

Greenfield+Good News!

November 2025

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Generosity

We often overlook the incredible generosity of God in our daily lives. It's easy to take God's kindness for granted.

God's generosity knows no bounds. From before the beginning of time and beyond our understanding of space, God exists with no need for anything outside of God's self. Yet, out of an overflowing generosity, God chose to bring creation into existence—the universe, the world we know. This all stems from God's bountiful heart. But God didn't stop there; God continues to engage with creation, sustaining and nurturing it throughout time. Moreover, out of love and kindness, God played an active role in our existence, crafting each of us. Martin Luther beautifully expressed this in his small catechism, stating that God the Father “has created me and all that exists. He has given and still preserves my body and soul with all their powers.” This was never a necessity for God, yet it was done out of immense goodness and grace, despite our unworthiness. God's act of creation itself is generous, and even more so is the sustenance of each one of us and everything around us. It's simply in God's nature to be profoundly generous.

Not only is God generous at the outset, but God's generosity is present in every moment. The galaxies dance in the heavens, the sun warms our days, the earth turns steadily, and the seasons bring forth harvests—all in a rhythm established and maintained by God's involvement. God is no distant creator who sets the world in motion and walks away; rather, God is a personal presence, engaged in our everyday lives. Truly, we are blessed!

We often recognize God's generosity during times of celebration—when we gather in gratitude for the harvest, when we achieve success, or during moments of thanksgiving. Yet, it's easy to forget this kindness amid hardships, sickness, or tragedy. Still, beyond all our ups and downs, God remains steadfast in working for our well-being. God's generosity is not contingent on our awareness or feelings; it continues unabated.

This November, we are fortunate to pause and express our gratitude for the bountiful harvest. It's a wonderful opportunity to reflect on all the time, talent, resources, and gifts that God continually provides. While our thanks can never fully capture the depths of God's generosity, it's important to acknowledge it nonetheless. Moreover, it enriches our lives to live with an awareness of God's endless generosity. I encourage you to embrace this spirit of gratitude as we transition from fall to winter.

Blessings,
Pastor Kurt

GF NOVEMBER 2025 EVENTS



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.

NOVEMBER 2025

DROP OFF HOLIDAY BAZAAR ITEMS/DONATIONS/CRAFTS NOVEMBER 2-8.

Please bring your items in and place in the upstairs room across from the Youth Room, and make sure to fill out the form so the Bazaar Committee knows who brought what. Thank you all for your help in making this event a success! You can bring items after these dates, please let a committee member know.

MITTEN TREE—Donations of new and hand-made items are accepted, please place on the tree at the back of the sanctuary. These items go to children and families in Fillmore County to help keep them warm this winter.

This year we honor and remember Sondra Taubert for her many years of dedication to the Greenfield Mitten Tree and the people it serves. Sondra along with Nancy Overby and the Rachel Circle faithfully collected mittens, hats and scarves for many years in this ministry together and we are forever grateful to them.

Please Help Decorate Our

Mitten Tree

In the Spirit of the Season, Greenfield Church is collecting mittens, gloves, hats and scarves to help those in need in Fillmore County.



Events Continued on next page...

GF EVENTS continued...

NOVEMBER 2025



- **Sunday, Nov 2 – *Worship*** at 9 am.
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY—
Church Choir practice after service.
- **Sunday, Nov 2 – *Worship & Music***
Meet today see Pastor for details.



- **Monday, Nov 3 –**
CARAMEL MAKING FOR THE BAZAAR —
Beginning at 9:00 am in the Greenfield
Lutheran Kitchen. Please come and help make and
package the caramels.

- **Monday, Nov 3 – *Quilters***
Meet today



- **Wednesday, Nov 5 - *Bible study*** at Gabby Lou's 8:15 am. All are welcome.
- **Wednesday, Nov 5 – *Confirmation*** 6 PM Meal, 6:30 PM Class
- **Saturday, Nov 8 – WREATH DECORATING FOR THE BAZAAR**—Beginning at 9:00 am we will be decorating the outdoor evergreen wreaths that will be sold



at the Bazaar. This will be held at Morem Electric Building on 715 North Main Street here in Harmony. Lisa Kingsley will be sharing her expertise and assist us as we creatively decorate the wreaths. Please come and learn the techniques a share your creativity! Come enjoy the fellowship. All are welcome.

Continued on the next page...

There's
always
SOMETHING
TO BE
thankful
FOR

GF EVENTS
continued...

NOVEMBER 2025

• **Sunday, Nov 9 – *Worship*** at 9 am.
Church Choir Sings. Church Choir
practice after service. Pastor to
Union Prairie after Service.



• **Sunday, Nov 9 –**
YOUTH GROUP TO AIR INSANITY
after service. Check with Josh with questions
or for more information about this fun event!

