



November 2021

Friday, Nov. 12
8 P.M.
**MIDDLE SCHOOL
GAME NIGHT**

Tuesday, Nov. 16
**VISION COUNCIL
5:30 P.M.**

Friday, Nov. 19
**PINOCHLE
GAME NIGHT
6:30 P.M.**

Thursday, Nov. 25
**THANKSGIVING
WOW
NO MEAL
6:15 P.M.**

Sunday, Nov. 28
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Good

NEWS

Pastor Sam Coleman

Thanksgiving

As I write this newsletter article, I am sitting in an office piled high with balloons with messages written all over them welcoming me back to Charity after a week of moose hunting. There are messages such as "You're the best!" "You are loved, Sam and Sarah!" "Thanks so much for all you do!" And "Dearest Sam, you are such a blessing to my boys and I..." These are the best gifts the congregation could have given me! Thank you for the loving, fun, and inspiring messages.



Pastor Sam Coleman

It's amazing how much it means to each of us when the time and effort we invest are recognized and appreciated. I don't think we often do something purely for recognition, but it means a lot when another person notices and thanks you! It often confirms in our hearts and minds that the things we do and the time we invest are important and make a difference. I think God is the same way. He loves to give us good gifts. In fact, this passage from the Bible states, "Every good and perfect gift comes down from the Father who created all the lights in the heavens. He is always the same and never makes dark shadows by changing." James 1:17

I think about all the amazing gifts God gives us each day. We have been given time here, the ability to choose what to do with our time, and our bodies, including eyes, ears, heart, and much more. God has blessed us with relationships in our families and friendships, perhaps romantic relationships and spouses, and possibly children or grandchildren. We have been given the created world and the beauty all around to remind us of God's amazing character. We also have the things that make us unique in our hobbies and passions, giftedness and talents. Each of these elements are gifts from a good and loving God.

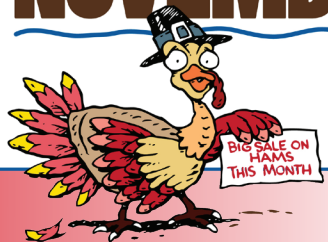
And then, most importantly, we've been given the gift of God's son and the sacrifice He gave for each of us. What amazing love. And then, as if that wasn't enough, we've been given the Holy Spirit to remind us of the hope we have through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection and the new life we have in him.

So as we come to this Thanksgiving season, I hope you are filled to the full with an appreciation of the gifts God has given you and just as the Psalmist declared, "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever." Psalm 107:1

May each of us walk in thankfulness to the Lord for all He has given us and recognize and appreciate all the people around us who have blessed us as well! God bless you and thank you.



NOVEMBER



Witness to the community

Charity Lutheran's Vision Statement states that "Charity is 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.**" Likewise, the preamble to Charity's constitution states that as a congregation, we are called to do eight things (with scripture references), one of which is to **"Witness to the community, nation, and world (II Timothy 2:15, Acts 1:18)."** You can check out Charity's constitution and preamble through a link on the Vision Council page of the website.

A long-time Charity member, Dr. Marlin Johnson, would sometimes remind the Saturday morning Bible study men that because of the neighborhood in which Charity is placed, it doesn't minister as much to the "down-and-outers," but more to the "up-and-outers." What he meant by that is that even though there may not be as many "under-served" families living close by, there's a spiritual need all around us regardless of income and social status. With the Centennial Elementary School area now having a

large number of subsidized apartments nearby, that isn't the case anymore. So it's exciting to see new outreach programs initiated through our children's and youth ministries in partnership with Centennial School. Please read Maggie Portra's article in this newsletter for more details.

Our Charity family is also a community in and of itself. I encourage you to read Connections Coordinator Nathaniel Oakland's article as well.

His work will intentionally connect folks at Charity through volunteer service teams, new member interest, welcome teams on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, small groups, Bible and book studies. All these things nurture and grow individuals in their faith walk with Jesus. Nathaniel will help bring more focus to "connections" as a ministry and align it with our mission and vision statements.

In reporting on Charity's year-to-date general fund financial status, you'll see on the accompanying chart that Charity

had \$16,000 more in contributions in September than expenses. That helped reduce our year-to-date shortfall in revenue over expenses to (\$26,000) through September. That is not a bad place to be with three months left in the year.

