

# Grace for the Moment

The Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church

November 2025

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## November Worship:

### Sundays:

9:00 am

### Wednesdays:

6:30 pm

(No Worship on 11-26)

## Sunday School & Adult Education

10:00 am

## Pre-Confirmation and Confirmation Classes Share Memory Verses.

On October 26, students in Pre-Confirmation and Confirmation classes shared their learning outcomes. Topics covered were : the Hebrew Bible, Genesis, Abraham, Moses, the Bible, the burning, bush, Joshua, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Romans. Students received a lapel pin after the presentation. Thank you for being part of our Reformation Worship service.



Pre-Confirmation Students

Emrick, Everly, Paige, Hudson, Blaine, Joe, Emma, Blake

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# FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Once again, the time has come for me to journey to Liberia to support our ongoing middle school project and to strengthen our relationship with local educators and ministry leaders. This annual commitment reflects our dedication to serving communities across the Atlantic, inspired by our experience of God's redemptive purpose in our lives. During my time in Liberia, I will work closely with teachers to co-develop a shared vision that emphasizes leadership, faith, and service.

## **What We Hope to Sow**

- A collaborative curriculum workshop with local educators to share ideas and strategies for effective ministry.
- A school environment through visual upgrades to create inspiring learning spaces.
- A listening circle with families and community leaders, providing opportunities to honor their stories and hopes for the future.

## **How You Can Support**

Your prayers are invaluable to us. Please pray for the following:

- Safe travel and good health throughout the trip.
- Wisdom and insight as we collaborate across cultures.
- Encouragement for the children and teachers we are privileged to serve.

We are still raising funds to purchase school supplies, signage materials, and teacher journals. Every gift makes a difference, helping us bring beauty, safety, and spiritual nourishment to these learning spaces.

## **Looking Ahead**

Upon my return from Liberia, I look forward to sharing reflections, photographs, and student stories with our community. I am confident that this trip will bless our partners abroad and inspire us all to live more fully into God's calling to serve, learn, and love across borders.

Thank you for accompanying me in this season of preparation. Your encouragement is a true gift, and I carry your prayers with me.

In Christ's mission,  
Pastor Henrique

# November Message From Church Council President



1 Thessalonians 5:18 reads “No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” With the Thanksgiving holiday right around the corner, I am reminded of what I say about Christmas, Easter and any other special holiday. The day on the calendar set aside each year is when we observe these special events but in reality we need to celebrate them every day of the year.

Many times, when I pray I thank God for all my blessings because it would take forever to list each and every item that I am thankful for. All that I have, all that I am and everything I know is all because God has blessed me beyond what I deserve. Since this is the month that we will observe and celebrate Thanksgiving I will try to mention just a few of the things that I am thankful for the past month here at Grace Lutheran.

I just returned home from stopping by the Trunk or Treat event at the church and I must say I was totally impressed with the turn out! I am thankful for all those who helped out and put so much effort into making it such a big success. I am thankful for the start-up of the adult choir again for the season.

I am thankful for our adult Bible study that has begun again. There is still room for more and you can join us at any time. This past Wednesday and Sunday some of the pre-confirmation and confirmation students shared with us what they have been learning. I would like to thank them for being brave and doing something that they may not have been real comfortable doing in front of others.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all those who have served or are serving in any branch of our country’s military. Hopefully we all take a moment to remember what they do or have done for all of us as we observe Veteran’s Day this month.

I hope you all take the time to fill out a time and talent form so we can be sure to use your talents to make our church the best it can be. If there is any way that you would like to be an active member and it isn’t on the list, please let me or any of the other council members know.

So, I hope you all take a few extra minutes each day to thank God for all the blessings in your life. I would also like to wish each of you a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Please remember to include Pastor in your prayers as he makes his trip to Liberia this month. And, as always, please remember that your life may be the only Bible that some people read, so live each day as God would want you to do.

Your President, Joel

# Trunk or Treat 2025

☺ Trunk or Treat Brings Joy and Community Spirit! ☺

Wednesday, October 29th was a picture-perfect evening for our annual Trunk or Treat celebration! With clear skies and crisp fall air, families from across the area came together for a night of costumes, candy, and connection.

