



August 2021

Wednesday, August 18  
6 P.M.

**CHARITY FAMILY  
POTLUCK PICNIC  
IN THE PARK**

Sunday, August 22  
**KINDERGARTEN  
WELCOME DAY**

Fridays  
**CHILDREN'S  
PLAY DAYS  
IN THE PARK**

August 6  
**HORIZON PARK**

August 13  
**WACHTER**

August 20  
**EAGLES PARK  
MANDAN**

August 27  
**JAYCEE PARK**

Sunday, August 29  
**END OF SUMMER  
OUTDOOR WORSHIP  
10:30 A.M.  
SERTOMA #11**

# Good NEWS

## Charity Vision Statement

A place for healing where changed lives are gifted and empowered by the Holy Spirit and released to serve in the community for the glory of Christ.

## What is our vision?

By Pastor Sam Coleman

During August, we are focusing on our Charity Vision Statement for the preaching schedule. We are in the process of intentionally seeking how to follow the beautiful vision we've been given. We are asking questions like "What does it mean to be a place for healing" where "changed lives are gifted and empowered by the Holy Spirit" and "released to serve in the community for the glory of Christ." These vision statements sound amazing, but what does it look like, and how do we implement this calling on us as a congregation and as individuals?

I have recently assigned my children the task of watering our newly-planted fruit trees and shrubs and asked them to help pull weeds and keep things looking nice at our place. I would love to say that as soon as I asked them, they jumped up in excitement and perfectly watered the trees and pulled the weeds. But they didn't. Sometimes they showed some excitement, but they didn't quite get there as far as doing it right or to my expectation. Instead, through repeated teaching, learning, failure and success, they are in the process of learning how to water the trees and weed the flower beds.

I believe this is the process we are on here at Charity as well. We have been given the vision, and it is beautiful, but we need to continue to pray for God's direction, ask important questions, brainstorm ideas, and then implement solutions. There will be teaching,

learning, failure, and success in this process. But forward we will go by the grace of God! And the main reason behind this is because it is imperative. We need to be healed! We need to be gifted and empowered by the Holy Spirit!

We need to be released not only for our sakes but all of those around us!

Another aspect of accomplishing the vision laid out for us is that we can't do this alone. We can only do this together! We need to do this in friendship but even more important as family, as brothers and sisters encouraging and lifting each other up. I have had the amazing opportunity to be part of many different types of small groups such as individual and group Bible studies; a couples life group that has lasted for 16 years with three other couples; fun family groups; and also an accountability group with three other guys that are almost as close to knowing everything about me as my wife does.

Each of these groups has taught me so much, and there have been times that I needed to be lifted up in prayer, encouraged, or held accountable. There have also been times when I have done the same for someone else. We all need that!



**Pastor Sam  
Coleman**

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

# June, July, August

Recently, I recalled a time in the early eighties (that's 1980's for you young 'uns out there), when sitting through a monotonous accounting class at Moorhead State, the professor posed a question, "What are the three best things about teaching?" Well, of course, the answer was "June, July and August." It seems that the good professor was also looking forward to the end of the school year and spending the summer at his Minnesota lake cabin. The summer months are pretty valuable to those of us in the northern plains and upper midwest. So while we're busy doing all of the things that summer brings, we also notice these seasonal rhythms in the church, particularly related to service attendance and financial contributions. The writer of Ecclesiastes wrote, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." Ecclesiastes 3:1 NIV

As you can see in the accompanying financial chart on this page, our actual giving (revenue) for June was \$79,464, about \$16,000 below our budgeted giving... not unexpected in this summer season. Thankfully, we kept our actual expenses below the revenue, so there was a gain for the month of more than \$4,000. This is good news, and our hope and prayer is that we can continue

lowering our year-to-date deficit each month throughout the remainder of the year. Financially or otherwise, we don't always experience the safe consistency of income or relationships or any other aspect of life that we desire. Still, we can always give thanks to God for his provision. The writer of Hebrews wrote, "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.'" Hebrews 13:5 NIV

Increasingly more of our Charity family has taken advantage of our easy online giving program on a recurring basis. This helps keep our revenue more consistent over the summer months. Whether you are making contributions online or otherwise, please remember to continue supporting Charity, even though you may not be stepping through the doors on a Sunday morning! Just select the "GIVE" button at the top of Charity's home page at CharityLutheran.Org.