While we have been running short in our budgeted revenues, we've recently realized reduced expenses from unfilled staff positions. While that has helped our financial picture, it's only a temporary benefit, as those positions will be filled in the future. Please continue to give thanks to God for His provision, and please continue to help in any way you can, including volunteering and contributing financially.

As the old Bartles and Jaymes commercials used to say, "...and thank you for your support."



Doug Leet

Financial Report

Sept. Actual Income	\$83,148
Sept. Budgeted Income	<u>96,080</u>
Difference	\$ 12,932

Sept. Actual Income	\$83,148
Sept. Actual Expenses	<u>66,353</u>
Difference	\$ 16,795

YTD Actual Income	\$ 840,958
YTD Budgeted Income	<u>864,724</u>
Difference	\$ 23,766

YTD Actual Income	\$840,958
YTD Actual Expense	<u>867,300</u>
Difference	\$ 26,342

MEMORIALS

Charity Trust Fund:

In Memory of Dorothy Lommen and Carol Schmierer by Mark and Lisa Aamodt

In Memory of Wayne Reep by Duane and Darlene Bentz

Wellspring for the World

In Memory of Paulette Sommer by David Price

Tartu Academy of Theology

In Memory of Wilbert Fueller by Alvina Fueller

November Anniversaries

- November 2** – Craig and Sarah Erickson
- November 3** – Ray and Monica Eckroth
- November 3** – Zach and Kristina Vincent
- November 9** – Jim and Velvet Schmidt
- November 12** – Chad and Maggie Portra
- November 13** – Adam and Kelsey Bartholomew
- November 22** – Morris and Jocelynn Duffy
- November 28** – Matthew and Kelsey Nisbet
- November 29** – Ardean and Diana Harstad
- November 29** – Doug and Kathy Hruby



NOVEMBER 5-8
Pastor Sam will be out of the office.

Intentional interim pastor will be called

Our past reports on the initial work of the Call Committee have been relatively brief. Now that we have been meeting for a few months, here is a more detailed summary of what we have done.

After the Vision Council established our committee, one of the first meetings was with Rev. Perry Fruhling from the LCMC corporate office in July. He presented a training workshop on LCMC's best practices for calling a pastor. All members of the Call Committee, Doug Leet, Pastor Sam Coleman and Vision Council members John Seedorf and Craig Lohstreter attended.

Rev. Fruhling stressed we should expect that the process will likely take 12 to 18 months and shouldn't be rushed. He reminded us the timing is God's, not ours, and we should take the time necessary to find a senior pastor who is the best fit for our congregation.

He also encouraged the church to consider hiring an intentional interim pastor while we seek to call a new senior pastor, which the Vision Council has voted to do. An intentional interim pastor has special training to help churches work through unresolved issues in preparation for a new pastor and assist with other regular pastoral responsibilities such as preaching.

It's important to note that the intentional interim pastor is a staff position that will serve for a specific time. This person hired by the Vision Council, like other staff, will not be considered for the senior pastor position. And, unlike the senior pastor, this is not a position called by the congregation, which requires a congregational vote.

LCMC recommends churches seeking new pastors should implement its 12-Step Call Process, which we are doing. The Call Committee has completed the Congregational Profile, including church history, financial information, staffing, expectations and more. This profile, along with details about the Bismarck-Mandan community and an updated job description, is included in a packet sent to potential candidates once they are identified.

We have also completed the listing that will be posted on the LCMC website. It is there where LCMC churches across the country seeking pastors post their openings and where the names of pastors who are available for a call, interim appointments, pulpit fill and other roles can be found. That website is <http://www.lcmc.net>.

Currently, the Call Committee is working with the Vision Council to hire the intentional interim pastor while we continue to work through the 12-Step Call Process for calling a senior pastor.

We have scheduled a joint meeting with the Vision Council on Nov. 1, and are also meeting individually with all Charity staff members.

Would you please keep us in your prayers and continue to pray for God to lead us through this process? If you have questions or information to share, we welcome your input. Feel free to visit individually with Call Committee members Beth Allen, Adam Berglund, Scott Carter, Andrea Collin, Melissa Hill and Laura Kourajian. Or email us at: callcommittee@charitylutheran.org.

