

NEW HOPE TRUMPET

September 2025

Our 2025 Walk Through the Bible - The Story in Chronological Order Comes to a Close

Since January we've explored the biblical storyline in 31 chapters. This is God's Story. This is our story. There is much in the bible we didn't cover in this overview. This series gave us a sense of the "big picture." How does what happened in the creation story relate to all the other events God's people experienced? From beginning to end The Story reminds us that God is in control. When we failed in the garden, God didn't give up on us. Instead, God continued to plan a way to bring us back to the good. God would not leave us in the condition we found ourselves after rebellion, and trying to put ourselves in God's place.

Many of the characters used to work toward this new beginning may have been familiar to you. Noah, of course, was God's first attempt to renew the earth. God didn't want to leave us in a sinful state with disease, hate, and death a constant. The flood was meant to be an act of grace, to bring humanity back to the good intended. It didn't work, so God continued to plan a way.

Abraham & Sarah, Isaac & Rebecca, Jacob & Rachel, Joseph, walked with God. After being enslaved in Egypt, God saved his people by commanding them to slaughter a lamb and smear the blood on their doorposts. An act of faith that would save them from death.

Moses, Miriam and Aaron, then brought the Israelites out of Egypt, and helped bring the people to the Promised Land. Joshua took the mantle as the people entered near Jericho. The Judges gave leadership in the new land – Deborah, Gideon Samuel and Samson. Ruth emerges at this time as an example of loyalty and faith.

When the people didn't trust God, they asked for a king. Saul, David, and Solomon served, and many more followed. Their failures led to a Divided Kingdom – Israel in the north, and Judah (with Jerusalem & Bethlehem) in the south. The people strayed and God's messengers came to speak God's voice to them. Amos, Hosea, Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, and Ezekiel spoke truth, but few listened. The northern kingdom was dragged off in exile, never to be heard from again. The southern kingdom was later hauled off to Babylon. Zechariah, Esther, Ezra, and Malachi were instrumental during this time. When there they kept the faith, and eventually God inspired King Cyrus of Persia to allow the Israelites to return home to Jerusalem. God used Nehemiah to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

We reached the New Testament in July, and reflected on the birth, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus. After the resurrection, Jesus met with those who seen him die, and buried. He announced that the Holy Spirit would come to them, and commissioned them to take the good news of what

God had done in Jesus to the world. He also appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus – a man who had been instrumental in terrorizing and killing followers of Jesus, including the first martyr, Stephen. After the blinding experience on the road with Jesus, Saul's eyes were opened, literally and figuratively, and he became a follower and a leader in God's plan. Paul took three major missionary trips throughout the Mediterranean, establishing churches. Many of his letters to these churches are included in our New Testament.

Sunday, September 7th our walk comes to a close with The Story/Chapter 31: The End of Time. The Revelation of John reminds us that God is on the throne of eternity. No matter our experience on earth, we can trust that God is in control and will bring us to peace at the last. Jesus Christ is the Lamb who was slain, stands forever before the throne of God, and is constant. God did find a way to bring us back to the good. We can't do it on our own, but Jesus accomplished all through his death and resurrection. We have been made new. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Michael Sparby





Reformation Lutheran, Kimbia, "parking lot"



Crossing to Mt. Olivet Lutheran, Kwakwani.

August 2025

Dear friends and partners in ministry,

Greetings of peace from the risen Christ and me as I serve on behalf of the ELCA in partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana (ELCG). These last days of summer, you may be traveling home from vacation or family visits. I've been traveling, meeting my goal to visit every active congregation of the ELCG. The last three were hard to reach because they are situated on two of Guyana's many great rivers: Berbice and Demerara, only accessible by boat.

Congregations of the Reformation parish along the Berbice River are especially important for the ELCG historically as that's the region where the Lutheran Church began in Guyana in 1743. The original church building no longer exists and I've yet to visit the remains of Fort Nassau to see the historical marker commemorating it, but I was not far when I visited Reformation Lutheran Church in Kimbia, accompanied by the president and secretary of the ELCG.

In spite of their significance, these riverine congregations find it challenging to stay connected to the rest of the church. Some drifted into inactivity and closed doors for lack of pastoral care over the years. The church now works very hard to reestablish ties and grow more pastors, deacons and lay leaders to ensure adequate care for all of its congregations. My work in helping the church revive and strengthen its Lutheran Lay Academy is part of that effort to prepare leaders.

