

## From Pastor David

### Peace in Troubled Times

*"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*  
- John 16:33

The tensions in our communities, especially here in MN (focused mainly in the Twin Cities and here in the Rochester area), accented by the two separate fatal shootings of protesters by federal agents, have sent us all reeling. The divisions that now seem to define our communities continue to entrench and grow stronger. Anger and rancor dominate so many public interactions. It feels so discouraging and seems overwhelming. Where is our hope as things seem to spiral out of control? Our church has sought to respond by again choosing The Jesus Way (this is described in a document of the same name on our church website). We commit, as individuals, to interact wherever we go with love and unrelenting grace. We love God. We love others. We live differently.

We have activated our "Serve as the hands and feet of Jesus" commitment by raising support (diapers, wipes, food, monies) for those with whom we have connections who are experiencing fear: The Good News Children's Center, The Hispanic Pentecostal Church & the Zumbro Ridge Estates. Thank you for the outpouring generosity of donations!

I want to encourage everyone during this troubling time that our hope comes from God, even when things go very wrong in our world and in our lives.

Seemingly irreconcilable hostilities, terrible happenings and deep pain do not mean God is inactive. They instead reveal the brokenness of people, and that actually our only hope lies with God. It feels like God rarely delivers us from problems. Instead He comes to us in them. Jesus was born at Christmas as "God with us." As one of us, Jesus knows the depth of depravity people are capable of and all the heartache we experience. Jesus also came to break us free from sin and make reconciliation possible. Our hope comes from our confidence that our God is here, that Jesus has broken the power of evil & that the Holy Spirit is at work to make possible what people cannot do. I also want to suggest some ways that our hopeful faith shapes how we engage our troubled world:

- Care with compassion. Don't just care about how you think things ought to be. In compassion see all people as God's beloved and reinforce that which respects and validates all people on all sides. Care enough to show compassion to those in your circle: how can you show respect for those who look and think very differently? And keep a lookout for—and share—what you see going on that "looks Jesus-y!"
- Be informed but do not become overwhelmed. It is important to stay informed, but know yourself and how you react. You are in control of what information you absorb. Do not engage our endless media coverage in a way that reinforces your selfish quest for drama or which begins to drag you into despair. Remember to balance good with bad. Notice what is going well and right. See ways that God is at work. Seek out what is beautiful.
- Practice self discipline to distinguish between righteous indignation and despairing anger. Godly anger rightly is offended by ways people are exploited and abused. Yet be wary of your anger slipping into being about you. This can be hard to distinguish. Godly anger pushes us to become active in doing constructive acts of love and seeking peace with justice. Selfish anger is controlled by our feelings and seeks to make us feel better by what we do. Only prayer will help us see the difference clearly.
- Keep the picture small. There is little we can do the fix the comprehensive scope of the bigger problems. The good news is that you don't have to! God is handling that! Instead, seek out micro-activities you can do to share hope. Listen—really listen!—to someone who looks or thinks different(ly). Spend some time respectfully around folks from "the other side." Invite someone you normally wouldn't for coffee or a meal, just to connect as people. Seek to show Jesus to this in your sphere of influence. Guard your words: speak only that which helps others.

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- Give from your situation of blessing. Most of us aren't fearful of deportation, although we are all fearful of being treated badly. Show love. Do nothing that shows disrespect to anyone. Speak hope. Relay what is uplifting and hopeful. Give. Give from your affluence to bless others struggling. Again, the ways I mentioned above are good options. Most importantly, pray. Pray for peace. Pray for calmer heads to prevail. Pray for wisdom for our leaders. Pray for federal agents to act compassionately. Pray for law enforcement to see all people as important. Pray for demonstrators to model peace. Pray for God to work among us what is impossible for us to do on our own.

We are not alone. God is with us. Jesus has overcome all the powers of this world. That is our hope. Come what may, we'll be okay, if we let God lead the way. We have so much to be hopeful about. We have the inner peace of Jesus, a peace not like the world gives. It is for such a time as this, that we have hope in Jesus to share!

