



Dear Friends,

Pastor's Corner

We're well into summer now—and well into what the church calls *Ordinary Time*. It's a phrase that sounds, well, a little unimpressive. After all the color and energy of Easter and Pentecost, Ordinary Time might seem like a bit of a letdown.

But here's the truth: *Ordinary Time* is where the real work of discipleship happens.

The term "Ordinary" doesn't mean boring or unimportant—it comes from the Latin word *ordinalis*, which means "numbered." It refers to the counted Sundays after Pentecost, stretching all the way to Christ the King Sunday in November. It's the longest season of the church year, colored green—the color of growth and life.

It's also a season that mirrors much of our actual lives: no major festivals, no high holy days—just the day-to-day walk of faith. It's in this season that we ask, "What does it mean to follow Jesus *here*? In my routines, in my conversations, in my relationships, in my work and rest and worry?"

That's why we're continuing our summer sermon series, *Walking with Jesus: The Way of Compassion*. The life of compassion isn't just something we turn on during holidays or crises. It's something we live out in all the so-called "ordinary" moments—when we check in on a neighbor, when we forgive someone who hurt us, when we choose kindness instead of cynicism, or when we pray quietly for strength at the start of another long day.

The Gospels show us again and again how Jesus met people in their everyday lives. He walked dusty roads, ate ordinary meals, and stopped to notice those others passed by. In every one of those "ordinary" encounters, God's extraordinary love showed up.

So here's my prayer for us this July:

That we pay attention.

That we stay open to the Spirit's nudges.

That we practice compassion—not just in the big moments,
but in the small, unseen ones too.

Because Ordinary Time isn't a break from holy work. It *is* the holy work.
And we don't walk it alone.

Peace and blessings,
Pastor Bunny



Youth News:



SAVE THE DATE

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
VBS
JULY 21-24

Vacation Bible School Day Camp will be held July 21-24 from 9 AM – 3PM and July 25th 9 AM – Noon at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. We are SO excited to have counselors from Camp Ewalu in Strawberry Point lead us through a super fun week! Open to all elementary school aged kiddos (going into kindergarten-finishng 5th grade). We would also welcome any middle school/high school aged kids to help as a volunteer! Need a ride? We can help with that, too! Let Hannah or Pastor Bunny know!!

Hannah's New Email

I have noticed that due to the overwhelming amount of junk email I get, I was missing important emails that were coming out my inbox. I tried to ask to have emails sent to my work email as well as my personal email, however there are gaps of days I may not be at work either. All that being said, I have a new email just for church!! If you need to send me an email, please reach me at youthministry@crsavivors.org. I have notifications set up and will hopefully be able to respond in a more timely manner and not miss out on important information. Thanks! Hannah

Youth News:

On June 9th, I attended the Women in Ministry retreat at St. Steven's Lutheran Church. Pastor Bunny, along with female leaders in our synod, wrote a grant to make this enlightening day possible! The keynote speaker was Dr. Karoline Lewis from Luther Seminary. She was SO COOL! Dr. Lewis is an author of one of the only books that writes specifically to women who work in ministry. Dr. Lewis talks about the parable of the Woman at the Well and how this represents women in ministry. She also talked quite a bit about self care and how this does not have to be some large, extravagant act. It may be as simple as crossing a task off your to-do list or taking a few moments of your day to think I am amazing because _____. She reminds us that we are amazing for SO many distinct reasons; and God knows we are amazing for even more reasons than that! What stuck with me the most was the following quote from Melva Sampson – “empire thrives on exhaustion, rest is resistance.” With that, I encourage you to do one thing this week as an act of self care – take a walk, fold some laundry, read a book, watch a show. What ever makes you feel amazing because you are!! -Hannah

Phil and Andy's Pantry



In June and July we are collecting summer snacks and convenient food items. That would be individual sized snacks like fruit, cheese/crackers, puddings, jello, and cookies and cake treats.

This is useful for kids during their summer vacation time from school and the whole family can delight in tasty snacks.



We Need Worship Volunteers!

Worship is at the heart of our life together—and it takes many hearts and hands to make it happen each week! We're looking for volunteers to serve in a variety of roles, including:

- **Assisting Ministers**
- **Readers**
- **Cantors (to lead the Kyrie)**
- **Musical Talents**

...and other important roles that help create a welcoming and meaningful worship experience.

A printed sign-up sheet will be available starting on Sunday, July 6. If you would like to save paper and answer online, please use this link: <https://forms.gle/nMC3XFDZj1jYzfT79>. Please have each member of your family fill out a separate form.

