The Galilean

A publication of Galilee Lutheran Church

- November 2026 -



Walking with Jesus,
Sharing God's Love and Grace,
Serving all Faithfully.

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Then Jesus said ..."Go and tell my siblings to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

-Matthew 28:10

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A Message from Pastor Amanda



"The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and even soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God."

These words from Abraham Lincoln's proclamation instituting the holiday of Thanksgiving seem particularly to speak to me as we again draw near the close of a year. This year has also been filled with blessings of fruitfulness and all manner of blessings to turn our world-hardened hearts toward the God from whom all blessings flow.

But this proclamation did not come at the end of a peaceful year. The date on this proclamation was October 3, 1863, and the country was in the thick of the Civil War. Much life had been lost, and the war was still years from being over. And yet, even in the midst of difficulties that threatened the very stability and future of the country and her people, a proclamation was issued to give thanks to God for all God's blessings.

It seems fitting, then, as we approach the end of a year that has been at times difficult for us - as individuals, as a community, and as a nation - that we should again read Lincoln's proclamation, and again turn our hearts to thanking our God.

Siblings in Christ, when I think of all of you, thankfulness reverberates deep in my soul. There is so much good work going on here at Galilee! Every time I think of all of you, I thank God for you, and I thank God for calling me to be your pastor. I have some special things planned for the coming month, to thank those who are doing good work at Galilee, and to turn the hearts of our entire congregation to consider the good work done in this place and to encourage us all to thank our God for the gift of one another.

Every one of you who reads these words is a gift from God to me and to the community of Galilee. We are all God's gift to one another – gifts of inspiration, gifts of love, gifts of caring, gifts of joy. And we are blessed to be called to share these gifts with one another, and with the world that God so loves.

So as this year comes to a close, bringing with it whatever surprises God might still have in store for us, let us all receive one another as God's gifts. And let us take the blessings of these gifts and turn them back out into our community, our nation, and our world, that we know God so dearly loves.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Amanda

Galilee New Members

Welcome Our Newest Members to Galilee!

On Sunday, October 4, Galilee officially welcomed five new members and a new associate member to our congregation. Though they joined at different times over the last calendar year, that day served as the official welcome to our church community. Learn more about these new members below. Welcome to Galilee, new members!



Welcome Sandy Dobratz

Sandy was raised Presbyterian and grew up in the Milwaukee and Waukesha areas. She was a member at Galilee Lutheran before moving to Florida. She has lived in Florida for the past 20-30 years. When she returned to WI, she wanted to live near and return to her home church, Galilee in Pewaukee. She recognizes several friends still at Galilee from before her move to Florida. Sandy loves walking and cross stitching. She has 6 children, 14 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren, many in WI and the Midwest states. She also has 2 sisters that live in WI. Her favorite Bible verse is Romans 12, verse 12: "Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.", and keeps it on her refrigerator at home. Though she needs no prayers currently, Sandy's sister in Milwaukee has some health issues, as well as her partner being in poor health.



Welcome Beth Aldana

Beth is originally from Lancaster, WI on the west side of the state. She was raised Catholic and was looking for a deeper relationship with the Lord. She visited different churches and felt comfortable with her visit at Galilee Lutheran Church. Beth enjoys building things and mentioned especially sewing and quilting. The best way Galilee can support her is to continue to build her understanding and relationship with the Lord. She has been reading the Bible on her own; first by listening to a podcast, now by reading it on her own.



Welcome Sandy and Dave West

Sandy grew up on the south side of Chicago. She went to college in Nebraska, lived in Galena, IL for 10 years, lived in central Illinois for a short while and then moved to Wisconsin. She has been here for 40 years.
When she moved to Pewaukee from Oconomowoc she wanted to have a church family closer to home and found Galilee.
Sandy enjoys making wire and gemstone jewelry. Sandy looks forward to meeting people and being part of the community. She and Dave are a two-church family (long story), so they alternate attending Galilee and St. Anthony on the Lake. They are excited to be active together at both parishes as time will allow.



