



July 2025

FAMILY OF GOD

Monthly Newsletter

“Children by grace, extending Christ’s embrace”

CHURCH NEWS AND EVENTS

WORSHIP & COMMUNION

Sundays at 9:30 am

In-person and
livestreamed on our
website fogchurch.org
Just click on YouTube



THIS MONTH’S REMINDERS

- Bible Study Tuesdays at 9:30 am
- Young Adult Bible Study Tuesdays at 6:30 pm
- Garage Sale starts at 5 pm
Wednesday July 30th

Family of God Lutheran Church, ELCA

8625 Zane Avenue N, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443 763-424-8625
fogchurch.org

We all were shocked and horrified when we learned of the assassination of Melissa Hortman and her husband Mark, and the attempted murder of John Hoffman and his wife Yvette. I remember getting the alert on my phone at five in the morning to be on guard for a dangerous person of interest in our area. Later that morning, the news of what happened came out and the alert was cancelled mid-afternoon.

There are many reasons to be horrified at this situation: first of all, the outright violence of a shooting of people in their homes. Second, the assassin was dressed as a police officer. Third, we found out later that the assassin had staked out two other homes of targeted people who fortunately were not home. And fourth, it happened in our neighborhood.

Our neighborhood—Brooklyn Park—now on the national scene as the place where these frightening events happened. It always seems that tragedies like this take place somewhere else. The tragic murder of George Floyd took place in Minneapolis, and that was close enough. Daunte Wright was accidentally killed by a Brooklyn Center police officer and that was way too close. And now this. There are people in our congregation who knew Melissa Hortman, worked in her campaigns, and were neighbors to her. On top of the shock and loss of those affected by the killings, the shootings make us feel like our very neighborhoods are not safe from random violence.

We pray the Lord's Prayer every worship service. Sometimes when we say things too often, we miss the meaning of what we say. When we say "deliver us from evil," the original Greek word for evil can also mean "the evil one."

Why do these things happen? There is evil in the world, and evil powers. A psychological profile of the killer will reveal some things, but the theological answer to why is that there is evil in the world. We believe God gave us government and law and peace officers to restrain the evil in the world. But on our own we cannot eliminate it.

At Easter, Jesus' resurrection began the New Creation, where the old sinful and fallen world is changed into the way God intended it. To be a place of love and joy and peace. God's kingdom comes one person at a time, and while we suffer from evil in this world, we also pray: "Lord, quickly come." How a world filled with hunger and war and disease and death is overcome is beyond me to imagine. But God's promise in the Book of Revelation is that one day God will wipe away all the tears from our eyes.

Until then we live our lives in Christian hope and love with the aid of the Holy Spirit. We cannot wipe evil completely out of the world, but with changed hearts we can be a part of Jesus' work—to bring that love and joy and peace to all people.

Dear Lord, deliver us from evil we pray.

- Pr. Paul Burow

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR...

Pr. Erin Koster



Field Museum

This newsletter cycle, I was on vacation with my family in Chicago. Here are some pictures from the Field Museum, Buckingham Memorial Foundation, and the Shedd Aquarium .



Millennium Park



Cory and the boys at Buckingham Memorial Fountain.



Shedd Aquarium

-Pr. Erin Koster



Me & the boys at the Bean.

Family of God Council Meeting Summary

June 19, 2025

- The narthex television is able to display photos and videos, and can even stream worship services from YouTube.
- As mentioned in the annual meeting, the council is looking into installing solar panels. We have received bids from different companies, but it is clearly a significant cost and would require us to take a loan.
- Thanks to the congregation responding to our call to reduce the budget shortfall, we are over \$7000 ahead of our year-to-date budget!





Book Club meets the third Monday of the month at 1pm. The following are the books they are reading:

July 21	<u>The Hammer of God</u> Bo Gertz
August 18	<u>Just Mercy (Adult Version)</u> Bryan Stevenson
Sept 22	<u>The Zookeeper's Wife</u> Diane Ackerman

New members welcome!

Contact Joan Hermanson with any questions.

LINUS QUILTERS

Back on Monday, September 3rd, 2025

"Just for fun" dates in June

July 11: International Town Criers Day

July 17: National Hot Dog Day

July 23: National Day of Cowboy

July 30: National Cheese-cake Day



Important Dates

July 1st Tuesday 5pm Set up

July 3rd Thursday 9 - 1 Accepting Donations

July 20th Sunday LAST DAY to Accept Clothing

July 24th Thursday LAST DAY to RECEIVE items.

July 26th Saturday Furniture Pickup

July 30th Wednesday Garage Sale 5 - 8 PRESALE

July 31st Thursday Garage Sale 9 - 7 All Day Sale

Aug 1st Friday Garage Sale 9 - 5 Come and shop

Aug 2nd Saturday Garage Sale 9 - 12 (1/2 Price Day)

Donations are acceptable during office hours M—T 9 to 1pm and Saturdays 10 - 12 pm.



