



Bishop Yehiel Curry (2nd from left) and his admin. team discuss all 3 parts of the vision: connecting, sustaining, reforming.

Missionary News: September 2026

Dear friends and partners in ministry,

Greetings from Guyana, where I just returned from a summer of visiting and connecting with many of you. I wish I could've connected with all of you, because, as Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica, *"How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you?"* (1 Thessalonians 3:9). I'm glad we support and encourage one another and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana (ELCG), with which I'm working to revitalize and reestablish its ministerial leadership training, especially its Lutheran Lay Academy.

One week in July, I was part of a gathering near Chicago of all the ELCA staff, including all the missionaries plus people employed with hunger/disaster relief, immigration, advocacy, finances, human resources, IT, and many more. We learned about each other's work and how it all connects, since "connecting" is the first part of a vision for the next three years of the ELCA.

In addition to connecting with church-wide staff at the gathering, I connected in person with wonderful congregations in Texas, Wisconsin, and Missouri, as well as with the Florida-Bahamas Synod (FBS), which is the ELCA's companion synod with the Caribbean region, including Guyana. A special moment in the Florida visit happened when I had the opportunity to hand-deliver a plaque of appreciation from the ELCG's Lutheran Lay Academy to one of our teachers, Rev. Gabriel Morgan, a gift to us from the Florida-Bahamas Synod. Rev. Morgan teaches our Theology/Ethics course online.

This connection with the Florida-Bahamas Synod goes both ways, as Rev. Morgan was able to visit Guyana in person last year, delighting his students. Not only that, but just two weeks ago, 9 women from the FBS came to Guyana for a week to join the ELCG's Evangelical Lutheran Church Women convention. There, they connected not only with Lutheran women of Guyana, but also with three Lutheran guests from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Suriname, the neighboring country. One of those Surinamese women, Sherisa Emanuels-Tevreden, is presently a student in our Lutheran Lay Academy, taking online courses in Preaching, and Worship/Liturgy. What a pleasure it was to connect with her and other Surinamese visitors in the flesh!

I can't fail to mention specifically one congregational visit I made this summer because it involves multiple connections. I spent a couple of days with the good people of Messiah Lutheran Church in Springfield, Missouri, whose pastor, Rev. Orin Cummings, is a Guyanese Lutheran and avid supporter of the Lutheran Lay Academy in Guyana. He currently teaches our online Worship/Liturgy course. I gave him a map of Guyana to cherish. If you ever connect with me through an online video call, you will see the same map on my wall.

If I wasn't able to connect with you personally this summer, please consider connecting with me online any time! And, of course, you're always welcome to come to Guyana for a visit! But even if we never meet face-to-face in this lifetime, I remain always thankful for our deeper connection in Christ and for your prayers for me and the ELCG.

Sincerely, Rev. Dr. Carolyn Schneider

Lutheran Identity Professor & Pastoral Ministry Advisor, (ELCA partnering with ELCG)

Email: Carolyn.schneider@elca.org



Rev. Gabriel Morgan from Florida-Bahamas Synod teaches online Theology/Ethics.



Left to right:
Diana Vyent, Sherisa Emanuels-Tevreden, and
Jenellie Fonkel of ELC in Suriname.



Rev. Orin Cummings from Messiah Lutheran Church in Springfield, MO, teaches online Worship/Liturgy.

DEVOTIONS: Time

Another season moves us ahead. A phrase I hear most often and say myself is, "time goes by so fast". There are still the same amount of minutes in each day, but something seems to squish them together.

It's not so much how many minutes there are, but what we do with them. I've come to the time in my life that I can't get as much done and find myself resting more. My to-do list may carry over to the next few days. I pray often for God to give me strength to do what I need to get done.

When we are born God gives us an allotment of time to do what He assigns us to do. I waited some years trying to find my own way, telling God I wanted His will for my life. But being impatient and thinking I could do it my own way, I soon found out wasn't always right. God put me on the right path. Though I stumble, get arrogant, and not always wanting to believe this is going to work, God never gives up on me. He waits patiently and reaches out with guidance.

Life seems to be in chaos. Every news report is tragic. One evening news reporter I like to watch always ends his segment with a good story which is refreshing and hopeful.