• **Wednesday, Nov 12 - Bible study** at Gabby Lou's 8:15 am. All are welcome.

• **Wednesday, Nov 12 - Miriam Circle Meets**
at 10 am in the Historical room. Please bring
your own drink.

• **Wednesday, Nov 12 - Martha Leah Circle**
Meets at 2 am Please check with Drucie or
Janet for location or more details.



• **Wednesday, Nov 12 – Confirmation** 6 PM Meal, 6:30 PM Class

• **Friday, Nov 14 – BRING BAKED GOODS**
FOR HOLIDAY BAZAAR TODAY PLEASE

Bring your baked items to the church base-
ment and put them on the counter in the
kitchen. Please note what you've brought
and also your name. Check with Bazaar
Committee members with any questions.

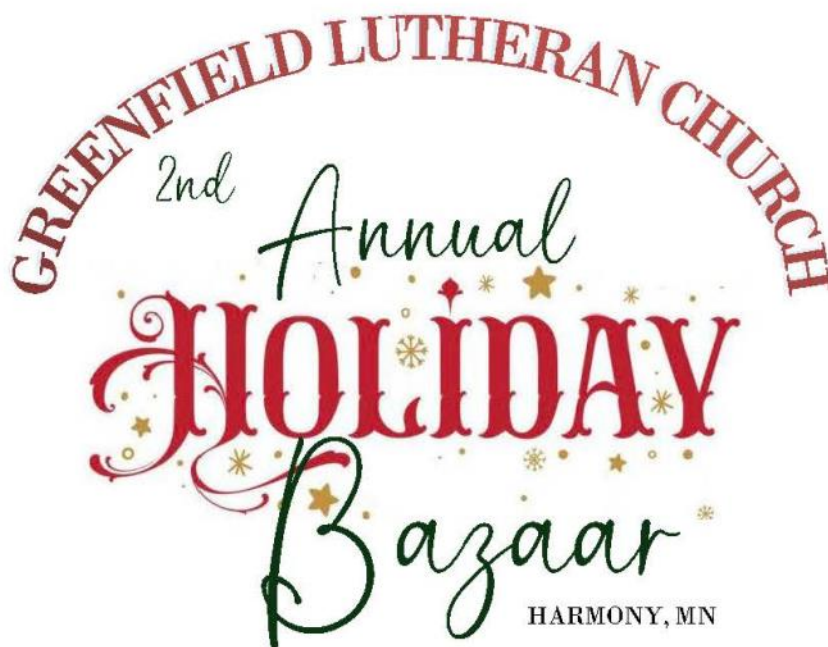
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GF
November
EVENTS
continued...

NOVEMBER 2025



· **Saturday, November 15 ~ 9 am to 1 pm**

2ND ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR!!!

A big **THANK YOU** to the 2nd Annual Holiday Bazaar Committee for all their hard work to make this event so special and to all who donated or helped in any way!

Please come support them and the church and do some holiday shopping early! You can pick up some really great one-of-a-kind gift items made and donated by our Greenfield Church family members!!

***See the other pages in this Newsletter for more details
about this wonderful event!***

Continued on the next page...

GF November EVENTS *continued...*

NOVEMBER 2025—



- **Sunday, Nov 16– Worship** at 9 am.

Kids Choir Sings—Church Choir practice after service. Children's Christmas Program rehearsals begin.

- **Sunday, Nov 16– Church Council meets** at 11 am.



- **Wednesday, Nov 19- Bible study** at Gabby Lou's, 8:15 am. All are welcome.

- **Wednesday, Nov 19 – Confirmation** 6 PM Meal, 6:30 PM Class



- **Saturday, Nov 22–**

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE at 4 pm
Greenfield hosts this year. All are welcome.

Hanging of the Greens

- **Sunday, Nov 23 –
Worship** at 9 am.

Church Choir
practice after
service.

**GREENING OF
THE CHURCH
TODAY**

*Continued on the
next page...*



Please Contact Pastor Kurt, Josh
or the office for more information.
It would be wonderful if you could help!!

Christmas is such a special time of year -
a time of *celebration, family*, and the
birth of our Lord. With this in mind, you
are invited to join us as we prepare the
house of our Lord to celebrate His birth.

There are jobs for every skill level,
so everyone can help.



GF November EVENTS continued...

- Monday, Nov 24
– Quilters Meet
today



- Wednesday, Nov 26- Bible study at Gabby Lou's 8:15 am. All are Welcome.
- Wednesday, Nov 26 – NO CONFIRMATION—THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
- Thursday, Nov 27 – **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!** Office closed today.
- Sunday, Nov 30 – Worship at 9 am. 1st Sunday of Advent. Church Choir practice after service. Pastor to Union Prairie after Service.