Welcome John and Sue Murack

John grew up in Johnson Creek and Sue in Watertown, but they have lived in Waukesha since they were married in 1982.
They had been looking for a smaller church congregation closer to home. Upon visiting Galilee, they liked the feel of it.
John loves fishing, on the open waters or on the ice in the winter, and Sue enjoys reading, jigsaw puzzles and spending time with her grandchildren. John's favorite piece of scripture is the Lord's Prayer, and Sue's is from Phillippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
They feel that life is good. Their prayer is to continue in good health so they can continue to enjoy traveling and active days spent with their kids and grandkids. They look forward to meeting more of the Galilee members.

Galilee
Pumpkin Fest 2026



















Thank you Sharon Vitek



After decades serving as Galilee's liaison to Pewaukee's Inter-Church Lay Council and Pewaukee Food Pantry, Sharon has decided to pass the torch to Bill Braunschweig & Pam Graham. Please join us in thanking Sharon for her ministry supporting folks in the Pewaukee community.

EL SALVADOR MINISTRY TEAM

Thank you for the contributions for backpacks and school supplies for our Salvadoran young people. They are so appreciated by the kids and families in El Salvador. Through additional contributions we were able to provide funds for the Los Martires Congregation Anniversary Celebration in November, A Christmas Party for the children, the Mons Romero Community Anniversary Celebration in March, and a Mother's Day party in May. These special events have always been an important part of the lives of our friends in our Sister Parish, and they are so thankful to you for your support in making them happen.

Thank you Galilee,
The El Salvador Ministry Team



Covers Girls (Quilters)

Some members of the congregation may not know that we no longer make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Quilts that had been started were given to Lutherdale to be finished and sold at their annual Quilt Auction. Any fabric we had was given to another church that still makes quilts. We ask that you not bring fabric, sheets, old mattress pads, or bedspreads to church. To keep fabric out of landfills, the St Vincent de Paul Society and Goodwill both recycle textiles for rags.



Congratulations and Thank You to Jeff Knutson on the Occasion of His Retirement

On Sunday, October 11, we were able to thank and celebrate Jeff Knutson. Did you know that Jeff has been mowing the lawn at Galilee for 25 years?! He has been a true gift to the Galilee community. We are so grateful to have been the recipients of this service for so many years and we are so happy for him as he shifts into retirement. Please join in thanking Jeff for his service to Galilee and congratulating him on his retirement.


Daylight Saving Time Ends
Sunday, November 1
All Saints Day
Remember to turn clocks back


First Full Weekend of the Month
November 7-8
Noisy Offering
Food Pantry Collection
Healing Prayer


Join us
RAISING FAITHFUL KIDS
PARENT SESSION:
Love
Sunday, November 8 | 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM
In the lower level Fellowship Hall
WHILE THE CHILDREN ARE IN SUNDAY SCHOOL


Join us
RAISING FAITHFUL KIDS
PARENT SESSION:
Peace
Sunday, November 22 | 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM
In the lower level Fellowship Hall
WHILE THE CHILDREN ARE IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

Landscape Refresh and Renewal Updates

We are having such a beautiful fall! By the time you read this, our outside work for the year will be nearly complete! We sprayed special rock cleaner on the chimney after the arbs had their "trial prune." Over time, we should start noticing the "black ick" start to fade. We moved the "Pastor Elias" crab over by the Columbarium and moved in two new “Pink Sparkles" crabs. This pair will get to be about 15' tall and show off a more vertical hardy shape. And the Building & Grounds crew replaced the concrete steps! If the weather holds out, we may get some bed prep work done to be ready for spring! Thank you to all who helped with hands, hearts, and donations. Now it's on to planning for next year!

Gratefully,
The Landscape Refresh and Renewal Team
Tom, Nick, Penny & Karen











Celebrate Native American Heritage Month at Galilee on Saturday, Nov. 7

Join us for worship service & fellowship at Galilee with Rev. Char Guiliani, pastor at Lutheran Church of the Great Spirit - Milwaukee who will be at Galilee on Saturday, Nov. 7. November is Native American Heritage Month, which serves as a designated time to honor and recognize the rich history, diverse cultures, traditions, and invaluable contributions of Indigenous peoples—the original inhabitants of the land. Elements of Native American traditions, including smudging, will be incorporated during worship. A fellowship time will follow worship that includes Navajo Tacos. Come for worship, stay for dinner, and invite your friends!

