

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Gathering in grace, growing in faith, serving in love*

October, 2021

## Pastor's Ponderings

### Gratitude for our AV Gurus!



The pandemic has taught us a great many things – the importance of masks, hand sanitizer, delivery services, internet, and smartphones. We've seen how we can have effective meetings online with Zoom, and we've realized that even though we can use Zoom, meeting in person often just feels better.

One of the things we've learned at Grace is how vital our audio-visual-tech crew is. When we can worship in-person, we don't always notice what they do (unless a microphone dies), but during the pandemic, their work and expertise has been essential. Without these wonderfully devoted guys, "virtual" worship would not have been possible. These volunteers have been working hard, here nearly every week during the pandemic, to make sure our worship services can be seen and heard on multiple platforms.

In addition to arriving early to set things up, our AV gurus run back and forth from the TV station to get the service broadcast running, they pay attention to microphones, batteries, speakers, multiple cameras, computers, and equipment I didn't even know we had. After a year of my kids streaming services to Facebook from my cell phone, the guys have worked hard to figure out how to hook up our AV equipment to stream worship to Facebook, so folks can see and hear better. It's been much more challenging than anybody expected, requiring dozens of hours of research, tinkering, and experimenting, and I'm so grateful for their perseverance. And more recently, they've begun to project worship slides on our screen to make it easier for worshipers to follow the service in-person and at home.

Their dependability, commitment, patience, and problem-solving skills have been amazing. So please join me in giving an enormous thank you to our faithful AV and Tech crew – Steve Oostdik, Todd Tatlock, Steve Geis, Michael Rehak, Kris Tobias, and Jacob Tatlock, and another thanks to Mike Birch for being so available to assisting our Grace gurus. You make our worship happen and do such a great job of connecting us with worshipers both near and far. We thank you and thank God for you.

In Christ,  
*+Pastor Jennifer*



Steve Oostdik



Michael Rehak, Todd Tatlock, Kris Tobias



Steve Geis



## New Adult Class Begins in October



This month we begin a new adult education series called "Animate: Faith." Each session features a short video by an important modern theologian followed by discussion on the video and theme. Some of the theologians include Brian McLaren, Nadia Bolz-Weber, and Lauren Winner. Join us Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. either in person or on Zoom as we explore these compelling themes that are so central to our faith.

Oct. 4 – God: Faith is a Quest  
Oct. 11 – Religion: Spirituality Is Not Enough  
Oct. 18 – Jesus: The Revolution of Love  
Oct. 25 – No Class

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83447883067?pwd=ejdLMlhvdEYzeFNmU1dVRmVhMFFWZz09>

## October Highlights:

Oct. 4 – **Animate: Faith study begins**  
Oct. 10 – **Blessing of the Animals**  
Oct. 17 – **First Communion for 5<sup>th</sup> graders**  
Oct. 24 – **Confirmation Sunday**  
Oct. 31 – **Reformation Sunday**



## Outdoor Coffee Hour Sign Up

While having a cozy indoor coffee hour sounds nice, we're still safer eating outside. So, as long as weather permits, we'll continue to have Coffee Hour after worship outside. So we're looking for people who might be willing to bring treats and serve coffee outside. We don't have a coffee hour volunteer schedule this year, so we're hoping to get enough volunteers to make this happen. Interested in helping? Contact the church office or sign up on the wall outside the church office.



## Mask Requirement

As you now know, Dane County has reissued a mask mandate for all people gathering inside buildings. To continue protecting our children, our immunocompromised, and everybody else, Grace has returned to requiring masks for worship and other gatherings in the building. Thank you for once again caring for the welfare of your neighbors in this way.

## Worship Broadcasts

Sunday worship services are live broadcast on Charter channel 987 and on Grace's Facebook page. Sermons are posted on Grace's YouTube channel after Sunday worship,



Free Tuesday mornings? Looking for some friendly conversation? Join us for Grace Gab **Tuesdays at 10:30**. If the weather's nice, we meet outside. If not, we'll move into the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!