Happy November & Happy Thanksgiving!!!



FYI—COMING UP IN DECEMBER—PLEASE NOTE ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE...

Along with the usual meetings and gatherings in December here are a few of the “extras” to help you plan ahead in the busiest and most wonderful time of the year!

Dec 3—COOKIE MAKING for Breakfast with Santa.

Dec 6—BREAKFAST WITH SANTA.

Dec 14—*TENTATIVE Church Choir Christmas Cantata.*

Dec 21—Worship/CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM.

Dec 24—NO CONFIRMATION.

Dec 24—CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.

Dec 25 – MERRY CHRISTMAS!!



Greetings!

FROM THE GREENFIELD YOUTH PROGRAM

Summer is officially over and Fall is quickly taking over. The youth at Greenfield Lutheran have been busy with Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth Night's, School, Church etc. With time going so fast... I wanted to share a few highlights for everyone.

Sunday School is going great as we've integrated what our children experience during school and in life. We've discussed Bullying, Anger, the Golden Rule of "Do unto others they would have done unto you" and sportsmanship along with a few others that the kids have chosen. It's important that we share these experiences with each other and to let everyone know that God is always with us No Matter What.

On October 25th the Youth led by Cory, Alison and Gracie Whalen set up our annual Trunk or Treat in Harmony. As usual it was a success and we appreciate them for helping out with this event.

On October 26th The Children's Choir wore their Halloween Costumes while they sang in front of the church. This was followed by a Lesson about Martin Luther and The Reformation. After the lesson, the kiddos were given Halloween treats.

In October we also had a Youth Night of Super Mario Kart on the WII that was inspired by None Other Than Pastor Bockoven.

The main focus starting mid-November will be preparing for the children's Christmas Program. This year will be a more modern Program.

Please note, I do post pictures and videos of what we do and the fun we're having.

Peace,
Josh Krage
Youth Director

GRATEFUL HEARTS

1. The first sip of coffee or tea in the morning
2. Fuzzy socks and warm blankets
3. A good night's sleep (even if it's rare)
4. A podcast that makes you feel less alone
5. Sunlight through the window
6. Music that understands your feelings
7. Cooking something just for yourself
8. Having a favorite pen or notebook
9. Getting in bed with clean sheets
10. The smell of something nostalgic
11. Someone who really "gets" you
12. Inside jokes with friends
13. Pets who stay close when you're sad
14. A text from someone who remembered you
15. The freedom to set boundaries
16. Support people and church family
17. Your chosen family
18. Feeling seen or validated
19. Your sense of humor, even in hard times
20. The ability to notice your own growth
21. Skills you've worked hard to learn
22. Your unique perspective
23. The courage to ask for help
24. Learning to sit with discomfort
25. The strength it takes to rest
26. Letting go of perfectionism
27. The clarity that comes after a hard decision



28. A stranger holding the door open
29. Deep breaths that actually help
30. The way animals stretch in the sun
31. Libraries and free knowledge
32. Finding something you thought was lost
33. A really good meme when you needed a laugh
34. Finishing a task you were dreading
35. The smell of rain
36. Hot showers on a cold day
37. Walks with no destination
38. Being able to start over
39. A moment of peace in the middle of chaos
40. Grace when grieving
41. Learning to trust yourself again
42. Being part of change, even in small ways
43. Knowing you are not alone in your pain
44. Knowing Jesus loves you just the way you are
45. The possibility of joy, even when it's hard to reach
46. Today. Just today.

GREENFIELD LUTHERAN CHURCH

2nd Annual

HOLIDAY

Bazaar

HARMONY, MN

Saturday, November 15th
9am - 1pm

Come enjoy a sweet treat while you shop for holiday porch pots, wreaths, crafts, baked goods, homemade salsa, homemade lefse, Norwegian Meatball Kits and MORE!

Enter through the electric doors on the west side.

It's almost here!



It's not too late to get involved
and help out!

Caramel Making



Monday, November 3rd
9:00 am
Greenfield Lutheran Church Kitchen

Wreath Decorating



Saturday, November 8th
9:00 am
Morem Electric
715 Main Ave N, Harmony

Come and join the fun!

Craft Item Drop Off

November 8th 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Bring items to Greenfield Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall—enter through the kitchen

Or

Anytime, you can leave your items on the table in the hallway across from the Office.

Please be sure to fill out to let us know what you brought and give us a suggested price!!!!

Thank you so much

Bake Sale drop off

Friday, November 14th, 9:00 am—5:00 pm

Bring items to Greenfield Lutheran Church Fellowship
Hall—enter through the kitchen

Containers are available on the table across from the
office for you to pack your items, if needed

Please be sure to fill out to let us know what you
brought and give us a suggested price!!!!

