



From the Pastor's Perspective

"They were filled with the Holy Spirit...." -Acts 2:4a

In 1738, Pentecost was on Sunday, May 21.

Charles Wesley (the hymn writer, the co-leader of the Methodist movement and John's younger brother) missed worship that morning. He intended to go, but he was sick. He had taken to bed at a friend's house a few days before. The next morning, Pentecost Sunday, his brother John and some friends stopped by the house hoping to pick Charles up on the way to worship. Yet Charles was too ill to go. So, John and the friends sang a hymn to the Holy Spirit and left Charles to rest.

Charles had been ill both in body and in spirit. He had been physically ill for a number of days (he was diagnosed with "pleurisy") and for treatment a doctor bled him and prescribed some medicines. He had also been ill in spirit. His circle of friends had been connected to the German Moravians in London who had told them that Christian salvation brings the gift of inner peace, with an assurance of pardon before God and of Christ's acceptance in love. Charles had been struggling with not feeling that spiritual peace and the inner confidence that Christ had embraced him personally. So along with bleeding and medicines, Charles added prayer, singing, reading the Bible, taking Holy Communion and reading from Martin Luther's commentary on Galatians.

After John and friends left for Sunday worship, Charles mysteriously heard a voice saying, "In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, arise, and believe, and thou shalt be healed of all thy infirmities" (Journal of Charles Wesley, Sun., May 21st, 1738). At first he doubted: "Still I felt a violent opposition and reluctance to believe; yet still the Spirit of God strove with my own and the evil spirit, till by degrees He chased away the darkness of my unbelief. I found myself convinced, I knew not how, nor when; and immediately fell into intercession. ...I now found myself at peace with God, and rejoiced in hope of loving Christ."

Pentecost came to John three days later. John had also been languishing under a desire to feel the inner peace and spiritual assurance of God's loving embrace. On that Wednesday he had a special experience while at a small group meeting with the Moravians on Aldersgate Street. According to Charles, "At eight I prayed by myself for love; with some feeling, and assurance of feeling more. Towards ten, my brother was brought in triumph by a troop of our friends, and declared, 'I believe.' We sang the hymn with great joy, and parted with prayer" (Journal, Wed., May 24th).

John more famously described this experience, saying, "I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death. ...I then testified openly to all there what I now first felt in my heart." (Journal of John Wesley, May 24th, 1738).

Although Pentecost was a minor Jewish festival, it became a major Christian celebration. On Pentecost, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit upon His followers (the story is told in Acts chapter 2). The Holy Spirit strangely warmed the hearts of the first disciples, giving them inner peace and confidence. The Spirit's coming on them so transformed them that from then on they boldly testified wherever they went to the goodness of God, the salvation of Jesus and the inner peace given by the Holy Spirit.

Pentecost changed Charles and John Wesley 1700 years later. From that time on the Wesleys' shared the love of God and the inner testimony of the Holy Spirit wherever they went. In fact, it launched the Methodist movement!

This year we celebrate Pentecost on Sun., May 24. If you desire to feel for yourself the loving embrace of Jesus, then like Charles and John Wesley, pray for the inner peace and assurance that only the Holy Spirit gives. Pray for your heart to be "strangely warmed" and to be at peace with God.

But you don't need to wait until May 24. If you have chosen Jesus, the Holy Spirit is already in you. We are already the people of Pentecost. You can feel His inner assurance today.

Be warned: the transforming inner blessing of the Holy Spirit becomes a spring welling up within you that you will need to share wherever you go. This blessing is for everyone!

Come, Holy Spirit! Burn in our hearts and push us to tell others boldly about Jesus!

Blessed Pentecost!
Pastor David

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Share Your Music in Worship This Summer!

Although special music enriches our worship year-round, summer offers a wonderful opportunity to share your musical passion in worship. Consider playing or singing (as a solo or group) special music before, during or after a worship service. Accompaniment can also be provided. If you are interested, please speak with Jim Klepper, Clancy Craven or Tom Burson.

