

HOSANNA HERALD

NOVEMBER 2025

VOLUME 46 ISSUE 11

"As a Christian family of faith, we are gathered to grow and sent to serve"





Dear Beloved of Hosanna,

Halloween decorations are down... discounted candy is gone from the stores and now Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations are out.

How we rush this season!

But it is important to pause and give thanks. Thanksgiving is a time for us to take a break from the rapid pace of everyday life to experience a sense of love and joy, and an opportunity to reconnect with family and friends.

And for many, this time of year can bring a sense of loss, painful memories, and grief for what was or what might have been or what is not. This year holds uncertainty and even chaos for many.

So, this month I want to share a blessing from one of my favorite authors, Jan Richardson.

Blessing in the Chaos

To all that is chaotic in you,
let there come silence.
Let there be a calming of the clamoring
a stilling of the voices that claim on you,
that have made their home in you,
that go with you even to the holy places
but will not let you rest
will not let you hear your life with wholeness
or feel the grace that fashioned you.
Let what distracts you cease.
Let what divides you cease.
Let there come an end
to what diminishes and demeans,
and let depart
all that keeps you in its cage.
Let there be an opening into the quiet
that lies beneath the chaos,
where you find peace
you did not think possible
and see what shimmers within the storm.

~ a blessing from The Painted Prayerbook by Jan Richardson

May a sense of gratitude and peace fill your hearts.
Pastor Krista





Capital Campaign Update By Rob Larsen



Hosanna Family,

It is hard to believe that we are already one year into our “Sowing Seeds of Faith for Today and Tomorrow” capital campaign. Due to the **outstanding generosity** of our members, we have received **more than \$304,000 towards our projected total of \$634,000 pledged!** On behalf of the Hosanna Council and the Capital Appeal leadership team, we would like to convey our heartfelt thanks.

Our properties team continues their hard work towards each of our Capital Campaign projects. They have been extremely busy gathering bids, meeting with contractors and evaluating the priority of each project.

Capital Campaign Projects Review:

- *Church Parking Lot Repair *(Completed in June)*
- * Sanctuary Window Repair
- * HVAC Update
- * Roof Repair
- * Memorial Garden Wall Repair *(In progress)*
- * Fire Suppression System Update
- * Carpet Replacement
- * Exterior Building Envelope Repair *(Completed in 2024)*

Work to repair the Memorial Garden wall should begin soon (some delays were experienced waiting for materials to become available). Brick repair and tuck pointing will be done, and the slanted brick walls will be capped with metal that matches the cross in the middle of the memorial garden wall. This will protect the wall from further damage.

Your generosity continues to make a tremendous difference in the future of our church.

Thank you for your support,

Rob Larsen
Council President

Ephesians 1:3 NLV -
*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in the heavenly realms
with every spiritual blessing in Christ.*



LETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Greetings People of God at Hosanna Lutheran Church!

I write to you to share a bit of news with you.

One of your neighboring congregations, Peace Lutheran Church of Eyota, has been in a discernment process about their current pastoral needs and their financial capacity for pastoral support. Many of our smaller congregations in the SEMN Synod have been having similar discernment conversations.

The result of this discernment process for Peace Lutheran is that they have come to realize that they are only able to minimally compensate a pastor and therefore, they have prioritized the pastoral needs as preaching two times per month, teaching confirmation one time per month, and providing pastoral care in times of death or emergency.

The work of the SEMN Synod Office of the Bishop is to think creatively about how each congregation in our synod might be served by faithful leaders. We have done this through inviting congregations and pastors to enter what we are calling, a Holy Experiment. A Holy Experiment is a time when a pastor and a congregation enter an arrangement for a 'trial time' to see if it could be an arrangement that might work longer term.

Understanding that the pastoral needs of Peace Lutheran Church are minimal, we approached Pastor Strum with the possibility of trying a Holy Experiment with Peace Lutheran while continuing to serve in her full capacity at Hosanna Lutheran. Again, the pastoral needs at Peace Lutheran are for worship leadership two times each month so that the sacraments might be celebrated and there can be consistency in this, pastoral care in times of funerals and/or crisis, and the teaching of confirmation to two students one time each month. Pastor Strum and Reverend Barb Streed, Assistant to the Bishop, met with the leadership of Peace, Eyota to learn more about how this might work. Pastor Strum said she would pray about this opportunity and consider it, as well as bring the idea to the congregational council at Hosanna Lutheran.

