

“The Branches”

Mayville & Gran
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

March 2026



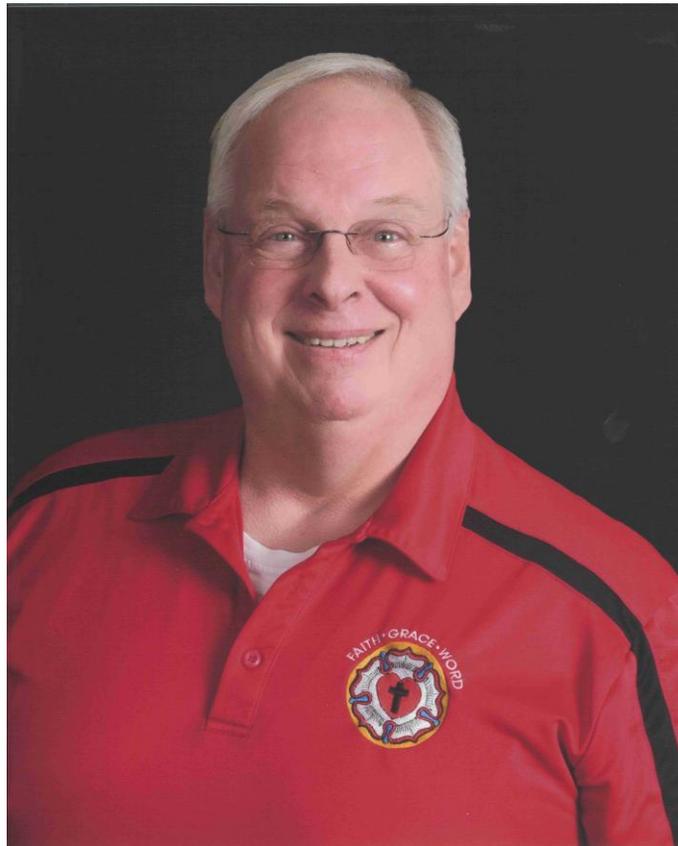
Richelle's Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30am -1:30pm (Office #786-3202)

MAYVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH'S Sundays at 10:30am/ GRAN Sundays at 8:45am

*Broadcasted live every Sunday! **Watch us live on MIDCO Channel 3

***Listen to us live KMAV Radio 105.5 FM

****Watch us live or any time on Facebook live @ Mayville-Gran Lutheran



**Welcome to Mayville-Gran
Lutheran Church
Pastor Paul Balaban**

A graphic of a spotlight with a yellow beam shining down on the word 'SPOTLIGHT'.

The Berry Family

SPOTLIGHT

Alex teaches 5th grade at PBJ and coaches the boys varsity baseball team. During the summer he still enjoys being on the other side of the game playing baseball and softball. During his summer break, Alex, does a great job of keeping the parks mowed and cleaned up.

Samantha is a nurse at the hospital in Mayville. She manages the Operating room, works in cardiac rehab, and picks up on the floor/ER. She will help out anywhere it is needed. When she's not working, she is very busy chasing around 3 very energetic little boys. Our house is constant chaos, but always entertaining.

Camden (5) goes to preschool at Tiny Town. He's very excited about starting kindergarten this fall. As most people have seen, he is not afraid to tell a story of some kind. Lover of all things turtle.

Grayson (3) is currently in daycare, but asks every day when he's going to school. He's looking forward to starting preschool at Tiny Town this fall. He still doesn't understand that big brother will not be there anymore, but I'm sure he'll get over it quick. He is a spitfire, and you never know what you're going to get with that middle child.

Sawyer (1.5) He will turn 2 in June. He will start dancing anytime music is played. He is a pretty happy little guy most of the time. He has no fear and is always trying to keep up with his big brothers. He is tough, but he knows he's the baby and he uses it to his advantage quite often. Lover of all animals.

The boys love all things sports and swimming as much as they can. We are always on the go trying to find something fun for the boys to do, and with hopes of burning off lots of energy.





The Meals on Wheels program provides one hot, nutritious meal per day for those ages 60 and older who are home-bound and meet eligibility standards. Volunteers deliver meals Monday through Friday throughout the counties we serve. It usually takes less than an hour to deliver meals! It's great to do it as a family or by oneself as it is very rewarding! Must be at the Mayville Senior Center by 11:15am

Thank you, Doreen Nelson!