Doug Leet



June Actual Income	\$79,464
June Budgeted Income	<u>96,081</u>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 16,617</b>

June Actual Income	\$79,464
June Actual Expenses	<u>74,703</u>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 4,761</b>

YTD Actual Income	\$ 574,747
YTD Budgeted Income	<u>576,483</u>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 1,736</b>

YTD Actual Income	\$574,747
YTD Actual Expense	<u>629,199</u>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 54,452</b>

## August Anniversaries

**August 1** – Brian and Elizabeth Barrett  
**August 1** – Jeff and Kim Wood  
**August 2** – Ryan and Krystal Wrolstad  
**August 5** – Thomas and Jaime Lawler  
**August 9** – Keith and DeLores Soiseth  
**August 10** – Rob and Annette Erickson  
**August 10** – Mike and Judi Swanberg  
**August 11** – Dale and Dar Helfrich  
**August 12** – Zach and Ashley Pulver  
**August 13** – Mike and Mandy Gill  
**August 14** – Andrew and Keri Milas  
**August 15** – Wayne and Marie Levang  
**August 18** – Scott and Connie Carter  
**August 20** – Mark and Liz Landis  
**August 20** – Doug and Rhonda Leet

**August 21** – Steve and Pam Miller  
**August 22** – Eric and Mindy Hochalter  
**August 22** – John and Connie Shultz  
**August 23** – Michael and Jean Frykman  
**August 26** – Jeff and Carleen Carlson  
**August 27** – Fred and Deb Schauer  
**August 27** – Randy and Dottie Schmeling  
**August 27** – Charles and Brenda Whitman  
**August 29** – John and Barb Dwyer  
**August 29** – Trevor and Shanda Heidt  
**August 29** – Lynn and Linda Oby  
**August 31** – Marc and Corina Larson  
**August 31** – Ronald and Sharon Rosenvold

## MEMORIALS

### Wellspring –

In memory of Carol Schmierer by Arlan and Linda Okerson.

### Memorial Trust Fund –

In memory of Carol Schmierer by Al Schmierer, Wayne and Marie Levang, Chad and Laura Kourajian.

[WWW.CHARITYLUTHERAN.ORG](http://WWW.CHARITYLUTHERAN.ORG)

# Call Committee Report

Greetings from the Call Committee!

Here is the first of what will be monthly newsletter reports about our activities. Please check here every month for the latest news.

Committee members are Beth Allen, chair; Adam Berglund, vice-chair; Andrea Collin, secretary; Melissa Hill, Laura Kourajian and Scott Carter.

So far this summer, we have had a few initial meetings and have been getting into gear to begin the process of preparing to call a new senior pastor.

On July 19, Rev. Perry Fruhling, coordinator for pastoral ministries for

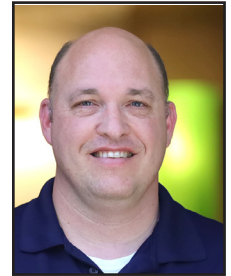
the LCMC, was in Bismarck to conduct a Call Committee Workshop for us. The information he presented was very helpful in preparing us for the process ahead, and we appreciate him meeting with us.

An email address has been set up for the congregation to reach out to us with any questions or concerns. It is call. [committee@charitylutheran.org](mailto:committee@charitylutheran.org). We look forward to hearing from you.

This is a time of transition and change, but those of us on the committee know "God's got this!" As He leads us throughout this process, we ask that you pray for us and our work.

# Greetings from the vision council

I'm going to start this month's article with this verse: "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ" (Philippians 1:9-10) This verse stood out at our Call Committee workshop held on July 19, 2021.



**John Seedorf**  
VC president

Pastor Perry Fruhling talked about transitions in the church. Dr. Darrell Puls, (Peach Bridge Ministries) said this, "There were good reasons why the Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years. They had to mourn the old, unlearn the old ways, and turn towards their new future. Quickly completed transitions usually fail. They are fueled by discomfort with ambiguity and a rush to find the new "comfortable."

We have to remember in this transition that it's God's business NOT our business. God will provide like he always has. Transition starts with an ending and finishes with a beginning. Pastor Perry expressed his gratitude towards Charity and feels that there are great things to come for us.

There has been some concern on where Charity is without a senior pastor? Who is making all the decisions that must be made? The Vision Council has empowered Sam and Doug to run the day-to-day activities with the oversight of the Vision Council. If there is an activity that cannot be solved in the day-to-day aspects, the Vision Council will coordinate with Sam and Doug with the help of the rest of the staff to come to an agreement that works for everyone.

