

## From the Pastor's Perspective

### Worship Plus Two

*"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." -Galatians 5:22-23*

In September we get to enjoy so many good foods from the garden: fresh veggies, melons, sweet corn, grapes, winter squash, apples, pumpkins and so much more! It's harvest time in Minnesota!

It's harvest time in our spiritual lives, too. Jesus uses the image of how we are to stay connected to Him and be fruit-bearing branches: "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit." (John 15:5)

The purpose of fruit is to pass on the new life from the vine (seeds). The fruit the plant produces only benefits others. What a re-visioning of the purpose of our discipleship! The fruit God wants us to produce is to share His blessings with others. The Bible talks about it in terms of spiritual fruit, or fruit of the [Holy] Spirit. God is excited about the harvest of our fruit so that the blessing is shared.

We are each branches in the God's garden! We are called to grow spiritually, in order to bear better (sweeter!) fruit. That means we need to "tend" to our spiritual lives, both growing closer to God (works of piety) and bearing fruit that blesses others (works of mercy).

So, as we are in this season of harvest, I call us to tend to our spiritual fruit-bearing. I suggest trying the "Worship Plus Two" discipleship pattern. We become better fruit-bearing disciples with a "W+2" cadence. That means each week or two, engage in three acts:

- **Worship.** Attend corporate worship, and in person when you can. There is no substitute for this. We engage God not as individuals, but as a community. If we are in town, commit to being in worship in person!
- "Plus two." This means doing two additional activities. One is to do something that intentionally helps you grow personally closer to God ("**one for you**"). Engage in personal devotions. Go to a Christian concert. Attend an online conference. Participate in a small group (new small groups are beginning this month - see the Connect Group Brochure coming out on Kickoff Sunday!).
- The other is to do something that intentionally helps someone else ("**one for someone else**"). Serve in some way. There are tons of opportunities available through our church. You can also do this on your own: volunteer an afternoon somewhere, mentor a student, go pick up trash along the road.

Worship Plus Two. One for God, one for you, one for someone else. Love God. Love Others. Serve as Christ's Hands and Feet. Choose the Jesus Way! This is the cadence that leads to spiritual growth.

Next time you get excited about fresh garden produce, think about how God gets excited about the fruit of His people. Let's commit to "W+2," and to producing good fruit!

Pastor David

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## Dear Evangel Congregation,

As we prepare our Sunday School curriculum for the coming year, we think of the Evangel with fond gratitude. The large number of amazing puppets (you so graciously gifted) will provide a wonderful platform of faith & fun for our youth. We look forward to using the puppets both in learning & in opportunities of service. Your thoughtfulness & generosity are greatly appreciated. Thank you so much! - *Pastor Jill Diana, United Methodist Church of Caledonia*

## Office Closed on Labor Day

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 7, in observance of Labor Day. We pray you have a safe, restful, and blessed holiday with family and friends!

## New Folding Chairs Have Arrived – Old Ones Need to Go!

The old metal folding chairs are available for a requested \$5 donation each. If you're interested, please contact the church office or James White ASAP. **Must provide your own transportation for chairs.**

## Women of God – Walking It Out

**Tuesdays at 1pm • Fireside Room • August 25–September 22**

Ladies, you are invited to participate in a five-week journey through the lives of five women in Scripture. Each week will include a Bible study, discussion, prayer, and encouragement to help you grow in your walk with Christ. Come grow in faith and friendship! Contact Kay Hess or Cyndy Tischer to sign up.

## Financial Summary of Church Operations through July 2026

|                                          |                    |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Income from Church Congregational Giving | \$ 324,299         |
| Other Operating Income                   | \$ 96,772          |
| Total Income from Operations             | \$ 421,071         |
| Total Expense from Operations            | \$ 435,969         |
| Net Income/(Loss) from Operations        | <b>\$(-14,898)</b> |

Giving for the month is right on budget. We are blessed by the generosity of our church family! Year-to-date, we are operating at a net loss of -\$14,898. This was anticipated and the finance team is watching the budget closely and will make adjustments if needed.

For questions or more information, contact Arlene Morris, Chair of the Finance Team, at [vammorris@gmail.com](mailto:vammorris@gmail.com).