BtCC
Breaking the Chains Church

Thank you to Rev. David Rebey for preaching at Galilee on October 17 & 18, and leading Sunday Adult Education Hour! Breaking the Chains Church was recognized as the newest church in the Greater Milwaukee Synod in 2026.



Galilee Happenings



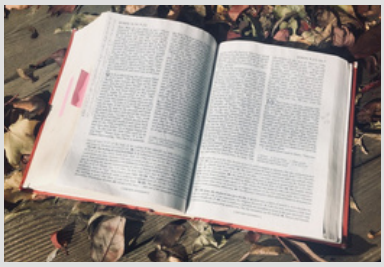


Living with Loss

November 17th
3:00 p.m. in the Narthex
Contact Barb Barthel at
(262) 691-0711

Bible in a Year

Tuesday, November 24th at 6:30 p.m. in the Gathering Place
Come no matter where you are in your reading of the Bible. We will discuss what we have been reading recently and how it is impacting our journey of faith.





Knitters & Crocheters

November 16th
1:00 p.m.
in the Gathering Place
All abilities welcome!
*Please note we will not meet in December

ADULT FORUM

Faith - Learning - Conversation

*Please note there will be no session in November 29 due to Thanksgiving

November 1
2026 Endowment
Presentation by the Galilee Endowment Team

November 8, 15
Across Two Sessions
Consideration of Proposed Changes to "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust"

November 22
Outreach for Hope
They will also provide treats as a celebration of the winning photo

Are You Wearing Your Name Tag for Worship?



A skit was given recently at Saturday and Sunday services about wearing your name tag when you come to church. It helps others know your name so they don't have to refer to you as "the guy in the 3rd pew." It was a fun skit starring Bob, who people were calling Gary until he put on his name tag. If you need a new name tag like the one on the right, please add your name to the list by the mailboxes so Holly can make a replacement for you. Thanks to all who participated in and helped with this skit. Sandy West, Mary Winter, Jim Olia, Ann Dee Austin, Steve and Viv Dethloff, Genise Troutman, and anyone I may have forgotten!! -Susan Keller

Freezer Meals Replenished



Pam Graham, Susan Keller, Viv Dethloff, and Ann Dee Austin (not pictured as she is taking the photo) made freezer meals and replenished our supply recently. They made chicken spaghetti and Italian wedding soup. Meals are in the small freezer in the kitchen and the chest freezer in the storage room off the Gathering Place.
Take one to a friend who needs a boost, is ill, or has any other need or problem. -Susan Keller

Galileans Paying It Forward with Love, Joy, Gratitude, and Confidence

THANK YOU to everyone who has already submitted their Estimate of Giving card for 2027! If you have not yet returned yours, please do so by November 1 by placing your envelope in the offering basket, dropping it off at church, or sending it by mail. We will gladly accept cards later in November, but receiving them by the deadline helps congregational leaders and ministry coordinators prepare for the coming year's budget. We are grateful for your financial support of the ministries in our midst and with our partners both locally and globally.
Last week, Deb Kohler and I joined leaders from across the Greater Milwaukee Synod at Lutherdale in Elkhorn for three educational and inspiring days focused on stewardship. Here are a few insights we brought home:



- Stewardship is everything that follows "I believe." — Clarence Stoughton
- Generosity is a practice of discipleship.
- Sharing our stories strengthens our community.
- Money follows mission.
- A stewardship team nurtures generosity; it is not only a fundraising team.
- Stewardship grows at the speed of relationship.

We look forward to sharing more of what we learned as, together, we nurture a spirit of generosity rooted in love, joy, gratitude, and confidence.