Collecting Surplus and Gently Used School Supplies

As the school year ends, many families have extra school supplies that are still usable. Let's share them with children and teachers in Honduras. Beginning Sunday, May 3, Evangel will collect surplus and gently used school supplies through June 14. Donations will be delivered to Midwest Mission in Jeffers, Iowa, for shipment overseas. Schools in Honduras often lack funding for basic supplies. Students must provide their own materials, and many families cannot afford them. Your donations can help students learn and succeed. For more information, contact Bev Morgan or Pastor Stephanie. Thank you for helping make a lasting difference.

"Take-a-Hike" Begins May 7

Dig out and dust off your hiking boots! The first "Take-a-Hike" of the season will be Thursday, May 7, at 6:30pm at Quarry Hill Nature Center.

Please note that these hikes are not limited to paved paths. We will explore back trails with varying terrain and some steep sections. Come ready for a fun and active adventure!

Discover How You're Gifted to Serve

Have you ever wondered how God has uniquely equipped you to make a difference? Our Spiritual Gifts Inventory is a simple and meaningful way to discover the strengths God has placed within you. When you understand your gifts, you can serve with greater joy, confidence, and purpose—both within the church and beyond. We encourage you to take a few minutes this week to visit our church website and complete the Spiritual Gifts Inventory, located under the **Connect Groups** menu, or simply click: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory/en>. It's a small step that can lead to a deeper sense of calling and a more fulfilling way to connect, serve, and grow. Find your gifts. Find your place.

Financial Summary of Church Operations Through March 2026

Income from Church Congregational Giving	\$ 145,268
Other Operating Income	\$ 35,217
Total Income from Operations	\$ 180,485
Total Expense from Operations	\$ 182,332
Net Income/(Loss) from Operations	\$ (1,847)

Giving is on track – only 2% behind anticipated. Unexpected expense occurred this month -with a repair needed on the boiler and additional staff hours needed to cover a medical leave, but we are still under budget. Overall, finances are strong. Team has no concerns. For questions or for more information – contact Arlene Morris, Chair of the Finance Team, at vammorris@gmail.com.

Help Keep the Church Nursery Clean and Safe

Recently a few unwashed toys were found in the church Nursery rooms. To help keep the space organized, safe, and consistent for our little ones, we kindly ask that toys not be left in the nursery. We truly appreciate your understanding and support!

Ways We Worship Retreat May 15–17 (Fri–Sun)

Join the Confirmation Class for a unique weekend exploring how different faith communities worship. Participants will visit a variety of local houses of worship, followed by guided discussion and reflection sessions at Evangel. Together, we'll compare beliefs and practices while deepening our understanding of our own Christian faith.

Attend any or all portions of the weekend. This is an immersive opportunity for learning, discernment, and spiritual growth. For more information, please contact Pastor David.

Friday, May 15	
5pm	Orientation at Evangel
7pm	B'nai Israel Synagogue
Saturday, May 16	
8:30am	Orientation at Evangel
9:30am	Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
1pm	Watt Dhamma Visudhi Karam (Buddhist Temple)
3:30pm	Rochester Muslim Community Center & Mosque
8pm	Church of the Resurrection (Roman Catholic)
Sunday, May 17	
8am	Orientation at Evangel
9am	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
11am	Hindu Samaj Temple & Cultural Center
12:30pm	Jumpin' Jehosaphats Concert at Evangel

Missions Fundraiser: Jumpin' Jehosaphats Jazz Band Concert on Sunday, May 17

Enjoy an all-church lunch at 11:30am followed by the concert at 12:30pm. Join in to support the Evangel Missions Team with great music! **Check out page 10** for all the details!

United Methodist Women

Sewing Circle

Mondays throughout May in Room 223 at 1pm
(No meeting on Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day)

Women's Gathering

Thursday, May 21 at 1:00pm in the Lobby.
Pastor David bringing treats!

