



## Church Events

- Sundays—9:30 a Worship  
10:30 a Fellowship
- Tuesdays & Fridays at 9:30 a—  
Coffee with the Staff
- Wednesdays (May 1 & 8)  
5:30 p Meal  
6:15 p Worship  
6:30 p Wed. School & Music  
6:45 p Confirmation  
7:00 p Choir Rehearsal
- Thursdays at 7:00 a—Men's  
Breakfast at the Fryn' Pan
- May 2-7:00 p  
Rebekah Circle
- May 5-10:45 a  
Adopt A Highway
- May 9-1:00 p  
Abigail Circle
- May 14  
1:00 p Prayer Shawl  
6:30 p Church Council
- May 19-9:30 a  
Sr. Recognition
- May 20  
7:00 p Book Club
- May 22  
1:00 p Blood Drive

## Contact Information

301 6th St N  
Breckenridge, MN  
218-643-4892

Office email:  
officebrecklutheran@gmail.com

Pastor's email:  
pastorbrecklutheran@gmail.com

Office Hours:  
9:00-3:00 Mon-Thur

## A message from the Pastor

### Shop Until You Drop

*Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. Exodus 20:12*



This happened many years ago when I was a junior at Mankato state university. One afternoon, as I was having lunch in the cafeteria with a number of international students, we began to talk about our families back home. During our conversation, one of our friends from Iran said, "My dream is this, to bring my mother to America for a visit and then to take her to the mall and tell her to get anything her sweet heart desires and watch her with joy as she fill up her shopping cart with merchandise." He wanted to do so many things for her which he couldn't do when he was back home.

Many years have gone by since I saw my friend from Iran. I don't know whether or not he brought his mother for a visit. But I know that when one is an international student, it is not easy to be able to do these things legally or financially. I also waited too long to help my mother come to America, to the land of plenty. Then, shortly after I became a pastor, my dream came true and she finally came to America.

When she arrived here in the states, the first thing I did was take her to the Mall of America and say to her, "Mom, get whatever makes you happy." I enjoyed buying her all those things she wanted to have and what a joy that was, and then after spending a few days in the Twin Cities visiting family and friends, she came to Grafton, ND and saw where I lived. She was very surprised to see how good I had it. After showing her the living room, kitchen, two bedrooms and bath room with a shower on the first floor and then when I took her upstairs and showed her the other two bedrooms, and the bath room with a shower, she exclaimed, "Is this yours too"? It was hard for her to imagine how one family can have this much. Many things that people often take for granted here, such as washing machines, microwaves, dishwashers, all these things were too wonderful for her. It was fun to watch her reaction and hear what she had to say about all these things and laugh with joy. I still remember praying this prayer, "Thank you God for giving my mother the opportunity to come to America and see the life I share with my congregation members. Amen!"

Have a happy mother's day!



## From the President—Orrin Ausen



### Why Do I Need to Go to Church?

Christianity is a faith of relationships. This means that we were created to be with one another. From the beginning of creation when God saw that the first man, Adam, was alone he said, “It is not good that man should be alone” ([Genesis 2:18](#)). Then God created a woman, and the two began a family, and that family expanded and eventually became a group of societies.

Church is a group in society that is purposed to teach and encourage believers and allow them to experience their relationship with God corporately. Christians who are not part of a group of believers (church) are not experiencing all that the Christian life has to offer. Every Christian needs encouragement and training. Church is where we go to acquire these important benefits. It is also where we gather to take part in sacraments that are designed to turn our affections toward Jesus in remembrance of all he has done for us.

This study will look at the three basic functions of a body of believers:

- Teaching the Bible
- Worshipping God
- Encouraging one another

These basic functions of a local body of believers help the Christian grow in his or her faith into spiritual maturity. Without church the Christian cannot experience all that God has for him or her.

Let this study encourage you to get involved with other Christians and together, to grow in your faith.

**WHAT IS CHURCH?** Read: [Acts 2:42,46](#); [Luke 22:14-20](#); [I Cor. 11:23-26](#); [Heb. 10:23-25](#)

Church is where a group of believers in Jesus meet together for Bible teaching. ([Acts 2:42,46](#))

Since the foundation of Christianity, Christians have met together weekly to learn the principles taught in the Bible. Knowing the Bible is a vital part of the Christian experience. Learning together under the leadership of a pastor increases our knowledge of God.