Jean Nelson, Coordinator of Stewardship Ministry

Election During Congregational Meeting

During the Congregational Meeting on October 11, Galilee elected the following members to committees and leadership:
To the Leadership Board: Sarah Schroeder and Roger Weiland
To the Nominating Committee: Tom Reinke, Bev Wendling, Peter Klatt, and Steve Dethloff

To the Endowment Committee: Carl Spencer
To the Columbarium Committee: Jim Olia, Rita Goll, Mike Bohlman, and Eli Austin
To serve as ELCA Synod Assembly Representative: Sally Ruf (still need a lay male voting representative)

Congratulations to all of those elected and thank you for your willingness to serve. Their service will begin in January of 2027. Continued thanks to all of those currently serving as well.



Meadowbrook Road Bike Trail Extension - NEW Update

On Sunday May 17, 2026, the congregation voted to approve the sale of 3,085 square feet of Galilee's property along Meadowbrook Road to facilitate the construction of the Meadowbrook Road Bike Trail extension. At the Congregational Meeting on Sunday October 11, 2026, I shared a message I received from the City Engineer that at a Public Works Committee meeting on September 24, the City decided not to purchase Galilee's property because the Bike Trail extension would not extend north of College Ave because they could not acquire land at the northeast corner of College Ave and Meadowbrook Rd. The City needed the land on this corner to make the trail meet federal regulations in order to obtain the grant funds for the Trail. I then received an email from the City representative on October 15 that the city changed plans and now wants to purchase the 3,085 square feet of Galilee's property since they now plan to construct the bike trail past Galilee up to Homestead Dr. using City funds for the project from College Ave to Homestead Dr. I signed the property sale documents on October 21, 2026. As of now, construction is planned to occur during the summer of 2027 or 2028.

Thanks, Steve Dethloff

Angel Tree 2026



Dear Galileans,

WOW! The year 2026 is almost over! Soon the Christmas shopping season begins. I have contacted La Casa de Esperanza Daycare in Waukesha and I have a list of the children we will provide gifts for this year. There will be some older children this year. Please find it in your hearts to add a gift for one of these children to your shopping list.
I will have the tree up the Saturday before Thanksgiving, November 21st by 5 p.m. Thank you in advance for your generous caring donations.

God's Blessings!
Mary Winter

Galilee Partnerships

Ride Run Walk Celebration

There will be a special fellowship treat on Sunday, November 22 following worship hosted by Outreach for Hope. Thanks to Pastor Amanda letting us have some fun with her outfit for the day, we were one of the winners of the photo contest!







Donation Drop Off Day - Saturday, Nov 28, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

We are opening the doors at Galilee for neighbors to drop off gently used winter items like coats, sweaters and blankets for distribution to ministry partners that support low-income guests. We will also be collecting non-perishable food items for Pewaukee Food Pantry and diapers for The Women's Center in Waukesha. Please watch for posts on Galilee Lutheran - Pewaukee Facebook page, then share the posts with your Facebook friends and community groups. Please contact Partnerships Coordinator Deb Kohler if you are available to help sort, bag and/or distribute the donated items.

