.

The pastor would like to do a re-dedication for the stained glass windows. Brad Boice might come to sing at the church on that day. The date is still being worked out.

October is stewardship month.

Kris is going to create schedules for acolytes, ushers, and video/sound. If anybody would like to help, contact the church. We need helpers!

There will be a baptism coming up next Sunday.

The pastor will be doing Haven O'Connor's wedding next summer.

The alarm system has been going off at church. Morem Electric will be coming to check a sensor that keeps getting tripped.

GLC on Wednesday nights will be ending this month. Ashley Haugerud appreciates everybody's help with food.

7. Adjourn/Lord's Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 12:06

Submitted by Secretary Matt Anderson

Thank you Church Council Members

Your dedication to this important role in the body of our church helps fulfill our mission, vision and values.

We are grateful for the wisdom you bring and to the precious gift of time that you give to Our Greenfield Church Family!



Greenfield 2025 CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Members *indicates new term

Matthew Anderson (2026) 507-822-3154 matthew.anderson@isd2198.k12.mn.us

Mindy Kingsley (2026) 507-259-9274 mjosmonson@gmail.com

Mary Beth Ostrom (2026) 507-259-5042 marybeth.ostrom@isd2198.k12.mn.us

Janet Ewalt (2025) 507-272-8138 janetewalt1005@gmail.com

Scott Snyder (2025) 507-886-9644 scottsn54@gmail.com

Gretchen Olson (2025) 507-993-5421 rgolson101@gmail.com

David Kiehne (2025) 507-886-2350 kiehned26@gmail.com

Clayton Schoepski (2025) 507-517-4053 clayton.schoepski@isd2198.k12.mn.us

Ashley Haugerud (2025-2027)* 507-216-2569 ashleyhaugerud10@gmail.com

Zach Haugerud (2025-2027)* 507-273-5343

Pastor Kurt Bockoven 563-202-0725 pastorbockoven@gmail.com

Email scams are going around again, please be careful!!

Just a reminder: Pastor Kurt, Josh, Sam or anyone else from Greenfield Church ***will never*** ask you for a gift card. Please ALWAYS call Pastor or the office when in doubt.

How Email Scams Work...

Impersonation: The scammer pretends to be someone you trust, like your Pastor or a government official to gain your trust.

Urgency: They often create a sense of urgency, claiming the request is time-sensitive and needs immediate action.

Gift Card Request: The core of the scam is the request to purchase gift cards,.

Money Transfer: Scammers then ask for the card numbers and PINS, which allow them to immediately redeem the cards for cash or spend the balance online.

Red Flags to Watch Out For: If the email creates a sense of urgency and pressure to act quickly it's a strong indication of a scam. Many scam emails contain errors in grammar and spelling. Check the sender's email address carefully. Scammers often spoof email addresses to make it look like they are coming from a legitimate source.

If you suspect a scam what to do?

Do not respond. Do not click on any links in the email. Verify by calling Pastor or the office.



- REMEMBER -
PASTOR KURT OR ANY GREENFIELD STAFF
WILL NEVER ASK FOR A GIFT CARD!



Tithes and Offerings

Giving back to God

Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver.
- 2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

online GIVING

easy. fast. effective.

Support our Mission With On-line Giving!

Consider making your contribution with our on-line giving tools. You can make a one-time gift or set up reoccurring giving.

Two ways to sign up:

Fill out a paper form—we can email to you or you can pick up at church. OR Download the free Vanco app from the App Store or Google Play. Then Choose "Greenfield Lutheran Church," and Click "Donate." It's that easy. You can pay as a guest or set up an account. If you need assistance with either option, please let the office know someone will call to help you.

Reminder: When you do automatic giving from your checking or savings accounts you can use this slip shown for the offering plates. **They will be in the pews with the regular offering envelopes. Thank You!**



Income
&

Expenses

Greenfield Lutheran Church Income and Expense JULY 2024

Revenue: \$12,779.50

Expense: \$25,652.46

Shortfall of: -<**\$12,872.96**>

**A larger unexpected expense was the downpayment for the radon mitigation system at the Parsonage of \$2,436.50.



A New Way To Join In The Worship Of Giving

You can give using your smartphone. Just download the Vanco Mobile App from Apple or Google Play.



- Enter our church's name and click Search. Then, select our church.
- Log in, don't have an account? Sign up.
- Select your fund and donation frequency.
- Select a payment method and enter your credit card, debit card or bank account information. You can save this payment method for future donations.
- You can choose to cover the donation processing fees by adding a small amount on top of your gift. Click the button to opt in.
- Review and complete your gift by clicking Submit.



Donating to the church is now easy with the new Vanco mobile app.

**Consider using this secure method to support
Greenfield Lutheran Church
Harmony, Minnesota**



VANCO
FAITH