## Sewing Circle Calendar for September

**Monday, September 7 - No Meeting (Labor Day)**

**Monday, September 14 - 9am in Room 223**

**Monday, September 21 - 1pm in Room 223**

**Monday, September 28 - 1pm in Room 223**

## Come Ring with Us - Handbells Return this Fall!

Starting September 9, handbell practice will be on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm in Room 223. If you are interested or want to join, contact Anita Hermanson at 507-254-5724; [ahrmnsn@msn.com](mailto:ahrmnsn@msn.com) (email).

## The Choir Resumes This Month!

Choir rehearsals begin Thurs., Sept. 10, at 7pm in the Sanctuary. The choir will sing for the first time this season on Kickoff Sunday, Sept. 13, during the 9:30am worship service (just one service that day). New singers and ALL AGES welcome to join! For more information, contact Choir Director Pam Wright at [pkowright@gmail.com](mailto:pkowright@gmail.com); 507-358-7550.

## Connect Group Brochure Coming on Kickoff Sunday

The Connect Group brochure will list opportunities for you to engage in the "Worship+2" experiences with others of our church family. Small groups are a key way to grow spiritually and to be a compounding blessing to others. For sure, keep doing devotions and acts of service on your own. Yet also "level up" by choosing from one of the offerings to engage with others to grow spiritually. Sign up online (link coming soon) or call the church office. We commit to grow spiritually by doing "Worship +2" together!



## Women's Gathering

**Thursday, September 17 • 1:00 PM • Lobby**

After a summer break, we're excited to resume our monthly gatherings of sharing, devotions, and prayer. All Evangel women are invited to join in! This month, we'll welcome a special guest, Cora Parker, a new member at Evangel. Cora will share her story and give us a presentation on "clowning." Come welcome Cora, hear her story, and learn all about this unique and fun art form! We hope to see you there!



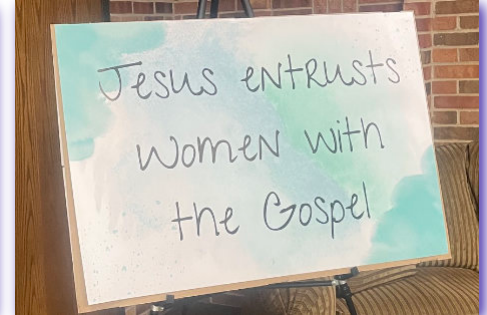
## Confirmation Sunday: A Celebration of Faith and Commitment

On Sunday, August 23, our congregation celebrated Confirmation Sunday as we welcomed and blessed our confirmands, Tate Hull, Emma Norman & Clarissa Kroening, in a meaningful service of faith, fellowship, and celebration.



## Women of God: A Joyful Day of Fellowship

On Saturday, August 22, 34 women gathered for a special Women's Conference filled with fellowship, encouragement, worship, and celebration. It was a beautiful day of connecting with one another and growing together in faith.



## Evangel's "Over 90" Club: Dianne Anderson



Dianne Andersen joined Evangel's Over 90 Club on Jan. 16, 2022.

She grew up in various towns in Wisconsin. During WWII Dianne's father helped launch new submarines into Lake Michigan at Manitowoc, and Dianne distinctly remembers watching how they were launched sideways into the Manitowoc River! After the war her father continued to manage chain stores in various towns. After graduating high school, Dianne worked in hospitals, running outpatient departments that offered programs for veterans and others recovering from long-term physical and mental conditions.

She met her husband, Robert, who as a veteran was receiving treatment at her hospital. He happened to be living on the same street as her father, and he even shopped at her father's store! They got married in 1951, when Dianne was just 19. Robert worked for her father traveling to various chain stores, and he also worked for her brother as a cabinet maker. He died after they had been married for only 24 years, from complications resulting from his military service.

They had three children together. Their two daughters and families both still live in Milwaukee, but their son lives in the Twin Cities. His handicap prohibits him from traveling and visiting Dianne. Each of her children have two children, a son and daughter each. Dianne also has two great-grandchildren.

After Dianne retired from the hospitals, she moved to Rochester to be near her two sisters. She started attending Evangel and joined as a Professing Member in 2015.

When reflecting on how she got married at a young age to a husband with complicating issues, Dianne advises young people to wait a bit before getting married. No need to rush into it! "It can be more difficult at first than you expect, and it is harder than you think." She says that it was her faith that carried her. "Faith is important. We don't understand everything, and we don't know what will happen." Her faith in God is how we can keep going, even when things are hard.

