

"The Branches"

Mayville & Gran

LUTHERAN CHURCHES

October 2025

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

MAYVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH'S Sundays 10:30am/GRAN Wednesdays at 6:45pm

*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 Church

Confirmation Sunday



Sunday

October 26th

at 10:30am



✚ Brogen Erickson

✚ Jaidyn Roder

✚ Henrik Strand



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

November 10th -November 14th 2025
Phyllis Kadrmas



Philippians 4:6-7

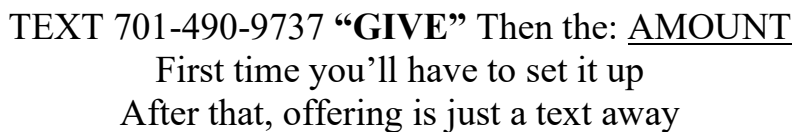
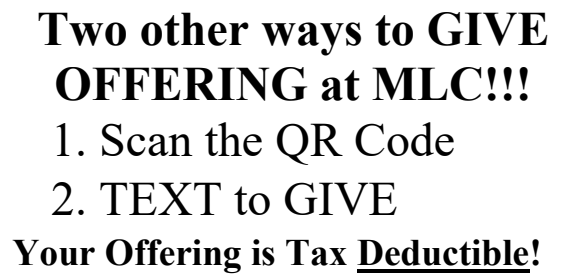
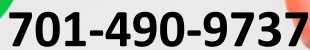
Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Please call: 701-786-3202 or

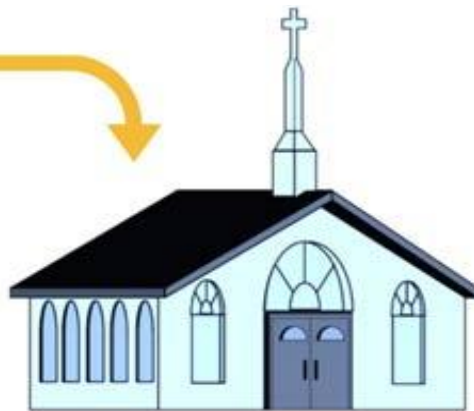
Email: maygranlutheranoffice@gmail.com

We are here for you!