Transitional change is difficult

We are going to start this month with a Daily Blessing by Pastor Susie Larson.

"God is doing a new thing. Can you sense it? May you lean in and listen to that still small voice and take your next steps with a heart of faith and expectancy. May Jesus Himself give you a fresh vision for what breakthrough looks like so you will not lose heart or give up when it seems the battle rages on."



John Seedorf
VC president

During our call committee workshop, we learned that during a pastoral transition, LCMC congregations often seek out interim pastors who can assist them during a time of change. Charity is now in the process of looking for an intentional interim pastor to help ease the pressure of day-to-day operations of our current staff.

An intentional interim pastor has training for interim ministry and is called with a term limit for the purpose of bringing healing and change to a congregation. This is not a replacement or a new senior pastor.

The Vision Council and call committee are meeting to figure out the exact time frames and what voids that person will fill. Pastor Sam and Doug will still be the day-to-day decision-makers with vision council oversight.

The Vision Council and call committee will also be holding a quarterly question and answer forum. The times and locations of these are yet to be determined. Please watch the bulletins and newsletters for that information.

Recently I had a briefing on Prosci Change Assessment, and I thought about how that applies to Charity. ADKAR is an acronym for:

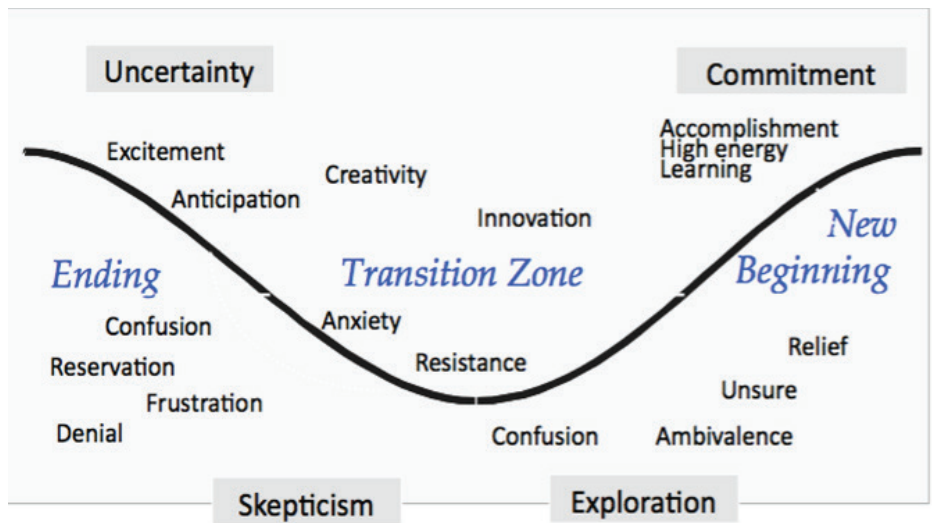
(Continued on page 4)

Call Committee questions can be emailed to:

CALLCOMMITTEE@CHARITYLUTHERAN.ORG

12-STEP PROCESS ON PAGE 4

Charity and change



(Continued from page 3)

- Awareness (of the need to change)
- Desire (to make the change happen)
- Knowledge (about how to change)
- Ability (to change)

Reinforcement (to maintain change)

The six steps to the change are:

1. Briefly describe a change (new pastor coming)
2. List the reasons you believe this change is necessary (No Senior pastor) (Awareness step)
3. List the factor (Good and bad) that create a desire to change (Desire Step)
4. List the skills and knowledge needed for the change, both during and after the transition (Knowledge step)
5. Considering the skills and

knowledge from above are, there any barriers inhibiting the church's ability (Ability step)

6. List the reinforcements that will help to retain the change. (Reinforcement Step)

One of the most complex parts of this model is that not everyone goes through the steps in the same order or in the same time frame. We must work through the transition as individuals as well as a congregation. I thought that this picture from the Call Committee workshop brings to light what Charity is going through at this time.

As always, if you have concerns or questions, please talk to someone on Vision Council, call me personally (701)426-9768, or email vision.council@charitylutheran.org. Vision Council meets every third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the fireside room; anyone is welcome to attend. Please let us know as soon as possible if wanting to attend for space purposes.