Dianne is currently on hospice at Samaritan Bethany. When Pastor David interviewed her for this article, she was bedridden & holding onto her call button. She reflected: your faith is like this call button. "When I need help, I press this. When I need God's help, I pray." And God's help, she commented with a wry smile, comes much faster than some of these aids!

Jim Klepper, Director of Connections & Growth: [jklepper@evangelum.org](mailto:jklepper@evangelum.org)  
 Clancy Craven, Assoc. Dir. of Connections & Growth: [ccraven@evangelum.org](mailto:ccraven@evangelum.org)

## Connections and Growth Calendar for June

|                         |                                                                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Every Sunday            | Children's Church at 8:30am and 10:30am (children excused during service) |
| Every Sunday            | Nursery open at 8:30am and 10:30am                                        |
| Wednesday, September 2  | Connections & Growth Team @ 4:30pm                                        |
| Friday, September 11    | Youth Kickoff Night                                                       |
| Sunday, September 13    | Kickoff Sunday "The Jesus Way" at 9:30am                                  |
| Sunday, September 13    | Unite@ Lark Toys in Kellogg, MN                                           |
| Wednesday, September 16 | Connections and Growth Team @ 4:30pm                                      |
| Sunday, September 20    | First Day of Sunday School                                                |
| Sunday, October 4       | NEW The Great Fall Get-together (replacing Trunk or Treat)                |

## Evangel Children's Church Moves into Fall!

- **Topic: Moses**
- **Scripture: Old Testament**
- **Age Group: Preschool–Grade 5**

Each season—fall, winter, spring, and summer—brings something unique and wonderful. From leaves changing colors to flowers blooming and animals hibernating, the changing seasons remind us that, no matter what, God is with us through it all.



## New Class Configurations Coming This Fall!

Our Connections & Growth Team has been thoughtfully reviewing the current class structure for our Sunday School program. To better meet the developmental needs of our children while creating healthy group sizes and opportunities for meaningful peer connection, we're excited to introduce new class configurations beginning this fall:

**Pre-Kindergarten—Grade 1 • Grades 2—5 • Grades 6—8 • Grades 9—12 • Adults**

These changes are designed to provide age-appropriate learning environments while continuing to foster community, connection, and spiritual growth. More details will be shared in a special letter to the Evangel church family this fall. Stay tuned!

## Sunday School Teachers for 2026-27

If you are interested in becoming a Sunday School Teacher, talk to Jim or Clancy. With curriculum, training & support provided, teaching Sunday School is a rewarding and stress-free way to make a difference in the lives of our children! Check out our awesome roster so far!

| Class            | Teachers                                                                                      | Room                  |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pre. K-Grade 1   | Linda and Leon Gregg                                                                          | <b>130</b>            |
| Grades 2-5       | Jerry & Wendy Norman and Mark Clark                                                           | 224                   |
| Grades 6-8       | Laura Albrecht & Amy Klepper                                                                  | 132                   |
| Grades 9-12      | Randy Albrecht, Mike Craven,<br>Mandi Ellenbaum & Amy Johnson                                 | 131 (Youth Room)      |
| Parent Café      | Rotating Teachers                                                                             | Dinette               |
| "One Another"    | Rand & Amanda Fletcher                                                                        | 212 (Pastor's Office) |
| Upper Room Group | Susie O'Connell                                                                               | 221 (Fireside)        |
| Drop-In Class    | Rotating Teachers                                                                             | 223                   |
| Subs             | Holly Evans, Trynda Kroneman, Jane Vaaler,<br>Lori Henrichs, Jennifer Krieger & Lyric Krieger |                       |

## Kickoff Sunday on September 13 —One Service Only at 9:30am

Join in for a special intergenerational worship service on Sunday, September 13, as we kickoff our fall programming and Sunday School year! Our theme this year, "We Choose the Jesus Way," continues our vision to be a church that follows Jesus above all.

When we choose the Jesus Way, we choose the way of humility, the way of mercy and justice, and the way of love—a way that transforms us in the most beautiful ways.

This will be a day filled with joy, love, worship, and togetherness as we invite the entire Evangel church family and our friends to celebrate the beginning of a new season.

It will be a time to reconnect after the summer and celebrate together, with music from our Praise Band and Choir, object lessons, visuals, skits, singing, and a few surprises—including a 2026 Evangel "Kickoff" Sunday T-shirt featuring our theme, "**We Choose the Jesus Way.**"

Following worship, head outside to the south parking lot for a grill-out and activities for all ages, including Inflatable games and a roller-skating/scooter area. Bring your skates, boards, or scooters—or borrow one from us!