March 16th-20th



Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Please call: 701-786-3202 or

Email: maygranlutheranoffice@gmail.com

We are here for you!



**Two other ways to
GIVE OFFERING
at MLC!!!**

1. Scan the QR Code
2. TEXT to GIVE

Your Offering is Tax Deductible!



TEXT 701-490-9737 "GIVE" Then the: AMOUNT

First time you'll have to set it up
After that, offering is just a text away



COUNCIL MINUTES

MLC Council Agenda Nov 19th 2025, 6pm @ MLC

**Tami Parker, Richelle Mewes, Tressta Kunkel (phone), Travis Kraft (phone),
Rae Nygord (absent), Jessica Bergerson, Pastor Avery**

Call to Order- Tami Parker 5:59pm

Opening Prayer: by Pr. Martin

Approval of minutes: Tressta 1st, second: Pr. Martin. Approved.

Additions to the agenda: none

Treasurer's report -Jessica: audit committee meeting to review (Steve B and Jay H). Cont. to be down in monthly giving. Utility expenses have gone way down. Large 1x memorial donation cont. to help bridge the gap in lacking monthly giving to keep us in the black thus far.

Pastor's report-Pastor Martin Avery: 4 office visits, 2 home visits with communion, 4 Sun Center visits. Will start bible study Dec 3rd . Continue with text studies Thurs afternoons.

New Business

1. ND nonprofit meeting rule clarification: After some confusion regarding congregational members attending council meetings, Synods response: "ND open meeting law requires a nonprofit to open congregational council meetings to public ONLY if supported by public funds or performing a gov function. Accordingly, open meeting laws do not apply to churches in our synods. Therefore, in my opinion, the congregation council may determine what is on the council agenda or who may attend council meetings." Pr. Brad (ELCA synod)

2. Food pantry site: Pr. Martin interested in opportunities for MLC being a "pop up pantry" for community. Gift cards to Millers? Julie T or Taylor K may be good resources to further discuss. Pr. Martin will continue to look into.

3. Next Community event ideas

a. Family game night: Dec 17th 6pm, in lieu of our monthly meeting. Potluck. Council will provide BBQ.

4. Choir Robes: Last time we used? Roger B and DOG continue to clean and make space available in old music room.

5. Library Carpet: foundation has offered to update carpet in Library.

6. Discussion on potluck following services to promote fellowship and congregational connections. Council agreed 1x/month would be a good goal.

7. David is out until March for sure. Richelle will ck with Jasper regarding snow removal. Richelle willing to add David's normal cleaning to her plate. Would like this to exclude snow removal. Council is able to help out when needed. Scott usually comes early anyway and can take care of light shoveling. Heavier snow amounts may have to hire.

8. Richelle would like to do "meet the members" section in the branches for our congregation to get to know each other better. Will start with Jessica Bergerson.

Old Business

9. Committees:

- a. Worship and music Committee: no report
- b. Stewardship committee: Teri Soine, NEED MORE
 - i. Maybe rebrand: Advents committee, Fun committee, Meal committee
- c. Education committee:
 - i. Mandi taking on Christmas program, HUGE THANK YOU for volunteering
 - ii. JAM: MaSU swimming pool about 22 kids, overall really enjoyed.

Slick City in Fargo now open, approx. \$30 per person.

- d. Executive committee: no report

10. Sunday School Church service: Feb 7th, alternate date April 4th . Jessica cont. to work on particulars.

11. Window replacement bid: 1st bid: ~ \$80k, 2nd Bid: ~ \$150k. Option of maybe calking around seals of windows for a temp fix.

12. Sunday service duties monthly: Dec =Travis. Jan=Rae Feb=Tressta. MLC list with numbers to make contacting ppl easier? Yes, Richelle has. Also consider making YouTube videos of “how to” in regard to ushering, greeting, communion servers, etc.

13. Survey summaries review: lots of good feedback. Possible considerations to change seating structure in church to promote a more welcoming environment? Lots of comments on contemporary options for worship with uplifting music options. Will cont. to dive into various points to seek direction on positive changes needed.

14. Dec council meeting: decided to have family game night with potluck in leu of our dec meeting. Will cont. to prepare for upcoming annual meeting.

