



Mid Week Update ~ September 8, 2021



Morning Star's participation in this ELCA-wide day of service begins with worship at 10 AM then sign up for any of the following areas to serve. Sign up TODAY in the Gathering Space or [ONLINE HERE](#). Most of these serving opportunities are family friendly!

~Habitat T-Shirt Bundling

~Table Grace Cafe Volunteers

~Scatter Joy Acres Volunteers

~Stuff Socks for Homeless Veterans

We need socks, deodorant, toothpaste & brushes, body wash, shampoo, razors & shaving cream, lip balm.

~Morning Star Clean-Up

~Gather Supplies for Afghanistan refugees

Suggested items are towels/wash cloths, sheet sets (queen & twin sizes), pillows, pens, notebooks & pencils, dish soap, kitchen & bathroom cleaner, sponges, rags, paper towels, laundry detergent, waste baskets, mop, broom & vacuum, trash bags.

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](#)



Join us for our Sunday School Kick-Off Carnival!

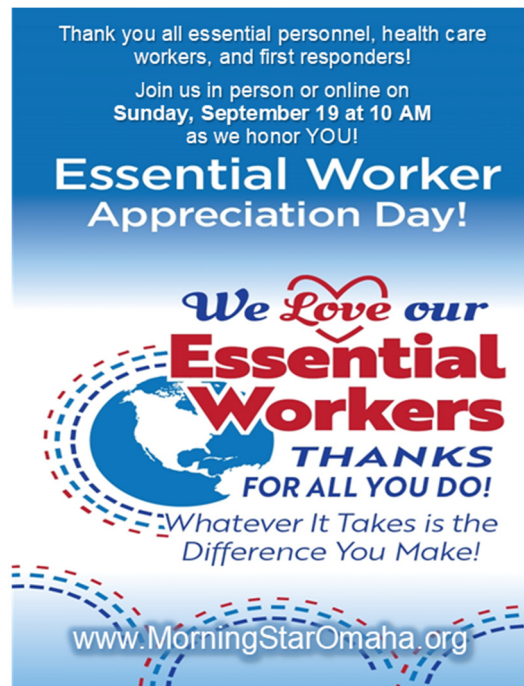
Sunday, September 12
9-9:45 am before church
Outside on the front lawn

The whole family is welcome to join us for yard games, snacks, amazing balloon creations by The Balloon Brigade, and more!



We have not had the ability to receive some new members who joined Morning Star during the pandemic. We will be receiving new members on Sunday, **SEPTEMBER 12** at the 10 AM Worship Service.

If you want to learn more about membership at Morning Star, contact us to attend the New Member class on September 12 at 9 AM. Email Office@MorningStarOmaha.org or call 402-393-5553.





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 [Isaiah 50:4-9a](#)

Psalm [Psalm 116:1-9](#)

Second Reading [James 3:1-12](#)

Gospel [Mark 8:27-38](#)



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.

Sunday School Dates:

September 12 (Rally Sunday)

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!

COVID-19 GUIDELINES UPDATE

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.





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!
- Rally Sunday is Sunday, September 12 at 9 AM. We need youth to help with games!
- God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is September 12 following worship. The youth will help with the "Stuff the Sock" project.
- 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.

Information about this ministry and get the instructions to register at www.seekingthespiritwithin.org and click on Drink from the Well. Registrations are being accepted through September 14, 2021. For more information, contact Spiritual Directors Patrick Gregory & Emily Wageman at dftwnesynod@gmail.com.

Church Council **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Based on our COVID Task Force recommendation, the Council approved updated COVID guidelines. Please see information included in the mid-week update.
- We are applying to be selected to participate in a cohort for the ELCA Congregations Lead Initiative. The program provides an opportunity to connect with other congregations for innovative ministry.

- Our Outreach Team hosted a dinner and worship for Crossroads Connection. The event was well attended. Thanks to Todd and Deb Washburn for all they did!



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!



5	Lou Ann Henkens	Lou Ann Henkens	Available
12	Lou Ann Henkens	Lou Ann Henkens	Fred Zabel
19	Lou Ann Henkens	Francy Van Meter	Available
26	Jan Zarestky	Jan Dahlk	Jan Dahlk

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, September 8

10^{AM} Bible Study (Conference Room)

Thursday, September 9

7^{PM} DBSA (Chapel)

Friday, September 10

Saturday, September 11

9^{AM} Council Retreat (Camp Carol Joy Holling)

5:30^{PM} Worship (Sanctuary)

Sunday, September 12 ~ God's Work, Our Hands

9^{AM} New Member Class (Conference Room)

9^{AM} Rally Sunday Carnival (Outside)

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

11:30 God's Work. Our Hands. Activities & Lunch

Monday, September 13

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

7^{PM} NWFT Trailblazers (Gathering Space)

Tuesday, September 14

9^{AM} Staff Retreat (Camp Carol Joy Holling)

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

5:30^{PM} AA Meeting (Chapel)

Wednesday, September 15

10^{AM} Bible Study (Conference Room)

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)



September 12 Readings

First Reading [Isaiah 50:4-9a](#)

Psalm [Psalm 116:1-9](#)

Second Reading [James 3:1-12](#)

Gospel [Mark 8:27-38](#)

