

**Parish Caller**  
**Glenwood Lutheran Church - ELCA**  
October 2024

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**“Glenwood Lutheran Church invites and welcomes  
all people to become disciples of Christ by  
learning and teaching God’s Word,  
worshiping and magnifying God’s presence, and  
serving our neighbors, at home and throughout the world.”**

## **Our “Missions” Near and Far**

It used to be when we talked of “missions” and “Missionaries” we were speaking of people who dedicated their lives to bringing the gospel to others in far-off lands. Sometimes they would come back and visit their sponsoring congregations every 5-7 years, requesting ongoing support and sharing what they were doing so far away. I remember a room in my home church, growing up, with a display case with a spear, some tribal artifacts, and the cape of an impala antelope, from our sponsored missionary in Africa (Kenya, I think).

Now we recognize that may be a rather limited view of “mission work.” Africa is sending missionaries to the United States to work with African immigrant Christian populations. And we have started to realize that “mission work” can happen much closer to home, because in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the world seems a smaller place. The needs seem so great and varied, but our responses are growing greater and more varied, too. Over the next 2 months we want to consider how Glenwood Lutheran has been “Stepping Up In Mission” with the world. Some of these missions happen within our doors, some happen to our community, and some happen far beyond Pope County and the State of Minnesota.

Our goal is to help you understand how your support—your money, your valuable time, your talents and skills, your prayers and attention—make ministry and mission possible from Glenwood Lutheran Church to the world and invite you to be a deeper part of them! Each week, we will highlight one important, exciting and impactful way we are in mission; we want to show you how “stepping up to mission” is a “step into the God’s Kingdom.”

## Who Benefits from Giving?

Life is strange. Consider this: in a 2008 paper published in *Science*, three investigators gave study participants money, asking half to spend it on themselves, and the other half to give it to some person or charity. Those who donated the money showed a significant uptick in happiness; those who spent it on themselves did not. Other academic work has shown that offering aid to others can actually make you healthier—lowering blood pressure, stress, illness, and mortality.

A 2014 book by two Notre Dame social scientists, called *The Paradox of Generosity: Giving We Receive, Grasping We Lose*, combines national surveys with in-depth interview and group observations. It concluded that “the more generous Americans are, the more happiness, health, and purpose in life they enjoy. This association...is strong and highly consistent.... Generous practices actually create enhanced personal well-being. The association...is not accidental, spurious, or an artifact of reverse causal influence.” These researchers conclude with a simple observation: “People often say that we increase the love we have by giving it away.” In this, they write, “generosity is like love.”

Even people who have very little money are eager to give and feel good when they do. According to The Almanac of American Philanthropy, among households with annual income under \$25,000, close to four out of ten still give charity to others in a typical year. The beneficial effects of generosity are apparently not income dependent.

Even though we often act sinfully selfish, God has still created in us a basic need to meaningfully connect with the world and with others through generosity and giving. In our ministry together, let us help you find a way toward meaning and health in your life through giving in all its forms. And let us help you to finally give your life over to Jesus Christ, the one who first claimed you.

## From the Heart of Pastor Krista

***“Then Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. He said to them, “Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money – not even an extra tunic. Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there. Wherever they do not welcome you, as you are leaving that town shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them. They departed and went through the villages, bringing the good news and curing diseases everywhere.”***

Luke 9:1-6

We are a transactional society. Everything has a price tag, or so we believe. Going into a situation most of us want to know what we will get out of it, or what price we have to pay. A transactional economy depends on quid pro quo. This should not come as a surprise to any of us.

What surprises us is when we begin talking about the church and Jesus and try to interpret both through the lens of transaction.

In the Lutheran tradition, barter does not work. We cannot and do not interpret Jesus Christ through the lens of a deal or business matter because Jesus Christ is not transactional. Or, if you want to argue that he is, then you have to consider that Jesus is the only one who ever had to pay a price for salvation. He gave all and received nothing in return. That is not the definition of a transaction. Lutherans would call it the Great Exchange; where Jesus took our place on the cross and died so that we do not have to, but even in the Great Exchange there is no transaction on our part.

In the Luke text quote above, Jesus sends out his disciples and does not give instructions about exchanging money or how much a healing would cost or what much casting out demons would bring into his ministry. He sends them OUT and tells them to “take nothing for your journey.”

How freeing it must have been to go out into the world and not be burdened with the constant worry of how to pay for things or how much to ask in payment. What if we took baby steps to live into the freedom God has given to us in Jesus Christ. The freedom to be without expectation of any return or acquisition. Good news?