Adjourned: 7:07pm

Next Council Day/Time

1. Joint/exec meeting: Nov 23rd 2025
2. Annual meeting: Jan 18th

Let us Pray together as a Mayville-Gran Church Family,

Lord Jesus, you prayed that all of your followers would be one, just as you and the Father are one. We confess that we have often failed to live up to that calling. We allow petty disagreements, pride, and personal opinions to create division among us. We have focused more on what separates us than on the Savior who unites us.

We ask you to forgive us for our divisiveness. Please soften our hearts and give us a spirit of humility and grace toward our brothers and sisters in Christ. Help us to listen with understanding, to speak with kindness, and to love with a love that covers a multitude of sins.

Unite our hearts with a common purpose: to glorify you and share your Gospel. Stitch us together as one body, each member valued and working together for your Kingdom. Let the world look at our congregation and see not conflict, but a beautiful and compelling picture of your love and reconciliation, In Jesus' Name, Amen.



LINDAAS BARN DANCE 2026

Saturdays 7:30 to 10:00 p.m.

June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
June 6 & 27						

July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
July 11						

August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
August 1 & 22						

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			
September 19						

Join us again for

Bluegrass Sunday

July 12th at 2:00 p.m.

Located at 735 153rd Ave NE - 2 miles east of Mayville on Hwy 200, then 1 1/4 miles North on County Rd 12

Good, wholesome family fun
 No alcoholic beverages allowed
 Coffee and soda provided along with potluck snacks/treats
 Free admission; Donations are accepted to help defray expenses.
 A variety of musicians each week.

Everyone welcome!

The schedule is subject to change in case of threatening weather.
 Check our Facebook page for the most current updates

We are looking for K-Cups for Sunday Coffee



Thank you for helping us to reach out to our community through the broadcast of Sunday Morning Worship Service. Because of your sponsorship we are able to do this very important ministry.

Every morning at 10:30am we broadcast worship on the Radio (KMAV 105.5) and on cable TV (Midcontinent).

The cost of sponsorship is **\$60.00** for the Radio and **\$40.00** for the TV.



We have many opportunities available every month! Recognize Birthdays, Anniversaries, Baptisms, Graduations, Confirmation in memory of, in honor of, or just because!

Thank you very much for touching people's lives with God's Word and for keeping in contact with those who are unable to attend with us every Sunday!



Church Clean Up Day Saturday

March 28th

@ 9:00am

Your help is needed! Please join us!





From the Janitors Closet By David Moeller



We are in the season of Lent.

It is a season of revival. It is a season with a message of peace and pardon. It is a message of courage and strength, hope, and life all through the wounds and death of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Our Lenten journey begins with the recognition of Our Sin.

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 5:12

We have Jesus Christ’s Sacrifice.

“Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” John 1:29

“But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

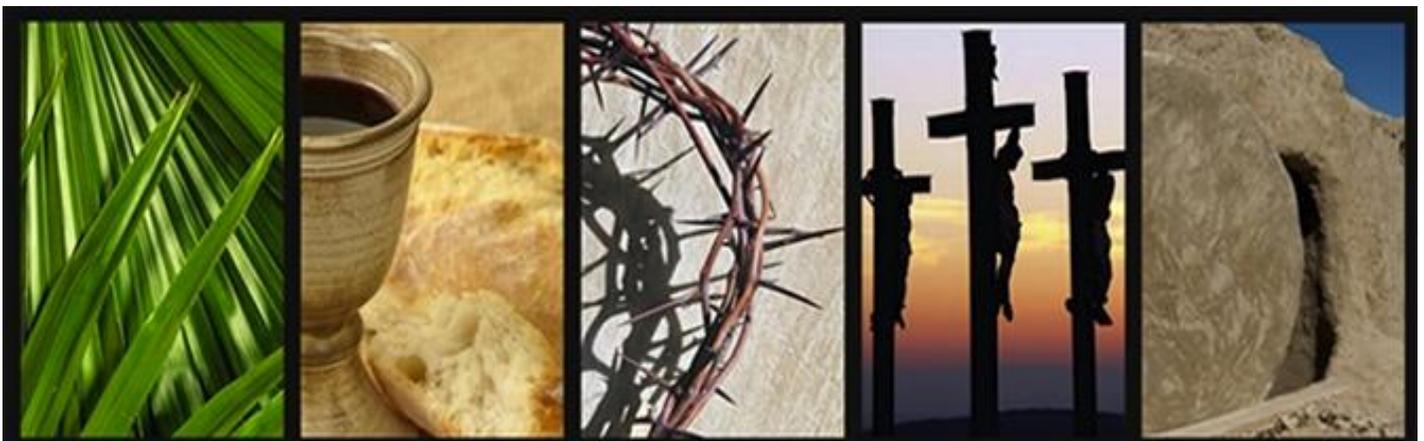
Romans 5:8

We have Our Redemption In Him.