From spooky trunks to festive indoor stations, the event was packed with creativity and heart. We were thrilled to see so many smiling faces and grateful for the incredible turnout. This event wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of our local heroes and volunteers.

🙏 Special Thanks To:

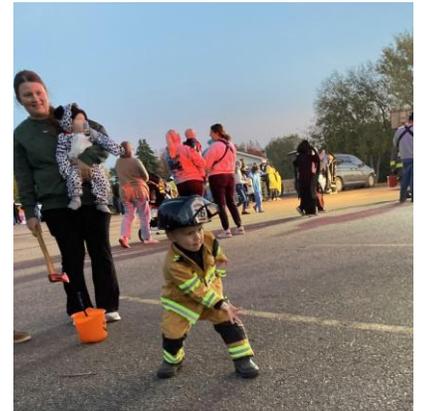
- Amber Johnson – Farm Bureau
- Chris Wirt Farms
- Jones Food
- First Savings
- EMS Explorers
- S & J Properties
- Rivers Edge
- Fire Department
- Ambulance Team
- Ambulance Team
- Senior Frogs (led by Jen Wall)
- Junior Frogs (led by Chrystal)
- St. Christina's Church
- FCCLA (Ms. Lawson and students from school)
- Erin P – Supper
- Missy G – Games Setup
- Jen B - Photos

🏠 Indoor Fun Hosted By:

- Senior Citizens Center (led by Dee Z)
- Christian Youth Together (led by Tami and Larry)

Your time, energy, and generosity made this event a true celebration of community. Thank you for helping us create a safe, fun, and memorable night for all!

# Pictures from Trunk or Treat





# THE HOLY PLAYGROUND

The Holy Playground exists to accompany congregations of the South Dakota Synod as they create spaces where children don't just watch worship happen—they belong in it. Here, the youngest voices join the chorus of prayer, song, and fellowship right alongside everyone else.

## **Why This Matters:**

“Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me.” (Mark 9)

Children have always been central to God's story—from asking questions at the Passover table (Exodus 12) to shaping the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12).

In our Lutheran tradition, baptized children aren't “future members”—they're full members now, with gifts to share today.

Our Congregation has joined the Holy Playground Initiative. We are looking forward to adding and adjusting things to create spaces where every generation (especially children) can participate fully in worship, prayer, service, and fellowship.

So far, we have planned to add children's bulletins and fidgets for use during worship. We will be having a FROGS/JR FROGS event in November to discuss “wilderness survival” in everyday life around a campfire (Weather permitting). We also plan on adding some contemporary music to our Worship service for everyone to enjoy and sing along.

If this sounds like something you would like to help with, we would love to hear from you! We are looking for volunteers for events and preparation. Also needed, are people to help us brainstorm and implement ideas. Please reach out to us for questions and suggestions.

Thank you for your support,  
Chela Bolte, Chrystal Schulte, Tristin Plienis

## Technology @GraceLutheran!

There have been some additions to church in the way of technology that I would like to share with all of you!

### 1. Livestream



Livestreaming has been configured on the main AV laptop in the front of the church. Every Sunday, the AV attendant will be livestreaming the morning service.

- a) This livestream will be on our youtube channel and all members are encouraged to subscribe to our channel.
- b) Our channel can be found here: <http://www.youtube.com/@gracelutheranparker>

### 2. Display in the Fellowship Hall

Memorial Funds were used to purchased a TV and sound bar for the fellowship hall.

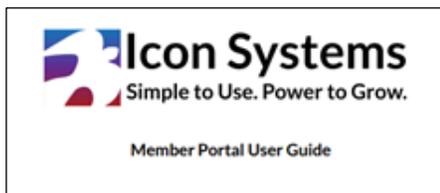
- a) This is available for anyone to use.
- b) Thank you to Jim Johnson for making the frame for the TV!



### 3. Online Church Directory

Did you know we have an online church directory available to all our members?