Pastor David

### Ash Wednesday Service on February 18

This is a special service of repentance and imposition of ashes. Ashes are a mark of our need for forgiveness, our need for a Savior. On Wed., Feb. 18 we'll have a special service for this at 6:30pm. We'll also hear how the prophets of the Old Testament have called us to a time of spiritual spring cleaning! **Please note: Palm branches will be burned in the Sanctuary during the service.**

### Lenten Series: The Chosen: Season 3

Wednesdays at 12:30p (Sanctuary; starting Feb. 18) and 6:30p (Dinette; starting Feb. 25)  
For Lent this year we will watch together Season 3 of *The Chosen*, the new mini-series created on the Gospels & life of Jesus. Each week we'll watch an episode & then spend some time in reflection & discussion. Also, we will plan to go see Season 6 episodes together in the local theater when they are released - watch for details!

### United Methodist Women

Sewing Circle..... Mondays throughout February in Room 223 at 1pm (9am on Feb. 2)  
Women's Gathering..... Thurs., January 19 at 1:00pm in the Lobby. ALL women are invited.  
If you have any questions, contact Becky Pierce at 507-289-6802.

### Handbell Choir Is Ringing Again—Come Be a Part of It!

We are grateful to once again have a handbell choir here at Evangel! It would truly be a joy to see this meaningful ministry continue & grow, but we need a few more ringers to make that possible. There are several open spots, & your participation could make all the difference. Now is the perfect time to join—no experience is necessary! We welcome all ages, from 11 years old to 111 years old! If you're interested or have any questions, please contact Anita Hermanson at 507-254-5724; [ahrmnsn@msn.com](mailto:ahrmnsn@msn.com). We would love to have you join us!

### Support the Youth Summer Mission Trip

The youth are preparing for an upcoming mission trip to Virginia, and they are humbly asking for your prayers and support. As we prepare to go, as we serve while we are there, and as we return home seeking to live out what we have learned, we ask that you pray for our work, our safety, and our spiritual growth. Our desire is to be the hands and feet of Jesus—both in Virginia and wherever God calls us afterward. We also invite you to consider partnering with us financially by sponsoring one of our youth or donating toward the overall cost of the trip, including airfare & expenses for the week.

If you would like to donate by check, please make it payable to Evangel & write "Youth Mission" along with the name of the youth you are sponsoring in the memo line. If you prefer to give online, you may do so by clicking: [Evangel Online Giving](#). Select **Youth Mission Scholarship** & indicate the youth you would like to support. Any donations not designated for a specific participant will be evenly distributed among the group to help each youth reach their goal.

The youth going on this mission trip are:

- |                  |                     |             |                    |                   |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| • Evie Ellenbaum | • Gavin Hommerding  | • Nora Day  | • Cambrie Evans    | • Aaron McCright, |
| • Owen Hermanson | • Gretchen Kroneman | • Tate Hull | • Quincy Ellenbaum | • Megan McCright  |



We have hung pictures of each student going on the trip on the bulletin board outside room 223 so you can not only recognize their faces but also see how we are doing in our financial goals  
Thank you for your prayers, generosity, and encouragement as our youth step out in faith to serve.

## Collections Continue to Share Blessings and Hope

Evangel is collecting diapers, food and financial gifts to support immigrants and others experiencing fear and hardship in our community.

- **Youth Diaper Drive** is collecting size 1–2 and 4–6 diapers, along with unscented wipes, for the Good News Children's Center. These items will be used at the center and shared with families who are staying home and unable to access public spaces.
- **Emergency Food Drive** is gathering shelf-stable food for the Zumbro Ridge Estates food shelf, which serves many Hispanic residents.



Financial donations are also needed to purchase supplies for individuals connected with the Hispanic Pentecostal Church that meets in Evangel's building and who are currently unable to work or shop.

Physical donations may be dropped off in the church lobby. Financial gifts can be given in person or online by clicking: [Give NOW EUMC](#) and selecting "Good Samaritan Fund." Donations may be further designated for the Children's Center, Food Shelf, or Hispanic Church.

Thank you for helping Evangel be the hands and feet of Jesus!



## New Small Group: Who Is the Holy Spirit?

Hosts: Brian Nass & Bruce Talbott

Wednesdays | 6:30–8:00 p.m.