Call Committee questions can be emailed to:

[CALL.COMMITTEE@CHARITYLUTHERAN.ORG](mailto:CALL.COMMITTEE@CHARITYLUTHERAN.ORG)

## August Birthdays

<b>August 1</b> Mark Aamodt Janell Devine Levi Helgeson Zachary Schmidt	<b>August 7</b> Sylvia Schmid	<b>August 15</b> Garik Schlecht Krista Sellers	<b>August 23</b> Nic Devine John Shultz
<b>August 2</b> Caroline Gill Rose Gitter Alison Lubbers Shawn Stelter Karen Wolff	<b>August 8</b> Lisa Keidel	<b>August 16</b> Brian Barrett Paul Kuehn	<b>August 24</b> Donna Doll Yvonne Fisher Susie Heid Ella Toman John Wehmhoefer
<b>August 3</b> Chere Allard	<b>August 9</b> Anika Butts Randy Traynor	<b>August 18</b> Shandra Heidt Braylon Robinson	<b>August 26</b> Lucy Bartholomew Isabelle Milas Leona Werner
<b>August 4</b> Jackson Lubbers Nichole Stoeckel	<b>August 10</b> Harrison Portra	<b>August 19</b> Mason Hanson Thomas Lawler Lori Lemmerman Arnold Leno Stephanie Murdock	<b>August 28</b> Justin Hausauer Bud Kuhn Lily Parnell Dottie Dixon Schmel- ing
<b>August 5</b> Maggie Dukart	<b>August 11</b> Lincoln Kuether Lynnea Ritz	<b>August 20</b> Chandra Stelter	<b>August 29</b> Keri Milas
<b>August 6</b> Vanessa Vincent	<b>August 12</b> Kari Penn Riley Thomas	<b>August 21</b> Autumn Roth	<b>August 31</b> Chloe Coleman Laverne Morrisette Don Wenzel
<b>August 7</b> Seth Casey Cheryle Christianson Amelia Gill Gayle Little	<b>August 13</b> Scott Carter	<b>August 22</b> Cassie Braun Jade Fluharty Karl Lemmerman Cullen Satrom Amanda Wolff	
	<b>August 14</b> Cassandra Becker Silas Kaldor		
	<b>August 15</b> Jon Haugen Barb Heim Floyd Jacober		

# YOUTH HAPPENINGS

## August 1 is Orange Sunday

The beginning of August is a big moment in children and student ministries. Summer is coming to a close (we're sad too) and it's time to start gearing up for the school year. We start preparing spaces, lesson plans, supplies, decorations and most importantly - we start asking you to consider whether God is leading you to volunteer to be a part of raising up the next generation of believers. We ask that you prayerfully ponder how God might use you, your story, and your giftings to impact the future leaders of His church.

The past couple of years have been challenging in so many ways, for almost everyone. Kids' ministry in particular suffered from a lack of adult leaders.

### Registration for fall classes open

It's time to register for fall classes! All kids and students from birth through 12th grade are required to have a registration form filled out. The registration form includes important waivers and information about the upcoming year and allows ministry leaders to plan for the needs of students accurately. The registration form may be found online at [charitylutheran.org](http://charitylutheran.org).

### Youth and Children's Volunteer Kick-off Event

All volunteers in kids and student ministries are invited to bring their families out to the Coleman's home at Circle C Ranch for a night of fellowship and fun before Rally Week. Staff will provide a meal and yard games starting at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 2. We'll spend a short time after dinner discussing some last minute orientation details, and then enjoy each others' company!

In preschool and elementary we had one adult volunteer over both hours of Sunday school. We love our Charity student volunteers and are incredibly thankful they said yes to making in-person ministry happen in such a time of uncertainty! We look forward to their continued involvement in kids' ministries. At the same time, we firmly believe that kids need to form healthy relationships with adults who can help them grow into their own authentic relationship with Christ and we know we have an opportunity to model leadership and mentor our student volunteers as they too continue to grow closer to Jesus.

Kids' ministry has two goals we've been

praying God will help us achieve:

1. Having at least one adult volunteer in every classroom every week.
2. Encouraging parent involvement in ministry.

Sunday, Aug. 1, we encourage you to attend services in person as the leaders of children and student ministries join Pastor Sam to share the philosophy and heart behind the way we minister to young people and their families. We are excited to share the possibilities and opportunities to grow together. In between and after services, we will be stationed in the fellowship hall to kick-off volunteer applications and answer further questions.

### Middle School and High School Kick-off Events

Are you ready to kick off another fun-filled year of youth ministry? We can't wait to see you here on Wednesday, Sept. 1. Check out the details below for specific times.

#### Middle School (grades 6-8)

6:15 - 7:15 p.m.