God desires that we find hope in each day. Even though time seems to move ahead quicker, we still have time to be useful in His kingdom. He has work for us to do daily. We may feel we do nothing, but a smile at someone passing, a kind word, prayers and good thoughts that God will use to help someone in need, is sometimes enough. Other times present different opportunities.

Let God use you in whatever ways He wants. We must use our time wisely.

-Sue Piotrowski



FINANCIAL REPORT: August 2026

General Checking Balance 8/31/26	\$ 8,283.17
Revenue	
Unrestricted Offering	\$ 30,099.28
Restricted Benevolence, Mission, Other	\$ 3,855.08
Total Income	\$ 33,954.36
Expenditures	\$ 26,082.65

Year-to-Date 2026

Unrestricted Offering	\$137,661.67
Restricted Benevolence, Mission, Other	\$ 29,646.55
Total Income	\$167,308.62
Expenditures	\$157,580.02

Thank you for your financial support!

Offerings are received at our

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

*Sand Creek site offering boxes (10a worship)

*Website: www.newhopescp.org

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

2026 Noisy Offerings/Mission

JAN	Missionary Support/Carolyn Schneider	\$ 385.36
FEB	Malawi	480.42
MAR	Luther Park Camperships	558.90
APR	Project Comfort (Ship Quilts/Kits)	670.34
	SC W/ELCA: \$527.58 PC W/ELCA: \$142.76	
MAY	Lutheran Disaster Response	785.61
JUNE	(Orthopedic) Kafika House in Tanzania	470.51
JULY	5 Local Food Pantries	403.25
AUG	Missionary Support/Carolyn Schneider	1,075.52
SEPT	ELCA's World Hunger	50.00 +
OCT	Homeless Youth Christmas Stockings	
NOV	To be determined	
DEC	Christmas Critters	

Chetek Food Shelf is fortunate to have organizations like yours, caring/supporting our neighbors in need. Thank you! (9/8/26)

LOOKING AHEAD

NOVEMBER

Sun. Nov. 1	reg. sch <i>All Saints Sunday</i> 9:30a/PC W/ELCA
Mon. Nov. 2	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilting
Wed. Nov. 4	6p/SC Eve Circle
Sun. Nov. 8	reg. sch
Mon. Nov. 9	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilting SC W/ELCA offering received
Sun. Nov. 15	reg. sch
Mon. Nov. 16	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilting
Thurs. Nov. 19	9:30a/SC Sophia Circle
Sun. Nov. 22	reg. sch/Guest: Rev. David Natzke
Mon. Nov. 23	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilting
Wed. Nov. 25	6p/SC <i>Thanksgiving Eve Worship</i>
Sun. Nov. 29	<i>Advent 1</i> : reg. sch/Guest: Rev. David Natzke No Sunday School

DECEMBER

Wed. Dec. 2	6p/SC Eve Circle
Sun. Dec. 6	reg. sch 9:30a/PC W/ELCA <i>Christmas Potluck</i> 10a/SC <i>Baptism (Rowen John Michaels)</i>
Mon. Dec. 7	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilting
Sun. Dec. 13	reg. sch
Mon. Dec. 14	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilting SC W/ELCA offering received
Thurs. Dec. 17	9:30a/SC Sophia Circle
Sun. Dec. 20	reg. sch/ <i>PC Christmas Worship & SC Pageant</i>
Mon. Dec. 21	8:30a/SC Comforters Quilting 7p/SC Council Meeting
Thurs. Dec. 24	<i>5p/SC Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship</i>
Sun. Dec. 27	reg. sch/Lessons + Carols

New Hope Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes *(Draft subject to approval)*
Monday, August 24, 2026 / Sand Creek Site 6:30p Committees/7p Full Council)

PRESENT: Mark Gilberts, Lon Christopherson, Vern Ellefson, Lou Ann Gilberts, Roger Paulson, Becky Schnacky, Linda Bilodeau, Bonnie Halberg, Ben Neilsen, Jerry Loftus, Mary Peterson, Pat Bechard, Joyce Gilberts, Jesse Buhr, Kristi Welle
ALSO PRESENT: Joe Bilodeau **ABSENT:** Pr. Sparby, Samantha Goodremote

CALL TO ORDER: 7p by Council President, Linda Bilodeau

OPENING PRAYER: Joyce Gilberts

SECRETARY'S REPORT: M/S/C (*Vern Ellefson/Ben Neilsen*) approve May 18, 2026 minutes as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: M/S/C (*Roger Paulson/Joyce Gilberts*)

*Parish checking 8/24/26 = \$24,335.93. Memorials Savings = \$41,000; \$14,000 is designated.