In the two years since reopening, however, the Lutheran Lay Academy hasn't had any students from the riverine congregations because of difficult travel. Now internet has reached these areas, so congregation members can study online. During my visits, I was glad to announce that the committee directing the Lutheran Lay Academy decided our course will be entirely online beginning in 2026. We'll do our best to supply info and encouragement for congregations along the rivers to enroll students in the Lutheran Lay Academy next year.

Meanwhile, dedicated lay people, deacons, and pastors of the ELCG rotate traveling by motorboat to the congregations. One of the riverine congregations adopted an ecumenical approach to ensure pastoral care for its members. Mt. Olivet Church, in Kwakwani, the furthest south of the Lutheran congregations, has become a Lutheran-Anglican-Catholic church, served alternately by visiting clergy and lay leaders from those three denominations. Members attend no matter which liturgy is used.

In these travels, I'm very grateful for the company of your minds, hearts, and prayers, and honored to be a living, breathing, physical sign of your connection with your brothers and sisters in Christ in Guyana.



Rev. Dr. Carolyn Schneider

Lutheran Identity Professor & Pastoral Ministry Advisor, ELCA, in partnership with ELCG

Email: Carolyn.schneider@elca.org

"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

- Genesis 8:22 -



DEVOTIONAL: Seasons

Scripture tells us the seasons will not stop until the end of time. Even though we find days a little different some years, the four seasons will go on. It is said some are trying to change weather outcomes and there are days we wonder if that's successful. God's rules will stay permanent. Clouds

may obscure the skies, but the moon, stars and sun still hang in place. Day and night still happen.

Weather seems to be the first topic in our conversations. We want to predict what is going to happen. God is still in control and does allow situations to happen. He lets the rain fall on the just and unjust (Matthew 5: 45). God has been known to change His mind, so we pray and believe. We put our trust in Him who loves all and knows all.

Fall is nearly here. Harvest is soon coming. Late gardens are trying to produce their fruit. God knows what we need to keep us until the next seasons.

Trusting God must be at the top of our prayer list as we bring our request to Him. May we believe He knows best.

Sue Piotrowski

Pine Creek Site WELCA: 9:30a, Sun., Sept. 7th

Hostess: Dawn Kunkel

Sand Creek Site WELCA Offering

Monday, September 15th

CIRCLES

Eve: 6p/SC Wednesday, September 3rd

Sophia: 9:30a/SC Thursday, September 11th

SEPTEMBER STEWARDSHIP

Helping healing hands with Bandages & Newborn Kits

Bandages: from white bed sheets; cotton/cotton blend in widths of 2, 3 or 4 inches

Newborn Kits: All items packed in a pillow case

2 diapers & pins

1 bath towel to 48"

1 washcloth

1 white Ivory bath-size bar soap

1 newborn stocking cap

1 newborn shirt (0-3 months)

1 receiving blanket

***Thank-Offering Envelopes to be disbursed**

New Hope Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

(Draft subject to approval)

Monday, August 18, 2025 / Sand Creek Site

PRESENT: Pr. Michael Sparby, Jesse Buhr, Joe/Linda Bilodeau, Joyce Gilberts, Roger Paulson, Lou Ann Gilberts, Mark Gilberts, Pat Bechard, Marie Swanson, Jerry Loftus, Kristi Welle, Lon Christopherson, Stephani North.

Also present: Becky Loftus, Parish Admin. **Absent:** Samantha Goodremote, Dawn Kunkel

CALL TO ORDER 7p by Council President, Linda Bilodeau

OPENING PRAYER Pr. Michael Sparby

SECRETARY'S REPORT M/S/C (*Mark Gilberts/Joyce Gilberts*) approve May 19, 2025 minutes as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT Joe Bilodeau, Treasurer.

*Parish checking balance 8/8/25: \$13,861.21

*Cyber Breach Summary

Church accounts were compromised July 2, 3 & 16 = \$14,642.81. August 4th, most was recovered with a loss of \$2,500. Church Mutual cybersecurity claim was submitted, however our deductible is \$2,500. Fraudulent check is not covered under cybersecurity, criminal or theft of property. Church Mutual is revising claim to incident as to not affect our policy.

All church accounts are locked for deposit only and transaction withdrawals released upon confirmation from the church office until new accounts are soon established. New signature cards were received August 11th to be signed by designated persons for each account (Becky submitted them August 19th to Security Bank/SC).

Clergy Financial currently unable to use "BillPay"; checks can be issued from the church office until new accounts are established. ACH transactions and payroll through Patriot remain as usual. Those transactions will be updated with new account information upon completion.

