



*Bringing the Light of Christ to All Creation*

**MORNING STAR**  
**LUTHERAN CHURCH**



**September 2019**

# Message from Pastor Chris

Dear Morning Star Family,

This past summer was a gift. The opportunity to take a much needed ten-week sabbatical was one of the most wonderful things I have ever done in my years of ministry. This was important in several ways that I would like to articulate with you below. Please know that I do so in the context of tremendous appreciation for such a meaningful experience.

Thank you to the congregation for allowing me to be absent and for respecting the boundaries of this time and space. Thank you to our leadership, staff, and especially Pastor Glenn for all of their faithfulness, creativity, and hard work during this time. Because of this quite capable leadership, I was able to be gone and 'let go' trusting that our mission and ministry would function well. It did! This was one of the healthiest gifts you could have given your pastor and I am exceptionally thankful for allowing me to be on sabbatical.

I am thankful for this time of prayer and reflection. To be able to evaluate my pastoral leadership and reflect on my call at Morning Star came at an important juncture, entering my seventh year of ministry with you. Because of this intentional reflection, Morning Star was in my prayers daily. It always is. But now, as I return to you, I feel guided and empowered by the Spirit to continue building upon my pastoral relationship with you and several new members and families who have recently joined our congregation.

We are also discerning the addition of a new staff position to minister to our youth and assist in the leadership of Faith Formation ministry from cradle to grave. I am also excited about an upcoming fall emphasis on discipleship and for important congregational reflection on our recent Mission Goals. I return with newfound energy and imagination to help lead and partner in ministry with you in these ways.

I am thankful for this sabbatical as a time of rest. It is called "sabbatical" for a reason as it affords pastors with space to recharge physically, emotionally, and spiritually. As I worked to create healthier personal patterns in body, mind, and spirit, I recognized this time as a significant one in helping me to be a better husband, father, and disciple. It will be important for me moving forward in ministry to continue to incorporate some of these healthy patterns into my ministry to be the best role model and steward of the gifts God has given to me.

I am thankful for this time of study. I feel like I have unpacked a completely new world of learning and leadership as a result of my time studying Family Systems Theory. My learning and reflection in this area has not concluded, but rather will be a life-long endeavor as I seek to incorporate this learning into my ministry and life. This time of study is transforming how I see my own functioning and leadership in the midst of our congregation.

Most importantly, I am thankful for this sabbatical as a time to focus on my family. In particular, as my children were home for the summer, I was able to afford an entire season of time dedicated exclusively to them without any of the myriad demands of pastoral ministry. As a result, we created memories that will span our lifetimes. We all cherished the precious time I had in this regard. Just don't ask me or my boys to give up our new favorite fishing hole!

Thank you, Morning Star, for all of the ways in which you provided this gift to my family and to our partnership in ministry together!

Your partner in ministry,

*Pastor Chris*

331 S. 85th Ave. ♦ Omaha, NE 68114  
402.393.5553

Office@MorningStarOmaha.org  
www.MorningStarOmaha.org



#### Worship Times

Saturday Service  
Sunday Services

5:30 PM  
8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

**Serving at Table Grace**



**Women of Morning Star Style Show**



## Message from Tina Fong

Morning Star is pleased to announce that once again we will offer a Tai Chi class. Before we can get it organized, however, we need to know who would be interested in taking the class so we can work out dates and times. Contact Tina Fong at [musiclovenheart@gmail.com](mailto:musiclovenheart@gmail.com) to let her know you are interested and what dates and times would work for you!