- a) An email was sent out to all members (IconCMO) giving you your login information and instructions. If you did not receive this email, please let Deb or myself know so we can get your information to you.
- b) Please sign in to the system and we hope that you find it useful to get to know other members of our congregation!



# Happening at Grace

*You're Invited*  
 Northern Turner Co  
 Angel Tree  
*Christmas Coffee*

December 6th  
 9am-11am

Grace Lutheran Church  
 Parker, SD

Please RSVP to Kerri Meyer @  
 kerrim01@yahoo.com or  
 605-321-4107 by 11/30/25

\$20 per person  
 100% of proceeds will go  
 to Northern Turner Co  
 Angel Tree to purchase  
 Christmas gifts for  
 children

**Faith in Action**  
*Brunch*

Join us after worship on Sunday,  
 November 2, 2025, for brunch.  
 Faith In Action is hosting a free-  
 will donation and will be serving  
 egg bake, rolls, and  
 coffee/juice. All proceeds will go  
 to nourishing members in our  
 community-Turner County Food  
 Pantry, ROCS Senior Meals,  
 Parker School Lunch account.

Please check your kitchen cabinets at home-if you happen to find any items that you borrowed from the church, please return them to the church kitchen thank you!

**Weekly Worship Helpers:**  
 Please use the link below to check:  
<https://gracelutheranparker.com/weekly-worship-helpers>  
 Thank you

## November AV Schedule

| Sunday    | Wednesday     |
|-----------|---------------|
| 2 Chela   | 5 Kerri       |
| 9 Kristin | 12 Chrystal   |
| 16 Chris  | 19 Chela      |
| 23 Erin   | 26 No Worship |
| 30 Derek  |               |

**Pre-Confirmation and Confirmation Students**

| Communion Assistant |         | Acolyte |        |
|---------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Nov. 5              | Jillian | Nov. 2  | Blaine |
| Nov. 12             | None    | Nov. 9  | Blaine |
| Nov. 19             | None    | Nov. 16 | Everly |
| Nov. 26             | None    | Nov. 23 | Jaylea |
|                     |         | Nov. 30 | Brenna |

## Junior FROGS

Our youth have been busy this fall, serving with heart and creativity.

- Our 5th and 6th graders kicked off the season by serving coffee at Fellowship, showing hospitality and teamwork.
- The 8th grade class continued the tradition of service by hosting Fellowship coffee hour later in October.
- Students in grades 5–8 proudly recited five facts about the books of the Bible, a milestone from their confirmation classes. Each participant earned a lapel pin to celebrate their learning and commitment.

🎃 Trunk or Treat: Faith, Fun & Fall Festivities Throughout October, our youth gathered to plan and prepare for Trunk or Treat. Their creativity and energy made the event unforgettable! Activities included:

- Pumpkin Tic Tac Toe with Page and Emma
- Fishing for Faith led by Everly, Hudson, Blake, and Calla
- Football Toss hosted by Blaine and Emerick
- Axe Throwing with Joe, Julien, and Kyler
- Hawaiian Volleyball brought to life by Jillian, Brenna, Kendal, and Jaylea



Joe, Everly and Hudson



## All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 2nd is All Saints Sunday. We will be celebrating the saints in our lives that have died, but are now in heaven living with God.

This year we will be doing something a little different to observe All Saints Day. We are going to have a blessing tree. When you come to church on Sunday, there will be leaves available for you to write down the name of someone that is remembered in your heart. Each family member is welcome to have a leaf. We will put all the leaves on a tree and have it in the sanctuary to help us remember all of the people that have been blessings in our lives.

Lets fill the branches with love!

## Celebrate our Veterans, Active Service, and National Guard Members

On Sunday, November 9th, the choir will be presenting a special tribute to our veterans and Active Duty members (National Guard members) in honor of Veteran's Day. You are welcome to wear your uniform. We hope to see many of you there.