Weekly Offering



Parish Staff



Refreshments



Debt Reduction



Church Maintenance



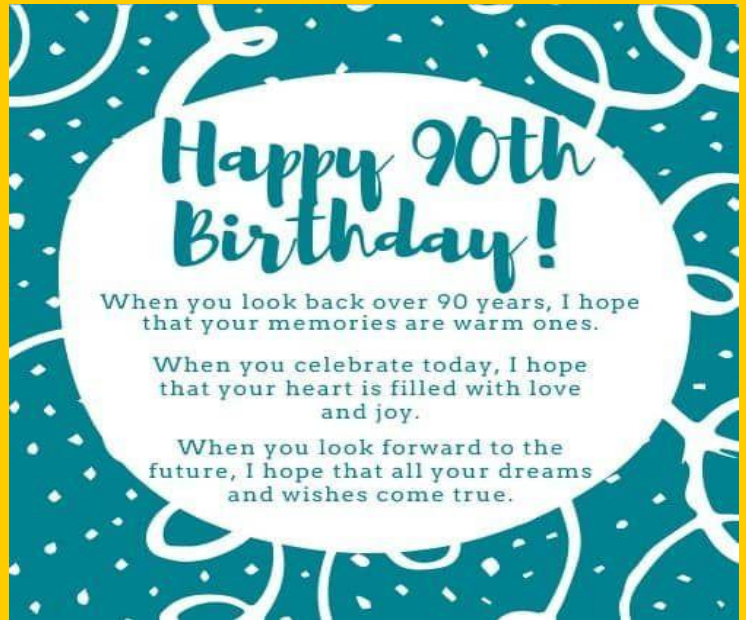
Faith Formation



Worship Aids



Ministry Support



October Gratitude Journaling

About People in Your Life

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	1 Life lessons from your parents/family that you still use today.	2 Family traditions you're thankful for or want to restart.	3 Someone whose resilience inspires you.	4 Family memories you're grateful to have made.
5 Someone who believed in you.	6 Someone whose kindness you admire.	7 Someone who is there to listen to you.	8 Someone who taught you a lot about yourself.	9 A teacher or mentor you learned a lot from.	10 Someone who brings life and love to your local community.	11 Someone who challenges you to be better.
12 Family memories that make you laugh.	13 Family quirks you still hold dear.	14 Someone you admire.	15 Someone who helped you through a tough time.	16 A childhood hero and why.	17 A stranger whose kindness left a lasting impression on you.	18 A reunion that brought you a lot of joy.
19 Favorite sit-down dinner memories.	20 Someone who made you feel 'at home' in an unfamiliar place.	21 A friend who has always been there for you.	22 A friend you don't see much these days but you're still grateful for.	23 A friend who makes an ordinary day memorable.	24 Someone you love more than anything.	25 Someone you're grateful to have made a lot of memories with.
26 A coworker who made work more enjoyable.	27 Someone who helped you improve even if it wasn't easy.	28 Someone who had/has a memorable laugh.	29 Someone who was/is always their true self, no matter what.	30 Someone you traveled with and where.	31 Someone whose stories you'd never tire of listening to.	 Ordinary & Happy



From the Janitors Closet By David Moeller



Living The Life Of Grace

Ephesians 2:8-9, “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.”

That’s pure grace, 100% solid grace. Nothing deserved, nothing earned. It is God’s love for Jesus’ sake. It is everything according to God’s own initiative. God’s grace is a gift initiated by God’s love. All God wants from us is to enjoy it and use it properly, according to His will and purpose.

It does not make much sense when people resist grace because they want to earn it first. It doesn’t work that way! Grace cannot be earned. If grace could be earned, it wouldn’t be grace anymore. Grace is an undeserved gift. God’s gift of grace comes to us out of His overwhelming love for us. That’s all. We cannot earn it. We don’t deserve it. We can only gratefully accept it by faith.

The gift of God’s grace in Christ Jesus is much more precious than any other gift we will ever receive. It is a gift of forgiveness, a gift of cleansing, a gift of new identity as children of God, a new life here on earth, and ultimately eternal life for us in heaven.

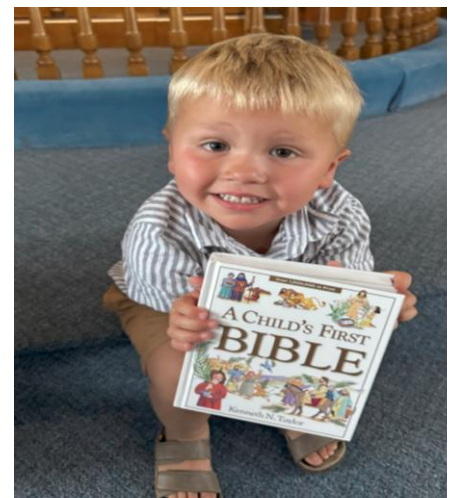
Having been led by the Holy Spirit to gratefully and joyfully receive the immeasurable riches of God’s grace in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, let us live in the newness of life and become givers of grace. Let us be a blessing to others around us.

**BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN
SAVED THROUGH FAITH.**

EPHESIANS 2:8



Gran's Rally Sunday September 14th 2025



Mayville Lutheran Church's Rally Sunday September 14th 2025



We are looking for K-Cups for Sunday Coffee



You can drop them off at the MLC Office or upstairs' kitchen! Thank you!



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!





Treasurer's Corner

Hello church family!

As of today, we have received **\$66,754.54** in offerings toward our **2025 budget of \$149,282.92**. This means we are a bit behind where we had hoped to be at this point in the year, but there is still time for us to stay on track together as a congregation.



Where We Stand

Average Monthly Giving (Jan–Aug): \$8,344
Needed Monthly Average (Sept–Dec): \$13,132

Our expenses are coming in close to budget, so any shortfall in giving will need to be covered by our cash savings.

I'm excited to see our church growing in activity this fall — with Sunday School starting back up, special events being planned, and more opportunities for worship and fellowship. Your giving helps make all of this possible.

Thank you for the many ways you support our congregation — with your time, prayers, and financial gifts. As we enter these last few months of the year, I invite you to prayerfully consider how you can be part of sustaining this good work. Together, we are making a difference in the life of our church and in our community.

With gratitude,

Jessica

You will be enriched in every way
so that you can be generous on every occasion,
and through us your generosity will result
in thanksgiving to God.