**The ELCA Youth Gathering** will be **July 23-28, 2022**. Grace students currently going into 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades are able to attend. If you haven't attended an informational meeting and are interested, please **contact Pastor Jennifer ASAP**.

**All registrations & \$100 deposit are due by October 3.** There will be an **organizational meeting** on **Oct. 3 at 11:00 a.m.**, as well.

**Confirmation Corner-** Confirmation is underway! Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are learning about the Old Testament this semester.

Our first **Mentor Night** of the year will be **Wed. Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m.**

There will be **no Confirmation or Pre-Confirmation** on Wed., **October 27**.

Our **9<sup>th</sup> grade** confirmands will affirm their **baptismal promises** on **Sun., Oct. 24 at 9:00 a.m.**



### **Blessing of the Animals– Sunday, October 10th @ 4 p.m.**

Attention all animal-lovers! Many of us have gotten through this pandemic with the help of our furry, feathered, and

finned friends. Pets are such important parts of our families and our lives, and they deserve to be celebrated and blessed. You're invited to bring your pets and join us for the Blessing of the Animals on **Sunday, October 10 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Grace church yard (inside if the weather is bad). We'll have a short blessing service, followed by treats for both humans and animals. We can't wait for the chance to meet the important animals in your life! Feel free to invite your friends!

### **Grace Office Hours**

Grace **office hours 9:00 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday**. There are additional office hours, but those will vary more. Please contact us if you'd like to make an appointment. Contact information is on pg.12

# Stewardship News

## Season of Stewardship

What do you associate with fall? When the calendar changes to October I think of crisp mornings, warm afternoons, earlier darkness in the evening, football games, leaves turning to beautiful colors, new crayons, pumpkins, and maybe a cozy sweater. Farmers are busy in the fields as crops reach maturity. Summer fruits and vegetables may need to be canned or preserved. Lazy days of summer don't last forever, and we become busy with our various activities.

After good discussion the committee decided on "Harvesting Hope" as the stewardship theme for this year. Concerns from last year have continued as we struggle with thoughts of returning to "normal." The good news is that God continues to care for us with love and generosity. If you have a story of hope that you would be willing to share we'd love to hear from you. During worship on October 17 we'll explore and try to explain our theme in a little more detail. Please join us to **"harvest hope!"**

*-Submitted by Janet Koepp, on behalf of the Stewardship Committee*

Grace Stewardship Campaign



## Chris & Tom Watson for Setting up Communion

over the past few years! We really appreciate you!

We will need another person or couple for the second Sunday of each month. Just takes a few minutes, once a month. Please contact the office.

thank  
you!



## October Grace Volunteers



**October 3- Greeters/Ushers: Michael Rehak & Pira Mueller Reader: Shawn Whitman  
Communion Set-Up- Ruth Circle**

**October 10- Greeters/Ushers: April Mickelson & Judy Heidebrecht  
Reader: April Mickelson Communion Set Up- Ruth Circle**

