



Mid Week Update ~ September 15, 2021

Thank you all essential personnel, health care workers, and first responders!
Join us in person or online on
Sunday, September 19 at 10 AM
as we honor YOU!

**Essential Worker
Appreciation Day!**

We Love our
**Essential
Workers**
**THANKS
FOR ALL YOU DO!**

*Whatever It Takes is the
Difference You Make!*

www.MorningStarOmaha.org



Thanks to everyone who helped out with God's Work, Our Hands & Rally Sunday!
What a beautiful day of worship, serving, family fun and fellowship!

Worship with us!

Saturdays | In-Person Only 5:30 PM

Sundays | In-Person or Online 10:00 AM

[THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN](#)

[JOIN US LIVE HERE](#)



We are continuing to collect household items for Afghanistan Refugees coming into the Omaha area. Items needed are:

Towels and wash clothes
Queen & Twin sheet sets
Pillows
Writing Materials
Dish Soap
Bathroom cleaner
Kitchen cleaner
Sponges, rags, paper towels
Laundry detergent
Waste Baskets
Mop or Broom
Vacuum
Trash bags

W E L C O M E

Welcome to our newest members...

Jared & Whitney Baker
Mike & Patsy Behm
Deb Bruckner
Irene, Kathleen & Jeni Bruckner
Greta Carlson
Donna Crouse
Emily Knickerbocker
Philip & Torrie Niewohner
Dan, Katherine, Clark & Mason Rue
Gerald Vanek



All ladies are invited to join the Sarah Circle Bible study on Thursday, September 23 at 12:30 PM. BYO Lunch!



You are invited to join us IN PERSON for Bible Study every Wednesday at 10 AM! We will continue to broadcast on [Facebook LIVE](#) for those who are unable to attend. This week's study materials below:

[Bible Study Sheet](#)

First Reading [Jeremiah 11:18-20](#)

Psalm [Psalm 54](#)

Second Reading [James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a](#)

Gospel [Mark 9:30-37](#)



If your child is in their last year of preschool or starting Kindergarten and has not received a Bible from the church, you are invited to a class on October 10 to receive their story Bible on October 17.

If your child is entering 3rd grade or greater and has not received their elementary Bible, you are invited to join a class on October 31 to receive their Bible on November 7. Sign up with Greta or the Church Office for either of these classes.



Confirmation classes begin Wednesday, September 22 at 6:30 PM. If you have a student entering 7 or 8 grade or older who hasn't been confirmed, contact Greta (Greta@MorningStarOmaha.org) or the Church Office to enroll.



Sunday School for the whole family will meet monthly on the second Sundays at 9 AM before Worship. We'll be outside as long as the weather lets us.

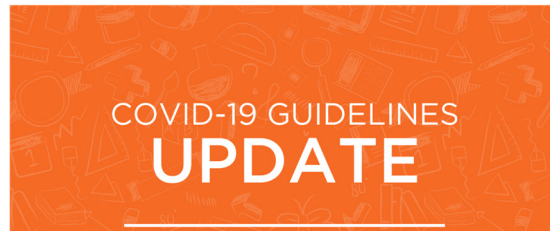
Family Sunday School Dates:

- October 10
- November 14
- December 12

Any youth or adult interested in helping lead an activity or song, please contact Greta!



Communion pick up can be arranged any time by contacting the Church Office. LIVE Worship Streaming will always be available on Facebook LIVE at 10 AM or shortly after the service ends on our website: www.MorningStarOmaha.org!



Due to increased possible risk of acquisition and transmission of the Delta variant (the predominant strain in Nebraska) even amongst the vaccinated, combined with the updated [CDC guidance for mask use](#) amongst the vaccinated in public places, updated recommendations are needed to optimize the protection of our congregation, staff and students during this evolving phase of the pandemic. These changes are important particularly to reduce transmission of the Delta variant those who are unvaccinated, the under vaccinated (such as the immunocompromised or older persons in which a vaccine may be suboptimal) or those who have high-risk family members at home or family members, such as children, who cannot be vaccinated.