Feb. 25 – April 8 (7 sessions)

Room 224 | In person & via Zoom

This Connect Group explores the person of the Holy Trinity that can be the most challenging to understand: the Holy Spirit. As Jesus prepared His disciples for the days ahead, He promised the gift of the Holy Spirit—our Advocate and Spirit of truth (John 14:15–17).

Using the *Stonecroft Bible Study Who Is the Holy Spirit?* (Harvest House Publishers, 2012), we'll spend seven Wednesday evenings in study, discussion, and life application as we explore topics including:

- Knowing the Holy Spirit's Presence
- The Work of the Holy Spirit
- Growing Through the Holy Spirit
- Living in the Power of the Holy Spirit
- Enjoying the Presence of the Holy Spirit

Books will be provided for those who indicate their intent to participate.

## Financial Summary of Church Operations Through December 2025

We are pleased to share that we ended the year with only a \$2,222 deficit. Deficit has been reduced from previous reporting due to:

- Increase in giving from givers "catching up" to meet their annual contribution before year's end
- Others giving extra to minimize the projected deficit gap
- Some pre-paying 2026 giving (all or partial)
- Total expenses being lower than budgeted

(Jan – Dec 2025)	
Income from Church Congregational Giving	\$ 610,712.00
Other operating Income	\$ 112,178.00
Total Income from Operations	\$ 722,890.00
Total Expense from Operations	\$ 725,112.00
Net Income/(Loss) from Operations	\$ (2,222.00)

We continue to be grateful for the members of this congregation who believe in and support the activities of this church. For questions or for more information, please contact Arlene Morris, chair of the Finance Committee, at: [vammorris@gmail.com](mailto:vammorris@gmail.com).



## Jean Van Meekeren, Newest Member of "Evangel's Over 90 Club!"



Evangel boasts over 20 nonagenarians! Our newest member is Jean Van Meekeren, who turned 90 on Jan. 1, 2026. Jean moved to Rochester in 2023 to be near her children, one of them is Evangel's Clancy Craven. Jean has gotten involved right away, applying her crafting and artistic skills in a variety of ways, including making all the tags for the Christmas Giving Tree, helping out with various projects and serving as a greeter at Mega Kids Camp. Jean grew up in Iowa. She and her husband Clarence (d. 2013) were married 53 years and raised five children on a farm near Fulda, MN: Clarissa, Jonna, Clancy, Jena and Claryn. Jean enjoys her 15 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren (soon to be 10!). When asked how to live a blessed life, Jean reflected, "I never really worry about anything. I kind of 'fly by the seat of my pants' and remain open to whatever comes. I do a number of daily devotionals and I have a daily Bible verse that comes to my phone."

## Evangel's Choir Robes Find a New Home

The choir wore their robes for the final time on Sunday, January 25, during the first service. As the choir has transitioned away from wearing robes, Evangel donated the choir robes—along with our Cherub robes, hymnals from Bethany Church, and other worship items—to Rev. Cephas Davis (pictured on the left), pastor of Maquoketa and Preston United Methodist Churches in Iowa. The donation was made on Monday, January 26.

Rev. Davis will be sending these items to his home church in Liberia, where they will be joyfully received and put to meaningful use. These robes and worship supplies will be given a second life in the celebration of worship of Jesus, Savior of the world.

We are deeply grateful to those who originally provided for the purchase of these robes, and we rejoice in the opportunity to extend this blessing forward for God's glory.



## 2025 Evangel Christmas Offering

Evangel Church cares for our community! This past Christmas \$4,253.40 was donated to Evangel's Good Samaritan (Community Benevolence) fund. Thank you for this generous support! This money is offered to assist people in temporary need in our local community and is administered by Pastor David and Jim. We also use these funds to partner with The Salvation Army, The Landing and the Zumbro Ridge Food Shelf - community partners to whom we often refer people with requests. Know that donations can be made to Evangel's Good Samaritan Fund all year long, as assistance is needed all year long. Together we continue to shine God's light in the darkness!

## Easter Flowers

The Visual Arts Team will be decorating the Sanctuary and Lobby with a variety of flowers for the Easter. Flowers you purchased may be taken home following the last service on Easter Sunday, April 5. Please attach your payment with the order form below and place it in the basket at the Welcome Center or turn it into the office. Checks may be made payable to: **Evangel UMC**. Please put **Easter Flowers** in the memo field.

**DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS MARCH 15**

### ----- EASTER SPRING FLOWER ORDER (Print Clearly)

Your name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily \$13.00

\_\_\_\_ Begonias \$18.00

\_\_\_\_ Kalanchoe \$18.00

\_\_\_\_ Cyclamen \$18.00

\_\_\_\_ Mum \$20.00

\_\_\_\_ Hydrangea \$37.00

## EvangelCares Volunteer 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*

The EvangelCares Team is prayerfully putting the final details in place as we prepare to launch this ministry in early February. We are grateful for the excitement and willingness of our church family to serve one another.



### Volunteer Updates

***For Volunteers Who Have Completed Training:*** Thank you for completing the training! If you have not already done so, please be sure to give permission for a background check. You should have received an email with a link to provide your consent.

***For Volunteers Who Have Completed the Survey But Not the Training:*** Please be on the lookout for an upcoming volunteer training session that will be scheduled by Pastor David.

***Interested in Volunteering?:*** If you feel called to serve through this ministry, please click this link to get started: [EvangelCares Survey Link](#)

### Mission Statement

The purpose of the EvangelCares Volunteer Program is to mobilize and unite our church congregation to serve one another—being the hands and feet of Jesus—by meeting temporary and practical needs within our church family. As part of our discipleship pathway, we believe that small acts of service can reflect the deep love of Christ and strengthen the bonds of our faith community.

### Requesting Help

If you or someone you know could use assistance, please contact us:


**Email:** [evangelcares@evangelum.org](mailto:evangelcares@evangelum.org)

**Phone:** 507-910-3230

A request form will also be available soon in the EvangelCares section of the church website.

### Core Service Areas

EvangelCares focuses on the following areas of support:

<b>Temporary Food Support</b> Providing meals for individuals or families recovering at home due to illness, surgery, childbirth, or other life events.	<b>Expressions of Encouragement</b> Delivering small, thoughtful gifts such as cards, flowers, or gift bags to encourage those who are struggling, grieving, or celebrating a life milestone.	<b>Yardwork &amp; Leaf Raking</b> Helping with seasonal yard tasks for those who are elderly, physically limited, or temporarily unable to manage outdoor work.
<b>Transportation Assistance</b> Offering rides for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Church services or events</li> <li>• Grocery shopping or errands</li> <li>• Doctor or medical appointments</li> </ul>	<b>Caregiver Support</b> Providing short-term relief (1–2 hours) for primary caregivers, allowing time for rest, errands, or personal renewal.	<b>Household Moving Support</b> Assisting church members or local families with local moves within Rochester (packing, lifting, loading, and unloading).
<b>Handy Helpers</b> Helping with light household tasks such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changing lightbulbs</li> <li>• Washing dishes</li> <li>• Light cleaning</li> <li>• Organizing</li> </ul>	<b>Visitation</b> Spending time with those who are home-bound, hospitalized, elderly, or experiencing difficult seasons—offering prayer, conversation, and compassionate care.	

### Questions?

Please feel free to reach out:

- Roger Guderian: [guderian.roger@gmail.com](mailto:guderian.roger@gmail.com) | 507-254-1432
- Janet Guderian: [guderian.janet@gmail.com](mailto:guderian.janet@gmail.com) | 507-269-0653

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 February**

Every Sunday.....	Sunday School for all ages at 9:30am
Every Sunday .....	Children's Church at 8:30am and 10:30am
Every Thursday.....	Bible Storytime for Good News Center Kids at 9am
Wednesday February 4.....	Connections and Growth Team at 4:30pm
Wednesday, February 14.....	Happy Valentine's Day
Wednesday February 18.....	Ash Wednesday - Lent Begins
Sunday, February 22 .....	Unite@ Air Insanity at 2pm

### **Sending Valentines to Our Children, Youth, College Students & Homebound**

Connections and Growth will once again be sponsoring the "Send Our Students a Valentine" promotion this year. This is another way for us to reach out to our kids and let them know we love them. Every student from Nursery 2's – Grade 12 will receive a valentine with a personal note from their Sunday School teachers and youth leaders. Sunday School classes traditionally send valentines to our seniors and homebound as well. The love of our Evangel Church family never ends, no matter what age we are.