**October 17- Greeters/Ushers: Al & Pat Northey Reader: Shawn Koebeke  
Communion Set-Up - Pat Northey**

**October 24- Greeters/Ushers: Bill & Betty Reay Reader: Bill Reay  
Communion Set Up- Steve & Jenny Horgan-Geis**

**October 31- Greeters/Ushers: Dale & Marcia Klemp Reader: Marcia Klemp  
Communion Set-Up- Ruth Circle**

# October Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> 9 a.m. <b>Worship SERVICE</b> -Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook  10:15 a.m. Sunday School	<b>4</b> 7:00 p.m. <b>Animate Faith</b> Adult Class at Grace and on Zoom	<b>5</b> 10:30 a.m. <b>Grace Gab</b>	<b>6</b> 9 a.m. <b>Ruth Circle</b> at Grace  6:30 p.m. <b>MENTOR NIGHT</b> Confirmation & Pre-Confirmation	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9 a.m. <b>Worship SERVICE</b> -Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook  10:15 a.m. Sunday School  4:00 p.m. <b>Blessing of the Animals</b> at Grace (inside if rainy). All are welcome!	<b>11</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Quilters</b>  7:00 p.m. <b>Animate Faith</b> Adult Class at Grace and on Zoom	<b>12</b> 10:30 a.m. <b>Grace Gab</b>  7:30 p.m. <b>Grace Council Mtg.</b>	<b>13</b> 6:30 p.m. <b>Confirmation &amp; Pre-confirmation</b>	<b>14</b> 9 a.m. <b>Lydia Circle</b> at Grace	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17 First Communion Sunday</b> 9 a.m. <b>Worship SERVICE</b> -Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook  10:15-11:00 Sunday School	<b>18</b> 9:00 a.m. <b>Quilters</b>  7:00 p.m. <b>Animate Faith</b> Adult Class at Grace and on Zoom	<b>19</b> 10:30 a.m. <b>Grace Gab</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 p.m. <b>Confirmation &amp; Pre-confirmation</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24 Confirmation Sunday</b> 9 a.m. <b>Worship SERVICE</b> -Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook  10:15-11:00 Sunday School	<b>25</b> 9:00 a.m. <b>Quilters</b>	<b>26</b> 10:30 a.m. <b>Grace Gab</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30 p.m. <b>Confirmation &amp; Pre-confirmation</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31 Reformation Sunday</b> 9 a.m. <b>Worship SERVICE</b> -Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook  10:15-11:00 Sunday School						

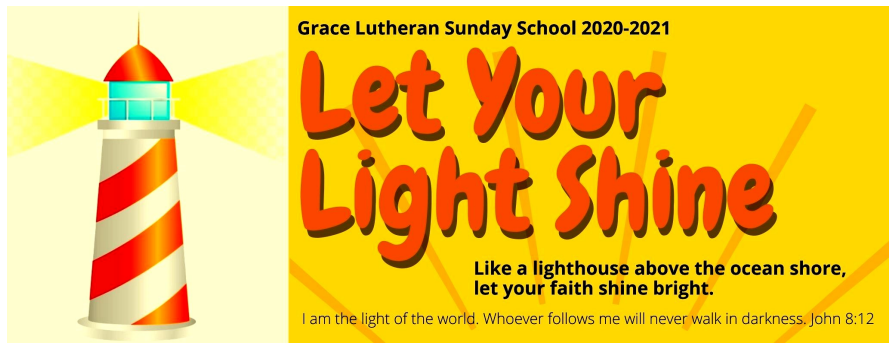


A huge thank you to Kelly Witte & Tami Collin for contracting and donating the cost of quarterly pest removal from the premises. We look forward to fewer bees, flies and beetles buzzing about and catching meandering mice who've been chewing costumes, classroom supplies and candles!



# Sunday School

Teresa Neuenschwander,  
Christian Education Coordinator  
[teresa478@hotmail.com](mailto:teresa478@hotmail.com)  
608-658-7844



Hi Sunday School Families!

Sunday School got off to a great start in September. Please welcome our new teachers and encourage our students. Here's a snapshot of our first class!



## Sunday School Schedule

**October 3rd, 10th– Regular Class for 4K-4th grades**

**October 17th– Learn About Lutheran World Hunger & ELCA Good Gifts**

**October 24th– Confirmation Sunday; Sunday School Stewardship Sunday; Lemonade Stand and Bake Sale. Proceeds go to Lutheran World Hunger & ELCA Good Gifts**

**October 31st– No Sunday School**

## 5th Grade



## Schedule

**October 3rd– 10:15-11:45 • 5th Grade First Communion Class engraving chalices with Jill Jensen**

**October 10th– 10:15-11:45 • 5th Grade First Communion Class make Communion Bread with Jill Jensen**

**October 17th – 5th Grade First Communion during 9 a.m. service**

# Grace is Thankful for Its Sunday School Staff!

**4K & Kindergarten:** Kristin Rue-Teacher & Rachel Drotzer, Kyla Tobias-Helpers



I've taught Sunday School here at Grace for approximately 5 years. I look forward to teaching each year because of the kiddos! They are always full of joy, excitement and smiles. It makes me smile to help the kids learn and grow in their faith.