After prayerful consideration, Pastor Strum and the congregational council of Hosanna Lutheran shared there was an openness to a Holy Experiment with Peace Lutheran with the following parameters:

Pastor Strum will:

- (1) provide worship leadership (preach and preside) at Sunday worship on two Sundays a month for three months [November 9 & 16, December 7 & 21, and January 4 & 18].
- (2) provide confirmation instruction one time each month directly after worship on one of the Sundays she is at Peace preaching/presiding.
- (3) provide pastoral care in the event of a death in the congregation and/or in the event of an emergency.



LETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP CONTINUED:

Peace Lutheran will:

- (1) compensate Pastor Strum directly for her service
- (2) utilize the same scripture texts as Hosanna Lutheran thus Pastor can preach the same sermon at both congregations
- (3) change their worship time to 11:00am to accommodate Pastor Strum and honor her time on Sunday mornings at Hosanna Lutheran.

Hosanna Lutheran will:

- (1) graciously provide time for Pastor Strum to lead worship at Peace Lutheran on the named Sundays of each month which will require her to leave Hosanna Lutheran by 10:30am on those Sundays.

The Holy Experiment period will occur: November 2025, December 2025, January 2026.

A review of the Holy Experiment will occur: January 22 with leadership from Peace Lutheran, Hosanna Lutheran, Pastor Strum, and a representative from the SEMN Synod Office of the Bishop.

It is with a heart full of thanksgiving to both Pastor Strum and the people of Hosanna Lutheran that we share this news with you. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns do not hesitate to reach out to any of the following: Pastor Krista Strum; Rob Larsen, Hosanna Lutheran Council President; Reverend Barb Streed, Assistant to the Bishop, SEMN Synod of the ELCA, streed@semnsynod.org

Together in Christ,
Pastor Barb Streed, SEMN Synod Office of the Bishop



HOSANNA LUTHERAN COUNCIL MEETING

October 9, 2025

Attendees: Rob Larsen, Kristen Anderbeck, Barb Schepp, Paul Anderson, Lukas Phillips, Randy Helling, Paul Solum, Karla Weis, Pastor Krista Strum, Barb Streed via ZOOM, Alice Kub.

Meeting Called to Order by Rob at 6:30PM

Opening Devotion

Congregational Comments - None

Approval of October Agenda, September Council Minutes and September Financial Statements.

Old Business

- a. Capital campaign update – almost at \$300,00.
 - 1. Memorial Garden – material procurement flex. Getting metal caps. Waiting on materials.
 - 2. Capital Campaign mailers – Paul will work with Allison to get them sent out.

New Business

- a. MN Family Leave Act information. Effective 2026. Employees need to have covered leave. Motion to approve covering 100% of the premium for employees of Hosanna.
- b. Request from SE MN Synod (Barb Streed) – letter was presented and discussed re: Pastor Krista offering two church services/month, a confirmation class for two students and covering for emergencies and funerals for Peace Lutheran Church in Eyota for November, December 2025 and January 2026, per their need. Request was voted on and approved by the council. This will be reviewed in January 2026.
- c. Advocate Budget Discussion – please sent contributions for stewardship letter to Pastor Krista.
- d. Review of safety plans. We do not have any in place. Lukas will reach out to RPD/RFD/Sheriff.

Advocate Reports:

Outreach – report as submitted

Discipleship – report as submitted

Worship – we have a person interested in leading GRACE Team. We are preparing for Confirmation, All Saints Sunday, Youth led worship in November, Thanksgiving, Christmas Program, Christmas Eve and decorating for the holidays.

Support – working on: Bid for HVAC for Narthex and Memorial Garden wall. Solar Energy – financing/credits – exploring and to be discussed next month. Met with RPU – some inexpensive repairs could possibly decrease our rate schedule and assist with energy efficiency.

Fellowship – New member class was held recently; sitter service and Hill Climbers have started again after a summer break; Grief group has been well attended; Parents in Prayer will continue monthly.

Staff Reports: Reports read/submitted.

Adjournment by Rob at 8:14PM

Respectfully submitted by Pastor Krista

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 13 at 6:30pm

Treasurer and Financial Secretary Report

SEPTEMBER 2025

Income/Expense Comparison

General

<u>2025</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budget	\$ 34,329	\$308,961
Income	\$ 24,671	\$269,742
Expense	\$ 28,541	\$264,952
Net Income	\$ (3,870)	\$ 4,790



Hosanna's Christmas Bazaar Saturday, December 6 9AM-2PM

Hosanna will be hosting our
**3rd Annual Christmas Bazaar on
Saturday, December 6th.**

We are looking for craft vendors for the bazaar.