2 Corinthians 9:11



MLC Council President Tami Parker

Church *Update*

A note from MLC president Tami Parker:

With the significant decline in monetary giving from members, it has left a challenging situation at present for MLC. Although Tiny Town has been a great asset to our church and we LOVE having them fill the basement with love and little voices, it is probably no surprise that it has also increased our overall expenses of the church. I wanted to give a breakdown of what council was presented with so that congregational members can understand the challenge we are faced with currently.

		Avg /month Pre-tiny town (prior to June 2022)	Avg/month Post-tiny town 6/'22 thru 7/30/25	Avg/mo. sept 2024 thru Aug '25 (this past year)	Month bill Aug 2025	Month Bill Aug 2024	
Electricity		\$653.98	\$1006.63 (54% ↑)	\$1300.67	\$2145.91 (228% ↑)	\$1260.80	
Heating		\$249.47	\$346.31 (39% ↑)				
Water/garbage		\$123.21	\$211.92 (72% ↑)		\$593.16 (381% ↑)		
Total Utilities per month		\$1026.65	\$1564.86 (52.4% ↑)				
Total Utilities annually		\$12,319.84	\$18,778.28 (52.4% ↑)				
Repairs		2023: \$7283.38	2024: \$15,683.02 (115% ↑)				

Couple additional bits: Water Bill: May 2025: \$233.84; June: \$339.61; July \$484.43 for an average of \$353.66. And note the water bill increased to \$593.16 in Aug 2025.

With these challenges, we had to reevaluate the lease. Past 2025 lease agreement, Tiny Town was paying rent equivalent to \$0.386 per square foot. Researching the avg rent per square footage of the Mayville area, it was found avg going commercial rate was anywhere from \$0.83 to \$2.00+ depending on condition of building. We as a council, did not feel the need to increase rent to that extent, but we took the approach of needing to at least meet our monthly needs. We felt it was a very fair approach to increase rent equivalent to \$0.525/square foot. We also gave an additional option of keeping rent the same but splitting utilities. Tiny Town elected to pay \$0.413/square foot and 50% of the utilities, which was mutually agreed upon. Additionally, we made clarifications regarding specific space allotment for the growing Tiny Town and addressed responsibility of needed repairs within the new lease.

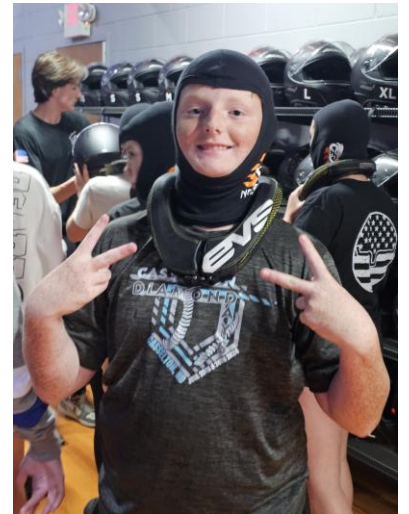
Again, this decision was not an easy one. Council continues to wholeheartedly believe the addition of Tiny Town to our building has been so beneficial to our church in many ways and look forward to continuing our partnership. If anyone has any further questions, please reach out to either Richelle Mewes, or myself and we will answer as best as we can.

Thank you for supporting MLC, Council, and our continued mission to serve God.

Tami Parker

MLC Council President





**FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK**

**FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK**

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PASTOR'S DESK**

"If you had faith the size of a[a] mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." - Luke 17:6

Greetings,

I'm happy to report another wonderful experience for our youth at the Cast-Away Youth Camp! It's a powerful experience each year to see our youth with their faith on full display as they participate in worship, connect with others who share their faith, complete projects that help them go deeper in their faith, and listen to a speaker about how their faith can draw them into action!

The camp is a great way to connect with youth as we start a new year of confirmation classes. Seeing the youth lean into their faith always gives me hope for the future of the church. I'd like to share this hope with others. Specifically, we need volunteers to assist with our weekly confirmation classes. If you are able to help out occasionally or if you can make it work on a more regular schedule, either way is fine.

There are opportunities for adults to explore their faith more as well. We have started our Bible study on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00. Not everyone had their book yet, so don't worry if you haven't had a book. We started off by reading the story of Joseph's dreams in Genesis, and this week we will start with our book, The Big Picture: Seeing God's Dream For Your Life.