“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses.”
Ephesians 1:7

The season of Lent leads us to Easter Sunday when Jesus rose from the grave guaranteeing eternal life to all who believe in Him.

“And so we shall always be with the Lord.” 1 Thessalonians 4:17





Serving Teams for March 2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeters and Ushers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
March 1 st	Sam Berry Family	Steven Bensen
March 8 th	Courtney and Beau Peterson	Myrna Lyng
March 15 th	Wendy Mehus Family	Doreen Nelson
March 22 nd	Lois and Ted Karlstad	Mary Germundson
March 29 th	Megan Porath Family	Sue Strand

Communion Sunday in March 2026

February 1st 2026

Set Up Steven Bensen & Wendy Mehus Family
Communion:
Distribute
Communion: Steven Bensen & Wendy Mehus Family

February 15th 2026

Lois Karlstad

Lois Karlstad

MISSION
of the
 MONTH

MPCG
 Lunch
 Fund

MLC KIDS Takeover WORSHIP





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what's coming up in
MARCH



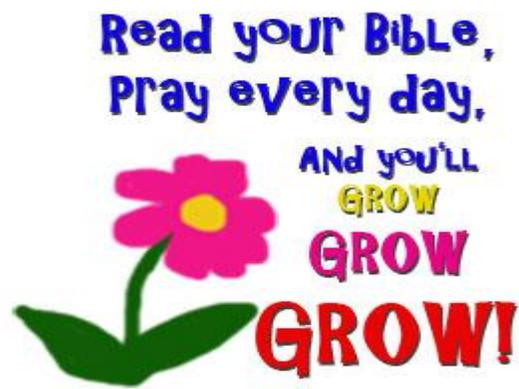
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Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed.	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Sunday 8:45am Gran Worship 9:45am Gran Sunday School 10:00am MLC Sunday School 10:30am MLC Worship Reader: Steve Bensen	2	3	4 LENT 5:30pm Meal 6:30pm Worship	5	6	7
8 Daylight Savings Spring Ahead 8:45am Gran Worship 9:45am Gran Sunday School 10:00am MLC Sunday School 10:30am MLC Worship Reader: Myrna Lyng	9	10	11 LENT 5:30pm Meal 6:30pm Worship	12 Music & Worship 🎵 4:30pm	13	14
15 Communion Sunday 8:45am Gran Worship 9:45am Gran Sunday School 10:00am MLC Sunday School 10:30am MLC Worship Reader: Doreen Nelson	16	17	18 LENT 5:30pm Meal 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm MLC Council	19	20	21
22 8:45am Gran Worship 9:45am Gran Sunday School 10:00am MLC Sunday School 10:30am MLC Worship Reader: Mary Germundson	23 Deadline For the Branches	24	25 LENT 5:30pm Meal 6:30pm Worship	26	27	28
29 Palm Sunday 8:45am Gran Worship 9:45am Gran Sunday School 10:00am MLC Sunday School 10:30am MLC Worship Reader: Sue Strand	30	31				
Holy Week -----Holy Week-----Holy Week-----						