Sunday Flowers

7/6 Roger & Diane Tripp

7/13 John & Cindy Buesgens

7/20 AVAILABLE

7/27 AVAILABLE

2025 Flower Chart is posted on the
narthex kiosk.

The cost of the flowers is \$35.



Global Mission Support

7/6— Mary Ellen Chinander 7/20— Joann Frankena

7/13— Davon Stedje 7/27— AVAILABLE

2025 Global Mission Support Calendar is posted on the kiosk in the narthex.
Your \$35 weekly donation goes to support Rev. James and Carol Sacks' ministry
work in Japan.

BIRTHDAYS

David Butts 07/01
John Buesgens 07/02
Diane Tripp 07/02
William Hanson 07/03
William Courchane 07/03
Roger Tripp 07/03
Caroline Clink 07/04
Aaron Balzer 07/07
Timothy Lee 07/08
Dan Jorenby 07/08
Jean Parupsky 07/09
Bev Delaney 07/09
LaDonna Blackorby 07/10
Larry Parson 07/11
Laurie Fedie 07/12
Mark Newgard 07/12
Joan Hermanson 07/13
Ryan Trullinger 07/13
Donna Lee 07/14
Julie Johnson 07/17
Craig Hanschen 07/18
Joann Frankena 07/21
Linda Johnson 07/22
Jill Ramsey 07/23
Mia Okray-Grubac 07/23
Erin Koster 07/24
Rachel Jacobson 07/24
Nancy Balzer 07/27
Breanna Peterson 07/29
Lynn Hatcher 07/31
Samuel Strub 07/31

ANNIVERSARIES

Paul & Amy Zahalan 07/17
Mark & Ginny Trogen 07/21
Ron & Kathy Townsend 07/23
Darryl & Julie Holleman 07/24

CALLING ALL FOG CRAFTERS!



SUMMER BREAK, RETURN IN THE FALL.

Stephanie Statz 612-850-8220 StephStatz24@gmail.com

LeAnne Tieman 612-508-7921 lrtieman@comcast.net

All types of crafters are welcome. We will set up in the Cornerstone Room to utilize the tables. Any questions, please call/text Stephanie Statz at 612-850-8220 or LeAnne Tieman at 612-508-7921.





GIVING THANKS FOR MUSIC

"When in Our Music God is Glorified" is the opening phrase of ELW Hymn 851. We have glorified God this year with songs from our hearts. The FOG Chancel Choir is officially over for the summer and I want to thank them for their commitment and dedication to enhancing our worship services throughout the year. The singers have been eager to learn new repertoire and to share anthems previously learned as well. We have a great time every Wednesday evening throughout the program year. They sing, pray and care so much about each other. A big THANK YOU to you singers and enjoy your summer!!

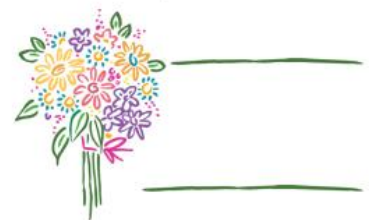
I would also like to thank our instrumentalists and vocal soloists from the congregation who contributed beautiful music this year: Nicole Lang – flutist and vocalist, Allison Letsche – vocalist, Steve Borgstrom – guitarist, Ginny Lantot, Ginny Trogen, Aaron Balzer and Pastor Paul - vocalists and cantors for Advent and Lent. You're the best!!

And for those of you who want to join in this summer's PICK-UP CHOIR, we are singing on Sunday, July 13th. Meet in the sanctuary at 8:30 and sing for the 9:30 service. See you then!!

Linda Armstrong
FOG Director of Music



Linda Armstrong will be leaving Family of God as of August 1st. Linda has done a wonderful job with the music at Family of God. She is so gifted - Thank you Linda for sharing your gifts so abundantly. You will be sorely missed. The peace of God be with you.





Fog Ruth Circle.

We are so blessed to have had your help & kindness while planning Mom's service. You made things so easy for us and it was beautiful. We appreciate you all so very much. - Larry Carlson Laura & Rachel

Thank you for your words of sympathy, your voice of concern, your gesture of caring and the love you offer. - The family of Gloria E. Carlson.

VBS - Operation Restoration - Mending God's World

On Tuesday morning, I went to Sharing and Caring Hands and I loved it. It was amazing to see how everything worked and just... be there. Me and my grandparents dropped off the donations. The donations were donated the week of VBS and we learned to take care of God's people. I learned that its good to help people when their having a tough time.

Sincerely,

Alexander Campos



HAPPINESS IS



...helping others.