Women's Gathering Summer Plans

Faithful women of Evangel, this will be the last meeting before we take a break for the summer months. We will be resuming our meetings in the fall. Be on the lookout for our next meeting announcement in the August Reporter. Until then, have a great summer and we hope to see you in church through the summer.

BLESSINGS TO YOU ALL UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN - - With love and prayers from Susie O'Connell & Becky Pierce

ALL women are invited! Contact Becky Pierce with any questions at 507-289-6802

Join the Evangel Movie Group!

You're invited to join in for great films, food, and fellowship! Simply show up at the restaurant or theater for any of the upcoming showings below — no formal RSVP required. We'll go out for ice cream after each movie!

All movies will be shown at: Marcus Rochester Cinema | 4340 Maine Ave SE, Rochester, MN 55904

For questions or more details, please contact Reese Werner at dtwerner@msn.com

The Story of Everything

Sunday, May 3 | Movie at 7:30pm
No dinner

Animal Farm

Tuesday, May 5 | Movie at 7:10pm
Dinner at 6pm at Noodles & Co.

That They May Be One

Tuesday, May 19 | Movie at 6:45pm
Dinner at 5:30pm at Roosters Too

Office Closed On Monday, May 25

The church office will be closed in recognition of Memorial Day.

Graduation Sunday Is May 31

On Sunday, May 31 we will be praying over our graduates during worship. All graduates are invited to attend worship that day! Please let Pastor David know if you or anyone in our Evangel family is graduating from High School, college, other program or degree. "Be confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion!" (Phil. 1:6)

Prayer Is Powerful!

Paired Prayer Partners: A new way to pray for and with each other!

Prayer is the essential communication that grows us spiritually both as individuals and as a church. Would you be willing to be a prayer partner with someone else in our Evangel family? We would like to pair up people, families and/or households to pray for and with one another. Our plan is this:

1. Willing people/families will be paired up
2. Paired Prayer Partners are asked to connect (check in) with each other at least monthly to check in and get updated prayer requests
3. Prayer partners pray for their partners regularly during the month. This could be daily, weekly, or occasionally. Another idea is to find a time to pray out loud together once in a while as well.

If you are willing to be a Paired Prayer Partner, let Pastor David, Jeff Lansdowne or the church office know. If you have a preference for whom you could be paired, also share that. You will be notified of your prayer partner and provided resources for prayer. We hope to get this started in May!

Prayer Groups Praying for Our Church

Jeff Lansdowne is seeking to create a cadre of small, 2-3 member, prayer teams who will co-op praying for specific concerns that need faithful prayer. Jeff and church leadership will provide prayer needs to the groups. Jeff is confident: "I'm sure our church family will be excited about doing this." If you're willing to join a prayer group, please let Jeff Lansdowne,, Pastor David or the church office know.

Evangel's Ongoing Prayer Teams

1. Prayer Listing in the bulletin and weekly email distribution: Everyone is asked to pray over the listed prayer concerns and celebrations each week. Evangel relies on three ongoing prayer teams to support the prayer needs of our church family.
2. Email Prayer Chain: Receive occasional prayer needs by email and commit to pray over them.
3. Intercessory Prayer Team: Are available after worship to pray with those who are requesting prayer. If you are willing to serve on any of these prayer teams, please let the church office know.

Evangel’s “Over 90” Club: Jim Cooper



Jim Cooper joined Evangel’s distinguished “Over 90s Club” on April 10, 2026. Jim grew up in Burlington, IA. In high school, Jim was very interested in sports (football and track), and he had the distinction of placing 5th at state in the 440-yard sprint his Junior year. Jim began his life-long involvement in a local church while growing up. After high school Jim served in the US Army for 3 years, serving as an instructor in the Construction Surveying School at his base in VA. He then graduated from Iowa State University in Civil Engineering in 1961. Upon graduation he worked for the Iowa Natural Resources Council as a “Water Resources Engineer” in water regulation and flood planning. Jim married Pat, a girl from his home town, in 1963. (They still disagree at which club they met for the first time! But they both have always enjoyed playing cards.) They were involved in a Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, and they were also involved in the Campfire Program for Girls. In 1977 Jim took a job at the MN Department of Natural Resources in St. Paul in water management. They moved to Hastings, MN, and joined Hastings UMC. As Jim wanted to be more involved than just attending on Sundays, they became very involved in many ways.