LCMC Suggested 12 steps in the pastor call process

1. Develop a communication Plan in conjunction with the church council.
2. Develop a congregational profile in conjunction with the church council.
3. Identify and articulate expectations of pastoral candidates in conjunction with the church council.
4. Actively seek candidates.
5. Prepare a packet of information materials for candidates.
6. Request documents from candidates seeking and available for a call.
7. Develop interview questions, including behavioral-based questions.
8. Conduct phone interview or use other online tools, to help narrow the number of candidates to bring in for a face to face interview.
9. Arrange and plan for an in person interview.
10. Determine and narrow the pool of qualified candidates and check references.
11. Select a final candidate and conduct a background check.
12. Negotiate total compensation package and present candidate in conjunction with church council.

Once those twelve steps are completed, we will then proceed with a call to a candidate, according to the congregation's bylaws. If the candidate accepts the call, it is common to expect an interval between 30 to 90 days before the candidate begins to work in your congregation.

ARTICLE VI: PASTORAL CALL

The Call Committee will review the pastoral staffing needs of the congregation, identify and interview pastoral candidates and make its recommendation to the Vision Council and to a meeting of the Voters' Assembly as to the issuance of a Letter of Call. The Call Committee's duties will end upon acceptance of the Letter of Call or other determination by the Voters' Assembly.

(Continued on page 5)

Amazing Grays celebrate thankfulness

Amazing Grays will be meeting for a catered dinner at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9, in the fellowship hall.

Following the meal, attendees can participate in "Being Thankful." People will be asked to share why they are thankful this time of year. Everyone is invited to consider thankfulness and

share a story, poem or reading on being thankful.

Please RSVP Renee Walz, 400-1201 or rwalz@bisman.net, by Sunday evening, Nov. 7, so adequate dinners can be ordered. Anyone over the age of 55 is invited to attend Amazing Grays monthly gatherings.



Introducing teams

This is not Microsoft teams. Here at Charity Lutheran, we want you to be part of a team! We believe serving will help build all of us in the community of God.

Attending church service on Sunday to sing and listen to the sermon is an act of worship. What are other acts of worship? One way is serving. Serving can be at the building on Sundays, during the week, or away from the building. God gave us spiritual gifts, which are talents that God has given us specifically to further his kingdom.

In Romans 12, God talks about these gifts. "Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts



Nathaniel Oakland

of mercy, with cheerfulness."

When Paul was speaking to the Ephesian elders, he said, "Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers,

to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood." Acts 20: 28. When Paul is saying to not only "pay careful attention to ourselves," he also said to "all the flock." I know we sometimes try to take care of ourselves and our immediate family, but we often forget about the rest of our church family.

How can we support and take care of

our Charity family? Joining a team and serving. You might look at Charity and think we already have ushers, hosts, people to lead student and children's ministry. That is true, but we need you to join our team. We want to get many people who feel called to use their gifts to connect and serve within the Charity family. I challenge everyone to talk to their friends about how they can get connected and help Charity Lutheran.

We will have many new "teams" on the Charitylutheran.org website in the next few weeks and months. If you go to "Serve" or "Opportunities to Serve," there will be teams to consider. Would you mind reading about the different teams and signing up to serve or learn more about that team?

We look forward to connecting with amazing volunteers and those praying to connect and serve.

12-step process

(Continued from page 4)

At a meeting of the Voters' Assembly called for that purpose, a two-thirds vote by a quorum of the voting disciples present and voting is required to approve a Letter of Call to a pastor.

A pastor accepting the congregation's Letter of Call will be loyal and faithful to the Word of God and the congregation's constitution and bylaws. The Vision Council, or its designees, will conduct an annual evaluation of each pastor called to serve the congregation.

Link to LCMC website:
www.lcmc.net/call-packet

Link to Charity Bylaws:
www.charitylutheran.org/uploads/8/1/3/5/81357278/sampleconscharity.pdf

Feel free to visit individually with Call Committee members Beth Allen, Adam Berglund, Scott Carter, Andrea Collin, Melissa Hill and Laura Kourajian. Or email us at: callcommittee@charitylutheran.org.

