



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Gathering in Grace, Growing in Faith, Serving in Love*

## NOVEMBER 2025 Newsletter

### Pastor's Ponderings



This month, I'm happy to share this page with our Stewardship Team, led by Connie Kreuser and Mary Bielefeldt...

**"Blessings of Community"** is our Stewardship theme this fall, and just for fun, I looked up the meaning of "community." Here's some of the definitions I found:



- a *unified* body of individuals: such as the people with common interests living in a particular area;
- an *interacting* population of various kinds of individuals in a common location;
- joint ownership or participation;
- social activity: *Fellowship*

These descriptions gladdened my heart. I see a lot of these descriptions carried out in the various ministries and groups here at Grace Lutheran Church.

Did you know that the Outreach Team ministry is reaching out to our own members, members of our community, and globally with hundreds of projects for Lutheran World Relief such as layettes, quilts, and school bags?

Did you know that our Audio-Visual team video broadcasts the church service for local cable TV and Facebook? Their purpose is to expand our church outreach by reaching people who want to hear the Word of God through our broadcast. Year to date, our Facebook broadcast has had over 60,000 views. You can join in on a service if you are in town or in Portugal, Germany, or South Korea! That's community on every level!

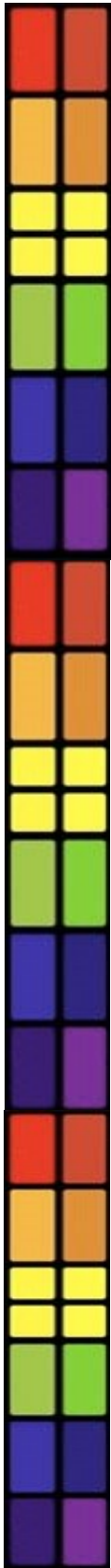
Did you know that our Monday Night Bible Studies are a marvelous way to get to know your fellow believers and grow in your faith? We build fellowship and community there by sharing our stories, learning more about God and each other, and enjoying a surprising amount of laughter!

Did you know our Ruth Circle ladies find community within our church body by meeting to study the Scriptures while working within many of the other ministries at Grace? They also sponsor the Scandinavian Bake Sale with proceeds going to Lutheran World Relief.

In worship, we've been hearing about each of these ministries, but there are also many more ways that we build community here at Grace. We welcome you to use your gifts and passions here to help grow and sustain our community. In this season of thanks, we invite you to prayerfully consider how you will help support our community in 2026. On November 9, we invite you to bring your pledge card and Time & Talent sheet to worship to share your commitment to our beautiful community. We're so grateful for your generosity and love. Here at Grace, we need one another, we're blessed by one another, we are community together.

In Christ,

+ *Pastor Jennifer*



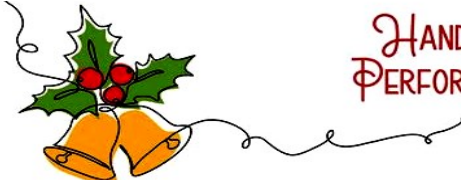


### New Member Gathering

Are you interested in joining Grace or learning more about Grace? You're invited to a New Member gathering on Sunday, November 9 at 10:15 am in the Conference Room. Please let Pastor Jennifer know if you're able to join us for this gathering.

### Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Every time I work on the Community Dinner, I am amazed at the response I get when asking for volunteers!! A huge thank you to everyone who helped; from the "chefs (especially Tony)", the set-up team, the "transportation" team, the servers, the clean-up crew, those who donated money, and the many who provided desserts!! It is certainly true that many hands make for light work!! You are the best!!! - Pat Hall



HANDBELL  
PERFORMANCE

JOIN US FOR...

**BRINGING HOLIDAY JOY**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2PM**

Grace Lutheran Church  
501 Skogen Rd, Cambridge, WI

**FREE ADMISSION**

**BELL CRAZY**  
HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

Under the direction of  
Karen M. Johnson

### Thanksgiving Eve Service

You are invited to join Christians from the area for a Thanksgiving Eve Service at Deerfield Lutheran Church on November 26 at 6:30 p.m. Worship will be followed by pie and fellowship.