They moved to Rochester in 1987 when Jim was made Regional Hydrologist over the 10-county area. They visited Evangel Church and found it friendly with good ministries and music. Jim has served on the Worship Committee, Trustees, Community Ministries and more recently the Mission Team. After retirement Jim took up the guitar, and Jim still leads singing and worship where he lives at Shorewood. Jim’s faith continues to anchor him in life. As he is facing many medical maladies, including aggressive cancer, Jim’s faith sustains his peace and joy. He easily shares that he is ready to die. Therefore, he can live fully each day, both seeing the joy God gives and also still serving in any way he can. He encourages others (especially youth) to get involved in a local church—and to get your family involved!—as it gives meaning and helps you live well. “Church adds so much meaning for us, it is hard to describe. We so miss it when we miss it!” Through prayer and asking God’s help, Jim explains, you will be able to get through whatever you are facing. When asked for advice to live by, Jim responds, “Answer your mail and return your phone calls!” Also, “Try to negotiate from a win-win perspective.” This Christian philosophy will help you relate well with others. Jim also says that the key to their 62-year (and counting!) marriage is their Christian faith - especially the practice of forgiveness! John 3:16 AND 17(!) are Jim’s favorite verses. Because God so loved the world and works to save the world, Jim tries every day to make the world a better place.

Planning Ahead! (Being ready to live fully.)

Evangel is hosting a 4-seminar series on being prepared to live fully as you age and having the peace of mind that comes from being ready for what life may bring. Seminars will be on Wednesdays throughout May (6, 13, 20 and 27) at 6:15pm in the Fireside Room. Come for a community dinner at 5pm and stay for the seminar!

Seminars:

5/6: “Make It Stop!” or “Spam, Scam & Illicit Marketing”

By Amanda Grayson of the Rochester Police Department.

How to be prepared for and respond to malicious, predatory and scamming contacts.

5/13: “Keep Giving” or “Legacy Giving”

By The Evangel Finance Team, Ellen Hegge from Rochester Area Foundation and Judith Wilson, local attorney

How to give out of wealth, resources, wills and estates to continue to support your ministry passions.

5/20: “When Is It Time for More (Care)?” or “When? Where? Cost? and Care?”

By Jim Miner of Plaza Realty and Doug Schommer of Visiting Angels.

How to discern when it is time to consider moving into housing and facilities that offer more care, for ourselves or for loved ones.

5/27: “Are You Ready?” or “End of Life Readiness”

By Jim Miner of Plaza Realty and Doug Schommer of Visiting Angels.

End of life legal plans, housing details, estate planning, medical policies, POAs, etc.



Jim Klepper, Director of Connections & Growth: jklepper@evangelum.org
Clancy Craven, Assoc. Dir. of Connections & Growth: ccraven@evangelum.org

Connections and Growth Calendar for May

Every Sunday	Sunday School for all ages at 9:30am
Every Sunday	Children’s Church at 8:30am and 10:30am
Every Sunday	Nursery open at 8:30am and 10:30am
Every Thursday	Bible Story Time for Good News Children’s Center kids at 9am
Sunday, May 3	Unite@ Garden Skate Park
Wednesday, May 6	Bible Story Time Concert at 5pm
Saturday, May 9	“Stamp Out Hunger” Food Collection Day
Sunday, May 10	Happy Mother’s Day!
Wednesday, May 13	Connections & Growth Team
Sunday, May 17	Last day of Sunday School
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day - Office Closed

Evangel Pre-K & Elementary GROW Curriculum – May



During the month of May, our Pre-K and elementary students will continue their Easter series, “Clue,” before beginning a new series on the Early Church titled “True Story.” Students will explore key biblical stories, including:

- Jesus on the Sea of Galilee •
- Jesus’ Ascension into Heaven •
- Peter’s Miraculous Escape •
- Paul and Silas •
- Paul & the Shipwreck •



Sunday School / All-Church Food Wall a Big Success!