New Wednesdays Men's Bible study 'Go Fish'

Join this new Andy Stanley study at 8 p.m. Wednesdays in the Fireside room. Go Fish offers a new perception of the word "evangelism" by showing how believers can make it natural, easy part of everyday life. Divided into a six-session study, participants will enjoy the DVD lessons and thought-provoking study guide that help change the way they view sharing their faith.

SESSIONS

- We Were All Fish Once
- Fishing Buddies
- Why Fish?
- Muddy Water
- Fish Guts
- The One That Got Away

Contact John Seedorf 701-426-9768 or john.seedorf@charitylutheran.org or Ray Eckroth 701-989-0329 or ray.eckroth@gmail.com.

Gospel fest scheduled for Nov. 7 and Dec. 19

Sing along with your Charity friends from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7 at the next old-time gospel songfest singalong.

Choose from a list of your favorite hymns and sing along with the words conveniently posted on the screens in the sanctuary. This event is open to the community and surrounding areas so invite your friends.

Coffee and fellowship follows the singing. A freewill offering will be taken with proceeds going to Heaven's Helpers Soup Cafe.

The Christmas hymn fest is planned for 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19, with traditional and contemporary Christmas songs available to choose from. Questions? Text or call Lorri Mittleider 701-400-1849.

Introducing life groups

I want to introduce to you all a new exciting ministry opportunity at Charity Lutheran. Life Groups!

Life Groups are all about getting connected. In a church the size of Charity Lutheran, it can seem impossible to know everyone, but there is a way for you to get involved and belong. Whether your need to connect is more social, about spiritual growth or about finding a place to serve God, Life Groups are the ideal place for you.

What is a life group? It is where we find, enjoy, and share hope in Jesus together. Groups meet weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly in homes to engage in genuine and loving community, build our relationship with Jesus, and love our neighbors with the gospel. Life Groups are the heart of Charity Lutheran.

As Life group members “do life together,” they should commit acts of service together, whether in church, community or towards each other.

One primary benefit of a life group is the opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and strengthen relationships with other believers. Many believers find themselves too busy to gather with the body as a church or a small group. Why is that? I believe we don't place the priority on those relationships that scripture does. How many of us attend church Sundays and don't connect with anyone from the church throughout the week? Do we remember Sunday's message? Scripture tells us in Hebrews 10:24-25, “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

In the next few weeks, there will be information about life groups on the CharityLutheran.org website. If you feel called to host a life group at your house, please sign up with your information. If you as a family want to join a life group, please look through the list of different life groups and find the one that works for you.

Something new

How will this work be getting started? There will be a few groups listed on the website. Groups can meet any day of the week. Some possible groups meeting in homes could be college or 20-somethings, young adults, young marrieds, mixed/all welcome, empty nesters and many more. The host will determine how large their group can be. If you live in a one-bedroom apartment,

it might be hard to have eight couples. Charity's hope is each group has 4-8 couples or 8-16 people. All groups will be listed on the church website, but it will say “closed” if they fill up. If too many groups are filled, we will have to

have more which is a great thing. As a life group host, you will have access to materials for different studies. Some examples are a group of young couples with children who might want to go through a parenting study, while a group of all mixed might wish to study the weekly sermon messages more in-depth. Maybe you all want to read a book together.

If you would like to host but are worried about being the life group leader, you can contact me at Nathaniel.oakland@Charitylutheran.org.

I look forward to new ways to connect within your Charity Lutheran community.

~ Nathaniel Oakland

A Charity Mission Moment • Charity Trust Fund

What is a 'forever giver'?

What is a “forever giver?” It's a person or group that gives a gift that keeps on giving year after year with no end in sight.

Thank you, “forever givers.” So far, you have made more than \$22,000 (that's correct, \$22,000) possible with more to come for Charity youth and adult ministries and evangelism.

Who are the “forever givers?” Anyone who has gifted a memorial, honorarium or a donation to the Charity Trust Fund. The Charity Trust Fund is like a fruit tree. After planting with patience and care, it begins producing fruit. Initially, the harvest may be small, but the fruit tree produces more with time and growth. The monies donated to the Trust Fund are invested, and only 90 percent of the earnings can be disbursed. Thus every year, all current and previous donations are maintained, and the harvest comes in more significant and forever.