The COVID Task Force is recommending the following changes in order to maintain the safe environment that we have established here:

- Masks/face coverings are required for entering the building.
 - Seating in every other pew.
 - Holy Communion will be received via prepackaged elements. Worshippers may come forward to the altar to receive the pre-sealed, non-alcohol elements and return to their seats or they may select one of the consecrated kits at the welcome table prior to worship.
 - No coffee fellowship following worship.
 - Groups using the church building can do so as long as they remain masked and socially distanced.
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ELCA's Disaster Response to Hurricane Ida

The devastation from Hurricane Ida, which made landfall near New Orleans on August 29, exactly 16 years after Hurricane Katrina, left homes flooded and residents awaiting rescue. Strong winds knocked out power lines and electrical substations, leaving more than 1 million people without power, including the entirety of New Orleans. Rebuilding will be costly and take years. Lutheran Disaster Response is working with local ELCA synods and social service organizations to coordinate a response to Hurricane Ida. Immediate needs include food, basic necessities and temporary housing. Long after the headlines change, Lutheran Disaster Response will continue to accompany communities on the journey of rebuilding their homes and lives. Donate today at www.ELCA.org.



Children

Check out our Children's & Youth Ministry page by clicking on the picture above for help to strengthen young people's faith at home! Your very own children's bulletin is

[HERE!](#)

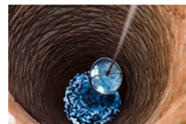
Youth Fall Plans

View the schedule of youth events at Morning Star [HERE!](#)

- ELCA Youth Gathering registration due September 26!
- Confirmation starts Wednesday, September 22 at 6:30 PM. Watch the mail for your letter & schedule!
- Confirmation Service for 9th Grade Students on September 26 at 10 AM.



2022 ELCA Youth Gathering Preparations have begun! Registration is due September 26th!



Drink From the Well is a ministry of Seeking the Spirit Within: The Nebraska Synod Institute for Spiritual Direction Formation. It is a unique opportunity to learn from spiritual directors from around the Nebraska Synod ELCA.

From October through May, on the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM, a synod-wide webinar will introduce a 90-minute lesson with additional time for

Q&A. In the middle of the month, you will meet with a small group.

More info and register at www.seekingthespiritwithin.org. Click on Drink from the Well.

Church Council **HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Council met on Saturday, September 11 for our regular council meeting and annual retreat.
 - Membership for 18 individuals was approved by the Council. The new members were received and presented to the congregation at the September 12 service.
 - The Council approved continuing with one Sunday morning service at 10 AM through the end of 2021.
 - The stewardship campaign was approved by the Council. We ask for your continued support and giving, as you pray about your 2022 pledge.
 - The Council approved a team for the building assessment process. This team will be working with the architect, HVAC, and electrical engineer for a comprehensive review of our facilities over the next couple of months. This project was approved by the congregation in June.
 - After the Council meeting, we reviewed a framework for strategic planning. The Council is excited to begin this work with participation and input from the congregation. Part of the process includes bringing the congregation together for conversation and listening, which is difficult with COVID. We are hopeful that we can start this work in 2022.
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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 is able to deliver around 150 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. Thank you for your help in making this a reality!



3	Jan Dahlk	Jan Dahlk	Jan Dahlk
10	Ric & Pam Miller	Ric & Pam Miller	Neil & Cindy Lindquist
17	Nancy Sweetwood	Nancy Sweetwood	Available
24	Gloria Miller	Mike & Patsy Behm	Available
31	Mike & Patsy Behm	Mike & Patsy Behm	Neil & Cindy Lindquist

Wednesday, September 15

1^{PM} Preschool Teacher In-Service (Library)

4:30^{PM} COVID Task Force Meeting (Gathering Space)

Thursday, September 16

1^{PM} Preschool Teacher In-Service (Library)

7^{PM} DBSA (Chapel)

Friday, September 17

1^{PM} Preschool Teacher In-Service (Library)

Saturday, September 18

5:30^{PM} Worship (Sanctuary)

Sunday, September 19 ~ Essential Personnel Appreciation Day

10^{AM} Worship (Sanctuary & Facebook Live)

Monday, September 20

Tuesday, September 21

9^{AM} Staff Meeting
5:30^{PM} AA Meeting (Chapel)
5:30^{PM} Personnel Committee Meeting (Library)

Wednesday, September 22

10^{AM} Bible Study (Conference Room)
6:30^{PM} Confirmation Class (Gathering Space)

Thursday, September 23

12:30^{PM} Sarah Circle (Gathering Space)
7^{PM} DBSA (Chapel)

Friday, September 24

Saturday, September 25

5:30^{PM} Worship (Sanctuary)

Sunday, September 26 ~ Confirmation Sunday

10^{AM} Worship (Sanctuary & Facebook Live)



September 19 Readings

First Reading [Jeremiah 11:18-20](#)

Psalms [Psalm 54](#)

Second Reading [James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a](#)

Gospel [Mark 9:30-37](#)