Evangel’s recent food wall drive to support our neighbors at Zumbro Ridge Estates was a wonderful success. Over the course of six weeks, donations poured in until the three-tiered food wall nearly filled the lobby—a visible sign of God’s love at work through His people.

We estimate that approximately **\$4,000** was raised through donated food and financial contributions, with additional funds still coming in. Our goal is to reach a total of **\$4,500–\$5,000** in support for this year’s drive. On Monday, April 6, a group of Evangel volunteers transported the collected food to the Zumbro Ridge storage locker. Any additional donations received will be presented as a check moving forward. Thank you, Evangel family, for your generosity—and for encouraging your children to serve in a way that will help sustain a food shelf for **3–4 months**. Your support is deeply appreciated and truly impactful.



Connections & Growth Team Exploring Sunday Morning Schedule

This spring, the Evangel Connections & Growth Team will begin reviewing Sunday morning schedules for the upcoming school year. With slightly lower attendance in Pre-K and elementary programs this past year, we will thoughtfully consider a variety of options for worship, Sunday School, and Children's Church. Our goal is to ensure strong participation and meaningful connections for our children. We welcome your input! Please share any ideas or suggestions with Jim Klepper, Clancy Craven, or Holly Evans (Chair) – hollyevans77@yahoo.com. Every suggestion will be carefully considered.

Unite@ Garden Skate Park – Last Event of the Year!

Sunday, May 3 | 12:00–2:00 pm | FREE EVENT

Join Evangel Unite@ for our final event of the year as we head to the brand-new Garden Skate Park, just a mile from the church! Roller skates are available to rent, or feel free to bring your own gear. Not a skater? Relax while you enjoy a coffee, smoothie, or snack and enjoy fellowship with your church family. A free box lunch will be provided at Evangel at 11:45 am, or you can meet directly at the skate park at 12:00 pm (please note the rink opens at noon). For more details and to sign up, click: [Unite@GardenSkatePark](https://www.evangelum.org/Unite@GardenSkatePark)



Bible Story Time Year-End Concert on May 6

Evangel Connections & Growth has had a wonderful year sharing Bible Story Time with the children of the *Good News Children's Center*. Each week, volunteers joined Jim and Clancy to sing songs, pray, bring Bible stories to life on our oversized flannel board, and enjoy crafts together.

Approximately 25 children—many without a church home—have participated throughout the year. Now it's time to celebrate all they've learned!

Join in on Wednesday, May 6 at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary for our annual Bible Story Time Concert. The children have learned nearly 20 songs and are excited to share them with parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends. We anticipate a joyful gathering of 80–100 attendees.

The entire Evangel family is warmly invited to come support these children and celebrate this meaningful ministry. A reception will follow in the lobby.

Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive On May 9

After three impactful years of Evangel's *Feed the Need Community Food Wall*—raising over **\$50,000** in food for The Salvation Army—we're embracing a time-tested community effort to continue supporting those in need.

On **Saturday, May 9**, households are invited to gather nonperishable food items and leave them out for postal carriers to collect as part of the nationwide *Stamp Out Hunger* food drive. Volunteers from Evangel and The Salvation Army—with support from Schmidt Goodman—will then transport donations from local post offices to the Salvation Army food pantry and storage facilities. We will need an "army" of volunteers to help lift, load, sort, and deliver food. Multiple shifts are available throughout the day. To sign up, please contact Jim Klepper at jklepper@evangelum.org.

Last Day of Sunday School & End-of-Year Celebration – May 17

What a wonderful year of Sunday School it has been! Everyone is invited to join us on Sunday, May 17, as we celebrate and give thanks for our dedicated Sunday School teachers (see roster below).