To top it all off, we'll carpool to Kellogg, MN, to explore Lark Toys. (See the article below for more details.)

One Service. One Church Family. One Big Celebration.

### NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR CHILDREN'S CHURCH ON KICKOFF SUNDAY

Bring your family and friends. Come celebrate. Let's kick off a new season of spiritual growth, connection, and intergenerational joy! We can't wait to celebrate this incredible day with YOU!

Be sure to check out the poster on **PAGE 6**

### Unite@ Lark Toys in Kellogg, MN

**Sunday, September 13 | 1–4pm | Cost: \$8**

**Meet at Evangel at 12pm to carpool**

After the Kickoff Sunday meal and activities, join in for an adventure to Lark Toys! Enjoy 18 holes of mini golf, explore their amazing toy and book store, indulge in famous ice cream and fudge, and ride one of the world's most unique hand-carved wooden carousels. We'll carpool from Evangel at 12pm, or you can meet us there. To sign up, click this link: [Unite@ Lark Toys Wabasha MN](#). Questions or need assistance signing up? Talk to Mike in the Office.



## Sunday School Starts Sunday, September 20!

We're excited to announce that Sunday School returns Sunday, September 20! Details about classroom locations, teacher assignments, and class schedules will be included in a separate mailing. Keep an eye on your mailbox for more information!

## New for 2026–2027: Partnering with Parents

We believe parents are the primary spiritual leaders in their children's lives. This year we're strengthening that partnership by providing:

- Regular updates about what children are learning and why it matters
- Weekly family devotionals that reinforce each Sunday's lesson
- Take-home discussion questions and conversation starters to encourage faith-filled conversations at home.

## Safe Sanctuaries Training

Evangel staff and the Staff-Parish Relations Team have recently completed a thorough review and update of our Safe Sanctuaries policy. Soon, Safe Sanctuaries training will be offered both in person and online. All volunteers who work with children, youth, or vulnerable adults are required to complete the training.

Evangel is committed to being a Safe Sanctuaries church and to providing a safe, welcoming, and nurturing environment for everyone. For more information, copies of Evangel's Safe Sanctuaries policy are available at the Welcome Center. Additional information about training opportunities will be shared this fall.



**EVANGEL**  
WE CHOOSE THE JESUS WAY

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2026**

- 9:30 AM Worship in the sanctuary  
 10:30 AM Lunch in the south parking lot (inside if rain)  
 11:00 AM Games, inflatables, scooters, & more!  
 1:00 PM Unite@ Lark Toys (leave Evangel at 12pm)

**JESUS IS THE WAY —**  
**WHEN WE CHOOSE JESUS, WE CHOOSE...**

...THE WAY OF HUMILITY & SERVICE...  
 ...THE WAY OF JUSTICE AND MERCY...

...THE WAY OF LOVE...

...THE WAY TO TRANSFORMATION (CHANGE)

**KICKOFF**  
**SUNDAY!**



**THE MORNING WILL INCLUDE:**

- Good News Praise Band & Senior Choir
- Large object lessons, skits & laughs!
- Meet the Sunday School teachers
- "Jesus Way" memory souvenirs
- Stunning Multimedia & Stage Set
- Everybody gets a "Jesus Way" t-shirt
- Lunch from the Evangel Kitchen Crew
- Unite@ Lark Toys in Kellogg, MN for mini-golf, fudge, carousel & more
- Our church family & friends together!

**FUN**  
**FOR ALL**  
**AGES!**

BRING YOUR FAMILY  
 & INVITE YOUR  
 FRIENDS!



FOLLOWING JESUS IS NOT ABSTRACT...

**HE'S THE LIVING PATH.**

**COME JOIN US**  
**ON THE JESUS WAY!**

## Sunday Morning Schedule (2026–2027)

### Sunday School Hour: 9:30–10:25 AM

This independent Sunday School hour is designed to strengthen our focus on discipleship for all ages—children, youth, and adults—and to reflect the heart and history of Evangel Sunday School.

Benefits of the Independent Sunday School Hour

- Families can worship together at the time and style of their choice.
- Sunday School meets at a time when families are most likely to attend church.
- Teachers have fewer scheduling conflicts with choir, praise team, and other worship roles.
- Expanded adult education opportunities allow adults to attend classes while children and youth participate in age-appropriate groups.
- A renewed focus on discipleship provides meaningful opportunities for spiritual growth at every age.