We're kicking the night off with a pizza dinner - yum! All middle school students and their parents are asked to attend and find out what's in store for this year. 6th graders will receive their confirmation Bibles at this time.

#### High School (grades 9-12)

7:30-8:30 p.m.

High school students and their parents are encouraged to attend this short informational meeting that will cover what to expect for the year, mission trip opportunities, and the confirmation process. We'll conclude with an ice cream sundae bar in the fellowship hall!



Stephen Ministers  
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258-1228



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To sign up go to the Charity website at [www.charitylutheran.org](http://www.charitylutheran.org) and click on the link.  
If you would like more information on it on what it can do for you call John Seedorf at 701-426-9768.

## Alpha offered for fall small group study

Charity is offering Alpha by Zoom or in in-person beginning this fall. This class is one of many offered this fall as part of our small group studies.

Alpha by Zoom begins at 8 p.m. Wednesdays beginning Sept. 8 through Nov. 17. Alpha lasts about an hour and a half and the weekend retreat is set for Saturday, Oct. 23.

In-person Alpha begins Monday, Sept. 13 through Nov. 22. The meal is served at 6 p.m., and class follows 6:30 to 8 p.m. The in-person weekend retreat is Saturday, Oct. 30.

Please contact the church office at 258-1228 if you are interested in signing up for volunteering for Alpha.

## Calling all prayer warriors

There will be a meeting at 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 19, for all Prayer Ministry people and anyone interested in becoming a part of prayer ministry at Charity.

There will be an opportunity for training if you feel called to become a prayer minister.

This meeting will be brainstorming how prayer ministry is performed at Charity.

Please contact Kathy Wermager at 701-390-7587, with questions or more information.

**Charity family**

# POTLUCK IN THE PARK

<b>Sertoma Park Shelter 10</b>	<b>Wednesday, August 18</b>	<b>6 to 8 p.m.</b>
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Join your church family for fellowship and yard games! Charity is providing the dessert gelato from FOMO 10/40 Creamery, so please bring an appetizer, entree or side to share. Paper products and water will be provided.



## August 2021 Preaching Schedule

<b>August 1</b>	The Holy Spirit in their lives (Youth Team)	Deuteronomy 6:4-7
<b>August 8</b>	A Place of Healing	Matthew 9:9-13
<b>August 15</b>	Changed lives are gifted	1 Thessalonians 4:9-12
<b>August 22</b>	Empowered by the Holy Spirit	John 14:15-17
<b>August 29</b>	Outdoor service – Released to serve in the community	Titus 2:11-14
<b>September 5</b>	Labor Day – Rallying around the plan for the glory of Christ	Isaiah 61:1-4

# Every child deserves a loving family

OMOL Ministry is extremely grateful to be one of the missions that is supported by Charity Lutheran. OMOL was originally founded in 2012, by several Charity families who shared a passion and heart for those seeking adoption, and for children awaiting their forever families.

OMOL Ministry is a non-profit Christian organization that was established to offer prayer support, community connection, financial grants up to \$3,000 for North Dakota families who are going through the adoption process. We believe that every child deserves to grow up with loving, nurturing families and parents capable of providing unconditional love on an ongoing basis.

One of the largest barriers for a family considering adoption is the financial burden. We exist to relieve some of the stress that families go through during

the adoption process. In addition to providing financial grants, OMOL recently started a prayer team. Each couple that applies for a grant is connected with a prayer team member who is available for them throughout their adoption journey. We also connect with many couples and families through our social media accounts.

OMOL was converted to a 501 C-3 organization and relaunched May 2020, which has helped us make a greater impact by reaching more churches and communities throughout ND. We continue to operate as a fully volunteer organization overseen by a volunteer board of directors.

OMOL has given out over 60 financial grants to qualifying applicants. We are inspired by James 1:27 "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after the orphans



and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

You can learn more about this ministry at [onemoreonelessministry.com](http://onemoreonelessministry.com), instagram, or Facebook.

## How can we accomplish the vision of Charity Lutheran Church together? Are you equipped?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

So my question to each of us is this:

- When you read the vision statement, is there something that stands out to you, and you say, "I want to experience or be part of that!"
- Do you feel equipped and empowered to accomplish the vision?
- What is hindering you from experiencing or being part of the vision?
- How can we accomplish this vision together?

I love where Isaiah the prophet is allowed to participate in the vision the Lord has set before him. He states, "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" I love Isaiah's response! "And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8)

If you are reading this today and have the same response as Isaiah, I would like

to encourage you in a couple of different ways.