Join in for a meal at 11:30am in the Multi-Purpose Room, followed by the *Jumpin' Jehosaphats* fundraising concert in the Sanctuary at 12:30pm in support of the Evangel Missions Team. See page 10 for additional concert details. It will be a fun and joyful way to wrap up the year together. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Sunday School Teachers for 2025–2026

Kinder./Grades 1–2: Leon & Linda Gregg
Grades 3–5: Leslie Clark, David Linden & Jerry Norman
Grades 6–8: Laura Albrecht & Amy Klepper
Senior High: Randy Albrecht, Mike Craven, Amanda Ellenbaum & Amy Johnson
The Jesus Series: Brandon & Reanna Elizalde
Upper Room Study: Pastor Susie O'Connell
Teacher Floats: Mark Clark & Wendy Norman
Youth Leadership: Mandi Ellenbaum, Lane & Anita Hermanson, Jim Klepper, Peter Kroneman & Pastor David
Substitutes: Holly Evans, Trynda Kronaman & Jane Vaaler

A special thank you as well to all the parents who support Parent's Café, along with the guest speakers and rotating hosts for the Drop-In class.

Nearly 400 Kids Registered for Mega Kids Camp – Volunteers Needed!

With a goal of reaching **500 campers**, we are in need of volunteers to help make this life-changing week possible. Whether you can serve for a few hours or the entire week, your help is needed and deeply appreciated. Mega Kids Camp has a powerful impact on the lives of children each year, and we continue to see more and more kids come to know Jesus. **There are (3) ways to volunteer:**

1. Click: [MegaCampVolunteerSignup](https://www.evangelum.org/MegaCampVolunteerSignup)
2. Email Jim Klepper at jklepper@evangelum.org OR Clancy Craven at ccraven@evangelum.org
3. Call the Evangel office at (507) 289-4817

Brooklyn Center UMC Returning for Mega Kids Camp!

We're excited to share that for the second year in a row, Brooklyn Center United Methodist Church will be joining us to serve at Mega Kids Camp—hallelujah! We are also in conversation with another Rochester church & a mission team organization. Please pray for continued success as we seek additional volunteers to support this ministry.

Kids Had an Egg-celent Time at Evangel's Annual Easter Hunt on April 4



EvangelCares Update

"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." — Philippians 2:4
"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." — John 13:35

In our first 2 months, EvangelCares had 17 requests for over 15 volunteer hours. Requests have come from the following areas: transportation, yard work, handy helpers, and connections with the church. We need at least 30 more volunteers to fulfill current ongoing requests and to grow our program. We need you! Please consider signing up via this link: [Become an EvangelCares Volunteer](#)



There are 3 ways to request help:

- Click: [Evangel Cares Needs Form](#)
- Complete a request form at the church information center.
- Contact the EvangelCares coordinator (see below).
- Please allow for at least a 1-week turnaround time.



If you have questions, feel free to contact Roger or Janet Guderian. We'd love to explain what we offer and to answer any questions that you have.

EvangelCares Coordinator: evangelcares@evangelum.org; 507-910-3230;
Roger Guderian: guderian.roger@gmail.com; 507-254-1432 |
Janet Guderian: guderian.janet@gmail.com; 507-269-0653

Resounding Voices Spring Concert

The Resounding Voices Chorus celebrates the gifts of people living with mild memory impairment or dementia through the power of music. Since 2017, this 50-member group has brought joy, connection, and encouragement to many. Evangel member Jean Vrieze invites you to their Spring Concert on Saturday, May 16 at 3:00pm at Calvary Evangelical Free Church (5500 25th St NW, Rochester MN 55901). Admission: \$10

National Day of Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, May 7, 2026. Breakfast begins at 7:20am, followed by the program at 8am. The event will take place at the Hilton, J. Powers, located at 10 Center Street in Rochester, MN. Tickets can be purchased at www.riverchurchrochestermn.com.