I'm Rachel Drotzer and I graduated from high school just this past school year. I like to go to chicken shows and spend time with my grandma. My favorite thing about Sunday School is the Christmas play and being able to teach younger kids about God.



My name is Kyla Tobias and I am currently a freshman in High School. In my free time I like to read, draw/paint, and listen to music. My favorite part of Sunday School is seeing kids understand and learn about God and have fun at the same time.

**1st & 2nd Grade:** Sierra Jelinek & Maddy Buonincontro-Teachers



I'm a junior in high school this year. My hobbies include playing tennis and being in jazz band. I'm very excited to teach Sunday School this year because I love little kids! -Sierra Jelinek



I am a junior at Cambridge High School. I play volleyball and I am also in show choir. I am super excited to teach Sunday school this year because I love working with kids and teaching them about Jesus makes it even better! -Maddy Buonincontro

**3rd & 4th Grade:** Bill Becker-Teacher



My wife Traci and I have lived in Cambridge for 10 years. We have three children; Billy (7), Maddie (5), and Evie (3). We enjoy being outdoors and taking family trips. -Bill Becker

**5th Grade:** Shauna Thayer-Teacher



I have been a Sunday School teacher at Grace since 2018. Every year I am excited to help the children deepen their personal relationship with God and get a better understanding of the Word.

**6th Grade:** Teresa Neuenschwander & Pat Northey-Teachers



My husband Tim and I have two kids at home, Mason 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Paige in 1<sup>st</sup> grade, plus Kirby our Beagle. I am the Christian Education Coordinator here at Grace Lutheran Church. I also work at the Cambridge Elementary School as an Aid in the 4K Room. I am the president of the Cambridge PTO. In my spare time I like to spend time with my family, read, cook/bake, shop ;-), and take walks. I'm excited to co-teach 6<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-Confirmation this year - I've taught this group off on and since they were in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. -Teresa Neuenschwander



I have been a member of Grace for the last 43 years and started teaching Sunday School when my kids were little. I also enjoyed being on the Education Committee & teaching Sunday School over the years. I loved the Christmas programs! I have been a Mentor to 5 Confirmants and just recently started helping with 6<sup>th</sup> grad Confirmation. I just love to teach all the great stories from the Bible, as well as spend time with the students. God bless another year! -Pat Northey



Shawnee Sullivan, "Substitute" Teacher I have been teaching Sunday School since 2018 and enjoy singing songs and reading the Bible with the kids.



## Our New VANCO Mobile App is Here!

We're excited to announce an upgraded mobile app! Vanco, our eGiving provider, has launched an updated mobile app called Vanco Mobile to replace GivePlus Mobile.

You can download the Vanco Mobile app for free from the App Store or Google Play. Once downloaded, search for Grace Lutheran Cambridge to get connected to Grace's account. From there, you can make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving right through the app. Just select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation.

If you are using the GivePlus mobile app, you will use the same username and password for the new mobile app. Any scheduled donations and all of your history will be transferred to the new app.

Please download Vanco Mobile by September 30. Vanco will be retiring GivePlus Mobile after this date.

We have also migrated over to a new online website for online giving. The website is <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YYNZ>. We have updated the link on the Grace Lutheran website to take you to the new online giving site. Use your current username and password to log into this site.

If you have questions or need assistance with our new mobile app or the new online giving website, please stop by the church office or call us at 608-423-3135.

*Thankful for the Special Music!*

We enjoyed the beautiful music of this quartet during worship on September 19th.



**Bobbi Rumpf on violin, Lisa Leadholm on flute, Barb Brown on piano and Mare Stewart on flute**



# Outreach & Social Justice News



A big thank you to all of you who contributed in any way to our school kits, baby care kits, personal care kits or quilts. Thank you for showing your love for other people around the world! I am sure they are grateful.

We sent 76 quilts, 115 school kits, 60 personal care kits and 30 baby care kits.

Thank you all for your generosity!

Jean Scott, Outreach



The Food Pantry is starting to get busy again! The following items are in high demand and short supply right now. Please consider donating. Monetary donations are always welcome! Thank you for your continued support!