**Continued for 2026:** We will send a "Valentine Care Package" to all Evangel college students we can locate—we want to extend our Evangel family arms of love to college students too! Valentines has been a very special way to care for our students to keep them coming to Evangel Sunday School where they know they will be loved and be among their spiritual family. It is this type of extra mile effort that conveys very special meaning to our students. We are so excited to keep the love flowing past High School to our college students, seniors and homebound too.

### **"Bible Storytime" for the Good News Children's Center has a Bulletin Board!**

Connections & Growth has an ongoing ministry for the "Good News" Children's Center kids called "Bible Story Time". This ministry offers a mid-week "Sunday School" experience for daycare children whose parents release them to us every Thursday from 9-10am in the Children's Library. Music, prayer, action rhymes, Bibles stories and crafts are all included. Jim Klepper, Clancy Craven & 4 volunteers run this ministry, but we could use a few more.

Check out the bulletin board located just outside the west rear sanctuary doors to see what's happening in this powerful ministry. For some of these children this is the only time they hear about Jesus' love for them. If you would like to volunteer, contact Jim or Clancy .

### **Unite@ Air Insanity**



Sunday, February 22 from 2-4pm  
 1607 Highway 14 East, Rochester, MN 55904

Join in for an exciting trip to Rochester's premier trampoline park, *Air Insanity*! With over 32,000 sq. feet of fun, there's more than just trampolines: experience climbing walls, nerf games, a ninja obstacle course, a laser maze, a hurricane simulator, and much more. This is an intergenerational event, so everyone from Kindergarten to Grade 12 and beyond is invited. And don't forget to bring your family and friends! Cost is \$8.00. To sign up, click: [Air Insanity Sign Up Link](#)

### **Go to Bible Camp this Year!**

Registration is now open for Camp Minnesota this summer. Check out the brochure at the Information Center (near the main entrance) or click: <https://www.campminnesota.org/>. Evangel is offering a \$100 incentive to any of our church family going to a week-long Bible camp. Scholarships are available for those who request assistance. Connect with Jim Klepper for more information. (Donations are also being accepted to the Scholarship Fund!)





## 2026 Mega Kids Camp – “World Cup” Save the Date!



Be on the lookout for your 2026 Mega Kids Camp “Save the Date” letter, which will be arriving in your mailbox in early February. This mailing is being sent to our Evangel family as well as our outreach list to ensure that all families with children can mark their calendars for Mega Kids Camp, July 13–16, 2026.

Early Bird Registration will begin in March (final date coming soon).

Included with the letter is a full-color refrigerator magnet to help keep the camp dates top of mind. We encourage you to use both the letter & magnet as an invitation tool—everyone can help invite a child to Mega Kids Camp!

Thank you for partnering with us to spread the word. Be watching for your letter soon, & please use it to help inform and invite others to this exciting event.

## Evangel Preschool and Elementary GROW Curriculum

Scope and Sequence for February – Sunday School and Children’s Church

During the month of February, Evangel preschool and elementary students will engage in the GROW curriculum series titled “Trailblazer,” which focuses on the teachings of Jesus.

Biblical topics covered in this series include:

- The Beatitudes
- Loving Our Enemies
- The Lord’s Prayer
- Salt and Light

Through this series, children will explore how Jesus’ teachings guide us in faith and everyday life.

## Connections and Growth: Scope of Ministry

Connections and Growth (formerly Christian Education) adopted a new name in 2025 to more accurately reflect the full scope of ministry within the department. It encompasses two primary areas of ministry: Discipling and Outreach.

### Discipling Ministries

The discipling component of Evangel Connections and Growth includes:

- Sunday School
- Connect Groups
- Celebration Sundays
- Nursery Ministry
- Children’s Church
- Unite@
- Youth Ministry
- Bible Story Time
- Camping Ministry
- Parent Education

### Outreach Ministries

The outreach component of Evangel Connections and Growth includes:

- Mega Kids Camp (both a discipling and outreach)
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Moving Ministry
- Food collection for Salvation Army & Zumbro Ridge Est.
- Mental Health Forums
- Giving Tree
- Trunk or Treat
- Rummage Sale

Unite@ also includes a missional focus through service-oriented projects such as leaf raking and other community service opportunities, complementing its adventure-based activities.