July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Bible Study 9:30 am YA Bible Study 6:30PM No Bull AA 7 pm	2	3 Riverlyn AA 7 pm	4 OFFICE CLOSED MB 10-4	5 MB 10-6
6 9:30 am Worship OUT Sunday School Crossways 11 am 12pm Eternal Life Chapel MB 12-4	7	8 Bible Study 9:30 am YA Bible Study 6:30PM No Bull AA 7 pm	9	10 Ruth Circle 9:30 am Riverlyn AA 7 pm	11	12
13 9:30 am Worship IN Sunday School Crossways 11 am 12pm Eternal Life Chapel	14	15 Bible Study 9:30 am YA Bible Study 6:30PM No Bull AA 7 pm	16	17 Alexa Masserano wedding dress rehearsal (afternoon / early evening) Riverlyn AA 7 pm	18 Alexa Masserano Wedding 4 pm (will arrive early to set up & get ready) MB 6-10	19 MB 10-6
20 9:30 am Worship OUT Sunday School Crossways 11 am 12pm Eternal Life Chapel	21 Book club 1 pm	22 Bible Study 9:30 am YA Bible Study 6:30PM No Bull AA 7 pm	23	24 Pr. Erin Birthday Riverlyn AA 7 pm	25 MB 6-10 	26 MB 10-6
27 9:30 am Worship IN Sunday School Crossways 11 am 12pm Eternal Life Chapel	28	29	30 GARAGE SALE	31 SALE	1	2 ↑

July worship helpers

Lectors

6 Paul Getske
13 Andrew Peterson
20
27 Ali O'Mara

Refreshments

6 Parsons
13
20
27 Rhinharts

Altar Care

6
13 Cindy Buesgens
20
27

Ushers

6 outdoor
13 Nancy & Joe
20 outdoor
27

Greeters

6 Nancy & Joe
13
20
27



If you are unable to serve on a Sunday you have signed up for, please inform the church office as soon as possible. Thanks!

**** IF YOU CAN FILL IN A BLANK SPOT PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO admin@fogchurch.org SO A MASTER LIST CAN BE KEPT AND SO A REMINDER CARD CAN BE SENT. THANK YOU!****

Nursery Care

6 outdoor
13 Claudia
20 outdoor
27 Madison

GARAGE SALE CORNER

PLEASE, PLEASE look at our lists of items we CANNOT take this year.



Clothing:

MUST BE CLEAN, USABLE

If being donated from a home with dogs or cats—must be double washed before donating!

As usual items which we CANNOT receive are:

Large appliances, typewriters, mattresses & box springs, house hold paints & cleaners, building materials, kerosene & gas heaters

ALL FURNITURE MUST BE APPROVED by either

Kathy Behrens or Nancy Rhinhardt. We will not be accepting any hide a beds, entertainment centers or hutches, metal or office size desks. No large saws.



ACCEPTED

Clean Toys:

Ages infant and up;
Games and puzzles

Linens:

Small rugs, towels, bedding

Holiday Décor:

Halloween/fall

Books:

Children's books, biographies, fiction

Home Décor:

Vases & flowers, candle holders, wall art, decorative baskets

Music:

DVD & Blue ray, cd's and records

Sporting Goods:

Sports gear, fishing, camping, picnic, bikes, etc.

Crafts:

Personal Care:

Medical equipment such as crutches, etc., curling irons, etc.

Lighting

Lamps

Infants:

Clothes, bedding, blankets, diaperbags, high chairs, umbrella or small strollers, pack n plays, etc.

Garage items:

Tools, auto things, garden tools

Pet Care items:



NOT ACCEPTED

Toys:

Stuffed animals
Happy Meal Toys

Linens:

Bulky bedspreads, draperies & rods, pillows (bed or décor)

Holiday Décor:

Easter, etc.

Books:

Cookbooks, manuals, textbooks, encyclopedias; magazines

Home Décor:

Candles, tins, scrapbooks

Music:

VHS, cassette tapes

Sporting Goods:

Exercise equipment or large items

Electronics:

Old phone, TVs, stereos, Computers, game consoles

Personal Care:

Cosmetics, body lotion, perfumes
Nothing that can't be cleaned

Lighting

Ceiling lights or fans, wall, or outdoor lights

Infants:

Car seats, cribs, crib mattresses

Office:

File cabinets, large desks

Last day for item drop off: July 24

Sale Dates: July 30 thru August 2

Family of God Lutheran Church

8625 Zane Ave North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

Change Service Requested

Rev. Paul Burow, Senior Pastor
pburow@fogchurch.org

Rev. Erin Koster, Associate Pastor
Perin@fogchurch.org

Admin Assistant
admin@fogchurch.org

Linda Armstrong, Music Director
larmstrong54@gmail.com

Claudia Peterson & Madison Benton, Nursery

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Website: www.fogchurch.org