Thank you so much



Bucket Raffle



Drawing for the Bucket Raffle will be held on
November 15, 2025 at 1:00 pm
during the
Holiday Bazaar, Greenfield Lutheran Church
Harmony MN

Ticket price:
\$2.00 for 1
\$10.00 for 5
\$20.00 for 10

- ⇒ Need not be present to win.
- ⇒ Must be 18 or older to purchase ticket or win prize
- ⇒ Winner responsible for any applicable fees or taxes

Prizes:



Prize 1: Jasion E-Bike valued at \$800.
Donated by Scott & Janet Ewalt



Prize 2: Handmade oak shelf with beveled mirror and
coat hooks valued at \$700.
Donated by Gerri Ehler



Prize 3: Handmade Twin sized Quilt valued at \$200
Donated by the Greenfield Quilter's Group



Prize 5: Meat bundle and ground beef
valued at \$110
Donated by Ross Kiehne and Jim Harstad



Prize 4: Harmony Dollars valued at \$200
Donated by Laurie Magnus

On Sale Now!



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 Oct 19, 2025

Members Present

MaryBeth Ostrom
X Scott Snyder
Mindy Kingsley
X Matt Anderson
X Dave Kiehne
X Gretchen Olson
Ashley Haugerud
X Pastor Bockoven
X Janet Ewalt
X Clayton Schoepski

Call to Order – Gretchen, Vice-President 11:00 AM

Devotions: Scott led devotions.

Code of Conduct

Any additions to the agenda: None

Committee Reports:

Stewardship
Worship and Music
Property
Children, Youth, Family
Adult and Family
Endowment
Holiday Bazaar

Reports reviewed by the council.

Special note: Everything for the Bazaar is going well. There may be a conflict for the bazaar date. We will leave it up to the bazaar if they want to change the date and the council will support whatever the bazaar decides.

Continued on next page....



1. Consent Agenda:

a. Approval of September 2025 Minutes

Motion to approve by Dave, 2nd by Scott. Motion carried.

2. Financial Report

Adjusted Bank Balance is \$23,698.23

Giving is up over almost every month from last year.

3. Old Business

Update on lightning strike repairs.

We're still waiting on parts for the fire suppression system. We are still waiting on a part for the video system. Pastor is calling every week.

One of the tvs is out from the lightning strike. Pastor suggests that we wait until Black Friday deals to replace it. Dave said he has one that he would give to the church and Scott might have one as well. Pastor is still working with the insurance company and documenting damage. It's unlikely that we will reach the \$10,000 deductible.

Violin & Piano recital with Ecumenical Thanksgiving service

Saturday, November 26 at 4 pm. There will be pie and coffee downstairs following the recital. They will be performing all hymns.

4. New Business

Main computer and Website

Our main computer's processing speed is slowing down. It will be upgraded this week. It will cost \$170 for the part and \$120 for the service call. We are close to switching to Google emails. We have obtained all of the licences. It will not change our email address. This will free up more data on our website.

Pastor reached out to a different website company called Envision in Winona to create a new website for the church. Pastor is getting more information and will bring it to the council at a later date.

There is SPAM mail that appears to be coming from the Pastor but check the email address to make sure it is from the Pastor. He will not email you for gift card money! The Pastor is in talks with copier companies because our lease is expiring with our current company to find the best deal and fit for the church.

Continued on next page....



5. Youth and Children Director Report

Read Josh's report on youth activities and Sunday school lessons.

6. Pastor's report

Pastor went to the fall conference. Synod assembly will be May 2nd, 2026.

We have a new Bishop that was installed. Many pastors are doing multiple churches in our area. Pastor will continue to work with Union Prairie for another year. Pastor appreciated all of the people that helped with Sondra Talbert's funeral.

Pastor was wondering if we should have a 6:30 Christmas Eve Service. We had 20 people last year and we are having trouble finding volunteers to help with the 6:30 service. He will bring it up to the Worship and Music committee. Council will have to make a decision next month.

7. Adjourn/Lord's Prayer

The meeting adjourned at 11:54 am.

Submitted by Secretary Matt Anderson

Reminder!

Pastor Kurt, Josh, Sam, and all of the church staff will NEVER EVER ask for gift cards or anything else by email.

Please remember to double check email addresses carefully and when in doubt always call. The email might say our name but have a different email address.

Email scams are getting more difficult to detect,. ALWAYS call before responding to any suspect emails.



SCAM ALERT!!



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

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



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 **SEPTEMBER 2025**

Revenue: \$14,801.00
Expense: \$18,456.20
Shortfall of: **-<\$3,655.20>**



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