With spiritual growth opportunities for all ages, Sunday mornings at Evangel will be filled with life, energy, and purpose! Come grow with us—and be part of a vibrant and dynamic Sunday morning at Evangel!

## GROW Curriculum Back for Year 3 in Preschool & Elementary Sunday School!

We're excited to announce that our fun and faith-filled GROW Curriculum is back for a third year in Evangel's Preschool and Elementary Sunday School!

### What Is GROW?

GROW is a nondenominational curriculum currently used by more than 6,000 churches. It is designed to be both theologically sound and developmentally appropriate, engaging children at their unique age levels while supporting churches in teaching, discipleship, and ministry planning. GROW aligns well with Evangel's mission and purpose, offering a strategic and creative approach to ministry that is Biblically rich, engaging, and fun!

### The Six Core Focus Areas of GROW

- Discipleship — Moving beyond information to help children put faith into practice.
- Teaching — Making learning more than a lesson by creating a meaningful experience.
- Environment — Creating spaces where every child feels loved, welcomed, and valued.
- Events — Doing fewer things, but making them more meaningful and impactful.
- Families — Building trust and partnership with families.
- Volunteers — Focusing our time and energy on what matters most.

### How GROW Works

Each Sunday, elementary students will begin in Room 224 with a 10-minute **large-group** opening led by Jim Klepper and Clancy Craven, with support from our incredible Evangel Youth Team. Large-group time will include:

- Monthly themed room decorations
- High-energy music videos
- Object lessons
- interactive activities
- Engaging weekly Bible story videos

Following the large-group opening, children will move to age-specific classrooms for **small-group** learning with their Sunday School teachers. This year, small-group time has been expanded to allow for deeper engagement and connection. Each session will reinforce the week's Bible story through:

- Discussion and reflection
- Activities and object lessons
- Personal stories
- Group prayer

### Why GROW Is a Good Fit for Evangel

GROW supports two areas that Evangel Connections & Growth has identified as especially important to children's spiritual development:

- Intergenerational Connection
- At-Home Discipleship

These priorities are supported by research from Barna and reflect our commitment to meeting the needs of today's children and families. Look for a detailed email to parents in early September with classroom assignments, teacher introductions, and additional information. We're looking forward to another great year of learning, growing, and following Jesus together!

## Fresh Farm Shares at Evangel

Beginning this fall, SE MN Food Rescue and Evangel are partnering to bring fresh, locally grown Farm Shares to the community on the second Saturday of each month. For \$37, households can purchase a share featuring seasonal produce, farm-fresh eggs when available, and local favorites such as fresh bread and pasta. You can also give a \$37 share to a neighbor or family in need, or sponsor multiple shares for community distribution. Advance registration is required, and the first distribution will be Saturday, September 12, 2026. Learn more at <https://www.mnfoodrescue.org/> or email [info@mnfoodrescue.org](mailto:info@mnfoodrescue.org).



For the past 15 years, Evangel's Trunk or Treat has been an incredible way to welcome our community to our church. In 2025, we experienced our largest Trunk or Treat ever, with thousands of people attending—and many more trying to get in! Traffic was backed up almost to Silver Lake.

**So why change something that has been so successful?**

**Because this year, we believe we can do something even more meaningful!**

The Connections & Growth Team is excited to introduce **The Great Fall Get-Together**, a new approach to our fall outreach. While Trunk or Treat focused primarily on collecting candy, our new event is designed around relationships, community, & care. The Great Fall Get Together will still have many of the things our community loves. There will be games, a petting zoo, first responders, crafts, food, and plenty of fun. We'll also have community bingo, breakout dancing, and an Evangel information booth.

**But there's a bigger purpose behind the afternoon.**

We want to create intentional opportunities for Evangel members & guests to connect with one another. Rather than simply moving from trunk to trunk, we want people to slow down, have conversations, enjoy a meal together, & experience the warmth of our church family. We also want our guests to have opportunities to bless others in our community. During the event, we'll have several! Here are a few community-care projects we hope to make this fall outreach different:

- **Blessing Boards** that will be created and delivered to local compassion ministries.
- **A food collection** to support local food pantries.
- **Make-It/Take-It Crafts**, where guests can make one craft for themselves and another to be delivered to organizations such as Ronald McDonald House or Jeremiah House.