### Confirmation Corner



Our 7th-8th grade Confirmation class continues studying the Old Testament this month. Mentor Night this month will be on Wednesday, November 3 at 6:30 pm. Pre-Confirmation will meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, so this month our 6th graders will meet November 5 and 19 at 6:30.

### Meals on Wheels

Grace is responsible for delivery of meals November 18th - 29th. If you can help with driving, please contact Marlene Hussey at 608-513-6461.



## Ever Wonder about Our GLC AV Team?

**Our Purpose** is to expand our church outreach to individuals inside our church, home-bound members and non-members, members travelling, potential new members, and individuals that just want to hear the word of God through our TV and/or Facebook broadcasts.

Each Sunday, our Grace AV team happily volunteers to assist with the broadcast of our church service (and other church events). Our responsibilities each week:

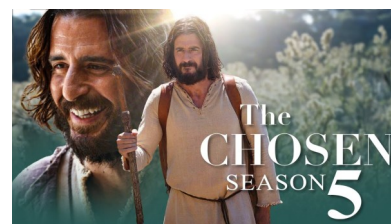
- **Sound System:** We run the sound system within the church, and out to local cable TV (Channel 987 on Spectrum), and to Facebook (live and streaming). We actively use 10 microphones for each service.
- **Video Broadcast:** We video broadcast the church service for Local Cable TV (Channel 987 on Spectrum) and Facebook (live and streaming), with 3 cameras. Over the last 5 weeks, we averaged roughly 190 views to our church Facebook broadcast each week. Unfortunately, cable viewership numbers are not provided to us by Spectrum.
- **Worship Slides:** We run 100+ slides produced by our office administrator during our worship service each week, for our front projection screen in the sanctuary, and to our outside broadcasts.
- **Program Uploads:** After each church service we download our program on Facebook and local TV for future views.

**Our AV Team includes** Sam Grender, Jim Leser, Steve Oostdik, Todd Tatlock, and Kris Tobias. We're always happy to include more team members; consider joining us!

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### Monday Night Adult Study

This month, we'll finish up Season 5 of "The Chosen," on November 3 and 10. Because most videos are around an hour, we'll start at 6:45 p.m. to leave discussion time afterward. Then join us for an Advent study starting December 1 at 7 pm.



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### Want to Worship from Home? Here's How!



Grace's Sunday services continue to be broadcast on Spectrum cable channel 987 Sundays at 9am. Sunday services are also livestreamed on Grace's Facebook page. Just looking for sermons? Check out our

YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdWxSntOyuupFnyLgxSU8aw>

# NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS



- Nov 2** - Ushers: Gary & Sharon Haberkorn                      Assisting Minister: Erik Olsen  
Reader: Mary Bielefeldt  
Communion Servers: Kenny Zickert & Brenda Lovick  
Acolytes: Corbin Klemp & Eleanor Mabie  
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle  
Coffee Hour Hosts: Hussey & Hausz
- Nov 9** - Ushers: Jim & Kari Jermain                      Assisting Minister: Shawn Koebke  
Reader: Char Luchterhand  
Communion Servers: Randy Luchterhand & Felix Egli  
Acolytes: Paige Neuenschwander & Avery Schutte  
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle  
Coffee Hour: Behling & Neuenschwander
- Nov 16** - Ushers: Doug & Gail Tufte                      Assisting Minister: Jeff Gafner  
Reader: Shawn Whitman  
Communion Servers: Rich & Diane Fronek  
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle  
Acolytes: Billy Becker & Paige Neuenschwander  
Coffee Hour Hosts: Falk & Williams
- Nov 23** - Ushers: Williams Family                      Assisting Minister: Kelly Witte  
Reader: Sandi Aston Hall  
Communion Servers: Pat Hall & Connie Kreuser  
Acolytes: Jackson & Josey Rue  
Communion Set Up: Geis Family  
Coffee Hour Hosts: Scott & Buonincontro
- Nov 30** - Ushers: Al & Pat Northey                      Assisting Minister: Shawn Whitman  
Reader: Mandi Buonincontro  
Communion Servers: Mandi Buonincontro & Sharon Erb  
Acolytes: Emmett & Paxton Koehler  
Communion Set Up: Pat Northey  
Coffee Hour Hosts: Jeffers & Nagel