Always happy to share our faith journey together!

Peace and grace, Pastor Martin

Mayville Lutheran Church Council Meeting July 27th, 2025 at 7pm @ Richelle Mewes' home

Tami Parker, Richelle Mewes, Kara Schreiner-absent, **Tressta Kunkel, Travis Kraft**, Rae Nygord-absent,
Jessica Bergerson- absent, **Pastor M Avery**

Call to Order- Tami Parker 7:16pm

Opening Prayer- Lords Prayer

Approval of minutes- Tressta motioned, Richelle second, carried

Additions to the agenda- #7

Treasurer's report -Jessica- as expected \$ are down (summer)

Pastor's report-Pastor Martin Avery

Upcoming vacation, cont. ed, and synod events- shared dates

Stewardship learning opportunity-Mid August- zoom- has been researching and putting Things. Put out by synod together for this.

Community events- Elroy's Bluegrass on Sunday. Jay's grandson in Trollwood

*4 funerals for other churches: ECC (2), Finley, also father-in-law

*Several visits to nursing home.

*August 10th- Pride service in Fargo

*Vacation- July 29-Aug 5th & August 26-27 seeing daughter in North Carolina

*August 28- 31 Wild Goose Festival Cont. ed.

*Wednesday services at Gran- back to Sunday services on Sept. 14. Wednesday services have seemed to go well. Attendance has been fairly decent. In the park service once a month. Serviced followed by music in the park has seemed to increase attendance and timing allows everyone to take in both events.

*Thoughts on doing a Bluegrass service (communicating with Jay) at MLC sometime this winter. Stand alone performance. Outside organization does planning and organizing. May be nice to partner with.

New Business

1. New Router purchase- has corrected the issue. Working now. Wireless. Will have small charge from Business methods (who we rent printer from).
2. Updated lease for tiny town- Lease is up. Tiny Town's initial lease was that their rent would be less than 20% of income- recommended by lawyer and Mandi. Has been renting the space for four years. Church's use of basement is quite minimal. Council concern is that water and electricity expenses have increased, her rent is not covering this. Currently pays \$XXXX. Rent is due on the 1st of the Month.

Jess pulled some \$\$ together. Breaking up water, electrical, repairs. We'd like to have a better understanding of usage for Tiny Town (monthly)

2024	2023	2022
Electricity- 12,374.95	12,054.85	10,873.93
Natural Gas- \$2,865.70	4,335.64	4,244.78
City of Mayville- \$2,919.19	2,786.61	1,868.52
Repairs & Maintenance- \$15,683.02	7,283.38	

*She is installing a fence. Financially Tiny Town's responsibility.

*Would like to visit with Mandi. Want to get on the same page and work out a contract so that the church is not losing money each month. We are okay breaking even, but would prefer to not lose each month. Contract needs to be worked out soon. Supposed to be August 1. Also would like to clarify space. Space on stage- needs to be used and designated for Sunday School. Don't use May-August. Perhaps include a date for space.

* Richelle has mentioned to Mandi that she is welcome to attend weekly meetings (Tuesdays). Mandi has not attended, yet. Richelle will continue to work with and communicate with her. Tami and Richelle will look over contract next week. Will share with council via email. Hoping to have ready for Mandi by Aug. 1.

3. September Rally Sunday – Sept. 14 for both MLC and Gran. Tami has reached out to bouncy houses, Krista R willing to do cotton candy, maybe can have someone with face painting. Maybe have a food option for after service. BBQ? **Hot dogs?** Food truck? Grilling hot dogs prior may be easiest option.

Hot dogs, chips, water, cookies.

*Event could start at 11:30 end time 1:30.

*Sofie, Corbin, Lauren, Kalista, Broden, Teagan- maybe could ask for their help

*Jenga, Connect 4, bean bags

*Would Gran want to partner with?

*Richelle will make a flyer. Ad in paper. Add to branches. Open to community

4. Fall community meal date/details: MaSU students? Athletes? – Tami reached out to get information from vball coach about return date for athletes. Thinking it may be a good idea to have at the church in order to get people interested in coming to our church- letting them know they are welcome. Millers could maybe donate?? Richelle said they have done spaghetti in the past through donations. Volleyball assistant coach has been attending our church. So, maybe start with that sport?