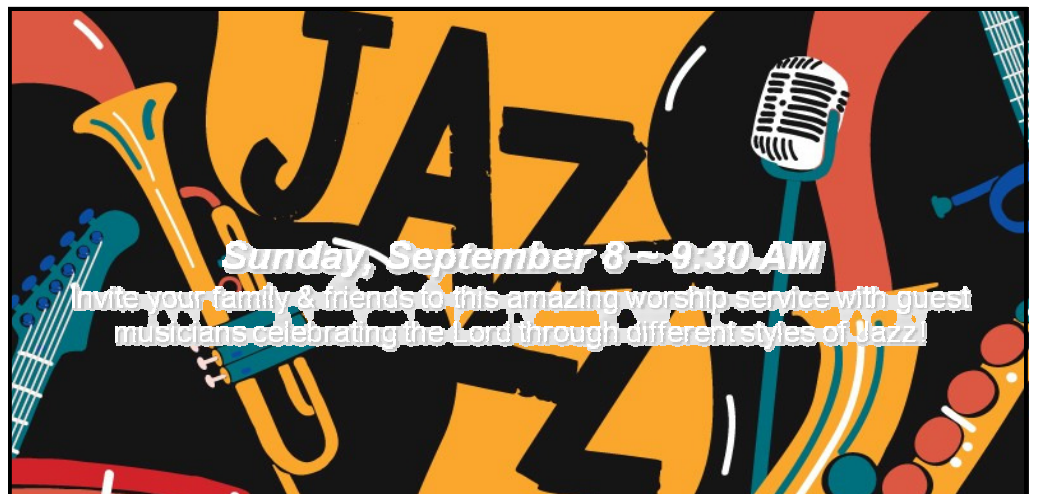
We are also going to offer a vocal music theory class to anyone (members or not) who appreciate music and want to learn more. This class, geared towards adults, will help singers and instrumentalists improve their basic skills and teach them new ones.

*Tina Fong*



**The Church Office & Preschool  
will be closed Monday,  
September 2 for Labor Day!**

**Labor Day Weekend will have  
worship services at 5:30 PM on  
Saturday and 9:30 AM on  
Sunday.**



**Sunday, September 8 -- 9:30 AM**

**Invite your family & friends to this amazing worship service with guest musicians celebrating the Lord through different styles of Jazz!**

# Church Council HIGHLIGHTS

- Council welcomed Pastor Hawkins following his sabbatical period and thanked Pastor Glenn, staff and the entire congregation for being engaged and faithful throughout the summer!
- Council is working to schedule a series of events this fall with the earnest desire to engage **every** member in good conversation around a good meal to further our focus on fellowship and Morning Star's Mission.
- Council continued its work on a planned addition of a Staff Member to further and enhance our Youth Faith Formation commitment and our Intergenerational Faith Formation focus with particular discussion on feasibility and funding sources for this addition.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides hand-crafted blankets to give to those that need comfort. Prayers for peace and healing are prayed over each one as they are made. The shawls are free to all and available in the Welcome Center. Join the group Sunday mornings as they crochet and knit over coffee and doughnuts.

## WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Faith Formation isn't just for kids! We have Bible studies available online or in the Welcome Center. And you are always welcome to join us at one of our weekly studies.

- Wednesdays at 9<sup>AM</sup> (Lg Conf Rm)
- Thursdays at 1<sup>PM</sup> (Table Grace)
- Thursdays at 7<sup>PM</sup> (Chapel)

LISTEN TO OR WATCH SERMONS  
**ONLINE**  
MorningStarOmaha.org

**DBSA**  
Omaha New Hope Chapter DBSA

DBSA meets Thursdays at 7<sup>PM</sup> in the Large Conference Room.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meets Tuesdays at 5:30<sup>PM</sup> in the Chapel. This group is open to anyone in need.

**O.W.L.S.**  
Older Wiser Lutherans

**Monday, September 9 ~ 11:30 AM**

OWLS are back! Join us for some great fellowship and discussion on what to expect for the upcoming year. Lil Willy's Catering will serve us ham, au gratin potatoes, green beans and dessert this month. RSVP to the Church Office by Friday, September 6!

**come join us!**

**Singers & Instrumentalists Needed**

Do you play drums, keyboard, guitar, brass or woodwind instruments? Do you love to sing? Our Music Staff is looking for extra help this summer! Contact Bev McCollum or Tina Fong for more information on how you can serve!

**Thank You**

Thanks to Morning Star for your support of the Nebraska Lutheran Campus MinisTREE this summer. With your support the NEMO students attending UNO, Creighton and the College of St. Mary, will be able to pray, worship and have fellowship this academic year.

Gratefully, Ric Miller

# MISSIONS & OUTREACH

*Morning Star...a light in the heart of Omaha & Beyond*



## Green Envelope

**Food4Friends** is an original Morning Star ministry that provides a complete Thanksgiving dinner to the “working poor” families of the Omaha Metro area.

Morning Star volunteers deliver over 170 people a delicious meal during a time that can be financially taxing to families barely making ends meet. The time and cost associated with this outreach is entirely sustained by Morning Star. We hope to raise several thousand dollars in the next few months to continue this beloved and necessary outreach event.