*2026-27 Propane Prepay (6,000 gallons x \$1.39/gal = \$8,340). \$9,050 was received from private donations.

*Clergy Financial Resources rates increased 7.5%

*Church Mutual Insurance premium increased from \$1,137 to \$1,170/mo.

**Higher Vision* Aug. guests = \$600 (\$360 *noisy offering* & \$240 *bal from parish*). Invited to lead *Worship in the Park* 7/18/27.

*PC defibrillator purchased by PC W/ELCA = \$1,674. (*Coffee/lunch fellowships raised funds*)

*\$2,147 portable keyboard/stand purchased for events outside churches, such as "*Worship in the Park*".

*Council approved \$4,000 transfer from parish checking to memorials savings staff fund = balance \$12,000.

PASTOR'S REPORT: *Printed copy disbursed includes schedule through 2027.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROPERTY/MANAGEMENT

Pine Creek Site: *Septic scheduled to be pumped in September. Recent water issues were repaired by Fire & Ice.

Sand Creek Site: *Replacing electrical outlet in bell tower before Advent.

*Retrieving commercial carpet cleaning estimates for fellowship hall/high traffic areas.

WORSHIP/MUSIC: *No report*

OUTREACH *Acts of Kindness*

*Pr. Michael enjoys half time status; no negative reports directed to council re: decreased change from 3/4 time.

*Council asks Joyce Gilberts to submit mileage for pastoral care visits to shut-ins, hospitalized, etc.

*Pr. Michael suggests catered community Thanksgiving Eve Dinner prior worship Wed., Nov. 25th. Council votes not as people travel, expect company/plan own festivities. Proceed on a different date (*Harvest Festival*)? Joyce & Roger will talk with Pastor.

FAMILY ED

**Enjoying Children Initiative: Holy Work With Children*": 1-3p, Sat., Sept. 26th /Luther Park. Reg. due Sept. 11th (\$15 lunch fee).

*3 Parent's Night Out VBS hybrid sessions were held throughout the summer.

*Christmas Pageant: Advent/Christmas story through hymns. Intergenerational connection asking members to share photos of family devotion, traditions, etc taken throughout the year. These can be sent to the church office.

OLD BUSINESS

*Sign at Myron Park/Camp sharing worship service schedule.

*Church Directory Committee meeting this fall and asking Becky (parish admin) to join us.

NEW BUSINESS

*Adopt road/ditch cleanup sign? Could be a spring stewardship of the earth event to clean around our churches.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: *None*

NEXT MEETING/ADJOURN: Monday, October 26th/ Pine Creek Site

-Bonnie Halberg, Council Sec.

IN OUR PRAYERS *(Please update church office after 2 weeks)*

Natalie Flatland, Joe Pingel, Joan Peterson, Carol Gerner, Mike Brasher, Wayne Christopherson

Barron Care/Rehab: Bev Miller, Richard Misselt

Monroe Manor/Barron: Boydean/Astrid Sannes, Gary Hanson

Military: Capt. David E. Dahl, Jacob Messinger, Jarita Roux

Community Care: *For pastoral visit/call, or to join our visitation team, contact church office, Joyce Gilberts (leader) or Pastor.*

New Hope Lutheran Church

E9085 County Road V

PO BX 85

Sand Creek, WI 54765

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



To receive the "Trumpet" via email or our website, please update the church office.



Sunday school follows children's time during 10a worship at our Sand Creek site.

Teachers/helpers needed on a rotation schedule. Please contact the church office if interested. Thank you!

