

September/October
2025



*For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.
~ Psalm 122:9*

On Sunday, October 12, we will have a Service of Dedication for our now completed Enlighten Project. Weather pending, we will gather outdoors in Morning Star's glorious new Prayer Garden. From pavement to altar, we will humbly ask God's blessings upon this glorious new remodel of God's house. As we enter through the doors of the church, we will not just delight in the beauty of fresh new walls and fixtures but rather delight in God's eternal and gracious presence.

Fittingly, we will begin our time of worship together in prayer. We will pray that Morning Star continues to be a sacred space for all of God's children to gather. We will pray that every square inch of our building and grounds be a place for proclaiming God's Word. We will pray that our campus continues to provide a place that brings life and hope to us and the community we serve. We will pray for generations yet unborn to be touched by a building that literally shares the Gospel as it shines on its walls.

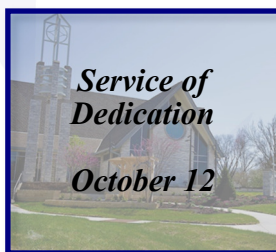
I trust we will not forget the reason our congregation made the courageous decision to embark on this exciting project. Yes, Morning Star was already an inspiring place to worship. We cherish the rich history of ministry and worship that has transpired in this special place. There are so many memories, celebrations, prayers, light shined amid grief, relationships, laughter, tears, and outreach that has been stewarded in this house. How many of the Saints do we celebrate because their faith was enriched through our ministry together? But also, what continued opportunities will our remodel and space enhancement give

us to welcome others and love our neighbor?

It's interesting the liturgical color for church Dedication services is red. Red, of course, is the vibrant color of the Holy Spirit. Red is the color that recalls the dramatic Day of Pentecost when tongues of fire rested on the heads of the apostles. Red is a powerful color in that story that signaled the reunification of those from different regions and languages that suddenly understood one common reality...the power of God in Spirit!

For these reasons, red is typically only seen in worship on Pentecost Sunday and Reformation Sunday, days that celebrate the church. Fittingly, it's also the color used in worship during a Service of Dedication. May the color red signal a Spirit that moves us beyond our comfort zones and into the redzones of ministry. These are the zones where we are called to push the envelope of what we imagine is humanly possible, but which God makes happen. So, wear red to worship on this day as we pray for the Holy Spirit to continue to do its work through our new space and each one of us!

I invite you and anyone you can invite to attend worship on this sacred and powerful day of ministry. Following worship, we will convene downstairs in our Fellowship Hall for a catered lunch. This will not only be a time of fellowship, but a time to reflect on the wonderful history of our beloved congregation. All we ask is that you please confirm you and/or your family's attendance. Information



MORNING STAR
LUTHERAN CHURCH

331 S. 85th Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68114

402.393.5553 (Church)
402.393.8215 (Preschool)

Office@MorningStarOmaha.org
www.MorningStarOmaha.org

Worship Times

Saturday Worship 5:30 PM
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM
Coffee Fellowship 11:15 AM

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8 AM - 4 PM
Friday 8 AM - Noon

Closed Major Holidays

Staff

Christopher Hawkins, Lead Pastor
Susie Syx, Director of Administrative Ministries
Sarah Dumke, Preschool Director
Simone Weber, Music Minister
Rick Jacobi, Music Minister
James Creason, Facilities Manager

Morning Star is connected to the worldwide mission of the Church through the West Metro Cluster of the Nebraska Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.



about our menu with an opportunity to RSVP for this free meal will be forthcoming very soon.

In the meantime, I want to share a word of appreciation and gratitude for each of you. Thank you for your continued openness to the Holy Spirit. Thank you for being a partner in listening to the ways God has been calling us as a community to serve and urgently share the story of salvation. Thank you for your willingness to see God's house not only as a place for us to worship, but as a place to welcome the stranger and love our neighbor. We have an amazing gift called Morning Star Lutheran Church and it is made more special because of you!

Your Partner in Ministry,

Pr. Chris



Scholarship Award Recipients (L-R): Nick Bowman, Kate Lieske, Renny Maxwell, Hailey Neussendorfer, Mason Rue, Jackson Post

Unable to Attend: Anker Jensen, Riley Hawkins, Hattie Moeller, Owen Moeller, Clark Rue, Lily Warner & Zac Tonniges

The Church Council's Annual Retreat and September meeting will be held on Saturday, October 11 at Camp Carol Joy Holling from 9 AM to Noon.