*Gods Reach  
Envelops Every Need*



"God's work.  
Our hands."  
Sunday

SEPTEMBER  
**2019**  
God's work.  
Our hands.

## ***"God's work-Our hands" Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>***

This ELCA-wide day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Our day begins with Combined Worship at 9:30 <sup>AM</sup>. The Women of Morning Star are organizing a fundraising lunch for after worship with the proceeds to benefit our Habitat build. Volunteers are needed for the luncheon and all of the days activities. Sign-up sheets are in the Welcome Center!

- Altar & Chapel Cleaning
- Preschool Playground Clean Up
- Stuff-a-Sock for Homeless Vets
- Scatter Joy Acres Activities
- Habitat for Humanity Build & Snack Packs



The Bell Choir will begin rehearsals on Thursdays starting September 12 at 6:30 <sup>PM</sup>. Call Bev McCollum at 402-393-5553 for more information.

## **JOIN THE CHOIR!**

The Choir rehearses the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 <sup>PM</sup> and every Sunday at 8:00 <sup>AM</sup> and 9:30 <sup>AM</sup>. The beautiful pieces are sung at most 8:30 Worship Services. All are welcome!

## Women <sup>of the</sup> ELCA

The Women of Morning Star invite you to join one of our Bible Studies & fellowship. We have a lot of catching up to do from the summer break!

The Lydia Circle meets on Tuesday, September 24 at 4:00 <sup>PM</sup> in the Library. The Sarah Circle meets Thursday, September 26 at 12:30 <sup>PM</sup> in the Welcome Center.



**Nursery Available**

Our trained nursery workers have certified background checks. Nursery is available downstairs during Sunday worship services for children under 5.



Check out the **Little Free Library** on the parking island on 85<sup>th</sup> Ave.



## Sunday School CALLING ALL KIDS!

Join us Sunday Mornings at 9:30 in the Chapel for some great fun while we learn about God's love for us!

**Don't forget to grab a donut!**

## Preschool News

**Morning Star Preschool & Child Care Center**

402-393-8215 • [Preschool@MorningStarOmaha.org](mailto:Preschool@MorningStarOmaha.org)

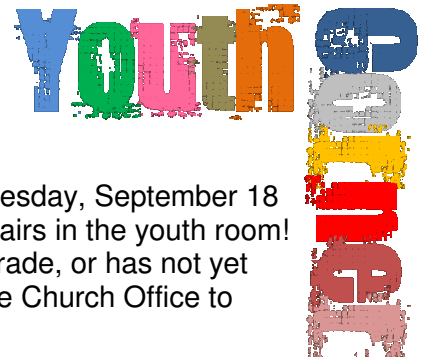
September 3<sup>rd</sup> kicks off our new school year with an Open House that evening. The first few weeks are all about helping children feel good about themselves and giving them a sense of belonging that contributes to school readiness and learning. Friday, September 6, is our annual **Grandfriend's Breakfast**. The children enjoy some special one-on-one time with their Grandfriends. We would love for you to join us!

Our Teddy Bear Picnic is September 10. The children bring a stuffed animal and they practice using polite words and actions during this event. Our weekly specials are getting into full gear. These include Fit Kids (a fitness program that makes fitness fun and helps kids build strength, power and agility as well as basic movement and motor skills), Fine Arts, S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math), Cooking and Music.



**September 13-14  
Camp Carol Joy Holling**

Unplugged is a new family retreat for middle & high school students and a parent. This weekend is an intentional time to unplug and be present with each other without the distractions of daily life. Families will each have their own room in our Sjogren Retreat Center. Call 402-944-2544 for more info!



Confirmation classes begin Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30 PM. They will meet downstairs in the youth room! If your child is entering 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade, or has not yet been through confirmation, call the Church Office to enroll them in this year's class.