Have you been reading the Bible on your own? Do you meet regularly with other believers to study the Bible?

Church is where a group of believers in Jesus partake in the sacraments of Jesus—this is part of our worship of God. ([Luke 22:14-20](#); [I Corinthians 11:23-26](#))

The Christian sacraments include Baptism and the Lord’s Supper. Obeying these practices is part of our obedience and worship of Jesus. Because Jesus commanded them, we do them.

Have you been baptized? Do you take part in the Lord’s Supper? Talk with your pastor or lay-leader about taking part in these rites.

Church is where believers in Jesus meet for encouragement in their walk with God. ([Hebrews 10:23-25](#))

Christianity was never meant to be a faith that people practice alone. Christianity is a relationship with God through Jesus. So too, Christians must be in active relationship with other Christians to encourage one another in following of Jesus.

Do you need encouragement in your faith? You can find that encouragement with a group of other believers! Are you part of a group of believers now?

**WHY GO TO CHURCH?** Read: [Hebrews 10:24-25](#); [Romans 12](#); [I Corinthians 12:12-14,25-27](#)

The Bible commands us to be part of a local group of believers. ([Hebrews 10:24-25](#))

In the Old Testament God commanded Israel to gather at certain times for worship in Jerusalem. After many centuries the Jews practiced weekly gatherings in local houses of worship called synagogues.

Christians continue this practice by meeting weekly in church gatherings. The Bible commands us to be part of this practice.

How often do you meet with other believers in church? Are you prepared to make a commitment to participate in church?

Christians must be involved in the corporate worship of God. ([Hebrews 10:24-25](#))

Throughout the history of the Bible God’s people have gathered together for corporate worship. This happens through reading the scripture, singing songs of worship to God, and observing certain rites that remind us of God’s commitment to his people.

Taking part in church is an expression of worship to God. How do you express your worship to Jesus? Is corporate worship missing in your life?

Believers in Jesus are all part of the body of Christ and thus we should function together—this encourages believers. ([Romans 12](#); [I Corinthians 12:12-14,25-27](#))

We are meant to live and worship together in unity. Read the passages above. You will recognize that all Christians have a role to play in our corporate church life.

Read the passages above. What role motivates you? What role would you be interested in playing with a group of fellow believers? How can you serve the needs of others?

**WHAT DO I DO AT CHURCH?** Read: [II Timothy 2:15](#); [Psalm 95:6, 100:1-5](#); [Hebrews 3:13, 10:25](#)

We take part in regular Bible study to build up our knowledge of God. ([II Timothy 2:15](#))

Paul encouraged Timothy to teach the Bible in his church. From this we see that God intends for us to meet together and sit under the teaching of the Bible. The more we learn, the better we come to know God.

How much do you want to know God? How can attending church help you learn more about Jesus?

We spend time corporately worshipping God. ([Psalm 95:6; 100:1-5](#))

Worship is both a private and a shared experience. It encourages us when we can meet with like-minded people to worship our Savior. Singing songs of praise and reading scriptures that extol the Lord brings God honor. Only he is worthy of such affection and worship.

What kind of commitment are you prepared to make to your local group of believers? Will you join them for regular, weekly worship of Jesus?

We encourage one another in our common faith. ([Hebrews 3:13; 10:25](#))

Church isn't just about worshipping God. Church is also about encouraging fellow Christians in their spiritual service. Everyone needs like-minded people to encourage them. You can encourage others in their relationship with Christ—and you can receive the same encouragement from others!

Make a commitment today to take part in regular, weekly church gatherings.

## Youth Ministry

“Digging in” to Jesus’ life has been this year’s theme, from Old Testament prophesy to Jesus’ death and resurrection. About 30 youth participate each week. Some of their activities this year included creating family Valentines, sharing prayer rocks with the congregation as a reminder to pray and singing on Palm Sunday. Four youth prepared for their 1st communion on Maundy Thursday. Watch for information about Luther Crest summer camps and scholarships.