First of all, understand that each one of us is critical to the vision God has called us to! Thank him for His faithfulness in leading us in the past, and know He is faithful in continuing to lead us in the future.

Get involved in a small group that is currently going or start a small group of your own! Opportunities that are happening or beginning at Charity this year are:

- Alpha
- Freedom in Christ
- Men's and Women's Bible studies
- Financial Peace
- Couple's groups
- Amazing Grays

Consider not only participating but also leading in one of these or following a passion of your own and inviting people along!

Serve as a small group leader or assistant in Charity's youth and children areas. Belong to our welcoming team, which

includes greeters, ushers, coffee hosts, or the visitation team welcoming and bringing gifts to new people. Have fun participating and planning fun events for the children, such as Jingle Jam, Easter Jam, the Tea Party, and Nerf Wars! Consider being part of a prayer team, participating in SOAR (Our Healing Service) on Tuesday nights, or a hospital visitation team. Perhaps you are being called to serve with the Wednesday night meal team?

Invite others to join you in asking the Lord, "Who in our community is making a difference and how can I help them?" Or "What does the school near me need?" Or "What does my neighbor need?" Brainstorm together, plan together, and start to accomplish together the direction the Lord gives.

I invite you to please join me in continuing to pray for this vision statement given to us at Charity and asking the question, "How can I be part of accomplishing this? and "How can we do this together?" Thank you, and God bless you!

# The sound of God's voice

**W**ater. Watching the faucet run unattended, draining water into an unplugged sink, I wonder to myself, "Do we realize how fortunate that even in this severest of all droughts (that I can remember) – we can still turn on a tap and there it is clean, clear and cold water."

Not every country is fortunate enough to have running water, fewer bathrooms with showers and such. My friends tease me about my water conservation practices. I recycle my bath water for plants; I turn the water off when I brush my teeth; I take short showers, and we do not water our lawn.

In this heat, deer come to our irrigation ditch and drink – even in the middle of the day, when deer are not usually active. We stare at each other until one

of us decides it's not safe and bolts. Left standing there to ponder the moment, the first two verses of Psalm 42 come to mind, "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God."

Water is on the minds of many farmers and ranchers these days. The trickle-down effect of the drought has yet to be realized by those not directly affected with crops or livestock in their care.

Not only do we crave water for an unquenchable thirst, but the earth and its inhabitants also do. Toads and snakes move into my garden and follow the drip lines because there is no rain. We pray for rain. Water is fine, but there is nothing like rain to soften the soil and revive a parched lawn.

Water is mentioned in the Bible a total of 722 times, more often than faith, hope, prayer and worship. Water in the Bible represents cleansing and a source of power. Jesus was baptized with water. He turned water into wine. He also said in John 7:38-39, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was

Did you Know?



**Psalm 42: As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. This doe brought her fawn to the water shortly after noon in early July on a 100-degree day.**

not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Imagine that, never being thirsty again? It's a difficult verse to absorb.

In addition to water as power and the Spirit, there are three verses in the Bible, Ezekiel 43:2, Revelation 1:15 and Revelation 19:6, stating the sound of God's voice is that of many waters. Can you imagine? The sound of water is so relaxing. But sometimes, it can be angry and roiling, pushed by the unseen winds.

I took a John Paul Jackson Prophetic Dream class some years ago and the leader told us we cannot hear God with our human ears and therefore we hear

the sound of water.

While I do not claim to have heard God speaking directly to me like he did some of our Old Testament favorites like Moses and David, I have listened to his voice in the sound of rushing water.

Are you thirsty this summer? Thirsty for the living God? I have plans to dance in the next rainfall. I know it will eventually rain because I saw the most beautiful rainbow – full from side to side and colorful as ever against the dark sky of the rain clouds. The clouds that on that day passed us by.

~ Sue Balcom

## SOAR

SOAR is a loosely structured service open to the Holy Spirit to lead. Worship can be expressed by those who gather to worship Jesus. Quiet time, prayer and worship with freedom to move with creative expression (which may include dancing, singing, painting, kneeling, sharing scripture or a prophetic word), teaching, and a time of debriefing and fellowship following the service. A pastor will be present at the service to provide guidance and teaching, as needed.

SOAR meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday evening in the sanctuary.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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**CHARITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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**End of summer**



**BASH**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 29**

**SERTOMA PARK SHELTER 11**

Charity is cooking.

There will be hamburgers, pulled pork and hotdogs, beans, coleslaw, watermelon, water. After Sunday School its play time with two inflatables, obstacle course, bounce house, games and ice cream treats.

**Bring your family, friends and lawn chairs.**