If you or someone you know
would like to sell their craft items,
please contact Barb Schepp at
barbaraschepp64@gmail.com

***We will also be accepting gently used
Christmas decorations for the bazaar.***

These items can be dropped off at Hosanna.
There is an area in the basement for them.

*If you are able to assist with the
bazaar or donate baked goods,
please click on the link below
to sign up!*

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B49A8A723AAFA7-58954014-hosanna>





Blood Drive

**Monday,
December 15
11 AM - 5 PM**

HILLTOPPERS

**Tuesday, November 11 at Noon
Call Julianne Jahn by Friday, November 7
to make your reservation: 507-202-9752**

MULTIGENERATIONAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

***The multigenerational Christmas Program will be held
during worship on December 14.***

The Hosanna choir and Sunday School children have been working hard to learn the songs, both new and familiar.

Parents, please watch your email for more information about the program, including sign-ups for your kids. We will need kids willing to take on speaking parts, both large and small.

There are also opportunities for singing a solo or as part of a small group. If your child plays an instrument, they are welcome to play something as part of the prelude.



Older kids and youth are encouraged to participate and are a vital part of the Christmas Program; their participation provides leadership and extra confidence for our youngest singers.

Please contact Adrian or Lukas with any questions, or for more information.



Hosanna Sunday School

Please join us **each Sunday from 10:15 to 11:00 AM**
for Hosanna's Sunday School!

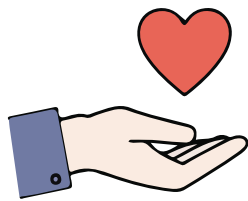
Below, you will find the lesson topic for each week.

November 5th - Fire from Heaven

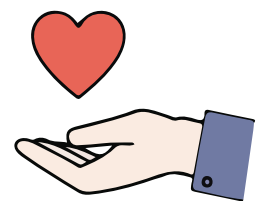
November 12th - God's Beloved Children

November 19th - Israel, God's Vineyard

November 26th - Josiah finds the Scroll



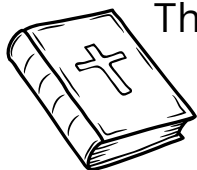
**For November, the Sunday School is
giving all its Sunday School offerings to
Lutheran World Relief to support victims
in Gaza and Ukraine.**



Good Earth Village Birdhouse Cleaning!



Confirmation Class



This month, we will continue to review the Holy Bible,
diving into each book and how the stories
help form our faith journeys.





SEEKING
to
BLESS

Recent BLESSING BUCKS
have gone to:

- **a congregation member's family friend, who was attacked by a dog
- **180 Degree Von Wald Youth Shelter
- **John Adams resource room
- **Community Food Response
- **Hosanna's indoor and outdoor Pantries
- **A community member in need

Since February 2023,
\$23,252.87 in BLESSING BUCKS
has been shared with the community !!



Stephen Ministers are the "after people".

They come after a normal life transition that seems overwhelming. They're ready to walk alongside you and provide comfort, support and a listening ear for as long after as you need it.

Please contact Pastor Krista, Les Leamons or Dave Wilcox to learn more.

"We all have our own experiences with life's challenges, from everyday bumps and bruises to major struggles and tragedies. In the midst of that, it's both healing and comforting when someone offers us the gift of empathy-when they take a moment to listen, feel our hurt, and show that they truly get it and care about what we are going through."

from the book *The Gift of Empathy* by Joel Bretscher and Kenneth Haugk



**THANK
YOU!**

Gertens Christmas Greenery Fundraiser

Thank you to all who purchased their Christmas greenery and poinsettias from Hosanna's Gertens Fundraiser. The order will be delivered on Monday, November 24th and will be ready for pickup that afternoon! Just in time for your Thanksgiving holiday!



SITTER SERVICE and HILL CLIMBERS!!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Hill Climbers is an adults' night out for anyone not ready for Hill Toppers. We will meet at Smoak at 6:30 PM for time of fellowship. Please contact Kari Larsen 507-261-0327 if you are interested. *Sitter Service* is available that night at the church for children, ages 6 months and up, 6 - 10 PM. Please contact Paul Anderson 507-951-6903





Overland Volunteer Program



Hosanna Lutheran is again partnering with Overland Elementary School this fall to provide Overland's students with reading and other learning opportunities during the school week.

If you have any questions, new partnership ideas, or would like to become involved in this volunteer program, please contact Lukas Phillips at lukas.phillips@hosannalutheran.org.