## BURGERS & BRATS

A YOUTH MINISTRY EVENT

Sunday, September 15 | 5:30-7 PM  
Pastor Chris & Angie's House  
12501 Deer Creek Drive

FOOD FUN FELLOWSHIP FREE

# September Ministry Partners

## September 1

Acolytes 9:30  
 Communion 9:30 Cindy Lindquist, Kim & Dennis Moy  
 Greeters 9:30 Gloria Miller  
 Readers 9:30 Jan Zarestky  
 Ushers 9:30 Lynn Davis, Stephanie Jensen,  
 Diane Konvalina, Cindy Lindquist,  
 Gloria Miller & Michelle Miller  
 Coffee Hosts Altar Guild

## September 8

Acolytes 9:30  
 Communion 9:30 Jeff Wegner, Andy & Teggy  
 Maxwell  
 Greeters 9:30 Colleen Estee  
 Readers 9:30 Janice Hass  
 Ushers 9:30 Lynn Davis, Stephanie Jensen,  
 Diane Konvalina, Cindy Lindquist,  
 Gloria Miller & Michelle Miller  
 Coffee Hosts Sarah Circle

## September 15

Acolytes 8:30  
 10:30  
 Communion 8:30 Lynn & Royann Hedell, Francy  
 Van Meter  
 10:30 Laura Ervin & Susie Bonnett  
 Greeters 8:30 Marge Morgan  
 PowerPoint 10:30 Bill Ervin  
 Readers 8:30 Judy Hollander  
 10:30 Cynthia Ferris  
 Ushers 8:30 Lynn Davis, Stephanie Jensen,  
 Diane Konvalina, Cindy Lindquist,  
 Gloria Miller & Michelle Miller  
 10:30 The Maxwell Family  
 Coffee Hosts Evangelism Committee

## September 22

Acolytes 8:30  
 10:30  
 Communion 8:30 Rod Anderson, Lauren Anderson &  
 Cynthia Ferris  
 10:30 Bob & Stacie Neussendorfer  
 Greeters 8:30 Jan Zarestky  
 PowerPoint 10:30 Paul Worcester  
 Readers 8:30 Sandy Byers  
 10:30 Campbell Mooney  
 Ushers 8:30 Lynn Davis, Stephanie Jensen,  
 Diane Konvalina, Cindy Lindquist,  
 Gloria Miller & Michelle Miller  
 10:30 The Maxwell Family  
 Coffee Hosts Kyle & Arielle Wolfe

## September 29

Acolytes 8:30  
 10:30  
 Communion 8:30 Donna J. Walter, Jan Zarestky &  
 Rick Jacobsen  
 10:30 Cynthia Ferris & Sabrina Beck  
 Greeters 8:30 Dan & Bev Hartman  
 PowerPoint 10:30 Bill Ervin  
 Readers 8:30 Donna J. Walter  
 10:30 Jon Beck  
 Ushers 8:30 Lynn Davis, Stephanie Jensen,  
 Diane Konvalina, Cindy Lindquist,  
 Gloria Miller & Michelle Miller  
 10:30 The Maxwell Family  
 Coffee Hosts Marguerite McGill

## *~flowers & bulletins~*





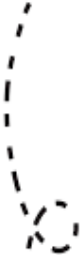
Thanks for your generosity with the altar flowers and bulletins. If you would like to sponsor them, see the calendar in the Welcome Center or call the Church Office. Thanks **Great Harvest Bread Company** for providing communion bread **free** each week and thanks **Piccolo Florists** for providing our Altar Flowers at a discount.

### Flower Sponsors

### Bulletin Sponsors

	Flower Sponsors	Bulletin Sponsors	
September 1	Bill & Sydney Winstrom	Bill & Sydney Winstrom	Jon & Sabrina Beck
August 11	Sharon McGrath	Alan & Alyce Berk	Tyler & Ciprianna Engel
August 18	Tim & Lori Mueller	Tim & Lori Mueller	John & Lynn Davis
August 25	Gloria Miller	Gloria Miller	<b>Available</b>