*Megan Roller is in charge of activities at the college. Pastor feels that if we go to the college we are stepping out of our comfort and letting them see us and know we are comfortable reaching out. Tami expressed that having them come to us may break feelings of discomfort and get them through our doors initially.

*Do we open it up to a University meal rather than just athletics? Pick a sport one Wednesday a month?- would need to know numbers with this.

*Decided we will start with volleyball. Invite them to our church. Provide a meal. Go from there. Tami will reach out about supper on Thursday the 14 at 6:00. Richelle will coordinate food. Could be fun to do a mystery meal.

5. Sunday service duties: opening up, greeters, offering/ushers, communion set up, video/computer (Scott willing to continue doing but would like to train others), counting money, lock up- every Sunday there are duties that need to be fulfilled. Typically council members help with these duties.

*Opening, counting, locking- council responsibility. Church needs to be open just prior to 10. 2 people to count offering, verify, place in safe. Lock church *the month you are in charge of, you fulfill these duties as well (!)

*greeters, offering/ushers, communion set-up- council will take a month. In charge of finding people to fulfill these duties.

6. Ideas for Sunday school interest- Sunday school open to ages 3-5th grade. Positives: offering, activities, music- sticking with what they know. 30 min of church time without kids is kind of nice (Tressta thinks)

Struggles: numbers (sometimes lots- sometimes very few), lessons for different ages, music- not able to practice new songs

*Need to have a parent back to school meeting. Important things to discuss- teachers, lessons, numbers, commitment.

Vacation Bible School- other churches are doing this. We haven't since Covid. Kind of sad that we don't have this. Would need volunteers, finances.

7. Roof- Richelle has had a lot of people ask her about the roof since the storm. Probably need someone to check the roof. Leaves and branches landing. Bill used to go- Tami will talk to Scott about who else can do this. Stefan with a drone?

Old Business

8. Committees: would like to have ppl in place by sept meeting
 - a. Audit committee: Steve Benson, Jay Henrickson: no report
 - b. Worship and music: Paul, (Gran, MLC): still working on, no report
 - c. Executive committee: no report
 - d. JAM: potential swim family night Aug- Tami has reached out to Heather at the pool. Time: 5-7 swim. Tentatively plan for Monday Aug 18. Mayville Lutheran will cover costs
 - *Tami would like to get more people on each of these committees. Wanting in place by September

9. Survey update- Tami hasn't had an opportunity to dive into, yet. People are still able to fill these out if interested.
10. Confirmation picture display update- Richelle doesn't have an update. Cindy is willing to help with this, though likely come fall.
11. Update on MLC improvement plan: how are we doing?- Doing well. Event in May seemed to have gone over well. Happy with other events we have in mind.
12. Tiny Town space boundaries- covered above.
13. Update on Stain glass windows- completed?- Still need to fix the inside. Put on hold due to family circumstances. Historical- Toni Jacobson is willing to take pictures of stain glass windows for \$100. Can then have an explanation with the picture to use for different purposes.
14. Richelle- Time off in September- 16-28. Could be less depending on friends needs.
15. Will know more about confirmation into September with new Pastor in Bruflat.

Next Council Day/Time

1. Sept: 10th or 17th- Maybe stick with Wednesdays if possible Tami will reach out to others to see availability.

Adjourn: 9:00pm

MLC Kids are Singing & Noisy Offering for Kids Activities October 12th During Worship!



WHY SERVE IN THE CHURCH

JOHN 13:1-17



Ways to Serve

Serve at the Church
Serve in the Community
Serve throughout the World



Serving Teams for October 2025

Date	<u>Greeters and Ushers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
October 5 th	Linda and Roger Baier	Steve Bensen
October 12 th	Teri & Lucas Soine	Lauren Soine
October 19 th	Mary & Ron Germundson	Nannette Bagstad
October 26 th	The 2025 Confirmands	Sue Strand

Communion Sunday in October 2025

October 5th 2025

Set Up

Communion:

Russ Angen

Distribute

Communion:

Russ Angen
Richelle Mewes

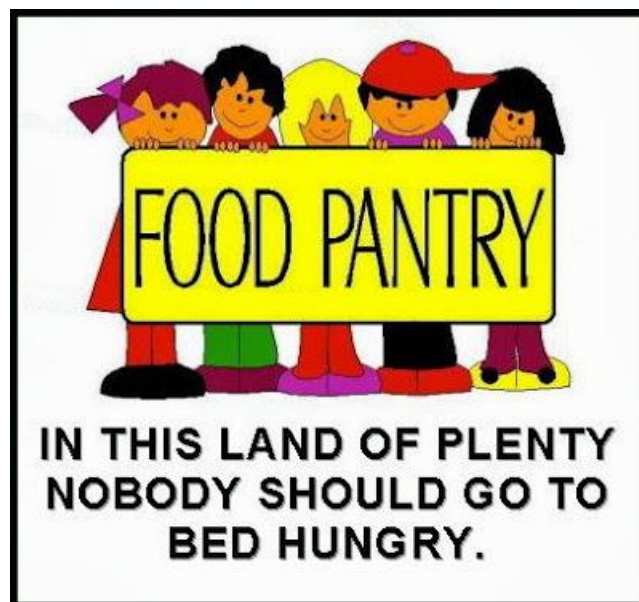
October 19th 2025

Lois Karlstad

Lois Karlstad

MISSION
of the
MONTH

May-Port Food Pantry

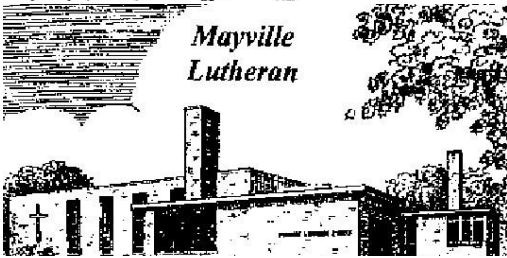




Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed.	Thurs	Fri	Sat
28 8:45am Gran Worship 9:45am Gran Sunday School 10:00am MLC Sunday School 10:30am MLC Worship	29	30 11:00am Staff Meeting	1	2	3	4
5 COMMUNION SUNDAY 8:45am Gran Worship 9:45am Gran Sunday School 10:00am MLC Sunday School 10:30am MLC Worship <u>Reader: Steve Bensen</u>	6	7 11:00am Staff Meeting	8 7:00pm at MLC Confirmand meeting for 9 th Graders & Parents for upcoming confirmation	9 10:00am Burial Service of Ann Rebecca Birkelo	10	11
12 8:45am Gran Worship 9:45am Gran Sunday School 10:00am MLC Sunday School 10:30am MLC Worship <u>Reader: Lauren Soine</u> KIDS SING at MLC 🎵 🎵	13 Pillow Case Ladies 8am-5pm in Son Room	14 11:00am Staff Meeting	15	16	17	18
19 COMMUNION SUNDAY 8:45am Gran Worship 9:45am Gran Sunday School 10:00am MLC Sunday School 10:30am MLC Worship <u>Reader: Nannette Bagstad</u>	20	21 11:00am Staff Meeting	22	23	24	25
26 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY @MLC 8:45am Gran Worship 9:45am Gran Sunday School 10:00am MLC Sunday School 10:30am MLC Worship <u>Reader: Sue Strand</u>	27 Deadline For the Branches	28 11:00am Staff Meeting	29	30	31	1

THE BRANCHES NEWSLETTER

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



PASTOR: Pastor Martin Avery

PARISH ADMIN: Richelle Mewes

PARISH EMAIL: maygranlutheranoffice@gmail.com

PARISH WEBSITE: mayvillegranlutheranchurch.com

Mayville Lutheran Church Council

Pres: Tami Parker

Richelle Mewes

Rae Nygord

Travis Kraft

Tresta Kunkle

MLC Treasurer: Jessica Bergerson

Gran Lutheran Church Council

Pres: Larry Hanson

Secretary: Paul Hanson

Treasurer: Megan Hanson

Assoc. Treasurer: Richard Peterson

SS Rep/SS Superintendent:

Julie Tillberg Pederson

Delegates to LMH:

Ina Paulson & Dorothy Grage



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

Mayville-Gran Churches are congregations of the ELCA.

The Rev. Elizabeth Presiding Bishop

Rev. Tessa Moon-Leiseth -Eastern ND Synod Bishop

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