*Overland Elementary has been very grateful for our partnership!
Thank you!*



LEFSE MAKING at HOSANNA UFF DA!

Are you interested in making some LEFSE?

Well, we know just the place!

That place is Hosanna Lutheran Church on

Saturday, November 22nd.

The time will be at **2 PM.**

Yes, you can come after 2 PM.

We will stay as long as necessary to accommodate all who are interested.

Need equipment?

We have it. Need a recipe? We have those. Need instruction or training?

You've come to the right place.

There is a sign-up sheet and a perfect lefse recipe in the Narthex,
or if it's more convenient, you can contact:

*****Karla Weis (507-254-6875)/kweis@charter.net;***

*****Steph Stevens (507-259-0767)/stephrn11@gmail.com;***

*****Paul Anderson (507-951-6903)/andersonpaulr45@gmail.com.***



*****Hosanna's Pantry Holiday Openings*****

November 21 and 22

December 19 and 20

Come and serve at Hosanna's Pantry before the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays in 2025. We'd like to encourage new volunteers in November and December. It's a great way to help families in need as they prepare for the holiday season. Since our pantry openings are on Saturdays, children are invited to help with their parents.

It's also a great way for teens to earn service hours. Thank you!

If you'd like to learn more or to volunteer in November and December, please contact Barb Anderson, at barblea46@gmail.com or Bob Nordman, nordmanr@gmail.com.

Turkeys and Pies for Hosanna's Thanksgiving Pantry

We'll be handing out turkey breasts and pumpkin pies to all the families who come to the Pantry on **November 22**. With all the families in need this year, we may be serving up to 75 families that Saturday!

Turkey breasts will be purchased from the Hy-Vee on Circle Drive.

Donations to cover the cost of the turkeys would be appreciated.

Envelopes will be available in the Narthex.

If you'd like to help with the pies, please make or purchase a pumpkin pie and put it in a gallon plastic bag for ease of handling. Bring it to Hosanna's conference room on Saturday morning, November 22, before 9:00 AM. This extra personal touch will help brighten Thanksgiving for many families in need.

Please email or text Barb Anderson at barblea46@gmail.com or 507-951-6848, or use the Sign-up Genius in the HLC Connection so we know how many pies to expect.





CONFIRMATION YOUTH 2025



COUNCIL MEMBERS

COUNCIL ADVOCATES

Discipleship: Kari Larsen

discipleship@hosannalutheran.org

The ministry of growing disciples through the education of children, youth and adults in the congregation shall be the focus of this advocate.

Fellowship: Kristen Anderbeck

fellowship@hosannalutheran.org

The ministry of caring for the members of our congregation through spiritual, emotional, physical and social support of both members and visitors is the focus of this advocate.

Outreach: Terri Ashworth

outreach@hosannalutheran.org

The ministry of sending our members out to serve and care for our world and promoting Hosanna's presence through local community and global ministries shall be the focus of this advocate.

Support: Randy Helling

support@hosannalutheran.org

This advocate will help develop and support committees/teams that will carry out the work required for our church to function in the areas of property, business and finance, memorials and trusts and personnel.

Worship: Karla Weis/Rachel Gray

worship@hosannalutheran.org

The spiritual life and growth of our congregation through liturgy, music and stewardship shall be the focus of this advocate.

ADVISORY MEMBERS

Treasurer: Alice Kub

treasurer@hosannalutheran.org

Financial Secretary: Paul Anderson

financialsecretary@hosannalutheran.org

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Krista Strum, Senior Pastor,

krista.strum@hosannalutheran.org

Lukas Phillips, Children, Youth, Family/

Mission Engagement Director

lukas.phillips@hosannalutheran.org

Adrian Johanson, Music Director

adrian.johanson@hosannalutheran.org

Allison DeRaad, Administrative Assistant,

admin.assistant@hosannalutheran.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Senior Pastor: Krista Strum

krista.strum@hosannalutheran.org

President: Rob Larsen

president@hosannalutheran.org

President Elect: Paul Solum

president-elect@hosannalutheran.org

Secretary: Joe Desannoy

councilsecretary@hosannalutheran.org

Thank you for keeping Hosanna in your prayers and for remembering your church with your financial support in these times. Your kindness and steadfast love has not gone unnoticed. **Contributions** may be mailed to:

**Hosanna Lutheran Church
2815 57th St NW
Rochester MN 55901
507-285-0092**

On-line Giving may be found at:

<https://hosannalutheran.org/give/>