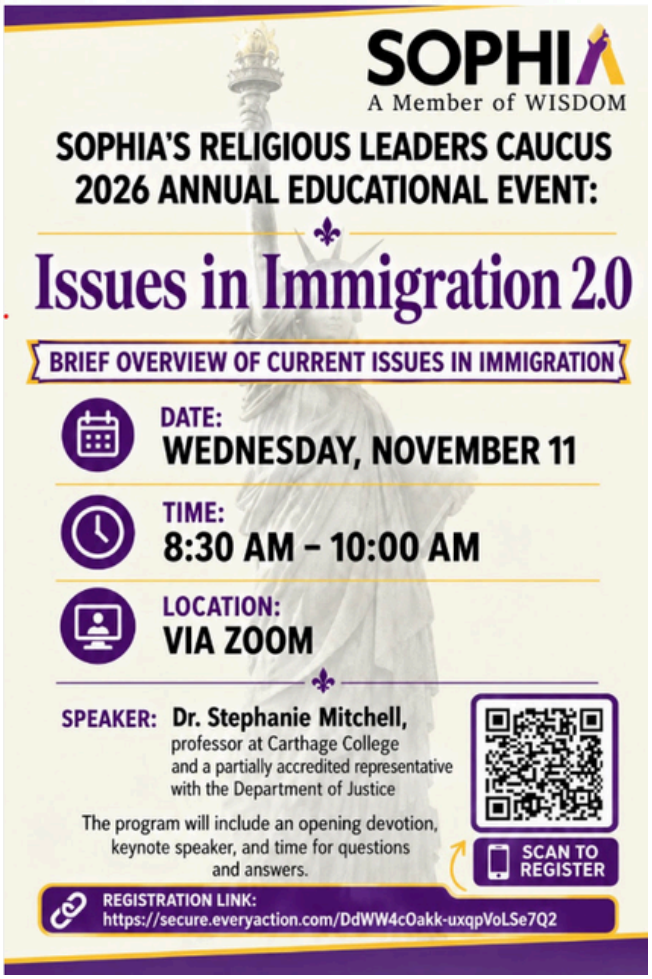


Galilee's Hat & Mitten Tree

Again this year, we are collecting new hats, mittens, gloves & scarves to be distributed in collaboration with our ministry partners at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Milwaukee and Hope Center in Waukesha. There is also a box for gently used (and new) winter coats that will be distributed via the clothing closets at ministry partner congregations located in low-income central city areas of the Greater Milwaukee Synod.

The collection area is set up in Galilee's narthex/lobby area through Sunday, December 13th. For more information contact Partnerships Coordinator Deb Kohler.

Community Happenings







NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November 1
John Plesh
Carol Corlett

November 2
Brandon Berg

November 5
Jamison Keck
Sara Sirovina

November 6
Jacob Poytinger
Nico Estrada

November 7
Morgan Barker
Linda Olson Romsos

November 8
Craig Osenga

November 9
Brianna Greig

November 10
Taylor Artis
Andrea Smith

November 11
Brittany Gianesini
Ruby Sullivan
Heidi Middleton

November 12
Camden Fillinger

November 13
Jim Sirovina

November 15
Marilyn Lindemeyer

November 16
Kim Kiser

November 17
Nonye Weiland
Dennis Schmidt

November 18
Andrew Falter
Kyler Artis

November 19
Charlotte Prins

November 20
Rue Hammon
Martin Lukomski

November 21
Cody Bieser
Paula Bickel

November 23
Natalie Carlson
Olivia Fisher

November 25
Kaylyn Edwards

November 26
Matt Kowalewski
Doug Kiser

November 27
Maureen Schwartz

November 30
Denise Calhoun

PRAYER NEEDS

Please keep in your prayers - Ken Adams, John Alters, Patricia Alters, Ann Dee Austin, Mary Benrud, Joanie Bohlmann, Eve Bruce, Donna Chudada, Pastor Joy McDonald-Coltvet, Isaiah Cramer, Jessica Connelly, Matthew Dehler, Jake Drover, Heather Evans, Pat and Christine Flynn and their baby, Nancy Gumm, Hilary Harken, Dan Heger, Katie Hollister, Bill Koehn, Jeanine Knutson, Margo Krumnow, Kerry MacKay, Heidi Mag, Luca Mag, Susan Mann Wasley, Ray Mansker, Dan Maske, Mary Meichtry, Eliana Metzger, Marilyn Morgan, Calla Nelson, Dennis Olson, Justin Peare, Tom Ray, Sally Rudolph, Dennis Schmidt, Susie Speerbrecher, Linda (Mann) Sweda, Leslie Thomas, Pastor Martir Vigil, Scott Wille, Rich Winkelman, and Nancy Wojcicki.

Are you or someone you know in need of prayer?
Simply contact the church office at (262) 691-2380
or
email galilee@galileelc.org with your prayer requests.