From the first fruits of \$400 to total disbursements of \$22,000, the “forever givers,” according to Crown Financial

Bible study, have followed a successful investment strategy to invest regularly, in other words, be a steady plodder. Proverbs 21:5 reads, “steady plodding brings prosperity; hasty

speculation brings poverty.”

If you want to join the action, give a memorial, honorarium or donation in any amount to the Charity Trust Fund. This donation makes you and your family part of something bigger than yourself and provides a legacy that multiplies your gift “forever.” Why not strap on the “forever givers” belt, or if you already own one, add another notch or two to yours.

Check out the online giving option at CharityLutheran.org.

~ Wayne Levang, Charity Trust Fund



Elementary

Everything we have comes from God. He is faithful providing what we need. And even more than what we own, God can also provide what we need to face whatever happens in our life. God has proven time and again that we can trust Him no matter what. We can complain or become jealous of what others have . . . or we can choose to respond with contentment, knowing that God has a plan for our lives.



Preschool

This month we are going to use a community garden to teach our preschoolers that “I can thank God for everything.” Wow, there is so much goodness in that one statement.

First of all, I can thank. Choosing to be thankful is the road to contentment, joy, and peace. And we want our preschoolers to have all of that goodness in their lives. Second, I can thank God. Thanking God is how we acknowledge the One giving us all the good in our lives. And third, I can thank God for everything. Yes, even the not-so-good stuff. When we thank God for everything, we show God that we believe He can use ALL things for His purpose and nothing is too big for Him.

We want our preschoolers to know they can thank God for everything. We want them to experience the contentment, joy, and peace that comes from a thankful heart.



Charity Kids Upcoming

- 9 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 • Kids Christmas Services
- 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 • Kids Christmas Services
- 6:15 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8 • Kids Christmas Services
- 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15 • Jingle Jam
- Friday, Jan. 14 • Bottineau Ski Trip





Elementary Director Maggie Portra

Call to prayer over after school ministry

Last Sunday during services I shared about an opportunity that was presented to us by Centennial to create an after school club. Since then, we have been told that it is no longer something we are able to do right now. We are asking you to keep this ministry lifted up in prayer. We pray that whatever roadblocks have been put in our path, God would break those down and remove them in His timing. We know that we have been called to serve here and we will continue to do so in other ways.



Maggie Portra

The informational/planning meeting scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 4 at 7 p.m., has been postponed until after the holidays. We intend to meet in the new year to pray and discuss other options and what God has in store for us in this type of ministry.

Thank you so much for your continued support and prayers.

Middle School

Confirmation students will be starting a 3-week series about forgiveness. We'll focus on three main themes surrounding this topic.

When you don't forgive, it hurts you.

Everybody needs forgiveness.

Forgiveness takes time.

READ THIS PLAN WITH US

IT'S AS EASY AS:

1. OPENING YOUR YOUVERSION BIBLE APP.
2. GOING TO THE READING PLANS.
3. SEARCHING FOR "BITTERSWEET".

FOR AN **everyday faith.**

WOW Winter Finale

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021

High School

Okay. So, you've forgiven, but how can you tell if it's even working? The hurt, frustration, or confusion is still genuine and "they" never actually said sorry. We know when the worst stuff happens to us it can feel sweet to stay bitter. But maybe there's a better answer. In this series we'll learn how when you don't forgive, it hurts you, that everybody needs forgiveness, and how it's okay that healing doesn't always happen overnight.

Join us for a YouVersion Bible Study that goes along with this series.

Charity Student News

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8 • High School Christmas Party

6-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 • Middle School Ugly Sweater Christmas Party

8-12 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12 • Middle School Fun Night

Friday, Jan. 14 • Bottineau Ski Trip

Heaven and Nature Sing

JOIN US FOR

Christmas Eve Worship

Friday, Dec. 24

12:30 p.m.

2:30 p.m.

4:30 p.m.

'For Our Neighbors' initiative begins

What is "For Our Neighbors?"

God is very clear about what is most important. Love God and love your neighbor. (Matthew 22: 37-39) Our neighborhood consists of many individuals with various backgrounds, beliefs, and socioeconomic statuses. It is no mistake that God placed Charity in THIS neighborhood with THIS congregation for THIS time in history. We are in a place to bring people around us into relationships with God by following His commandments to love them and share His goodness with them.