Whether you're a longtime volunteer or trying something new, your presence matters, and we would love to have you involved.

Questions? Please contact Parish and Staff, Marcia Adix, Ann Larson, Nancy Greer, or Suzanne Schmitt.



Christmas in July? Absolutely!

Yes, you read that right! On **Sunday, July 27 during our 10am service**, we're bringing a little bit of December into the heart of summer with a special "Christmas in July" worship celebration.

Dust off your Christmas sweater (or grab the short-sleeve version!), wear your festive reds and greens, and join us in singing our favorite Christmas hymns. Together, we'll celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ—without the hustle and bustle that December often brings.

Why are we doing this?

- 1 - Because the message of "*God with us*" is worth celebrating year-round.
- 2 - Because in July, we have the space to pause, breathe, and remember the gift of Jesus without the long to-do list.
- 3 - (And okay... maybe because Pastor Bunny really, really loves Christmas.)



Come as you are, **bring a friend**, and experience the joy of Christ's birth in a fresh and meaningful way. No snow required—just the warmth of community and the promise of Emmanuel, God with us.

See you on July 27!

Sunday Morning Bible Study Update

Sunday morning Bible Study is completed until fall. But the conversation doesn't have to stop! All members of the Sunday group are warmly invited to join the Wednesday Morning Summer Bible Study, which will begin meeting weekly at 10:00 a.m. starting this summer. It's a great way to stay connected, go deeper in faith, and enjoy fellowship in a relaxed setting.

Peace, today and always,
Pastor Bunny

2025 Financial Update

Contribution results for the week ending 6/22/2025:

General Giving:	\$2,667.00
Total Giving:	\$2,739.03

Weekly averages through 6/22/2025 (25 weeks):

Average Actual General Giving:	\$4,088.49 (\$102,212.37 YTD)
Average Actual General Expenses:	\$3,921.25 (\$98,031.31 YTD)

The averages reported above are the averages of "actual" general giving and general expenses, not the forecasts.

Readers

July 6 – JoAnn Kohl
July 13 – Laurene Case
July 20 – Suzanne Schmitt
July 27 – Hannah Plummer

August 3 – Laurie Strottman
August 10 – Nancy Greer
August 17 – Catherine Burroughs
August 24 - Catherine Burroughs
August 31 – Sue Clapp

****Readers can pick up their reading in the
“Reader” mailbox located between the offices in
the back hallway**

Acolytes

July 6 - Evy Fiester
July 13 - Eric Strottman
July - 20 - Parker Zeien
July 27 - Korver Sindelar

August 3 – Korver Sindelar
August 10 – Evy Fiester
August 17 – Eric Strottman
August 24 – Parker Zeien
August 31 – Korver Sindelar

Assisting Ministers

July 6 – Ann Larson
July 13 – Sue Clapp
July 20 – Nancy Greer
July 27 – Hannah Plummer

August 3 – Natalie Fiester
August 10 – Karen Janney
August 17 – Sue Clapp
August 24 – Nancy Greer
August 31 – Hannah Plummer

Ushers/Greeters

July 6 – Stottman’s
July 13 – Dave Sampson, Marv Houg,
Tom Zuber
July 20 – Mark & Suzanne Schmitt
July 27 – Fiester’s

August 3 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson
August 10 – Dave Sampson, Marv Houg, Tom
Zuber
August 17 – Strottman’s
August 24 –Schmitt’s & Ann Larson
August 31 – Fiester’s

Prayer for Pastor

July 6 – Laurene Case
July 13 – Nancy Trout
July 20 – Dave Case
July 27 – Ardy Erickson

August 3 – Therese Plummer
August 10 – Diana Emig
August 17 – Arnold Strottman
August 24 – Natalie Fiester
August 31 – Ann Larson

Children’s Sermon

July 6 - JoAnn Kohl
July 13 - Hannah Plummer
July - 20 - Pastor Bunny
July 27 - JoAnn Kohl

August 3 – Hannah Plummer
August 10 – Pastor Bunny
August 17 – JoAnn Kohl
August 24 – Hannah Plummer
August 31 – Pastor Bunny

Serving Our Congregation

Bunny Dillard – Head Pastor

Sue Clapp – Congregation President

David Sampson – Treasurer

Therese Plummer – Parish/Financial Secretary

Hannah Plummer – Children & Youth
Ministries Director

Forrest Green – Music Director

Terri Hodge – Bell Choir Director

Pictures of the Womens' Luncheon, June 19, 2025