Rochester Area Clergy Breakfast

Byron UMC is hosting UMC Global Missionary Lorraine Charinda on Tuesday, May 5. Lorraine serves in mission through agricultural development and training across Africa, including at Kamisamba Farm in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This is the same farm Byron UMC partnered with last fall to help install solar batteries for a dry-season irrigation system. Lorraine will share her story and explain how Kamisamba Farm began, as well as how it is transforming lives in the region. Everyone is invited! Please bring a dish to share for the potluck supper at 5:30pm.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

Every Wednesday at 5pm in the Dinette

All meals come with dessert!

Menu for May and June

- MAY 6** Chicken Tenders, Tator Tots
- MAY 13** Pizza, Salad
- MAY 20** Baked Potato Bar
- MAY 27** Hot Dogs, Chili Dogs, Baked Beans, Chips
- JUNE 3** Taco Bar (last meal of the season)

CROSSFIRE NEWS

Stephanie Mettler, Youth Minister
507-289-4817; smettler@evangelum.org

Hello, church family!

DISCIPLINOW: ON THE WAY

Our youth retreat this past weekend was wonderful. While it took plenty of planning, the most meaningful moments often come through unscripted conversations and unexpected interactions—and I'm sure that was true throughout this retreat.

What meant the most to me was seeing our youth surrounded by the love and support of our church community all weekend long.

- **TRUSTEES** came to lead projects and serve alongside our youth.
- **MEAL TEAMS** prepared food, then stayed to eat, talk, and even hike with us.
- **SMALL GROUP LEADERS** were a true gift to our students. God provided exactly the right people to lead conversations this weekend.
- **OTHERS** (pictured below) joined us for a night game with the youth—or perhaps more accurately, *against* the youth!

Thank you all so much!

I am so proud of who our youth are and who they are becoming. For example:

- I had the joy of watching them serve for hours with glad hearts and without complaint. When our service time ended, several even asked if we could keep going. Our youth are discovering their places to serve God's world and our community, and we thank God for that.
- They embraced each activity as it came, without needing to know what was next, simply enjoying the rhythm of the weekend.
- It was wonderful to see youth and adults interacting so naturally and courageously. Intergenerational relationships take intention, but they can also grow beautifully when we make space for them. Our church family loves one another, and we are truly blessed.

Youth Calendar
Sunday School: Every Sunday
 from 9:30–10:25am
 (Last day of Sunday School is May 17!)
 Friday, May 15
 Mini Golf at Blue Lagoon at 7pm

SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH

If you would like to show your support for our youth, you can do so visibly by wearing our blue retreat shirts. If you weren't part of the weekend and don't already have one, I have extras available—and we would love to see a sea of blue around here! Stay tuned for more opportunities to support our youth as our summer mission trips approach: our June Virginia trip and our July in-town mission week.

- Stephanie



Mission Team Update

The Mission Team met on April 8, 2026. Disbursement to Rev. Judith Gami in Sierra Leone was approved. We also discussed the details for the May 17 Jumpin' Jehosaphats concert (see flyer below for details!). A free will collection will be taken at the concert to benefit the Evangel Missions 2nd Mile Giving Fund.



You Can Give to the General Mission Fund By:

1. CHECK: Write 2nd Mile Gift on the memo line and turn it into the Church Office or place in the Sunday offering.
2. ONLINE: Click [Give \(elexiogiving.com\)](http://Give.elexiogiving.com) and select Missions—2nd Mile.
3. QR Code: Scan this QR code with your cellphone and select Missions—2nd Mile.

The Missions Team, with the guidance of Church Council, will distribute the funding.

The Mission Team will meet on Wednesday May 13, 2026, at 4:00pm in the Fireside Room. Zoom will be available. If you have questions, ideas or want to be involved, contact any member of the Mission Team: Becky Pierce, Bev Morgan, Linda Gregg, Evie Ellenbaum, Carol Madsen, Colleen Stacey, Roger Guderian, or Pastor David Werner.

MISSIONS FUNDRAISER:

Jumpin' Jazz Band Jehosaphats CONCERT

SUNDAY,
MAY 17



Listen, relax and enjoy the music, all while doing good!