### 2025 Fair Stand Disbursements

| <b>Outside Disbursements</b>       | <b>2025</b>     |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Children's Home Society            | \$500           |
| Helping Hands for Haiti            | \$600           |
| Parker Backpack Program            | \$800           |
| Parker Fire Department             | \$800           |
| Parker Ambulance                   | \$250           |
| Hope Harbor                        | \$600           |
| Changing Life Ministries           | \$800           |
| Meals for a Mission                | \$500           |
| St. Dysmas                         | \$500           |
| Turner County Food Pantry          | \$850           |
| Parker Transit                     | \$600           |
| Parker School Lunch Account        | \$500           |
| Senior Meals                       | \$200           |
| Turner County 4-H                  | \$250           |
| <b>Total Outside Disbursements</b> | <b>\$7,750</b>  |
|                                    |                 |
| <b>Inside Disbursements</b>        |                 |
| Grace Camper Fund                  | \$2000          |
| Grace Sunday School                | \$900           |
| Senior FROGS                       | \$ 750          |
| Junior FROGS                       | \$ 850          |
| Faith In Action                    | \$1000          |
| Grace Sewing Group                 | \$ 600          |
| Adult Bible Study                  | \$ 375          |
| Wednesday Lenten Meals             | \$ 600          |
| Milestone Committee                | \$675           |
| <b>Total Inside Disbursements</b>  | <b>\$7,750</b>  |
|                                    |                 |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                 | <b>\$15,500</b> |

**Grace Lutheran Church**  
**Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 10, 2025

**Council Members Present:**

Joel Plucker, Missy Gillespie, Kristi Nogelmeier, Derrek Sattler, Jim Johnson, Pastor Henrique, Marci Leberman, Tristin Plienis, Alexxis McKenney, and Kaylyn Andersen

**1. Call to Order**

- Meeting called to order by Joel Plucker.

**2. Devotion**

- Led by Pastor Henrique.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

- Motion to approve by Kaylyn, seconded by Derrek.
- Motion carried – all aye.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

- July offering adjusted due to a few checks being recorded in August.
- Bill received from Legacy for \$11,173.49 matched the original bid and was paid from the building fund.
- Shetek was paid \$2,405.50 for 15 campers who attended in summer 2025.
- Motion to approve by Jim, seconded by Kaylyn.
- Motion carried – all aye.

**5. Secretary's Report**

- Motion to approve by Jim, seconded by Tristin.
- Motion carried – all aye.

**6. Pastor's Report**

- Confirmation began on September 3rd with 17 confirmands.
- Focus for this year will be on scripture knowledge.
- Motion to approve by Derrek, seconded by Kristi.
- Motion carried – all aye.

**7. Deacons' Report**

- Hymns chosen for September and October.
- Exploring video options for music due to a shortage of organists and the potential for services without an organist.
- Deb-New Dawn Learning Center
- **Pulpit Supply**
  - **Pastor Lon** will provide coverage on **November 16th**.
  - **Larry P.** will provide coverage on **November 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

## **Continuing Business:**

### **8. Board of Education Report**

- Rally Sunday was a success.
- 3rd graders received their Bibles on September 3rd.

### **9. Trustees' Report**

- Fans are in progress.
- Fellowship hall window has been replaced.

### **10. Congregational Input**

- Items discussed:
  - **All Saints Sunday Service** (First Sunday in November)

## **Old Business**

1. Fellowship Hall Monitor
2. Church Sign Inserts
3. Church T-Shirts – Tabled until Spring 2026
4. Membership Directory

## **New Business**

1. Graduation Rental
  - Approved for the Shaefer family on May 15–16, 2026.
2. Campers Contract
  - Guardians will be required to fill out a camper contract before camp attendance.
  - Motion by Kaylyn, seconded by Derrek.
  - Motion carried – all aye.
3. Holy Playground – Chela
4. Churchwide Assembly-Constitutional Authority
5. All Saints
  - Can this be observed? First Sunday in November.
6. Shetek Mission
7. Next Council Meeting
  - Scheduled for Wednesday, October 8, 2025

