



## Pastor's Corner

### **God With Us—In Every Season**

This July has been full—not just with activities, but with joy, connection, and the unmistakable presence of God.

We kicked things off with a wonderful youth picnic, planned and hosted by our youth team. There was food, laughter, and the kind of intergenerational fellowship that reminds us what church really is: a community. Watching our young people run, play, and sweat through the Iowa summer heat was a beautiful sight. Their energy was contagious, their joy genuine, and their presence a gift.

Then came Vacation Bible School, a vibrant week in partnership with Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. With the help of camp counselors from Camp Ewalu in Strawberry Point, Iowa, the campers came alive with songs, stories, crafts, and wonder. The counselors brought heart, humor, and love for God. The children showed up with open hearts and curious minds—and through their questions, their giggles, and even their sticky hands, we saw God at work.

And on July 27th, we gathered for Christmas in July—because the miracle of Emmanuel, God with us, doesn't wait for December. We read from Luke 11, where Jesus teaches the Lord's Prayer. And we remembered: God is not just "up there" or "long ago." God is with us. In every season. In every prayer. In every burst of laughter, every shared table, every quiet "amen."

Jesus gives us the Lord's Prayer not as a formula, but as an invitation. To trust. To ask. To draw near. And if children have taught us anything this summer, it's that God is nearer than we think.

There is hope. There is joy. And there is a future brimming with promise—because the God who came as a child still walks with us today.

Thanks be to God,

Pastor Bunny



## Youth News:

### Backpack Blessing

Are you heading back to school this fall? Whether you're starting kindergarten or college, you are invited to bring your backpack to 10:00 AM service on Sunday, August 24th to receive a special backpack blessing! Please reach out to Hannah with any questions!



### Sundae Sunday



Sundae Sunday is August 31st! Please join us in the fellowship hall at 9:00 AM to kick off the 2025 Sunday School year! Come enjoy an ice cream sundae with all the fixings! All are invited! Bring your parents or your friends!

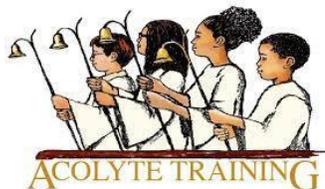
### Youth Led Service

Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, along with it being the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month which would normally be a Healing Service and also Sundae Sunday we are going to have a Youth Led Service. Please plan to join us for fun filled service and for an "Ice Cream Social" for Fellowship afterwards.



### Acolyte Bootcamp

Calling all acolytes! Whether you are already serving as an acolyte or want to learn; we will be hosting an "Acolyte Boot Camp" on Sunday, October 5th from 12:00-2:00! Anyone interested is welcome to join! This is a great opportunity for existing and new acolytes to get together to learn from and teach each other! Please sign up on the bulletin board. Lunch will be provided. See Hannah with questions!



### Youth Meeting

Sunday, August 10th after service we will have a youth meeting. We will discuss Acolyte Bootcamp and plan September engagement activity. Youth Committee members - please plan on attending. Thank you! Hannah



### 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](mailto: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

## **VBS Recap & Thank you**

THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this week of VBS such a success! We had 30 kids join us for a week of singing, crafting, movie day, water day, and most importantly learning about how God's love is so close to us no matter what and in so many ways! Thank you to those who supported us with Thrivent funds; Dale Hovden, Sue Clapp, JoAnn Kohl, Duane and Elaine Olson, Melissa Clapp, and Catherine Burroughs. Thank you to Al Johnson and Nancy Trout for coming Thursday evening to grill tons of hot dogs and hamburgers for our potluck - there were 75 people in attendance!! Thank you also to Mark and Suzanne Schmitt for hosting our counselors at their home!! And thank you to everyone who entrusted us with their kiddos all week long, we had a blast!!!



## **Choir Practice**

Choir Practice will resume on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 pm. We hope that an evening practice will be more convenient for anyone interested in joining choir. OSLC Choir sings during service on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month and has practice the Tuesday prior. If you are interested, please feel free to show up for practice and if you have any questions, reach out to Forrest Green.

## **Bell Choir**

Bell Choir practice will resume on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. OSC Bell Choir performs on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month and is always accepting new members. If you have questions – feel free to reach out to Terri Hodge.

## **Phil and Andy's Pantry**

In August and September, we will be collecting paper products. This would be items like toilet tissue, paper towels, facial tissue, napkins, paper plates, cups and towels.

Let's see how full we can get the cart in the next 2 months!

We appreciate all donations!



## **Christmas in July was so fun!!!**

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Christmas in July Service on July 27th. I think you can all will agree that Pastor Bunny was right . . . it was so fun to celebrate the birth of Jesus without all the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. Having Jesus teach us about the Lord's Prayer and singing Christmas Carols accompanied by our Bell Choir, was a perfect way to spend a hot July Sunday morning. And don't even get me started talking about all the Christmas goodies at Fellowship, what a feast – it was all awesome!