*Still in progress is our balance sheet revision with Clergy Financial to reflect all church accounts, delayed by cyber breach;

(+) Esther Wright Fund and Parsonage Fund and (-) dissolved funds. Parsonage Fund Investment stays the same.

*Proposed purchase an Apple/MacBook laptop to be used by parish treasurer (in sync with all other church Macs).

M/S/C (*Mark Gilberts/Joyce Gilberts/Roger Paulson*) to accept treasurer's report and approve purchase of MacBook.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Printed copy disbursed. Notes: pulpit supply schedule, The Story concludes Sept. 7th, Confirmation begins Sept. 17th with all students from SC site this academic year, 2-3 volunteers needed to share "thankful" for Thanksgiving Eve Worship. Pine Creek site Christmas service to be determined.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROPERTY/MANAGEMENT

*Seasonal Propane Prepay: Based on 3yr history, 500 gallons x \$1.39/gal= \$7,645.00 will be purchased (includes both sites).

Pine Creek Site

*Clean outside church building

*Water alarm activating; no leaks detected; may be due to condensation from cement.

Sand Creek Site

*Follow-up Clavinova repair? Pr. Sparby will test it.

*Lawnmower undercarriage broke: repair, buy or hire? Still works to keep for snowplowing. Committee to determine action.

WORSHIP/MUSIC

*Other resources to order flowers due to expense. Purchase ourselves with a sign-up list or "bring your own".

OUTREACH *Ongoing Acts of Kindness*

*Details forthcoming for CPR class in October.

*Game Nights resume February 2026.

FAMILY ED

*New Sunday School curriculum, "Picture the Bible" ordered. SC site teachers (rotation schedule):

Stephani North, Kristi Welle, Samantha Goodremote (music), Natalie Ellefson, Clarissa Buhr.

OLD BUSINESS

*Updated WIFI from residential to commercial is a major improvement for our resources!

NEW BUSINESS

*Church Mutual Renewal August 21, 2025: 7.75% premium increase from \$11,000 to \$12,436. Payments scheduled monthly from previously \$965.10/mo. to \$1,039.71/mo. Comparison shopping tabled pending further research.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

NEXT MEETING: Monday, October 20, 2025 / PC Site

ADJOURN/LORD'S PRAYER 7:50p M/S/C(*Lou Ann Gilberts/Pr. Michael Sparby*)

-Marie Swanson, Council Sec. / Becky Loftus, Parish Admin.

New Hope Lutheran Church

E9085 County Road V

PO BX 85

Sand Creek, WI 54765

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



LORD BLESS THIS BACKPACK

and the child who carries it. *
When they carry their backpacks,
may they be reminded of the love and
guidance that surrounds them each day.
Always keep them safe and in Your loving care.

Throughout this school year,
may they gain the tools to grow in knowledge,
love and faith. Allow them to be the
best student they can be. Give them
confidence when they are anxious,
comfort when they are afraid
and encouragement when they are tired.

New Hope Council 2025

President : Linda Bilodeau
Secretary: Marie Swanson

Vice President: Joyce Gilberts
Treasurer: Joe Bilodeau

Family Education

Jesse Buhr	715-781-1860	lacey.buhr@gmail.com
Samantha Goodremote	715-765-2209	sgoodremote@gmail.com
Kristi Welle	715-658-2303	kristi_welle@yahoo.com
Stephani North	715-271-6275	stephaniomtvedt@yahoo.com

Property & Management

Mark Gilberts	847-650-9364	mark.gilberts4@gmail.com
Jerry Loftus	715-456-2163	lofty1@chibardun.net
Joe Bilodeau	715-458-2479	j78bilodeau@gmail.com
Lon Christopherson	715-949-1131	londo@chibardun.net

Outreach + Stewardship + Evangelism

Pat Bechard	715-658-1014	paanbe@yahoo.com
John Loy	715-658-1000	johnloy89g@gmail.com
Joyce Gilberts	715-933-4747	jlg@citizens-tel.net
Linda Bilodeau	715-458-2479	lbilodeau992@gmail.com

Worship & Music

Roger Paulson	651-343-8877	roger.a.paulson@gmail.com
Lou Ann Gilberts	715-658-1317	louanngilberts@hotmail.com
Marie Swanson	715-658-1208	mertmarie69@yahoo.com
Dawn Kunkel	715-949-0065	dakunk13@gmail.com



*A welcoming community of faith inspired
by God's grace to love, grow & serve.*

Pastor Michael D Sparby 715-764-9779

Office Hours 9am-1pm 715-658-1470

Pine Creek Church 715-949-1750

Sand Creek Church

Website: www.newhopespc.org

nhpastor@chibardun.net

newhope@chibardun.net

E6698 Cty Rd V, Ridgeland

E9085 Cty Rd V, Sand Creek

Like us on Facebook!