## Connections and Growth: Safe Sanctuaries Handbook

In 2015, Pastor Jeff Utecht and Jim Klepper co-wrote Evangel’s Safe Sanctuaries Handbook. This document is designed to protect children, youth, vulnerable adults, and those who serve them by establishing clear policies to prevent misconduct of a sexual nature and to promote overall safety. The handbook includes theological and position statements, reporting procedures, safety protocols, and mandatory reporting guidelines.

The original Safe Sanctuaries Handbook has recently been revisited for updates. Pastor David and Jim Klepper completed the first round of revisions, followed by a second review and edit by Evangel staff. The document will now move into a final edit and formatting stage before being presented to the Evangel Staff-Parish Relations Committee for approval.

Once finalized and approved, Evangel staff will schedule live training sessions for all individuals who work with children, youth, and vulnerable adults, as well as for anyone else who wishes to participate. In addition, video-based training will be developed to support efficient and ongoing education.

Evangel is committed to being a safe and welcoming place for everyone.

# Unite@ - We Hit the Ice at the Rec Center on January 25!





# CROSSFIRE NEWS

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

Hello, church family!

Thank you for your support of the diaper drive benefitting families from our Good News Children's Center! Final numbers will be available soon, but I want to share a thank you mid-drive on behalf of the youth and the Good News families.

The Youth Leadership Team has added an additional event this spring to our youth events calendar, and I'm excited to share the info with you. We will be hosting a DiscipleNow retreat at Evangel from April 24-26. Our youth and young adult small group leaders will be staying at Evangel for the weekend. Throughout the weekend of worship, service, fellowship times, and small group times, the focus will be on discipleship as a journey of walking through life with Jesus. This retreat is intentionally based in the local church, and we are excited to maximize our time to have interaction with some Evangel folks. The journey of discipleship is immeasurably helped by fellow travelers and their own stories of following God!

## A request:

Would you consider furnishing us with some food and fellowshiping with us during our April discipleship retreat? We are looking for food to be donated and for people to "host" meals for the youth throughout the weekend...i.e., bring the food, eat the food WITH us, and help us get to know each other! Would you consider being an important part of the retreat through food and fellowship? Send me a line if you are interested!

## Call to prayer:

Our youth are discerning the times they are living in and their role in this time. They, like us, feel that this year started with a punch to the stomach. Please pray that they and their families will be wise and bold as they discern God's leading in these crucial moments.

To assist you in your prayers for our young people, I have included some photos with their faces below.

Thank you, and we love you.

- Stephanie



## Youth Calendar

Sunday School: Every Sunday from 9:30–10:25am

Jan 30 ..... Youth Late Night: 7-11 PM  
Feb. 6..... Youth Small Group: 7-9 PM  
Feb 14..... Youth Serving Saturday Noon Meal  
                  @ Christ UMC: ~ 8 AM - 2 PM  
Feb 20..... Youth Late Night: 7-11 PM

## SAVE THE DATE

Apr. 24-26 DiscipleNow retreat at Evangel

## Calling Adult Volunteers

We're always looking to grow our team—especially anyone with a passion for leading music during our gatherings. If you're interested in helping out in any way, please reach out to Youth Director Stephanie Mettler or a member of the Youth Leadership Team. Your support makes a huge difference!

## Youth Leadership Team

Stephanie Mettler, Lane & Anita Hermanson,  
Mandi Ellenbaum, Peter Kroneman,  
Jim Klepper & Pastor David Werner

### Provide Treats for Sunday Morning Coffee Hour

Help us provide tasty treats between Sunday services! You can bake, make, or buy items—just check labels and avoid nuts, almond flour/flavoring, and peanut oil. Sign up at the serving table in the Lobby on Sunday mornings. Please bring treats by the Wednesday before your assigned Sunday. We need about 10 dozen each week—consider teaming up with family or friends!