We have identified four distinct and strategic ways in which Charity can be for our neighbors:

Community Events

Neighbors get together to play, talk, laugh, and share meals. Yet with busy lives and sometimes limited resources, not everyone has opportunities to have fun together in safe, positive environments. That's why it's important to us to leverage some of our more significant events as opportunities to build relationships with our neighbors. We'll do this by strategically planning and advertising events that welcome the people around us and point back to Jesus. Jingle Jam, Trunk or Treat, Men's Nights, Women's Retreats, and Family Nights are just a few examples of these kinds of events.

Meeting Neighbors' Emotional & Spiritual Needs

Neighbors help one another by doing life together and taking care of each other when situations arise. We can meet, encourage, support, and bring healing to those around us through various ministries already in place. This includes ministries such as Amazing Grays, Stephen Ministry, GriefShare, Bible studies, life groups, and more.

Meeting Neighbors' Physical Needs

We don't tend to think of our neighborhood as being one with significant financial needs. Still, there are currently around 90 students in our neighborhood elementary school alone whose families are living below the poverty level. Most of these students and their families live within walking distance from Charity. How awesome it is that we have the opportunity to be a shelter in Christ that is so easily accessible to these families! We will continue our work to support the physical needs of the families in our community through food drives, school supply donations, etc. See the article on The Helper List to learn more about a new way we can share our blessings and help others around us.

Partnering With A School

Charity has developed a partnership with Centennial Elementary and through that we have been able to provide support for many needs in our neighborhood and will continue to serve in new ways as opportunities arise.

Our prayer is to be intentional in these four initiatives and build relationships with our neighbors that lead to relationships with Jesus. As we are a shelter in Christ, transforming lives, let us be a beacon of hope to our neighbors.

THE HELPER LIST

for our neighbors



One strategy of the 'For Our Neighbors' initiative is meeting some of the physical needs of our neighbors. Through conversations with congregation members and our partnership with Centennial Elementary School, we occasionally receive requests for specific needs of individuals or families. These requests are often small but significant to the health and well-being of the person in need - think diapers, a pair of shoes, a coat, socks, etc.

We have individuals offer to help meet similar needs, whether groceries, school supplies or clothing. Charity's congregation is always willing to help.

To better organize resources and match requests for assistance, we've created The Helper List. The Helper List is a list of individuals who are saying "yes" to fill a specific need. When a request for help is received, the first person on the list will be contacted and asked to fill that need. If so, great. We'll coordinate the details from there. If a helper cannot meet the need for any reason, we move to the next helper. We will continue through the helper list and back around to the top of the list.

Anyone can be a helper. Scan the QR Code or visit www.CharityLutheran.org to join The Helper List today.



- ISOLATION AND LONELINESS
- ANXIETY OVER HEALTH
- GRIEF DUE TO MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF LOSSES
- TENSION FROM JUGGLING WORK, CHILDCARE, AND SCHOOLING
- FINANCIAL STRAIN OR JOB LOSS
- UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE FUTURE
- OTHER UNEXPECTED LIFE CHALLENGES?



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

If so, you don't have to face it alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support.

A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately—by phone, by video chat, or, if safely possible, in person—to offer care and support. It's free and completely confidential. For more information, call our church office.

258-1228

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

Grace, Grace, *Marvelous* Grace

A Women's Gathering

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. *Hebrews 4:16*

Natalie Dawn Hanson headlines event

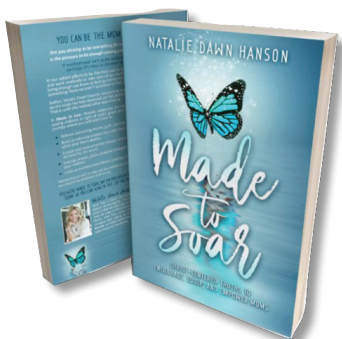


Natalie Dawn Hanson

Tickets are still available online for Charity's women's retreat, "Grace, Grace, *Marvelous* Grace," set for 9 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22.

Natalie Dawn Hanson, who is a niece of Don and Kathy Nordquist and David and Jennifer Bjork, will headline this one-day event and registration is limited to 80 women. Hanson is an author, speaker, and coach.