WORSHIP

8:30 am/Pine Creek 9:20a Coffee Fellowship + Sunday school

10 am/Sand Creek 9:20a Coffee Fellowship

Sunday school during worship (Sept.—May)

Telephone Ministry 1-534-444-4300

FREE Live stream <http://newhope.listentochurch.com>

YouTube Link to View Streamed Services

New Hope on the Creeks

New Hope Lutheran Church of Sand Creek & Pine Creek

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgsG8Jl-RdcnKSFI48DyO>

FINANCIAL REPORT

July 2025

Detailed reports available in the office

Thank you for your faithful, and generous stewardship.

General Checking Balance 7/31/25	\$ 2,651.85
Revenue	
Unrestricted Offering	\$ 9,095.00
Restricted Benevolence, Mission, Other	\$ 3,875.86
Total Income	\$12,970.86
Expenditures	\$14,901.08

YEAR TO DATE

Revenue	
Unrestricted Offering	\$107,486.27
Restricted Benevolence, Mission, Other	\$ 23,640.07
Total Income	\$131,126.34
Expenditures	\$143,587.31

2025 NOISY OFFERINGS/MISSION

JAN	Benjamin's House Shelter/Rice Lake	\$ 399.49
FEB	Project Comfort/Quilts Shipping	454.94
MAR 2	"Youth in Christ" Guests/Prairie Farm	NA
MAR	Arbor Place/Menomonee	513.42
APR	Luther Park Camperships	800.74
MAY	Missionary Sponsorship	1,082.30
JUNE	Lutheran Disaster Response	665.81
JULY	Luther Park General Fund	352.56

8/6/5

Thank you for your generous gift received 8/5/25! Your support helps us continue providing meaningful camp experiences to nurture faith, friendship, and growth for all who attend. We deeply appreciate your partnership in our mission. God's love endures forever! -Eric Klein, Ex. Dir.

AUG	5 Local Food Shelves	Pending
SEPT	5 Local Nursing Homes/Activity Dept.	
OCT	Homeless Youth Christmas Stockings (LSS)	
NOV	World Hunger	
DEC	Christmas Critters (ELCA Good Gifts)	

8/19/25

Thank you for supporting Luther Park ministry! Your donated quilts at Heart for Luther Park raised: \$250 Rustic Reflections & \$250 Deer Grazing. Your generosity enables more people to explore and experience the life-changing love of God at Luther Park. -Heather & LPCB Team

PC Site Defibrillator: Would you like to help?

Monetary donations payable to: New Hope/Memo: Defib Pine Creek luncheons free-will offerings will be designated for this life saving equipment. Thank you for your support!

Your giving is greatly appreciated!

Offerings are received at our

*Pine Creek site offering plate (8:30a worship)

*Sand Creek site offering boxes (10a worship)

*Website: www.newhopespc.org

*Post mail: Po Bx 85, Sand Creek, WI 54765

LOOK AHEAD

OCTOBER

Wed. Oct 1	6:30p/SC Confirmation
Sun. Oct. 5	reg. sch Women's Thankoffering
Mon. Oct. 6	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilters
Tues. Oct. 7	10a Pastor's Chapel/Bloomer Dove & Meadowbrook
Wed. Oct. 8	6:30p/SC Confirmation
Sun. Oct. 12	reg. sch
Mon. Oct. 13	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilters
Wed. Oct. 15	6:30p/SC Confirmation
Sun. Oct. 19	reg. sch
Mon. Oct. 20	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilters
	7p/PC Council Meeting
Wed. Oct. 22	6:30p/SC Confirmation
Sun. Oct. 26	Reformation
Mon. Oct. 27	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilters
Wed. Oct. 29	6:30p/SC Confirmation

NOVEMBER

Sun. Nov. 2	All Saints
Mon. Nov. 3	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilters
Wed. Nov. 5	6:30p/SC Confirmation
Sun. Nov. 9	reg. sch
Mon. Nov. 10	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilters
Wed. Nov. 12	6:30p/SC Confirmation
Sun. Nov. 16	reg. sch
Mon. Nov. 17	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilters
Wed. Nov. 19	6:30p/SC Confirmation
Sun. Nov. 23	Christ the King

Speaker: Joyce Gilberts Assisting Minister: _____

Mon. Nov. 24	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilters
Tues. Nov. 25	10a Pastor's Chapel/Bloomer Dove & Meadowbrook
Wed. Nov. 26	7p/SC Thanksgiving Service
Sun. Nov. 30	Advent 1