We ALWAYS need help with Communion, scripture reading & ushering. Contact the Church Office to find out how you can help!

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to be a sponsor, contact the Church Office. Thank you to **Piccolo Florists** for providing our Altar Flowers at a reduced rate.

Flower Sponsors

Bulletin Sponsors

DATE	FLOWERS	FLOWERS	BULLETINS
Sept. 7	Alan & Alyce Berk	Ruth & Virgil Johnson	AVAILABLE
Sept. 14	Jon & Sabrina Beck	Susie Syx	AVAILABLE
Sept. 21	James & Shaila Clark	Don & Bonnie Daubman	AVAILABLE
Sept. 28	Mark Carnevalo	Mark Carnevalo	AVAILABLE
Oct. 5	Daryl & JoAnne Wollenburg	Nancy Sweetwood	AVAILABLE
Oct. 12	James & Shaila Clark	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE
Oct. 19	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE
Oct. 26	Mark Carnevalo	Mark Carnevalo	AVAILABLE

Our Altar Flowers, which have remained at the same rate for many years now, have increased. Beginning October 1, the cost of the Altar Flowers will be \$45 per arrangement. Thank you for continuing to sponsor the beautiful flowers that adorn our altar and thank you to Piccolo Florist for keeping the prices as low as possible for so long! We are collecting the containers the flowers come in for a hopeful discount. Please return to the Church Office if you are able.



September/October Worship Assistants

Sunday, September 7

Comm: Betty Fiddelke, Sarah Lieske & Donna Walter
Reader: Donna Walter
Usher: Dan & Laurel Mooney
Acolyte: Anna Moeller & _____
Altar: Diane Meyer

Sunday, September 14

Comm: Rod Anderson, Susie Syx & Dave Evenson
Reader: Rod Anderson
Usher: Brian & Bryce Peterson
Acolyte: Quinn Weber & Alexandra Weber
Altar: Lauren Gilmore

Sunday, September 21

Comm: Kim Hawkins, Dave & Lynn Blagg
Reader: Kim Hawkins
Usher: Joel Rohde & Jim McGill
Acolyte: Bryce & Grace Peterson
Altar: Lynn Blagg

Sunday, September 28

Comm: Kyle & Arielle Wolfe, Mark Carnevalo
Reader: Kyle Wolfe
Usher: Todd & Deb Washburn
Acolyte: Abigail Karnish & Brynn Wiebers
Altar: Tim, Dawn & Abigail Karnish

Sunday, October 5

Comm: Betty Fiddelke, Sarah Lieske & Donna Walter
Reader: Donna Walter
Usher: Joel Rohde & Jim McGill
Acolyte: Charlie & Will Beck
Altar: Diane Meyer

Sunday, October 12

Comm: Rod Anderson, Bob & Lauren Gilmore
Reader: Bob Gilmore
Usher: Todd & Deb Washburn
Acolyte: Zach & Josh Bowman
Altar: Lauren Gilmore

Sunday, October 19

Comm: Kim Hawkins, Dave & Lynn Blagg
Reader: Dave Blagg
Usher: Mark Carnevalo & Dean Mathisen
Acolyte: Addi Hawkins & Hallie Tonniges
Altar: Lynn Blagg

Sunday, October 26 Reformation Sunday

Comm: Kyle & Arielle Wolfe, Mark Carnevalo
Reader: Jan Zarestky
Usher: Brian & Bryce Peterson
Acolyte: Abigail Karnish & Brynn Wiebers
Altar: Tim, Dawn & Abigail Karnish

FREE



MORNING STAR
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trunk or Treat

**Wednesday,
October 29**

Food - CANDY - Games

East Parking Lot ~ 331 S. 85th Ave.

morningstaromaha.org

5:30 PM to 7 PM

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

September & October 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 including families from Lutheran Family Services, the Westside Boys & Girls Club, and Table Grace Café. Morning Star is able to deliver around 150 delicious meals during a time that can be financially taxing to families struggling to make ends meet. 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!



**Wrapped in God's Love
Nebraska Women of the ELCA
2025 Biennial Convention & Gathering
September 26-28 at Carol Joy Holling**

Cost is \$350 for the full weekend; \$140 for Saturday only. Register by September 10 by emailing NSWO.treasurer@gmail.com.



Thank you to everyone who donated school supplies to the Westside Boys & Girls Club!

Thank you for the donation of \$1,563! Your heartfelt gift helps us achieve our mission to provide assistance and inspire HOPE for cancer patients, their families and the community. We sincerely appreciate your congregation's support!