**Altar Guild** - Andrya Coutts, Wendy Lehr & Betty Reay

# NOVEMBER AT GRACE

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Mon                                                                | Tues                                     | Wed                                                                                                                         | Thurs                                 | Fri       | Sat                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------|
| 26<br>9 am Worship SERVICE-<br>Also on Cable Channel 987 & Face-book<br>10:15 Sunday School<br>10:15 Choir Rehearsal                                                                                            | 27<br>9:30 am Quilters<br>6:45 pm Adult Study                      | 28                                       | 29<br>6:30 pm Confirmation                                                                                                  | 30                                    | 31        | 1                                           |
| <b>2</b><br><b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS</b><br>9 am <b>Worship SERVICE-</b><br>Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook<br>10:15 <b>Sunday School</b><br>10:15 <b>Choir Rehearsal</b>                             | <b>3</b><br>9:30 am <b>Quilters</b><br>6:45 pm <b>Adult Study</b>  | <b>4</b>                                 | <b>5</b><br>9 am <b>Ruth Circle</b><br>11am <b>Outreach Committee</b><br>6:30 pm <b>Confirmation &amp; Pre-Confirmation</b> | <b>6</b>                              | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>                                    |
| <b>9</b><br><b>COMMITMENT SUNDAY</b><br>9 am <b>Worship SERVICE-</b><br>Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook<br>10:15 <b>Sunday School</b><br>10:15 <b>Choir Rehearsal</b><br>10:15 <b>New Member Gathering</b> | <b>10</b><br>9:30 am <b>Quilters</b><br>6:45 pm <b>Adult Study</b> | <b>11</b><br>7 pm <b>Council Meeting</b> | <b>12</b><br>9 am <b>Lydia Circle</b><br>6:30 pm <b>Confirmation</b>                                                        | <b>13</b><br>2 pm <b>Staff Mtg</b>    | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b><br><b>News-letter content due</b> |
| <b>16</b><br>9 am <b>Worship SERVICE-</b><br>Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook<br>10:15 <b>Sunday School</b><br>10:15 <b>Choir Rehearsal</b>                                                                 | <b>17</b><br>9:30 am <b>Quilters</b>                               | <b>18</b>                                | <b>19</b><br>6:30 pm <b>Confirmation &amp; Pre-Confirmation</b>                                                             | <b>20</b>                             | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b>                                   |
| <b>23</b><br>9 am <b>Worship SERVICE-</b><br>Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook<br>10:15 <b>Sunday School</b><br>10:15 <b>Choir Rehearsal</b>                                                                 | <b>24</b><br>9:30 am <b>Quilters</b>                               | <b>25</b>                                | <b>26</b><br>6:30 pm <b>Thanksgiving Eve worship at Deerfield LC</b>                                                        | <b>27</b><br><b>Thanks-giving Day</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                                   |
| <b>30</b><br>9 am <b>Worship SERVICE-</b><br>Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook<br>10:15 <b>Sunday School</b><br>10:15 <b>Choir Rehearsal</b>                                                                 | Dec 1<br>9:30 am Quilters<br>6:45 pm Adult Study                   | 2                                        | 3<br>9 am Ruth Circle<br>11am Outreach Committee                                                                            | 4                                     | 5         | 6                                           |



## GROWING FAITH-FILLED KIDS



### Our First Communion Kids

Our 5th Graders completed their First Communion curriculum this fall and we celebrated them in Worship on October 12th! As they engraved their chalices and completed their prayer journals, they learned how Jesus broke bread and served wine, asking us to repeat this tradition in remembrance of Him and His gift to us all. Sending blessings to Bentley Bauler, Josephine Rue, Avery Schutte, Paige Neuenschwander, and Elliott Bernhardt on this important step along their faith journey! Special thank you to Jill Jensen for sharing her gifts with our 5th Graders during First Communion lessons again this year!