We thank Deb Berndt, Bri Alison, Jordan Snyder, Ashley Johnson and Tracy Bommersbach for their leadership and dedication to our youth!

### \*\*Upcoming Dates to Remember\*\*

May 8-last day of Wednesday School

May 12-youth sing on Mother’s Day

June 3,4,5 5pm-8:30pm- VBS at Bethel Lutheran Church

Call Lois at 218-643-4892 to enroll

Breckenridge Lutheran will pay registration

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR A PING PONG TABLE. IF YOU HAVE ONE TO DONATE, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.**



Breckenridge Lutheran Church teamed up with Boy Scout Troop 332 for a scouting for food service project on Saturday, March 16. The day saw 18 volunteers go door to door asking for food donations. The group collected 1,371 pounds of food. Proceeds were donated to the Richland-Wilkin Food Pantry.



The Youth attending the National Youth Gathering held Ham Bingo on March 15th. Thank you to all who attended and helped out with this event.





## Memorials and Gifts

In memory of:	Given by:
<b>Debt Reduction</b>	
Patti Sharstrom	Dennis & Rene Hasbargen
<b>General</b>	
Alfred Carlson	Joel & Melanie Herder
Anita Lindberg	Joel & Melanie Herder
Beverly Anstadt	Joel & Melanie Herder
Bonnie Huebsch	Joel & Melanie Herder
Helen Reddy	Joel & Melanie Herder
Irene Klemetson	Mary Ann Conrad, Sharon Koppelman
Marjorie Lommel	Joel & Melanie Herder
Mike Hansen	Joel & Melanie Herder
<b>Quilting</b>	
In honor of Krystal Schaible's Birthday	Jan Michels

### Mint Chocolate Lasagna

(This dessert was served by Cindie Van Tassel at the March Rebekah Circle meeting.)

#### Equipment

13x9 baking dish  
 Rubber spatula  
 Food processor  
 Hand mixer

#### Ingredients

36 cookies 1 package Oreo cookies do not remove cream centers  
 6 tablespoons butter melted  
 8 oz cream cheese softened  
 1 cup powdered sugar  
 1 teaspoon peppermint extract  
 Green food dye  
 12 oz tub whipped topping thawed  
 6.8 ounces instant chocolate pudding 2 3.4-oz boxes  
 3 1/4 cups milk  
 1/4 cup crushed mint chocolates for garnish

#### Instructions

Crush the Oreos in a food processor, or place in resealable bag and crush with a rolling pin. Mix with melted butter and press into the bottom of a 13x9 pan; set aside.

Beat together cream cheese, powdered sugar and peppermint until creamy. Fold in 1 cup of the whipped topping. Add green food dye until desired color is achieved. Spread over Oreo crust.

In a separate bowl, whisk together pudding mixes and milk for 2 minutes until thick. Pour over cheesecake in an even layer.

Top with remaining whipped topping, using a spatula to smooth the top layer. Garnish with chopped mint chocolates. Cover and refrigerate for at least 4 hours before serving.



Every woman who is a member of our congregation is also a member of BLW. We meet in February, May, September and December and focus on how to serve our congregation. We helped serve the Lenten meal and the Ash Wednesday supper. Perhaps our biggest event is providing the Election Night supper. Recent purchases we've made for the church include new stoves in the kitchen along with a convection microwave. We provided for the landscaping project in front of our church and in the spring we will put out pots of flowers. We sponsored the recent basket raffle and assist with serving as needed. There are area conference meetings in the spring and fall and a synodical meeting in the fall which interested members are invited to attend. Members can be as involved as they wish to be. Please call Rene at 218-643-2168 or Evie at 218-643-5497 with questions.

### Rebekah Circle

Shannon Bream's book "The Women of the Bible" has been an interesting study this year. We remember our shut-ins and nursing home residents with cards on special holidays and their birthdays. We support World Relief efforts through purchasing items for health and school kits. We helped with the Lenten supper and provide meals to the quilters. We meet at 7pm the first Thursday of the month (September through May) at rotating locations. For more information, please call Jan at 218-643-2964.