# September


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:30 Combined Worship	<b>2</b>  Church Office & Preschool Closed	<b>3</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 11:45 AM Preschool Chapel 5:00 PM Preschool Open House 5:30 PM AA Meeting (Chapel) 6:00 PM Outreach Meeting (Lg Conf Rm)	<b>4</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9 AM Bible Study 4:30 PM Exec Committee (Lg Conf Rm)	<b>5</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 7 PM DBSA (Chap, Lg Conf, Lib)	<b>6</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel)  Preschool's Grandfriends Breakfast	<b>7</b> 9 AM Church Reserved (Welcome Center ~ Quilters) 5:30 PM Worship
<b>8</b> 9:30 Combined Worship 	<b>9</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Library) 11:30 AM OWLS (Welcome Center) 5:30 PM Preschool Advisory Committee (Lg Conf Rm) 6:30 PM Church Council (Lg Conf Rm)	<b>10</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Staff Retreat 5:30 PM AA Meeting (Chapel)	<b>11</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9 AM Bible Study	<b>12</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 6:30 PM Bell Choir (Sanctuary) 7 PM DBSA (Chap, Lg Conf, Lib) 7:30 PM Lay-Led Bible Study (Chapel)	<b>13</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel)	<b>14</b> 5:30 PM Worship 
<b>15</b> 8:00 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School, Fellowship Coffee & Choir 10:30 Worship 5:00 PM Youth BBQ Party 	<b>16</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Library)	<b>17</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 11:45 AM Preschool Chapel (Chapel) 5:30 PM AA Meeting (Chapel) 5:30 PM Personnel Committee Meeting (Lg Conf Rm)	<b>18</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Confirmation Class (Youth Room)	<b>19</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 6:30 PM Bell Choir (Sanctuary) 7 PM DBSA (Chap, Lg Conf, Lib) 7:30 PM Lay-Led Bible Study (Chapel)	<b>20</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel)	<b>21</b> 5:30 PM Worship
<b>22</b> 8:00 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School, Fellowship Coffee & Choir 10:30 Worship	<b>23</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Library)	<b>24</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 11:45 AM Preschool Chapel 4:00 PM Lydia Circle (Library) 5:30 PM AA Meeting (Chapel)	<b>25</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Confirmation Class (Youth Room)	<b>26</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 12:30 PM Sarah Circle (Welcome Center) 6:30 PM Bell Choir (Sanctuary) 7 PM DBSA (Chap, Lg Conf, Lib) 7:30 PM Lay-Led Bible Study (Chapel)	<b>27</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel)	<b>28</b> 5:30 PM Worship 
<b>29</b>  8:00 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Worship & Receiving of Confirmands 9:30 Sunday School, Fellowship Coffee & Choir 10:30 Worship	<b>30</b> 9-4 Preschool Class (Library)	 				



# MORNING STAR LUTHERAN CHURCH

331 S. 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Omaha, NE 68114

Address Correction Requested



**stay** Check us out on Facebook or at  
**connected** MorningStarOmaha.org!



Need pastoral care?  
Contact the Church Office  
to notify our pastoral staff.



### Prayers

Michael Bowman  
Cecil Bykerk  
Rich Fiddelke  
Marilyn Jarrard

Kent Morse  
Norma Rygg  
Maxine Winje  
JoAnn Wollenburg

### Friends & Loved Ones of Morning Star

- Angie (*friend of Dennis & Kim Moy's*)
- Becky & Kathleen (*Susie Syx's stepmother & sister*)
- Ben & Michelle (*friends of Pam & Ric Miller*)
- Carol Foss (*friend of Pastor Sara Jensen*)
- Cindy C. (*friend of Cynthia Ferris*)
- David Wiley (*Bridgette Robbins brother, friend of Rae Austin*)
- Delmar Peetz
- Dedra (*friend of the Washburn's*)
- Dianna Howland (*friend of Jan Zarestky*)
- Dick (*brother-in-law of Bonnie & Don Daubman*)
- Donald, Gene, Uneva & Curtiss (*Rich & Betty Fiddelke's family*)
- Jim (*friend of Karen & Kim Hawkins*)
- Joan & Margaret (*friends of the Mueller's*)
- Joe, Amy & Family (*brother-in-law of the Maxwell's*)

- Josie, Cindy & Emma (*Lynn & Royann Hedell's family*)
- Julie & Leland (*family & friend of the Hollander's*)
- Kevin, Lee & Family (*friends of the Maxwell's*)
- Kimberly (*Carol Smith's daughter-in-law*)
- Lindsay (*Janice & Roger Hass' granddaughter*)
- Marie Z. & Tiffy J. (*Chris Hedican's family*)
- Ray Thiel (*Laurel Mooney's family*)
- Shelley (*Carol Anderson's family*)
- Steve, Teresa, Jennifer, Kate & Jessica (*Gloria Miller's family & friends*)
- Tiffany, Jeremy & Nancy (*sister & friends of Hedican's*)
- Whitney, Steven, Michael & Brett (*Michelle Miller's family & friends*)