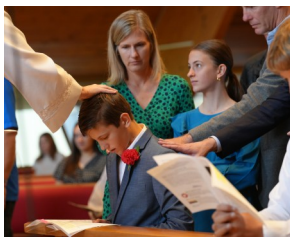


### What We're Learning



Lots of kids dream about becoming famous... and why shouldn't they? It sounds awesome, but it would be pretty tough to have people always watching. In *Famous*, we'll learn about a family in the Bible who lived in such a spotlight. Through their stories, kids will learn that no matter our celebrity status, God gives us friends, we can ask for God's guidance, and we can give God what we have. Fame and fans may come and go, but you don't need to be liked by everyone when you're loved by God!

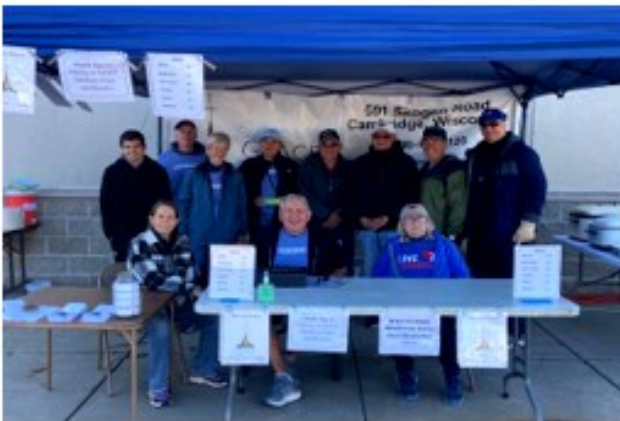
### Confirmation Sunday, October 19th



## Cookout Fundraiser for Madison Area Jail Ministry

On Saturday, October 11th, close to 20 GLC volunteers raised **\$1036.00** by putting on a brat & burger fundraiser to benefit **Madison Area Jail Ministry**. Many GLC members and community members came out to support this effort, buying brats, burgers, hot dogs, chips and beverages. Some folks who were not hungry just dropped a donation in the jar. Others did both!

Special thanks to **Perry's Piggly Wiggly of Cambridge**, who kindly donated **ALL the food and other items** needed for this fundraiser. Without their incredible generosity, our final profits would not have been so impressive. We are also grateful to the **Cambridge Fire Dept** for the use of their large grill (and Richard Scott for hauling it!) and the **Deerfield Community Center**, who provided a large cooler for our beverages. Finally, thanks to all the volunteers who spent much of their Saturday working side-by-side to raise funds for this worthy cause.



Morning Crew: Seated, left to right: Jenny Horgan-Geis, Greg Engelstad & Janet Koepp. Standing, left to right: Mason Neuenschwander, Rich Fronek, Marcia Sivesind, Diane Fronek, Richard Scott, John Leadholm, Steve Geis, Bill Reay. Another volunteer, Bob Koepp, took the photo.

Grill masters Bill Reay and John Leadholm, with assistance from Mason Neuenschwander



Dave & Jackson Rue and Wendy Lehr prepare customers' orders.

Additional volunteers not pictured or mentioned above:

- Connie Kreuser
- Jim Leser
- Shawn Whitman

## Many Thanks!



**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 14, 2025**

*(Minutes will be reviewed & approved at next Council meeting)*

**Call to Order.** President Kelly Witte called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

**Attendance. Present:** Pr. Jennifer Jelinek, Connie Kreuser, Charlene Luchterhand, April Mickelson, Peggy Punsel, Kristin Rue, Richard Scott, Amy Simdon, Kelly Witte. **Absent:** Sandi Aston Hall, Steve Bielefeldt, John Jensen, Marcia Klemp.

**Devotions.** Kristin shared his faith journey and Pastor Jennifer led us in prayer.

**Approval of Minutes.** April moved to approve the September meeting minutes. Amy seconded the motion. Unanimously approved by those who attended the September meeting.