Daniel Walsh,
Executive Director
NCS Hope Foundation

Thank you for your wonderful gift of treat bags for our bedside caregivers at Hospice House—the Josie Harper Residence. They were delighted to receive them when they came into the team room each shift. What a lovely surprise. Our caregivers are what make Hospice House so special. The compassion and care they give to our residents and their families is amazing. Your gifts to our team let them know their care was noticed. Thank you for helping me acknowledge them.

Lisa W. Russell
Executive Director
Hospice House

You all make the unthinkable a possibility for our graduates. Thank you for your continued generosity and investment in their success. We are so grateful to you!

Charita Dailey
Director of Development
RISE



Thank you people of Morning Star Lutheran Church for your ongoing support of Table Grace Ministries! We appreciated your donations through the green envelope giving in August, donations at the Concert event on Aug. 31st and the Endowment gift which totaled \$5,567. Your combined generosity will assist us impacting over 500 people that volunteer in exchange for a meal at Table Grace Cafe. We are truly grateful!

Matt & Simone Weber
Table Grace Ministries



If you have pastoral care needs, please contact the Church Office to notify our pastoral staff.



We need help setting out donuts & coffee. It's a pretty easy gig and everyone **LOVES** the donut person! Contact Marguerite Diane or Jan if you can help!

2026 Mission Support Coming Soon

Keep your eye out for the 2026 Stewardship Campaign coming to your mailbox SOON! This year we celebrate where God has brought us, reflect on where we are, and seek His guidance for where the Lord is leading us next!



Omaha New Hope Chapter DBSA

The DBSA (Depression, BiPolar Support Alliance) meets at Morning Star Thursdays at 7^{PM}. This meeting is open to anyone in need!

Alcoholics Anonymous is open to all! Groups that meet at Morning Star are:

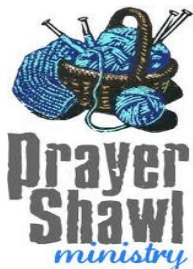
Tuesdays at 5:30^{PM}

Tuesdays at 8^{PM}

Wednesdays at 5:30^{PM} ~Women



Al-Anon meets at Morning Star on Wednesdays at Noon.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides handcrafted blankets given to those that need comfort. Prayers for peace and healing are prayed over each one as they are made. Contact the Church Office to pick one up.



MORNING STAR
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Invites you to celebrate our Enlighten Remodel with a

SERVICE OF DEDICATION

Sunday, October 12th

Worship Service | 10:00 AM
Service of Dedication | 11:15 AM
Catered Lunch Immediately Following

RSVP to Office@MorningStarOmaha.org or 402-393-5553



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 9:30 Staff Mtg 5 Exec Team Meeting 5:30 AA Grp 1 7 Dancers Practice 8 AA Grp 2	3 10 Bible Study 12 AI Anon 5:30 AA Women Only	4 7 DBSA	5 	6 9 Quilting Group 5:30 Worship
7 10 Worship GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS SUNDAY	8 5 Enlighten Team Meeting 6 Outreach Team Meeting 6:30 Church Council	9 9:30 Staff Mtg 5 Exec Team Meeting 5:30 AA Grp 1 7 Dancers Practice 8 AA Grp 2	10 10 Bible Study 12 AI Anon 5:30 AA Women Only	11 7 DBSA	12	13 5:30 Worship
14 10 Worship	15	16 9:30 Staff Mtg 5 Exec Team Meeting 5:30 AA Grp 1 7 Dancers Practice 8 AA Grp 2	17 10 Bible Study 12 AI Anon 5:30 AA Women Only 5:30 Faith Partner's Meeting	18 7 DBSA	19	20 5:30 Worship
21 10 Worship	22 	23 9:30 Staff Mtg 5 Exec Team Meeting 5:30 AA Grp 1 7 Dancers Practice 8 AA Grp 2	24 10 Bible Study 12 AI Anon 5:30 AA Women Only 6:30 Confirmation	25 12:30 Sarah Circle 1:30 Lydia Circle 7 DBSA	26	27 5:30 Worship
28 10 Worship	29	30 9:30 Staff Mtg 5 Exec Team Meeting 5:30 AA Grp 1 7 Dancers Practice 8 AA Grp 2				