New Hope Council 2026

President: Linda Bilodeau
Secretary: Bonnie Halberg

Vice President: Joyce Gilberts
Treasurer: Mark Gilberts

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
Ben Neilsen	715-704-1135	benneilsen9@gmail.com

Property/Management

Mark Gilberts	847-650-9364	mark.gilberts4@gmail.com
Jerry Loftus	715-456-2163	lofty1@chibardun.net
Lon Christopherson	715-319-1224	londo@chibardun.net
Vern Ellefson	715-418-1408	vernon.ellefson.ve@gmail.com

Outreach

Pat Bechard	715-658-1014	paanbe@yahoo.com
Bonnie Halberg	715-237-2429	halbergs@citizens-tel.net
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
Becky Schnacky	612-812-6233	beckyschnacky658@gmail.com
Mary Peterson	715-308-9593	grammypete718@yahoo.com



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

Pastor Michael D Sparby 715-764-9779 nhpastor@chibardun.net
Office Hours 9am-1pm 715-658-1470 newhope@chibardun.net
Mail address Po Bx 85, Sand Creek, WI 54765
Pine Creek Church 715-949-1750 E6698 Cty Rd V, Ridgeland
Sand Creek Church 715-658-1470 E9085 Cty Rd V, Sand Creek
Website: www.newhopescpc.org 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/UCgsG8JI-RdcnKSnFI48DyO>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2026	Pr. Sparby is away October 4th — 17th <i>Contact church office for pastoral concerns.</i>			1	2 <i>Office Closed</i>	3
4 <i>Thank-Offering Sunday</i> <i>Guest: Rev. David Natzke</i> 8:30a PC Worship 9:20a Fellowship-both sites 9:30a PC W/ELCA <i>SC: Sophia Circle</i> 10a SC Worship	5 8:30a/SC Comforters	6 7p/SC AA	7 <i>Office closed; church open</i> 6p/SC Eve Circle 6:30p/SC Confirmation <i>No piano lessons/SC</i>	8 <i>No piano lessons/SC</i>	9 <i>Office Closed</i>	10 <i>HON Day of Renewal (Luther Park)</i>
11 <i>Guest: Rev. David Natzke</i> 8:30a PC Worship 9:20a Fellowship-both sites <i>SC: Sophia Circle</i> 10a SC Worship	12 <i>Columbus Day</i> 8:30a/SC Comforters W/ELCA offering	13 7p/SC AA	14 4:30-6p/SC Piano lessons 6:30p/SC Confirmation	15 9:30a/SC Sophia Circle 5:30-7p/SC Piano lessons Newsletter articles due	16 <i>Office Closed</i>	17
18 8:30a PC Worship 9:20a Fellowship-both sites <i>SC: Men's Group</i> 10a SC Worship	19 8:30a/SC Comforters Flu Shots: 9-11a Ridgeland Comm Ctr 1-3p SC Town Hall	20 7p/SC AA	21 4:30-6p/SC Piano lessons 6:30p/SC Confirmation	22 5:30-7p/SC Piano lessons	23 <i>Office Closed</i>	24
25 <i>Reformation Sunday</i> 8:30a PC Worship 9:20a Fellowship-both sites <i>SC: Eve Circle</i> 10a SC Worship	26 8:30a/SC Comforters 7p/PC Council	27 7p/SC AA	28 4:30-6p/SC Piano lessons 6:30p/SC Confirmation	29 5:30-7p/SC Piano lessons	30 <i>Office Closed</i>	31 <i>All Saints Eve Halloween</i> Daylight savings time (fall back)

Date	Lectors	SC Communion	SC Hospitality (Council)	Altar Guild
4	PC Annette Mason SC (<i>Thank-Offering</i>)	Marie Swanson	<i>1st Sun.:</i> Lou Ann Gilberts / Becky Schnacky	PC: Linda Bilodeau
11	PC Dawn Kunkel SC Mary Ann Omtvedt	Mary Ann Omtvedt	<i>2nd Sun.:</i> Mark Gilberts Ben Neilsen/Samantha Goodremote	SC (<i>Sept./Oct.</i>) Lou Ann Gilberts Debbie Paulson
18	PC Natalie Ellefson SC Clarissa Buhr	Mark Gilberts	<i>3rd Sun.:</i> Kristi Welle / Roger Paulson	
25	PC Kathy Christopherson SC Carol Anderson	Carol Anderson	<i>4th Sun.:</i> Joyce Gilberts / Bonnie Halberg	



Pine Creek Site W/ELCA
 9:30a, Sun., Oct. 4th (*Renee Kunkel/Jenna Bartels*)

Sand Creek Site W/ELCA
Offering: Mon., Oct. 12th
Eve Circle: 6p/SC Wed., Oct. 7th
(Lou Ann Gilberts/Sue Paulson)
Sophia Circle: 9:30a/SC Thurs., Oct. 15th