She's the author of *Made to Soar: Christ-Centered Truths to Encourage, Equip, and Empower Moms*; creator of the online coaching program, *The S.O.A.R. Method*; and founder of the *Made to Soar* Movement and the *Soaring Sisters Community* all designed to guide women from places of uncertainty, insecurity, and unsteadiness to places of clarity, courage, and strength in all areas of their lives so they can discover their divine identity and purpose, live their dreams with passion, commit to a life of intention and unity with God, and band together as sisters in Christ to positively impact the world and build up the next generation of believers.



Hanson believes every woman was created to unfurl her wings and soar in the joy and beauty of her divine purpose, and she's committed to empowering women to do so.

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Tickets are \$15 and includes lunch. PLEASE register for the event and select your breakout sessions online at CharityLutheran.org, scan the QR code or call the church office at 258-1228, if you have already registered. Childcare will NOT be provided.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 9-9:30 a.m. Registration
- 9:30-10 am. Announcements and Worship with Charity's team
- 10-11 a.m. **God's Gift of Grace Now What?**
Natalie Dawn Hanson
- 11 a.m. - Noon BREAKOUT SESSIONS
 - 1. Drawing Close to the Waymaker** – During this time we will use worship, art and prayer to lay down your burdens and open your hearts to God's promises and healing. Prayer ministry will be available also. Brenda Whitman
 - 2. Art of Worship** – Exploring creativity as an act of worship. Sarah Coleman
 - 3. Spiritual Gifting/ Love Language** – How to live life more abundantly by knowing your spiritual gifts and love languages. Chere Allard
 - 4. Let's Talk About It** – Review of Natalie Hanson's message Q&A. Carol Bjork
 - 5. Legacy – Live It! Leave It!** Legacy focuses on what will endure. It's about passing on things of lasting value to those who will live on after us. Shelley Traynor
- Noon - 1 p.m. LUNCH
- 1-1:30 p.m. Worship with Natalie Hanson
- 1:30-2:30 p.m. **Claim Your Purpose, Embrace Your Race.** Natalie Dawn Hanson
- 2:30-3:30 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS
Repeat Morning Sessions
- 3:30-4 p.m. Closing



Help up welcome our newest members to Charity. These families completed the steps to become a part of our family. New member Sunday was held Oct. 24.



Justin and Germain Krueger, Carter and Cortney



Austin and Kayla Wiest, McCoy



Lorell and Renae Jungling



Cordell and Dorinda Wiest



November 1
Taya Bauman

November 2
Charles Little

November 3
Sheri Buntrock
Christian Skjod
Edward Stoeckel

November 4
Braiden Kuehn
John Seedorf

November 6
Jeff Brown
Rob Erickson
Brady Korsmo
Tressa Lindsay
Eloise Sullivan
Justin Theel

November 7
Irelyn Duffy
Craig Keidel
Jaxon Miller

November 7
Brenda Reems
Ethan Schlecht

November 8
Marian Fluharty
Clark Johnson
Zach Pulver

November 9
Brad Hoffman

November 10
Sharon Zempel

November 11
Marlin Johnson
Khalila White Lightening

November 12
Linda Bucholz
McKenzie Dahle
Patricia Dwyer
Michael Fluharty
Tanya Lasher
Noel Laxdal
Sandy Seedorf

November 13
Sean Helgeson
Elaine Magstadt
Nellie White Lightening

November 14
Robert Bauer
Scott Wegner

November 16
Meghan Dohrmann
Tyler Giffey

November 17
Brahnan Heidt
Terry Sletto

November 18
Lexie Allen
Ron Mathern
Stanley Miller
Jakob Schmid
Jillissa Vollmer

November 19
Sean Korsmo
Kenneth Slag
Shea Theel
Charmaine Wehmhoefer

November 21
Noah Abonna
Clay Feland

November 23
Tamara Neumiller

November 24
Larry Hjemeland
Monica Lang
Jeremy Lasher
Ronald Rosenvold

November 26
Kelsey Bartholomew
Chris Bitz
Ruth Erickson
Barb Lee

November 27
Joshua Kuhn
Linda Mathern

November 28
Lily Giffey

November 29
David Jensen

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Bismarck, ND 58503



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www.charitylutheran.org



PACK A SHOEBOX!

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Charity no later than
Sunday, November 21.



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