Pray for our military and first responders

***If there is anyone we can include by name, please contact the church office**

Galilee Events Calendar

November 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 Vocal/Bell Choirs Worship 9a Worship 10:15a Sunday School Adult Forum 4p Scouts 87G 6p Al-Anon	**2** 8p AA Closed meeting	**3** 10:30a Staff Meeting	**4** 9:30a Text Study 5P Vocal Choir 6p Bell Choir	**5** 7:15p Scouts 87 8p AA	**6** 12p Twelve Step Group	**7** 7:30a Men's Bible Study 5p Worship
8 9a Worship 10:15a Sunday School RFK Parent Session Adult Forum 4p Scouts 87G 6p Al-Anon	**9** 6p Leadership Board Meeting 8p AA Closed meeting	**10** 10:30a Staff Meeting 6:30p Kiwanis Meeting	**11** 9:30a Text Study 5P Vocal Choir 6p Bell Choir	**12** 11:30a J.O.Y. 7:15p Scouts 87 8p AA	**13** 12p Twelve Step Group	**14** 8a Women's Bible Study 5p Worship
15 9a Worship 10:15a Sunday School Adult Forum 4p Scouts 87G 6p Al-Anon	**16** 1p Knitters and Crocheters 8p AA Closed meeting	**17** 9:45a Park & Rec 10:30a Staff Meeting 3p Living with Loss 6:15p Meeting for Coordinators	**18** 9:30a Text Study 1:30p Grace Group 5P Vocal Choir 6p Bell Choir	**19** 7:15p Scouts 87 8p AA	**20** 12p Twelve Step Group	**21** 7:30a Men's Bible Study 5p Worship
22 Vocal/Bell/Youth Choirs at Worship 9a Worship 10:15 a Sunday School/RFK Parent Session Adult Forum 4p Scouts 87G 6p Al-Anon	**23** 8p AA Closed meeting	**24** 10:30a Staff Meeting 6:30p Kiwanis Meeting 6:30p Bible in a Year	**25** 9:30a Text Study 5p Vocal Choir 6p Bell Choir	**26** Office Closed - Thanksgiving 7:15p Scouts 87 8p AA	**27** 12p Twelve Step Group	**28** 8a Women's Bible Study Donation Drop-off Day 5p Worship
29 9a Worship 10:15 a Sunday School 4p Scouts 87G 6p Al-Anon	**30** 10:30a Breast Cancer Support Group 8p AA Closed meeting					

*Find our most complete and up-to-date calendar on our website

Galilee *Who's Who?*

MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Amanda Applehans, email: pastoramanda@galileelc.org
Director of Music & Worship Accompanist: Patricia DeBlaey, email: patricia@galileelc.org
Financial Assistant: Dave Reish, email: finance@galileelc.org
Office Coordinator: Holly Cerveny, email: galilee@galileelc.org

Church office is open Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Hospitality - Genise Troutman & Vivian Dethloff | genisetroutman@gmail.com & dethloff5@gmail.com
Connecting - Mary Winter | marywinter1322@gmail.com
Worship & Arts - Diana Conway | dlmc@milwpc.com
Faith Formation - Pastor Amanda Applehans | pastoramanda@galileelc.org
Administration - Building & Grounds | Nicholas Riegert | riegs4@sbcglobal.net
Administration - Church Office & HR | Kathy Taylor | htmachine@centurytel.net
Godly Play - Sue Olson | olsonmsusan@gmail.com
Stewardship - Jean Nelson | pianogirl1966@gmail.com
Partnerships & Global-Gifting - Deb Kohler | deb.kohler.mke@gmail.com
Compassion Care - Ann Dee Austin | anndeeaustin@gmail.com
Columbarium - Bill Braunschweig | bbraunschweig1@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP BOARD MEMBERS, 2026

Steve Dethloff, President - dethloff5@gmail.com
Mary Dehler, Vice President - biddymarka@gmail.com
Karen Buelow, Member-at-Large - buelowk@att.net
Linda Moore, Secretary - 3251moorell@gmail.com
John McGroarty, Member-at-Large - john.r.mcgroarty@gmail.com
Andrea Smith, Treasurer - andreasmith3@wi.rr.com

Galilee Lutheran Church — ELCA

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.