## **Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn by Tristin, seconded by Missy
- Motion carried – all aye.

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH TREASURER'S REPORT    9/1/2025-9/30/2025**

| <b>INCOME:</b>                  | <u>Current</u>     | <u>Year To Date</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 101 General Offering            | \$5,667.25         | \$89,181.62         |
| 102 Envelope Offering           | \$1,390.00         | \$13,220.00         |
| 103 Quarterly Offering          | \$1,075.00         | \$10,340.00         |
| 104 Lenten Offering             |                    | \$4,273.00          |
| 109 Camper Savings              | \$1,765.50         | \$1,765.00          |
| 202 Use of Building             |                    |                     |
| 203 Misc. Income                |                    | \$107.77            |
| 205 Thrivent                    |                    | \$549.00            |
| 208 Amazon Smile                |                    |                     |
| 219 Transfer from Building Fund | \$11,173.49        | \$21,330.31         |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>            | <b>\$21,071.24</b> | <b>\$140,766.70</b> |

**SUMMARY GENERAL CHECKING:**

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance 1/1/2025 | \$6,125.77   |
| Total Income               | \$140,766.70 |
| Total Expenses             | \$146,233.84 |
| Ending Balance             | \$658.63     |

| <b>Monthly Summary</b> | <u>Offering Total</u> | <u>Misc Income</u> | <u>Monthly Expenses</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| January                | \$11,926.00           | \$212.77           | \$11,927.50             |
| February               | \$16,156.00           | \$173.00           | \$12,393.46             |
| March                  | \$14,293.00           | \$80.00            | \$16,535.32             |
| April                  | \$16,670.00           | \$166.00           | \$21,719.60             |
| May                    | \$12,791.00           | \$0.00             | \$13,196.32             |
| June                   | \$10,496.79           | \$0.00             | \$12,772.39             |
| July                   | \$12,194.00           | \$25.00            | \$11,745.02             |
| August                 | \$14,355.58           | \$0.00             | \$11,778.51             |
| September              | \$8,132.25            | \$0.00             | \$34,165.72             |
| October                |                       |                    |                         |
| November               |                       |                    |                         |
| December               |                       |                    |                         |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>\$117,014.62</b>   | <b>\$656.77</b>    | <b>\$146,233.84</b>     |

**SAVINGS / OTHER ACCOUNT BALANCES:**

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| First Savings Campers Savings       | \$3,431.54  |
| First Savings Building Fund Savings | \$37,374.68 |
| First Savings Bank Money Market     | \$3,508.52  |
| River's Edge Bank CD                | \$43,483.11 |