# Calling All 7th & 8th Graders to The Gathering



Parents and Students in 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades! The Southwest Minnesota Synod Junior High Youth Gathering will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 22 & 23 at the Willmar Convention Center/Best Western Hotel in Willmar, MN. This year's theme is "Forever Unbroken" based on Romans 8.37-39. What does that mean?

LARGE group meetings with worship, singing and growing in faith. Student-led faith talks, and hanging out with other youth from our area.

Nightlife including swimming, games, food, dancing, service projects and A LOT MORE!

But we NEED to know you're coming, and we need to know by October 15<sup>th</sup> for Early-Bird Registration. It's \$50 a student for church members, and \$75 a student for non-members (so bring a friend!) We'll also need some chaperones! Let Pastor M know, or Charity Vold or Anna Martinson. WE WANT YOU THERE!

Question: do we have an article or announcement regarding the change in HolyCOW and Confirmation class times?

Question: do we need to put in the names of the confirmands?

# Youth and Education

## Education-

Join us on October 6th as we have 14 students taking part in the Affirmation of Baptism service.

We welcome them as members on this day!

We are excited to share a NEW family learning opportunity for those with children ages 2-5! Charity invites you to attend Little Blessings on Oct 13 at 10:15 am to 10:45 am. ***Together***, you all will discover scripture, craft and snack as one family of God. Register [HERE](#)

Children **SING** October 2 at 6:30 pm worship.

## Youth-

1st GLC Youth Night (Grades 5-9) will be Oct 30th 6-7 pm. Taco Bar and Scavenger hunt are sponsored by the Youth board. They kindly ask for [RSVPs](#) to plan the evening! [Register](#) for the Jr. High Synod Youth Event in Willmar in November.

### *Our Parish Caller Newsletter Goal:*

To bring you all the news and announcements that we can't fit in our weekly bulletin, in both digital and paper form, by the First Sunday of the month. The deadline for submitting (electronic submissions only) will be one week before the end of the month. Send all material to Aslyn at [fs@glenwoodlutheran.com](mailto:fs@glenwoodlutheran.com)

# Join Us In “Stepping Up to Mission”!

What are some of the ministries and programs of this congregation that excite you?  
What things are we doing that identify us "in Mission" to our community and world?  
The theme of our Fall Stewardship Emphasis this year is "Stepping Up to Mission" and will highlight the ministries in our congregation that show how we are "stepping up" and "stepping out" in our community according to our mission statement:  
"Glenwood Lutheran Church invites and welcomes all people to become disciples of Christ by learning and teaching God's Word, worshipping and magnifying God's presence, and serving our neighbors, at home and throughout the world."

The Board of Stewardship has chosen just seven of the many ministries we carry out, to inform you, inspire you, thank you, and ask you to consider “stepping up” to.  
They include:

1. New Starts for Ukraine War Refugees
2. Communities of Caring Faith: Glenwood Retirement Village
3. The Old, Old Story in a New, New Way: Our Digital Livestream Ministry
4. A “Home” for Ministry: How Our Building Hosts Community Groups
5. HolyCOW: A Non-Traditional Ministry for Non-Traditional Times
6. A Sacred Place for Sacred Things: Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings, Funerals, Holy Communion and God’s Promises During these weeks we want to inspire and thank you for your commitment to mission and inspire you yet even more. Come hear how you can step up even as our congregation is stepping up and into God’s Kingdom!

## **A Snapshot of our Finances**

Thanks for your ongoing support of our ministry here at Glenwood Lutheran Church! Your continued generosity makes our mission concrete and visible in our building and in our community. As of October 1, our ministry received \$41,009 of gifts and income (including restricted giving) during the month of September, for a total of \$172,398 for May-September year-to-date. This is against a budgeted year-to-date income of \$216,852. On the expense side, we have incurred \$44,684 of expense during the month of September, for a total of \$197,453 for May-September year-to-date. Our budgeted year-to-date expense is \$233,276.

The staff and ministries of Glenwood Lutheran are using your ministry financial support with great responsibility and care—thank you for your gifts and trust in the ministry!



## It's MEATBALL SEASON!

(kinda like football season but more comforting)

Plans have begun for our Annual Meatball Dinner to take place **Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**, and *we will need your help.*

Volunteer opportunities include but are not limited to...

- Meatball prep – scoopers & bakers
  - Gravy stirring
- Potato & carrot peeling & cutting
  - Potato & carrot cooking
    - Potato mashing
  - Table setup & serving
- Baking & serving desserts
  - Dining Room service
    - Takeout service
    - Coffee making
    - Dishwashing
- Clean up & restoration

All the most excellent opportunities for fun fellowship! You really don't want to miss out.