### “Say It with Flowers” – Sanctuary Decorations

You're invited to help decorate the Evangel Sanctuary for Sunday services by providing floral arrangements. Feel free to bring your own bouquet or have one delivered by a local florist. Sign up on the bulletin board next to Room 223. If you have any questions, contact Bev Morgan at 507-271-1383.

### Mission Team

The Mission Team met on January 14, 2026. For 2026 our budget remained the same as 2025. Our 2026 missionary giving schedule will remain the same as 2025, and we will react to any changes as the year progresses.

We discussed taking greater care of our missionary name/location/contact information especially when publishing on the church's website. You will notice that future reports will have vague references to some of our missionaries. We do keep the specific name/location/contact information private. Please ask if you are interested in a specific missionary.

Posted on the Mission Team Bulletin Board (across from room 223) is recent news of the missionaries and missions we support.

The Mission Team's next meeting is Wed., Feb. 11, 2026, at 4:00pm in the Fireside Room. Zoom will be available. If you have questions, ideas or want to be involved with the Team, contact any member of the Mission Team: Roger Guderian, Becky Pierce, Bev Morgan, Linda Gregg, Carol Madsen, Colleen Stacey or Pastor David Werner.



#### 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 \(elexiogiving.com\)](http://Give.elexiogiving.com) and select Missions—2<sup>nd</sup> Mile.
3. QR Code: Scan this QR code with your cellphone and select Missions—2<sup>nd</sup> Mile.

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

## Wednesday Night Meals

Every Wednesday at 5pm in the Dinette

## Menu for February

Feb. 4  
Cheeseburgers &  
French Fries

Feb. 18 (Ash Wed.)  
Soup & Dinner Roll




Feb. 11  
Spaghetti, Garlic  
Bread & Salad

Feb. 25  
Pulled Pork &  
Coleslaw

All meals come with a dessert

# February 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
8:15a Prayer for Worship 8:30a Traditional Service 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Service	9a Sewing Circle		4:30p Connections & Growth 5p The Wesley Challenge 5p Wed. Night Meal 6:15p Board Games 6:15p Praise Team 6:15p Confirmation 6:15p Faith & Works 7:30p Handbells	9a Bible Storytime 5:30p Experience Jesus. Relly. 5:30p New Membership class 6pm Meal hosting at Dorothy Day House 7p Choir	11a Older Folders 7p Youth Group (small group)	
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14 Valentine's Day</b>
8:15a Prayer for Worship 8:30a Traditional Service 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Service 11:45a Youth Leadership Team	1p Sewing Circle 4:30p Connect Group Design Team	6:30p SPR 7p Trustees	4p Missions Team 5p Wed. Night Meal 6:15p Board Games 6:15p Confirmation 6:15p Faith & Works 6:15p Praise Team 7:30p Handbells	9a Bible Storytime 5:30p Experience Jesus. Relly. 7p Choir	11a Older Folders	
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18 Ash Wed.</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
8:15a Prayer for Worship 8:30a Traditional Service 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Service	1p Sewing Circle 6:30p Church Council		5p Wed. Night Meal 6:30p Ash Wed. service 7:30p Praise Team 7:30p Handbells 	9a Bible Storytime 1pm Women's Gathering 5:30p Experience Jesus. Relly. 7p Choir	11a Older Folders	
<b>22 1st Sun. of Lent</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
8:15a Prayer for Worship 8:30a Traditional Service 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Service 2p Unite@ Air Insanity	1p Sewing Circle		1p Chosen S.3 5p Wed. Night Meal 6:15p Board Games 6:15p Confirmation 6:15p Praise Team 6:15p Confirmation 6:30p Chosen S.3 6:30p The Holy Spirit 7:30p Handbells	9a Bible Storytime 5:30p Experience Jesus. Relly. 7p Choir	11a Older Folders 7p Youth Group	



Evangel United Methodist Church  
2645 North Broadway  
Rochester, MN 55906

(Address Service Requested)

Evangel Church exists to love God, love others, and be  
Christ's hands and feet in the world.

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**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**

Wed., Feb. 18 at 6:30pm

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

8:30am Traditional Service

9:30am Sunday School for children & adults

10:30am Contemporary Service

(Children's Church offered at both services)



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