Here's a comparison of Trunk or Treat and The Great Fall Get-Together to highlight the similarities and differences between our fall outreach ministries:

| TRUNK OR TREAT                       | THE GREAT FALL GET-TOGETHER                                   |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gather church and community          | Gather church and community                                   |
| Transactional model                  | Relational model                                              |
| Emphasis on collecting candy         | Emphasis on relationships and community care                  |
| Significant resources spent on candy | Significant resources directed toward community care          |
| Free hot dog meal                    | Free tacos-in-a-bag meal                                      |
| Some compassion ministries invited   | Multiple compassion ministries involved                       |
| Individual games at trunks           | Group games and activities throughout the event               |
| Petting zoo                          | Petting zoo                                                   |
| First responders                     | First responders                                              |
|                                      | Community Bingo                                               |
|                                      | Break-out dancing                                             |
|                                      | Evangel information booth                                     |
|                                      | Multiple community crafts                                     |
|                                      | Intentional relationship-building                             |
|                                      | Volunteer training to help us make the most of the experience |



We are excited to be on what we believe is the front edge of a new kind of church-based community outreach. Trunk or Treat has been a wonderful part of Evangel's story, and we are grateful for the many lives it has touched. Now we're ready to take the next step.

An event like this takes all of us. **We will need volunteers** to welcome guests, serve food, lead games and crafts, help with community-care projects, and—most importantly—build relationships. Watch for volunteer opportunities coming soon! Thank you, Evangel, for your continued generosity, creativity, and willingness to reach our city.

# CROSSFIRE NEWS

Stephanie Mettler, Youth Minister  
507-289-4817; [smettler@evangelum.org](mailto:smettler@evangelum.org)

## NEW BEGINNINGS

Our youth finished our summer with a pool party on August 16, and while we were there, everyone was given a photo prompt: to show us how they were feeling about going to school this year...

Naturally, there is a mix of excitement and anxiety! Please pray for our youth as they experience new beginnings this fall, both through entering another grade but also through entering new relationships. Please pray that they will enter new depths in their relationship with God and others. Pray with us that they will be surrounded with love everywhere they go and that they will grow to be relationally and spiritually deep people.

We are excited to begin meeting again on Fridays and Sundays at Evangel in September and to welcome new faces. (Please note that youth Friday meeting times have shifted- see below!) Speaking of new faces, our new 6th graders AND our 9th graders will be receiving milestone gifts for the first time this fall on Kickoff Sunday! We're ready to bless them and support them as they transition to middle school and high school!



Families of 6th-12th graders, if you would like to know how to get your youth and family connected to our youth ministry, please contact Stephanie Mettler. We have a weekly youth family's newsletter and occasional texts that go out through GroupMe, and we would love to get you connected to our youth family! Please email [smettler@evangelum.org](mailto:smettler@evangelum.org).

- Stephanie

# SEPTEMBER,

## YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR

|               |                                                                                     |                                                            |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SEP 11</b> |  | <b>YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS BEGIN</b><br>6-8PM                 |
| <b>SEP 13</b> |  | <b>KICKOFF SUNDAY</b>                                      |
| <b>SEP 18</b> |  | <b>YOUTH LATE NIGHT</b><br>6-9PM                           |
| <b>SEP 19</b> |  | <b>SERVE SATURDAY NOON MEAL</b><br>@ CHRIST UMC<br>8AM-2PM |
| <b>SEP 20</b> |  | <b>FIRST DAY OF FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>                     |




## Mission Team Update

The Mission Team met on Wed. Aug. 12 after a summer break. One missionary disbursement to Trevor & Cassie Long was approved. The Mission Team approved support for the following opportunities at Evangel:

- SEMNFR Distribution. Visit <https://www.mnfoodrescue.org> for more information (see article bottom of **page 7**)
- Donation drive to collect needed supplies for The Landing (**see below**).



### You Can Give to the General Mission Fund By:

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

The Mission Team will meet on Wed., Sept. 9 at 4pm in the Fireside Room. Zoom will be available. If you have questions or ideas or want to be involved with the Team, 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.

## EvangelCares

SAVE THE DATE! On Oct. 10 from 4pm to 6pm, Roger & Janet will be hosting a gathering of all current & future EvangelCares volunteers to gather feedback and ideas for the future of this ministry. Food will be provided. The meeting will be at Roger & Janet's home at 2263 Hill Place SW in Rochester. Please RSVP or send your feedback/ideas using the EvangelCares contact information.