## Needed items:

laundry detergent	dish soap	shampoo & conditioner	body wash
brown sugar	Spam	ravioli	Spaghettios
Cookies	fruit snacks	chips/snacks/crackers	
Uncrustables	Lunchables	Hearty Soups	corned beef hash

The Food Pantry is **sad to announce that the Community Cafe will once again be on hold until further notice**, due to the increasing rate of COVID cases in our state. We hope to resume these community meals soon.

We will also be accepting donations for holiday meals soon. Please look for suggestions in the next newsletter.

Please call or email Kerry if you have any questions at (608)423-8142 or [foodpantry@cambridge.k12.wi.us](mailto:foodpantry@cambridge.k12.wi.us) **Thank you!**

## OUR HOMEBOUND

Jon Bakken  
309 Oriole Lane  
Cambridge, WI 53523

Mary Ellen Smith  
912 Monroe St., Apt. 11  
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Char Kenseth  
555 W. Madison #5  
Cambridge, WI 53523

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2021 Via Zoom from Home (*Minutes below aren't approved until next month's meeting*)

**Call to Order.** Meeting called to order by President Steve Geis at 7:30 p.m.

**Attendance.** Steve Geis, Amanda Kosanda, Tom Kosanda, Jean Scott, Mary Behling, Jennifer Hellberg, Shawn Whitman, Kris Tobias, Tim Neuenschwander, Ann Engelstad, and Pastor Jennifer Jelinek. Absent: Kari Jermain.

**Devotions.** Tommy Kosanda offered devotions and Pastor Jennifer offered a prayer to open the meeting.

**Approval of August Minutes.** Ann Engelstad moved to approve the Minutes, Tim Neuenschwander seconded the motion, and they were unanimously approved.

**Consent Agenda.** Jennifer Hellberg provided minutes of the Stewardship meeting. The Venmo app is in place and they are starting a slow rollout. The theme for 2021 stewardship is "Harvesting Hope". They will be starting activities on October 17, with November 14 to be Pledge Sunday. The online giving program is being changed so that people can choose to cover the service fees as well. Jean Scott reported that Outreach will be having a cook-out on Sept. 18 to support the Madison Jail Ministry. They are working on completing the school kits for delivery shortly. Kris Tobias (Tech) indicated that they have continued to work on streaming improvements and getting Office 365 on appropriate computers.

**Property Report.** Tommy Kosanda reported that the large project lately has been doing much painting. He expressed appreciation for all the good help. The downstairs carpeting has been cleaned. Pest control services have been funded by a parishioner's gift and will be performed quarterly.

**Treasurer's Report.** Tim Neuenschwander provided his reports and summary. He noted that August revenue was down month over month, mainly due to a significant decline in general giving compared to July. However, it was comparable to August of 19, so pretty normal. Expenditures were pretty flat and there was a net loss of \$1,238 for the month. We are still in the black for the year taking into considering the PPP loan proceeds. He also reported that we are currently about \$8,500 short of having sufficient funds to pay of the Renewing Grace loan. He thinks about \$6,100 may not be collectable, but he will talk to the people with outstanding pledges and let us know. Finally, he is thinking about being able to get the finance committee back together soon so they can work on establishing some policies as we move towards being in church more. Kris Tobias moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Jennifer Hellberg seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

**Pastor's Report.** Pastor Jennifer reported that we have hired an organist and he is working out very well. He wants to take a greater part in planning hymns in the future. Confirmation has started with 4 students to be confirmed October 24, 2021. She asked whether or not we should consider an inside brunch or other event as has been done in the past. We all felt this could be done with only 4 students plus guests, so she will talk to them about this. She also asked if we should consider moving coffee hour inside when it gets cooler and/or allowing other indoor food events. No decisions were made at this time. Grace is in charge of the November Community Dinner. The Bishops' Convocation is in a couple of weeks. Not sure if it will be in person or via Zoom yet. Finally, she asked about having the Blessing of the Animals this year. It has usually been done in October in the Village park, but was skipped last year. We agreed that it was worth trying this year if she is willing.

**New Business.** Ann Engelstad reported that she has reached out to the Bell Choir members and has had 8 positive responses. That is the minimum number that is needed to perform so she is going to try to get them together to organize some performances.