**Approval of Agenda.** Amy moved to approve the agenda. April seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

**Correspondence.** We received a note of thanks from Coach Nelles for serving the football team at the community dinner we hosted.

**Treasurer's Report.** (Amy) We had a net gain of \$544 in September, giving us a total loss of \$4,097 for the year. Our General Giving through September was \$682 more than 2024 and \$10,905 less than the 2025 budget. The Special Giving through September was \$6,928 less than last year and \$5,514 less than budget. If the sabbatical and Youth Gathering expenses are not included, the expenses through September were \$7,648 more than last year, and we were \$12,411 under budget. The checking balance was \$7,248 more than at the end of August with the general fund balance approximately \$3,482 less. Char moved to approve the treasurer's report and send it to audit. Peggy seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

**Pastor's Report.** Four fifth graders celebrated their first communion this past Sunday: Bentley Bauler, Paige Neuenschwander, Josey Rue, and Avery Schutte. Elliott Bernhardt will celebrate first communion this coming Sunday, October 19. Also that day, five boys will be confirmed: Crew Cunningham, Cael Klemp, Peter Mabie, Brady Thayer, and Aidan Williams. Rehearsal followed by dessert will occur this Wednesday. The theme for our stewardship campaign this year is "Blessings of Community." Commitment Sunday will be Sunday, November 9. Time/talent sheets can be completed via paper or online. We will not be having a Thanksgiving Service but are invited to Thanksgiving Eve Service at Deerfield Lutheran Church. (More info forthcoming.)



**Committee Reports.** (Provided in writing and/or discussed in the meeting as needed.)

- **Education.** (Kristin) First day of Sunday School was 9/7/25. Wi-Fi in the basement still does not connect. Sunday School staff to speak with Kris Tobias.
- **Outreach & Social Justice.** (April) Our Thanksgiving Cambridge Food Pantry goal is to collect 100 gravy packets and 100 packages of stuffing. April will share info in a stewardship talk Sunday, November 2. The Blue Jay backpack project will occur in April.
- **Property.** (Richard) Has been checking into when someone can work on the lights in the parking lot. Also contacted three tree trimmers. Will be going with Krizsan's in Fort Atkinson, who had the lowest bid of \$3500. Trees will be trimmed and a dead one removed.
- **Stewardship.** (Connie) The Stewardship campaign is being launched this week.
- The theme is "Blessings of Community."

### **Old Business.**

- **Church Property—Records Review.** Postponed until Steve is available. Noted that minutes are to be kept indefinitely.
- **Jelinek Memorials.** Pr. is exploring an option for an outdoor bench. Will discuss use of other memorial funds in a future meeting.

### **New Business.**

- **Pastor's Health Insurance.** Portico, the nonprofit benefit ministry of the ELCA, is offering four options for health insurance in 2026. Our cost for this benefit will be increasing given that we will be paying the entire amount rather than sharing the cost with Central Lutheran Church in Edgerton. The Value HDHP 4000 policy was selected. This was the lowest in price of the options; Pr. Jennifer feels it will be fine for her family's current needs.

**Adjournment.** Char moved to adjourn the meeting. Amy seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned 7:52 PM. We ended with the Lord's Prayer.

**Next Meeting.** Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 11, at 7:00 PM. Marcia is scheduled to present devotions. For this meeting, all Council members are to review their own position description in their respective binders to determine if we are doing what is written and if any duties need to be added, deleted, or revised.

Submitted by Charlene Luchterhand, Council Secretary

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

## From the Treasurer

### September 2025 Financial Snapshot

| Income                             | Year-to-date<br>September<br>2025 Actual | Year-to-date<br>2025 Monthly<br>Budget | Over/(under) budget |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------|
| General Giving                     | 204,720                                  | 215,625                                | (10,905)            |
| Special Giving                     | 16,986                                   | 22,500                                 | (5,514)             |
| Misc Income                        | 2,260                                    | 2,636                                  | (377)               |
| Total Income                       | 223,965                                  | 240,761                                | (16,796)            |
| <b>Expenses</b>                    |                                          |                                        |                     |
| Administrative                     | 81,404                                   | 84,644                                 | (3,240)             |
| Mission                            | 31,821                                   | 39,000                                 | (7,179)             |
| Pastoral                           | 109,478                                  | 108,865                                | 613                 |
| Program                            | 5,359                                    | 7,965                                  | (2,606)             |
| Other                              | -                                        | -                                      | -                   |
| Total Expenses                     | 228,062                                  | 240,474                                | (12,411)            |
| <b>Total Net Income<br/>(Loss)</b> | <b>(4,097)</b>                           | <b>288</b>                             | <b>(4,385)</b>      |