**EvangelCares continues to need volunteers willing to serve in a variety of areas.**

**To Become a Volunteer:** Email or call the EvangelCares Coordinator below contacts below. You can also click this link: [BecomeaEvangelCaresVolunteer](#)

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

EvangelCares Coordinator:

[evangelcares@evangelum.org](mailto:evangelcares@evangelum.org); 507-910-3230

### Ways to request help:

Click: [Evangel Cares Needs Form](#)

1. Complete a request form at the church information center.
2. Contact the EvangelCares coordinator
3. Please allow for at least a 1-week turnaround time.

## Collections Drive for the Landing In October

Starting after the Fall Event on Sunday, Oct. 4, we will be collecting food, clothing, and other items for the Landing. On Fri., Oct. 23 Erin Sinnwell from the Landing will come and share with the youth group that night. On Sunday, Oct. 25 Erin will come to share a Missions Moment at both services, and also share during the Drop-In class between services. We hope to finish the drive on Nov. 1 so we can deliver the supplies on Mon., Nov. 2 in order to make room for the rummage sale that weekend. More details coming soon!

- Microwaveable, single serve soups
- Beef Sticks
- NEW Men's boxer briefs (non-white)
- Easy Mac Microwaveable Cups
- Fruit Cups
- Sizes: small - XXL
- Granola Bars (soft/chewy)
- Tuna Pouches
- NEW Women's sports bras
- Men's winter, waterproof gloves
- Jelly/Jam (regular sizes)
- Sizes: small - XXL

## Wednesday Night Meals Are Back!

### Menu for September

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div style="background-color: #0070c0; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-bottom: 2px;">SEPT</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">2</div> </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 5px;"> <b>Pulled Pork / Slaw</b> </div>                   |  |
| <div style="background-color: #0070c0; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-bottom: 2px;">SEPT</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">9</div> </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 5px;"> <b>Spaghetti / Salad / Garlic Bread</b> </div>     |  |
| <div style="background-color: #0070c0; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-bottom: 2px;">SEPT</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">16</div> </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 5px;"> <b>Scrambled Eggs / Pancakes / Sausage</b> </div> |  |
| <div style="background-color: #0070c0; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-bottom: 2px;">SEPT</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">23</div> </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 5px;"> <b>Baked Potato Bar</b> </div>                    |  |
| <div style="background-color: #0070c0; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-bottom: 2px;">SEPT</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">30</div> </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 5px;"> <b>Cheeseburgers / Chips</b> </div>               |  |

## A Four-Part Education Series on Dementia (Online via Zoom)

### Presented by the Faith Community Nurse Network

Do you have a basic understanding of dementia and want to learn more? This four-part education series is designed for community members, friends, family members, neighbors, professionals, faith leaders, and anyone interested in learning more about dementia. Attendance is free and open to everyone. Registered nurses seeking

### Series Schedule:

- Thursday, September 17 — Dementia: Your Role as a Nurse, Community Member, Family Member, or Friend
- Wednesday, September 30 — How to Work with Dementia Care Challenges
- Thursday, October 29 — Dementia Communication Techniques
- Thursday, November 12 — Twin Cities Metro-Wide Dementia

Questions? Contact Sam Sleeman at [sam@fcnntc.org](mailto:sam@fcnntc.org). To register, click: [FCNN Dementia Education Series](#)