Speaker: Mark Gilberts Assisting Minister: Joyce Gilberts

DECEMBER

Mon. Dec. 1	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilters
Wed. Dec. 3	6:30p/SC Confirmation
	Stuff Homeless Youth Christmas Stockings /Party
Sun. Dec. 7	reg. sch Advent 2
Mon. Dec. 8	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilting
Sun. Dec. 14	reg. sch Advent 3
Mon. Dec. 15	8:30a Comforters Quilting/SC
	7p/SC Church Council
Sun. Dec. 21	8:30a/PC Christmas Worship
Sun. Dec. 21	10a/SC Sunday School pageant
Wed. Dec. 24	5p/SC Christmas Eve Worship
Sun. Dec. 28	reg. sch Lessons + Carols

JANUARY 2026

Sun. Jan. 4	reg. sch
Mon. Jan. 5	8:30a Comforters Quilting/SC
Wed. Jan. 7	6:30p/SC Confirmation
Sun. Jan. 11	reg. sch
Mon. Jan. 12	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilting
Wed. Jan. 14	6:30p/SC Confirmation
Sun. Jan. 18	reg. sch
Mon. Jan. 19	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilting
Sun. Jan. 25	1 service 10a/PC + Annual Meeting after 9:20a/PC Coffee fellowship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Walk Through the Bible Last Book “Revelation of John”</i>	1 <i>Labor Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	2 8:30a/SC Comforters	3 6p/SC Eve Circle	4	5	6 <i>1-3p/SC Visitation</i> <i>3p Memorial Service</i> <i>Dan Gullickson</i>
7 <i>The Story/Chapter 31</i> <i>The End of Time</i> <i>Backpack Blessings</i> 8:30a PC Worship 9:20a Fellowship both sites 9:30a PC WELCA <i>SC: Sophia Circle</i> 10a SC Worship <i>Sunday School begins</i> 3p/SC Piano Lessons	8 8:30a/SC Comforters 4:30p/SC Piano Lessons	9 7p/SC AA	10	11 9:30a/SC Sophia Circle	12	13
14 8:30a PC Worship 9:20a Fellowship-both sites <i>SC: Sophia Circle</i> 10a SC Worship 3p/SC Piano Lessons	15 8:30a/SC Comforters SC WELCA Offering Newsletter articles due 4:30p/SC Piano Lessons	16 7p/SC AA	17 <i>6:30p/SC Confirmation</i>	18	19	20
21 <i>Speaker: Carol Anderson</i> 8:30a PC Worship 9:20a Fellowship-both sites <i>SC: Men's Group</i> 10a SC Worship	22 8:30a/SC Comforters	23 7p/SC AA	24 <i>6:30p/SC Confirmation</i>	25	26	27
28 <i>Speaker: Rev. Michael Peterson</i> 8:30a PC Worship 9:20a Fellowship-both sites <i>SC: Eve Circle</i> 10a SC Worship 3p/SC Piano Lessons	29 8:30a/SC Comforters 4:30p/SC Piano Lessons	30 7p/SC AA				

HEAR OUR PRAYER *(People listed for 2 weeks. Contact office with updates)*

Alan Mikula, Sandy Anderson, Arlys Hoveland, Alexis Thome, Heather Irwin

Barron Care/Rehab: Bev Miller

Colfax Health/Rehab: Dorrene Knutson

Chetek Meadowbrook: Astrid Sannes

Military: Capt. David E. Dahl

Community Care: *For pastoral visit/call, contact church office, Pr. Michael or Joyce Gilberts.*

To join our visiting team, contact Pastor.

Date	Lectors		SC Communion	SC Hospitality (Council)
7	PC Annabella Bartels	SC Tim Knutson	Sharon Nelson	<i>1st Sun.:</i> Marie Swanson / Samantha Goodremote
14	PC Annette Mason	SC Lana Anderson	Lana Anderson	<i>2nd Sun.:</i> Lou Ann Gilberts / Mark Gilberts
21	PC Linda Bilodeau	SC Cathy Davis	Cathy Davis	<i>3rd Sun.:</i> Stephani North / Kristi Welle
28	PC Lon Christopherson	SC Bonnie Halberg	Anita Jenson	<i>4th Sun.:</i> John Loy / Joyce Gilberts <i>5th Sun:</i> Jesse Buhr / Jerry Loftus
Altar Guild: PC Callie Huppert SC <i>(September/October)</i> Angie & Jodie Madison				