River's Edge Bank Building Loan Approx. Balance \$0 - PAID IN FULL

Kristi Nogelmeier, Treasurer

| <b>EXPENSES: SALARIES/BENEFITS</b>                     | <b>Current</b>     | <b>Year-to-Date</b> | <b>Proposed Budget</b> |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 301 Pastor Salary/Benefits/Pension                     | \$4,910.33         | \$39,765.41         | \$54,000.00            |
| 302 Pastor Housing Allowance                           | \$1,575.00         | \$14,175.00         | \$18,900.00            |
| 303 Employer Paid Pension/Retirement                   | \$1,307.96         | \$5,885.82          | \$7,848.00             |
| 304 Pastor SECA Allowance                              | \$464.75           | \$4,207.99          | \$5,577.00             |
| 305 Pastor Car Allowance                               | \$389.41           | \$1,153.67          | \$2,000.00             |
| 307 Employer Paid Pastor Insurance - Health & Benefits | \$3,541.40         | \$15,936.30         | \$21,000.00            |
| 308 Pastor Continuing Education                        | \$446.06           | \$946.06            | \$1,000.00             |
| 320 Custodian  | \$244.73           | \$1,885.10          | \$7,000.00             |
| 321 Organist   | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$1,560.00             |
| 322 Secretary  | \$746.18           | \$7,247.62          | \$12,000.00            |
| 323 Groundskeeper                                      | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$3,000.00             |
| 325 Sub Pastor   | \$0.00             | \$705.52            | \$2,000.00             |
| 326 FICA Expenses                                      | \$543.93           | \$1,530.92          | \$2,500.00             |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES-SALARIES/BENEFITS:</b>               | <b>\$14,169.75</b> | <b>\$93,439.41</b>  | <b>\$138,385.00</b>    |
| <b>EXPENSES: BUILDING &amp; GROUNDS</b>                | <b>Current</b>     | <b>Year-to-Date</b> | <b>Proposed Budget</b> |
| 401 Snow Removal                                       | \$0.00             | \$394.00            | \$2,500.00             |
| 402B Natural Gas                                       | \$12.74            | \$2,002.19          | \$3,000.00             |
| 405 Electricity and Water                              | \$476.45           | \$3,277.83          | \$4,750.00             |
| 407 Insurance  | \$2,860.53         | \$8,881.26          | \$10,000.00            |
| 408 Misc. Bldg. & Grnd. Exp.                           | \$13,643.94        | \$22,734.56         | \$5,000.00             |
| 409 Piano Tuning                                       | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$175.00               |
| 409A Organ Maintenance                                 | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$200.00               |
| 413 State Farm - Workmen's Comp.                       | \$142.23           | \$500.21            | \$700.00               |
| 415 Audio Visual Expenses                              | \$0.00             | \$618.01            | \$1,000.00             |
| 416 Building Loan Payments                             | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$5,000.00             |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES-BUILDING &amp; GROUNDS:</b>          | <b>\$17,135.89</b> | <b>\$38,408.06</b>  | <b>\$32,325.00</b>     |
| <b>EXPENSES: CHURCH PROGRAMS</b>                       | <b>Current</b>     | <b>Year-to-Date</b> | <b>Proposed Budget</b> |
| 502 Bible Camp Sponsorships                            | \$1,765.50         | \$2,405.50          | \$1,100.00             |
| 503 Offering Envelopes                                 | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$400.00               |
| 504 Confirmation Expense                               | \$0.00             | \$761.01            | \$1,500.00             |
| 506 Synod Assembly                                     | \$0.00             | \$600.00            | \$750.00               |
| 507 Books and Materials                                | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$100.00               |
| 508 Misc. Program Expense                              | \$0.00             | \$335.80            | \$4,000.00             |
| 512 Bank Service Charges                               | \$17.95            | \$161.55            | \$250.00               |
| 517 Bibles for 3rd Graders                             | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$200.00               |
| 519 Postage  | \$83.80            | \$282.40            | \$400.00               |
| 524 Lenton Meals                                       | \$0.00             | \$551.32            | \$1,200.00             |
| 526 High School Graduate Gifts                         | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$300.00               |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES-CHURCH PROGRAMS:</b>                 | <b>\$1,867.25</b>  | <b>\$5,097.58</b>   | <b>\$10,200.00</b>     |
| <b>EXPENSES: MISSIONS/BENEVOLENCES</b>                 | <b>Current</b>     | <b>Year-to-Date</b> | <b>Proposed Budget</b> |
| 602 Augustana PACT                                     | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$1,000.00             |
| 603 ELCA Benevolence                                   | \$500.00           | \$4,500.00          | \$6,000.00             |
| 604 Shetek Bible Camp                                  | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$650.00               |
| 605 Crossroads Conference Dues                         | \$0.00             | \$27.60             | \$0.00                 |
| 615 The Banquet  | \$0.00             | \$0.00              | \$750.00               |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES-MISSONS:</b>                         | <b>\$500.00</b>    | <b>\$4,527.60</b>   | <b>\$8,400.00</b>      |
| <b>EXPENSES: OFFICE</b>                                | <b>Current</b>     | <b>Year-to-Date</b> | <b>Proposed Budget</b> |
| 701 Copier Lease                                       | \$346.12           | \$1,680.24          | \$2,000.00             |
| 702 Bulletins and Inserts                              | \$0.00             | \$1,388.78          | \$2,000.00             |
| 703 Church Office Phone/Internet                       | \$104.25           | \$1,198.85          | \$1,500.00             |
| 704 Office Supplies                                    | \$42.46            | \$493.32            | \$900.00               |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES - OFFICE:</b>                        | <b>\$492.83</b>    | <b>\$4,761.19</b>   | <b>\$6,400.00</b>      |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>                           | <b>\$34,165.72</b> | <b>\$146,233.84</b> | <b>\$195,710.00</b>    |