HOLY WEEK







Gospel Readings for the month of March 2026

2nd Sunday of Lent

MARCH 1st 2026: John 3:1-17

A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

3rd Sunday of Lent

MARCH 8th 2026: John 4:5-42

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

4th Sunday of Lent

MARCH 15th 2026: John 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

5th Sunday of Lent

MARCH 22nd 2026: John 11:1-45

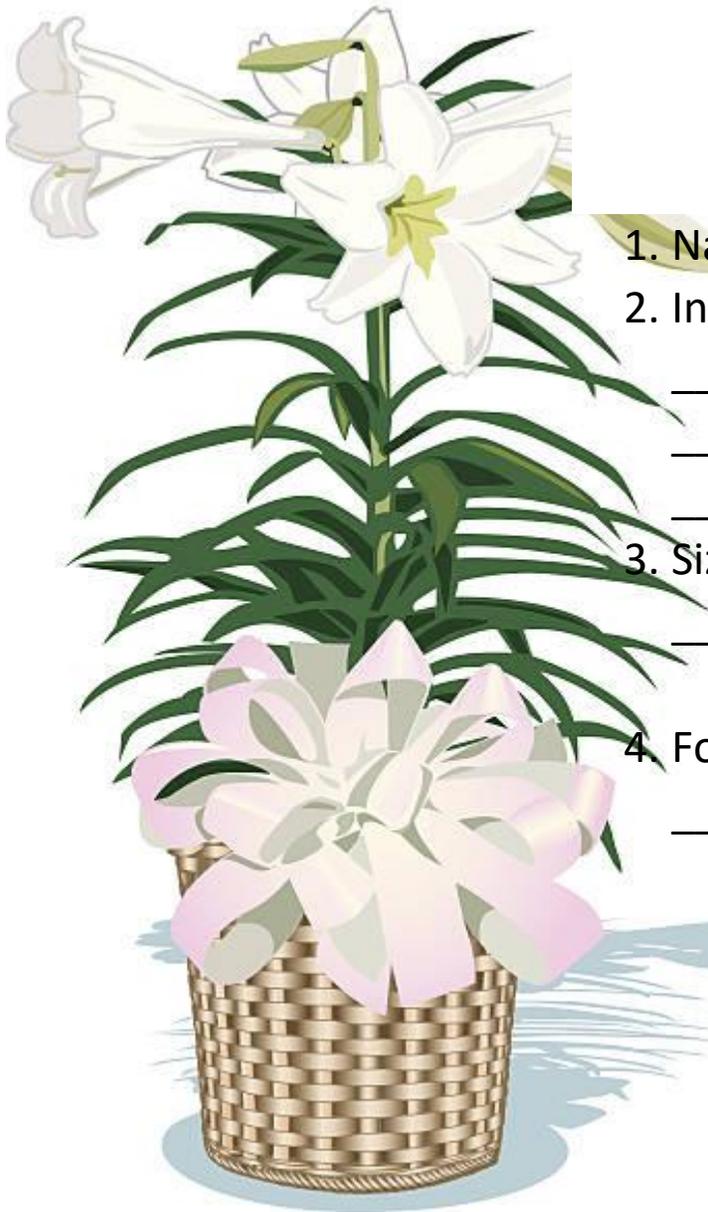
Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

Palm Sunday

MARCH 29th 2026: Matthew 26:14—27:66

In fulfillment of scripture and obedience to God's will, Jesus goes to the cross so that a new covenant in his blood may bring forgiveness of sins. Even the soldiers who crucify him recognize him to be the Son of God.

Easter Lilies Orders Form



1. Name _____

2. In Honor/memory of _____

3. Size of Lily _____

4. Form of Payment _____

As always, you can bring
in your own lily!



Easter Lilies Orders Deadline is March 13th

6" Lily 5-6 blooms \$16.00

8" Double Lily \$26.00

10" Triple Lily \$36.00

THE BRANCHES NEWSLETTER

Mayville-Gran Lutheran Church
24 3rd Ave SE
Mayville, ND 58257



PARISH ADMIN: Richelle Mewes

PARISH EMAIL: maygranlutheranoffice@gmail.com

PARISH WEBSITE: mayvillegranlutheranchurch.com

Mayville Lutheran Church Council

Pres: Tami Parker

Vice Pres: Richelle Mewes

Sec: Tresta Kunkle

Rae Nygord

Travis Kraft

Mary Hefta

MLC Treasurer: Jessica Bergerson



Eastern North Dakota Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Mayville-Gran Churches are congregations of the ELCA.

Rev. Tessa Moon-Leiseth -Eastern ND Synod Bishop

Phone: 701.232.3381

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Physical Address: 1555 43rd St S, Suite 100, Fargo, ND 58103

Mailing Address: PO Box 2019 Fargo, ND 58107

Gran Lutheran Church Council

Pres: Larry Hanson

Andy Neset

Blake Bjerke

Treasurer: Megan Hanson

Assoc. Treasurer: Richard Peterson

SS Rep/SS Superintendent:

Julie Tillberg Pederson

Delegates to LMH:

Ina Paulson & Dorothy Grage

To be the church, it has to form a *community*
to *worship* God and *serve* others