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10 Bible Study 12 AI Anon 5:30 AA Women Only 6:30 Confirmation	2 7 DBSA	3	4 9 Quilting Group 5:30 Worship
5 10 Worship	6 6 Outreach Team Meeting	7 9:30 Staff Mtg 5 Exec Team Meeting 5:30 AA Grp 1 7 Dancers Practice 8 AA Grp 2	8 10 Bible Study 12 AI Anon 5:30 AA Women Only	9 7 DBSA	10 	11 9 Council Retreat 5:30 Worship
12 10 Worship CHURCH DEDICATION SERVICE OF DEDICATION <i>Sunday, October 12th</i> Worship Service 10:00 AM Prayer Service 11:00 AM Communion 11:30 AM Followed by Lunch Immediately Following	13 5 Enlighten Team Meeting 5 MIF Committee Meeting 6:30 Church Council	14 9:30 Staff Mtg 5 Exec Team Meeting 5:30 AA Grp 1 7 Dancers Practice 8 AA Grp 2	15 10 Bible Study 12 AI Anon 5:30 AA Women Only 5:30 Faith Partner's Meeting 6:30 Confirmation	16 7 DBSA	17	18 5:30 Worship
19 10 Worship	20	21 9:30 Staff Mtg 5 Exec Team Meeting 5:30 AA Grp 1 7 Dancers Practice 8 AA Grp 2	22 10 Bible Study 12 AI Anon 5:30 AA Women Only	23 12:30 Sarah Circle 1:30 Lydia Circle 7 DBSA	24	25 5:30 Worship
26 10 Worship 	27	28 9:30 Staff Mtg 5 Exec Team Meeting 5:30 AA Grp 1 7 Dancers Practice 8 AA Grp 2	29 10 Bible Study 12 AI Anon 5:30 AA Women Only 5:30 TRUNK or TREAT	30 7 DBSA	31 HALLOWEEN 	



MORNING STAR LUTHERAN CHURCH

331 S. 85th Avenue

Address Correction Requested

Birthdays & Anniversaries

If you don't see your birthday or anniversary in the monthly newsletter, contact the Church Office as we do not have it in our records. Thanks!



September & October Anniversaries

Jon & Sabrina	Beck	09/01	Troy & Jean	Gutheil	09/23
Virgil & Ruth	Johnson	09/01	Todd & Jill	Moeller	9/27
Alan & Alyce	Berk	09/01	Don & Emily	McWhirter	10/04
Brian & Erin	Hanke	09/12	Bert & Rhonda	Wise	10/11
Philip & Torrie	Niewohner	09/12	Robert & Gina	Ladd	10/22
Lee & Judy	Hollander	09/13	Jack & Joyce	Green	10/24
Mike & Patsy	Behm	09/18	Jeremy & Kaylie	Ring	10/26
Jim Olmsted & Denise	Stange	09/22			

September & October Birthdays

Isaiah	Boyd	09/02	Laura	Ring	09/13	Charles	Beck	09/29	Klein	Placzek	10/16
Alexandra	Johnson	09/03	Alec	Stevens	09/14	Stacie	Neussendorfer	09/29	Erik	Jensen	10/17
Jeremy	Ring	09/06	Alec	Stevens	09/14	Susan	Syx	09/29	Asta	Jensen	10/18
Dorothy	Vacek	09/06	Charles	Bowman	09/15	Jill	Moeller	11/08	Rubye	Davie	10/19
Deborah	Bruckner	09/08	Sabrina	Beck	09/17	Todd	Moeller	12/29	Auggie	Groen	10/20
Grace	Peterson	09/08	Kevin	Nelson	09/20	Emerson	Turner	10/01	Rae	Austin	10/21
Mitchell	Krohn	09/09	Adam	Hedican	09/23	Timothy	Wahl	10/03	Betty	Williams	10/21
Sarah	Lieske	09/09	William	Ervin	09/24	Janice	Hass	10/05	Steve	Krohn	10/22
Torrie	Niewohner	09/10	Teagan	Pierce	09/25	Zachary	Bowman	10/07	Jeremy	Groen	10/25
Zayden	Gaines	09/11	Janice	Zarestky	09/25	JoAnn	Wollenburg	10/08	Shelby	Duncan	10/28
Sheryl	Cuba	09/13	Robert	Gilmore	09/26	Abby	Wolfe	10/10	Mark	Carneval	10/30
Max	Engel	09/13	Kathy	Hawkins	09/27	Madison	Wolfe	10/10	Cooper	Corbett	10/30
Leslie	Palmer	09/13	Joshua	Bowman	09/28	Thomas	Hysack	10/13	Andrew	Maxwell	10/31