We're still a bit behind in our giving. A gentle reminder to everyone of the importance of staying financially faithful. Your generosity fuels everything we do—from ministry to outreach—and every gift, big or small, makes a difference.

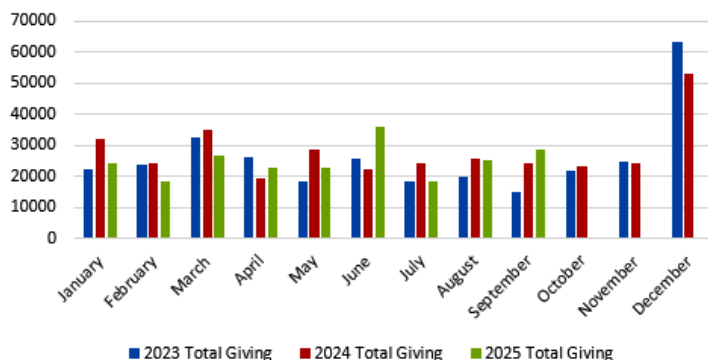
Let's continue trusting God together and giving with grateful hearts.

Thank you for being such a generous community!

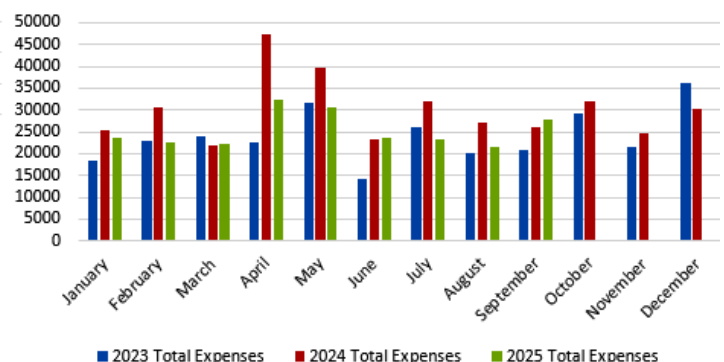


**venmo**

Comparison of Total Giving - 2023/2024/2025



Comparison of Total Expenses - 2023/2024/2025





# Staff and Council

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## STAFF

**Pastor** Jennifer Jelinek Cell: (608) 295-7120 [pastorjenniferglc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjenniferglc@gmail.com)

**Admin Assistant** Catherine Elliott (608) 423-3135 [gracelutherancambridgewi@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutherancambridgewi@gmail.com)

**Christian Ed Coordinator** Breah Klemp [christianedu.glc@gmail.com](mailto:christianedu.glc@gmail.com)

**Volunteer Coordinator** Cindy Hartman [cindyh1029@msn.com](mailto:cindyh1029@msn.com)

**Financial Secretary** Diane Russo Cell: (847) 826-0131 [gracelutheranfinance@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheranfinance@gmail.com)

**Organist** Kenneth Hoversten [kenneth.hoversten@gmail.com](mailto:kenneth.hoversten@gmail.com)

**Handbell Choir Director** Ann Engelstad [gaengelstad@charter.net](mailto:gaengelstad@charter.net)

## COUNCIL

**President** Kelly Witte

**Vice President** Steve Bielefeldt

**Secretary** Char Luchterhand

**Treasurer** Amy Simdon

**Outreach** April Mickelson

**Education** Kristin Rue

**Stewardship** Connie Kreuser

**Hospitality** Peggy Punsel

**Evangelism** Marcia Klemp

**Worship** Sandi Aston Hall

**Property** John Jensen

**Property** Richard Scott



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