And a very grateful thank you to the special music shared by the bell choir and vocal duet of Nancy Greer and Terri Schilling!!



## **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

## 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.



## 2025 Financial Update

### Contribution results for the week ending 7/20/2025:

General Giving:	\$4,577.41
Total Giving:	\$4,917.31

### Weekly averages through 7/20/2025 (29 weeks):

Average Actual General Giving:	\$4,097.47 (\$118,826.67 YTD)
Average Actual General Expenses:	\$3,975.67 (\$115,294.38 YTD)

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

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### Readers

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

September 7 – Dave Sampson  
September 14 – Eric Robinson  
September 21 – Beth Anderson  
September 28 – Nancy Trout

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

## **Acolytes**

August 3 – Korver Sindelar

August 10 – Evy Fiester

August 17 – Eric Strottman

August 24 – Parker Zeien

August 31 – Korver Sindelar

September 7 – Korver Sindelar

September 14 – Evy Fiester

September 21 – Parker Zeien

September 28 – Eric Strottman

## **Assisting Ministers**

August 3 – Natalie Fiester

August 10 – Karen Janney

August 17 – Sue Clapp

August 24 – Nancy Greer

August 31 – Hannah Plummer

September 7 – Rachel Sindelar

September 14 – Natalie Fiester

September 21 – Karen Janney

September 28 – Sue Clapp

## **Ushers**

August 3 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson

August 10 – D. Sampson, M.Houg, T. Zuber

August 17 – Strottman's

August 24 – Schmitt's & Ann Larson

August 31 – Fiester's

Sept. 7 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson, Bob Sindelar

Sept. 14 – D. Sampson, M.Houg, T. Zuber

Sept. 21 – Strottman's

Sept. 28 – Schmitt's & Ann Larson

## **Prayer for Pastor**

August 3 – Therese Plummer

August 10 – Diana Emig

August 17 – Arnold Strottman

August 24 – Natalie Fiester

August 31 – Ann Larson

September 7 – Nancy Greer

September 14 – Derek Sindelar

September 21 – Laurene Case

September 28 – JoAnn Kohl

## **Children's Sermon**

August 3 – Hannah Plummer

August 10 – Pastor Bunny

August 17 – JoAnn Kohl

August 24 – Hannah Plummer

August 31 – Pastor Bunny

September 7 – Beth Anderson

September 14 – JoAnn Kohl

September 21 – Hannah Plummer

September 28 – Pastor Bunny

## **Greeters**

September 7 – Allenor Selck

September 14 – Judy Shaff

September 21 – Marcia Adix

September 28 – Nancy Trout

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## **Serving Our Congregation**

Bunny Dillard – Head Pastor

Sue Clapp – Congregation President

David Sampson – Treasurer

Therese Plummer – Office Manager

Hannah Plummer – Children & Youth  
Ministries Director

Forrest Green – Music Director

Terri Hodge – Bell Choir Director

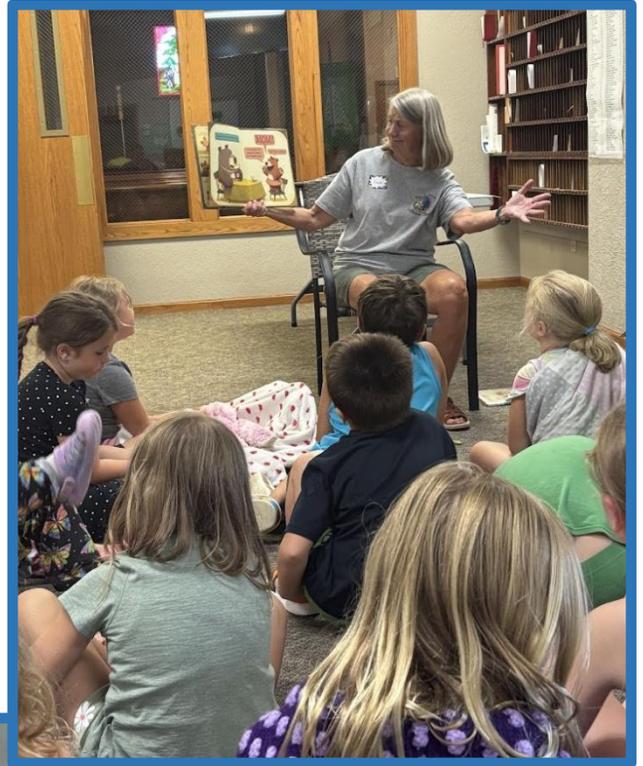
## Pictures from VBS July 21-25











# VBS Concert night

7-24-25

Watch the adorable actions and songs the kids learned at VBS by clicking this link:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/ucdA1yfC4F7imCkh8>

It will put a smile on your face!