Brought to you by
the Evangel Missions Team



FREE ADMISSION – but donations are hoped for.
Funds raised will go to the Evangel's Missions Team.



11:45am
Meal in the
Multi-purpose Room



12:30p
Concert in
the Sanctuary

GRIEF & LOSS 6-WEEK SUPPORT GROUP

A confidential, Christ-centered space to share,
find support, and begin the healing journey.



**BEGINS
APRIL 30**
Thursdays for
6 weeks



TWO IDENTICAL TIMES
10:00–11:30 a.m.
or 6:00–7:30 p.m.
Choose one time for all 6 weeks.



REGISTER BY APRIL 27
Contact Kathy Zarling (507-398-7036)
or the church office (507-289-5147)
so we can prepare materials for you.

*Hope.
Healing.
Together.*



869 7th Avenue SE, Rochester, MN

You don't have to walk this road alone.

May 2026 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					11a - Older Folders	10a - Refresh Women's Retreat
3	4	5	6	7 Nat'l Day of Prayer	8	9
8:15a - Prayer for Worship 8:30a - Traditional Service 9:30a - Sunday School and Drop-In class 10:30a - Contemporary Service 11:45a - Hospitality Team 12p - Unite@ Garden Skate Park 7:30p - Evangel Movie Group	1p - Sewing Circle	6:30p - SPR Team 6:10p - Evangel Movie Group at Marcus Cinema	5p - Wed. Night Meal 5p - Bible Storytime Concert 6:15p - Planning Ahead Seminar 6:15p - Board Games 6:15p - Confirmation 6:15p - Praise Team	6p - Meal hosting at Dorothy Day House 6p - "Who Is this Man?" 6:30p - "Take a Hike" at Quarry Hill 7p - Choir	11a - Older Folders	Stamp Out Hunger Food Collection Day
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:15a - Prayer for Worship 8:30a - Traditional Service 9:30a - Sunday School and Drop-In class 10:30a - Contemporary Service	1p - Sewing Circle	6:15p - Praise Team 7p - Trustees	4p - Missions Team 5p - Wed. Night Meal 6:15p - Planning Ahead Seminar 6:15p - Board Games 6:15p - Confirmation	6p - "Who Is this Man?" 7p - Choir	11a - Older Folders 7p - Minigolf at Blue Lagoon	Ways We Worship Retreat
17 Last Day of Sunday School	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:15a - Prayer for Worship 8:30a - Traditional Service 9:30a - Sunday School and Drop-In class 10:30a - Contemporary Service 11:30a - All Church Lunch 12:30p - Jumpin Jehosaphats Concert	1p - Sewing Circle 6:30p - Church Council	6:45p - Evangel Movie Group at Marcus Cinema	5p - Wed. Night Meal 6:15p - Planning Ahead Seminar 6:15p - Board Games 6:15p - Confirmation 6:15p - Praise Team	1p - Women's Gathering 6p - "Who Is this Man?" 7p - Choir	11a - Older Folders	Ways We Worship Retreat
24 Pentecost	25 Church Closed	26	27	28	29	30
8:15a - Prayer for Worship 8:30a - Traditional Service 9:30a - Drop-In class 10:30a - Contemporary Service	Memorial Day		5p - Wed. Night Meal 6:15p - Planning Ahead Seminar 6:15p - Board Games 6:15p - Confirmation 6:15p - Praise Team	7p - Choir	11a - Older Folders	
31 Graduation Sunday						
8:15a - Prayer for Worship 8:30a - Traditional Service 9:30a - Drop-In class 10:30a - Contemporary Service 11:45a - Youth Leadership Team						

Evangel United Methodist Church
2645 North Broadway
Rochester, MN 55906

(Address Service Requested)

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30am - Traditional Service

9:30am - Sunday School for kids & adults
(Last day of Sunday School is May 17)

10:30am - Contemporary Service

(Children's Church offered at both services)



Wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here!