I pray that you will say YES when you're called OR that you'll call one of the folks listed below to sign up.

We really can't wait to spread love and fellowship in the form of meatballs & gravy!

Co-Chairs Marci and Caitlin Henke 320-766-6265

Meatballs/Gravy...Sue & Jerry Wright 320-760-6388

Potatoes...David Shepard 612-669-2618

Carrots...Eric Kolstoe 320-805-0259

Potatoes, mashing....Judd Kuehne 320-634-3930

Bread...Marj Engebretson 320-424-3534

Dining Room...Jodi McGinty 320-424-0242

Serving Window...Carla Wildman 320-760-6295

Takeouts...Lois Swanson 320-815-8953

Ticket sales...Karen Bartels 320-424-3456

Dishwashing...Randy Guderian 320-491-3597





Glenwood Lutheran Church

# *Meatball Supper*

**WEDNESDAY  
OCTOBER 9, 2024  
4:30PM-7:00PM**

Meatballs & Gravy  
“Real” Mashed Potatoes  
Glazed Carrots, Coleslaw  
Bread  
Home-baked Desserts

## **Dine In**

**Adult~\$15**

**Kids under 12~ \$10**

**(Please use South Entrance)**

## **Take Out**

**Tickets~ \$15**

**(Please use MN Ave Entrance)**



# Calendar for October 2024

## Tuesday, October 1

7:00pm — Men's & Women's AA Meeting

## Wednesday, October 2

8:00am — Men's Bible Study/zone room/zoom

12:00pm — Officer's Meeting

1:00pm — Church Staff Meeting

5:15pm — Wednesday Worship Dinner

6:30pm — Wednesday Worship

## Thursday, October 3

8:30am — WELCA Board Meeting

9:30am — Coffee & Conversation

10:00am — Women's Bible Study

11:00am — Women's Mission Projects

## Saturday, October 5

12:00pm — Visitation of David Jergenson

1:00pm — Funeral of David Jergenson

## Sunday, October 6-Confirmation Sunday

8:30am — Traditional Service w/ Holy Communion

9:30am — Coffee Fellowship

9:45am — Adult Sunday School

9:45am — Adult Choir Practice in chapel

11:00am — Traditional Service w/ Holy Communion

## Tuesday, October 8

8:30am — Do Days Quilting

7:00pm — Men's & Women's AA Meeting

## Wednesday, October 9

8:00am — Men's Bible Study/zone room/zoom

1:00pm — Church Staff Meeting/library

4:30pm — Meatball Supper

## Sunday, October 13

8:30am — Traditional Worship Service w/ Holy Communion

9:30am — Coffee Fellowship

9:45am — Adult Sunday School

9:45am — Adult Choir Practice

10:15am — Early Childhood Family Education (ages 2-5)

11:00am — Confirmation Seminar Grade 9

11:00am — Traditional Worship w/ Holy Communion  
and baptism of Irelynne McGowan-Ogdahl

## Monday, October 14

7:00am — Zoom Devotions w/ Pastor Krista

6:00pm — Board Meetings

7:00pm — Church Council Meeting

## Tuesday, September 17

7:00pm — Men's & Women's AA

## Wednesday, September 18

8:00am — Men's Bible Study/zone room

1:00pm — Church Staff Meeting

## Sunday, October 20

8:30am — Traditional Worship Service

9:30am — Coffee Fellowship

9:30am — Adult Sunday School

9:45am — Adult Choir Practice

11:00am — Traditional Worship Service

# Calendar for October 2024

## **Tuesday, October 22**

7:00pm — Men's & Women's AA

## **Wednesday, October 23**

8:00am — Men's Bible Study/zone room

1:00pm — Church Staff Meeting

5:30pm — Holy COW/Confirmation Pizza Dinner!

6:30pm — Holy COW/Confirmation Classes

## **Thursday, October 24**

5:30pm — Decorating Committee Meeting

## **Sunday, October 27**

8:30am — Traditional Worship Service

9:30am — Coffee Fellowship

9:45am — Adult Sunday School

9:45am — Adult Choir Practice

11:00am — Traditional Worship Service

3:00pm — Troop Meeting

## **Tuesday, October 29**

7:00pm — Men's & Women's AA

## **Wednesday, October 30**

8:00am — Men's Bible Study/zone room

1:00pm — Church Staff Meeting

5:30pm — Holy COW/Confirmation Pizza Dinner!

6:30pm — Holy COW/Confirmation classes