# SEPTEMBER 2026

| DATE             | TIME                                                     | EVENT                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tues., Sept. 1   | 1:00pm<br>6:30pm                                         | Women of God - Walking It Out<br>SPRC                                                                                                              |
| Wed., Sept. 2    | 4:30pm<br>5:00pm<br>6:15pm                               | Connections & Growth Team<br>Wed. Night Meal<br>Good News Team Practice                                                                            |
| Thurs., Sept. 3  | 6:00pm                                                   | Meal hosting at Dorothy Day                                                                                                                        |
| Fri., Sept. 4    | 11:00am                                                  | Older Folders                                                                                                                                      |
| Sun., Sept. 6    | 8:15am<br>8:30am<br>9:30am<br>9:30am<br>10:30am          | Prayer for Worship<br>Traditional Worship<br>Children's Church<br>Upper Room Study<br>Drop-In Class<br>Contemporary Worship<br>Children's Church   |
| Mon., Sept. 7    |                                                          | OFFICE CLOSED - LABOR DAY                                                                                                                          |
| Tues., Sept. 8   | 1:00pm<br>7:00pm                                         | Women of God - Walking It Out<br>Trustees                                                                                                          |
| Wed., Sept. 9    | 4:00pm<br>5:00pm<br>6:15pm<br>7:30pm                     | Missions Team<br>Wed. Night Meal<br>Good News Team Practice<br>Handbell Practice                                                                   |
| Thurs., Sept. 10 | 6:30pm<br>7:00pm                                         | Finance Team<br>Choir Practice                                                                                                                     |
| Fri., Sept. 11   | 11:00am<br>6:00pm                                        | Older Folders<br>Youth Group Kickoff                                                                                                               |
| Sat., Sept. 12   | 10:00am                                                  | SE MN Food Rescue Distribution                                                                                                                     |
| Sun., Sept. 13   | 9:30am<br>10:30am<br>11:00am<br>12:00pm<br>1:00pm        | Kickoff Worship<br>Lunch in South Parking Lot<br>Games & Activities<br>Leave Evangel for Lark Toys<br>Unite@ Lark Toys                             |
| Mon., Sept. 14   | 1:00pm                                                   | Sewing Circle                                                                                                                                      |
| Tues., Sept. 15  | 1:00pm                                                   | Women of God - Walking It Out                                                                                                                      |
| Wed., Sept. 16   | 4:30pm<br>5:00pm<br>6:15pm<br>6:30pm<br>6:30pm<br>7:30pm | Connections & Growth Team<br>Wed. Night Meal<br>Good News Team Practice<br>How Do You Know?<br>Jesus Is Lord: Living Lordship<br>Handbell Practice |

| DATE             | TIME                                                       | EVENT                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thurs., Sept. 17 | 1:00pm<br>7:00pm                                           | Women's Gathering<br>Choir Practice                                                                                                                                    |
| Friday, Sept. 18 | 11:00am<br>6:00pm                                          | Older Folders<br>Youth Late Night                                                                                                                                      |
| Sat., Sept. 19   | 8:00am                                                     | Youth Serving Meals at Christ UMC                                                                                                                                      |
| Sun., Sept. 20   | 8:15am<br>8:30am<br>9:30am<br>9:30am<br>10:30am<br>11:45am | Prayer for Worship<br>Traditional Worship<br>Children's Church<br>Sunday School<br>Drop-In Class<br>Contemporary Worship<br>Children's Church<br>Youth Leadership Team |
| Mon., Sept. 21   | 1:00pm                                                     | Sewing Circle                                                                                                                                                          |
| Tues., Sept. 22  | 1:00pm                                                     | Women of God - Walking It Out                                                                                                                                          |
| Wed., Sept. 23   | 5:00pm<br>6:15pm<br>6:30pm<br>6:30pm<br>7:30pm             | Wed. Night Meal<br>Good News Team practice<br>How Do You Know?<br>Jesus Is Lord: Living Lordship<br>Handbell Practice                                                  |
| Thurs., Sept. 24 | 7:00pm                                                     | Choir Practice                                                                                                                                                         |
| Fri., Sept. 25   | 11:00am                                                    | Older Folders                                                                                                                                                          |
| Sun., Sept. 27   | 8:15am<br>8:30am<br>9:30am<br>10:30am                      | Prayer for Worship<br>Traditional Worship<br>Children's Church<br>Drop-In Class<br>Contemporary Worship<br>Children's Church                                           |
| Mon., Sept. 28   | 1:00pm                                                     | Sewing Circle                                                                                                                                                          |
| Wed., Sept. 30   | 5:00pm<br>6:15pm<br>6:30pm<br>6:30pm<br>7:30pm             | Wed. Night Meal<br>Good News Team Practice<br>How Do You Know?<br>Jesus Is Lord: Living Lordship<br>Handbell Practice                                                  |

Evangel United Methodist Church  
2645 North Broadway  
Rochester, MN 55906

(Address Service Requested)



## SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

- 9:30 AM Worship in the sanctuary
- 10:30 AM Lunch in the south parking lot
- 11:00 AM Games, inflatables, scooters, & more!
- 1:00 PM Unite@ Lark Toys (leave Evangel at 12pm)

### Sunday Schedule

- 8:30am - Traditional Service
- 9:30am - Drop-In Class & Upper Room Study  
(Sunday School begins Sept. 20)
- 10:30am - Contemporary Service  
(Children's Church offered at both services)



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