**Old Business.** Pastor noted that there were 87 people present for service last Sunday on the first day of Sunday School. It was agreed that more pews should be put into the sanctuary and it was also agreed that the space between pews might be reduced somewhat under six feet in order to make room.

**Adjournment.** There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting was seconded, and was unanimously approved. Next meeting will be October 12, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., via Zoom unless decided otherwise. Amanda Kosanda will provide devotions. The meeting was adjourned, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Report submitted by Mary Behling, Council Secretary.

## GRACE'S SUCCESSFUL SEPTEMBER FUNDRAISERS

### **Touch-a-Truck– *September 11th***



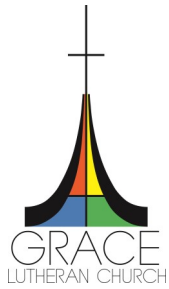
**Grace teens baked fun, truck shaped cookies and sold a collection of goodies at the Touch-a-Truck event at Cambridge High School in September. Many thanks to Todd Tatlock, Pastor Jennifer and Brenda Lovick for their able assistance and to Michael Rehak for his grilling expertise! The teens will use the money earned to help defray costs for the Summer, 2022 Youth Gathering.**

### **Jail Ministry Cookout Fundraiser– *September 18th***



**Altogether we had 11 volunteers, including a member of the MAJM board of directors. Jail Chaplain Todd Marcotte, and his wife Charlie, stopped by for a while, as well. We raised over \$1300, so it was quite a successful event! Special thanks go to Mike Day and his staff at the Piggly Wiggly for their generous and gracious support of the fundraiser.**





Grace Lutheran Church  
E.L.C.A.  
501 Skogen Road  
Cambridge, WI 53523

Place  
stamp  
here

Place address sticker here;  
not any higher

Gathering in grace, Growing in faith, Serving in love.

[www.gracelutherancambridge.org](http://www.gracelutherancambridge.org)

"Like Us" on Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-  
ELCA Cambridge, WI

**Please note:**  
We broadcast  
on Channel 987

## Staff & Council Contacts

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<b><u>Administrative Assistant</u></b>	Virginia Becker	Church Office: (608) 423-3135	Cell: (623) 680-3696	<a href="mailto:gracelutherancambridgewi@gmail.com">gracelutherancambridgewi@gmail.com</a>
<b><u>Financial Secretary:</u></b>	Diane Russo		Cell: (847) 826-0131	<a href="mailto:gracelutheranfinance@gmail.com">gracelutheranfinance@gmail.com</a>
<b><u>Organist:</u></b>	Kenneth Hoversten			<a href="mailto:kenneth.hoversten@gmail.com">kenneth.hoversten@gmail.com</a>
<b><u>Handbell Choir Director:</u></b>	Ann Engelstad			<a href="mailto:gaengelstad@charter.net">gaengelstad@charter.net</a>
<b><u>Christian Education Coordinator:</u></b>	Teresa Neuenschwander		Cell: (608) 658-7844	<a href="mailto:teresa478@hotmail.com">teresa478@hotmail.com</a>
<b><u>Volunteer Coordinator:</u></b>	Cindy Hartman			<a href="mailto:cindyh1029@msn.com">cindyh1029@msn.com</a>

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

<b><u>President :</u></b>	Steve Geis	<a href="mailto:swgeis@yahoo.com">swgeis@yahoo.com</a>
<b><u>Vice President</u></b>	Kris Tobias	
<b><u>Secretary:</u></b>	Mary Behling	
<b><u>Treasurer:</u></b>	Tim Neuenschwander	
<b><u>Outreach:</u></b>	Jean Scott	
<b><u>Education:</u></b>	Amanda Kosanda	
<b><u>Stewardship</u></b>	Jennifer Hellberg	
<b><u>Hospitality:</u></b>	Kari Jermain	
<b><u>Evangelism:</u></b>	Shawn Whitman	
<b><u>Worship:</u></b>	Ann Engelstad	
<b><u>Property:</u></b>	Tom Kosanda	