### Abigail Circle

Our devotional studies are based on the Gather magazine. We meet the second Thursday of the month (September through May) at 1 pm in the Luther Room. We helped serve the Lenten meal and provide meals to our quilters. We remember our church's shut-ins on holidays and birthdays and support World Relief through health and school kit donations. For more information, call Rene at 218-643-2168.

### Book Club

Book Club meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at 7pm in the Rap Room downstairs. Book selections thus far have been:

January: Anxious People

February: The Last Thing He Told Me

March: People We Meet on Vacation

April: The Dutch House

May: pending

Questions? Call Mary Ann Conrad at 701-403-7241. Come join us!

## Mission Report—Connie Jensen

Our February Mission was Someplace Safe. Did you see their display in the overflow area? Each t-shirt represented a victim who died at the hands of a friend or family member. Please keep this vital community resource, their patrons and staff in your prayers. We donated \$100 to their program.

The Richland-Wilkin Food Pantry is the March and April Mission. To date, we are donating 10 bags of groceries (including 100 personal care kits) and \$273 in cash donations. Our congregation also assisted Boy Scout Troop 332 in collecting 1000 pounds of groceries in their door-to-door campaign March 16th. Donations will continue to be received through the month of April.

The Valley Lake Boys Home is our May Mission.



# Financial Summary (as of March 31, 2024)

March 2024 Financial Summary	
General Account Income in March 2024	\$23,524.70
General Account Expenditures in March 2024	\$20,506.15
Cash Profit for the month	\$3,018.55

Year to Date Income	Year to Date Expenses	Year to Date Net Loss	Monthly Budget	Weekly Budget
\$59,675.21	\$60,502.73	(\$-827.52)	\$21,012	\$4,850



I would like to say thank you to everyone who donated a basket for the raffle. Without the donations, the raffle wouldn't have happened.

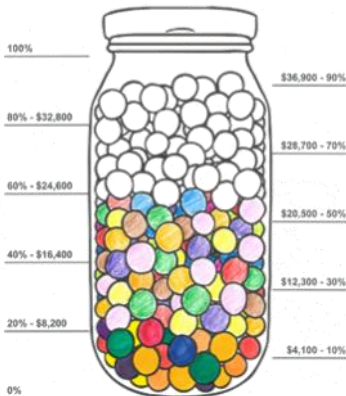
Thank you to all who bought tickets and/or made a donation for the debt reduction. It is greatly appreciated!

Lastly, CONGRATULATIONS to all the winners!

Thank you,  
Cindie Van Tassel

Debt Reduction Goal—\$41,000

Raffle Ticket Sales	\$1,654
Other Donations During Raffle	\$10,775
BLW Donation	\$8,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,429</b>



If you have had a recent change to your address, phone number or email address, please be sure to let the church office know!



Basket #	Item Description	Winner's Name
1	Coffee, cups wall hangings	Dell Krueger
2	Baby items	Pat Swanson
3	Wine Basket	Marilyn Johnson
4	Jean Quilt	C. Conzemius
5	Flower Bouquet	Diane Belseth
6	Foot Care	Patty Moses
7	Coffee Basket	Maryann Birnbaum
8	Wine Basket	Deb Sannes
9	Wine Basket	Maryann Conrad
10	Reading cider basket	Jordyn Peterson
11	Blessed Sign	Marilyn Johnson
12	Grow in Grace	Joyce Aarons
13	Golf Items	Rene Hasbargen
14	Wind Willow dip & items	Erik Jorgenson
15	Foot Care	C. Conzemius
16	Salt/pepper/glasses	Kara Gruenberg
17	Ice fishing rod/tackle	Harvey Andel
18	Seas candy	Orrin A.
19	Girl Toys	Jill Blaufuss
20	Zoo Basket	Jordyn Peterson
21	Grandparent toy basket	Cindie Van Tassel
22	Gnome Towel	Lois Fenske
23	Boys Toys	Tama Larson
24	Quilt	Darlene Bontjes
25	Garden Basket	Connie Stach
26	Wine Basket	Darlene Bontjes
27	Where's the beef	Orrin A.

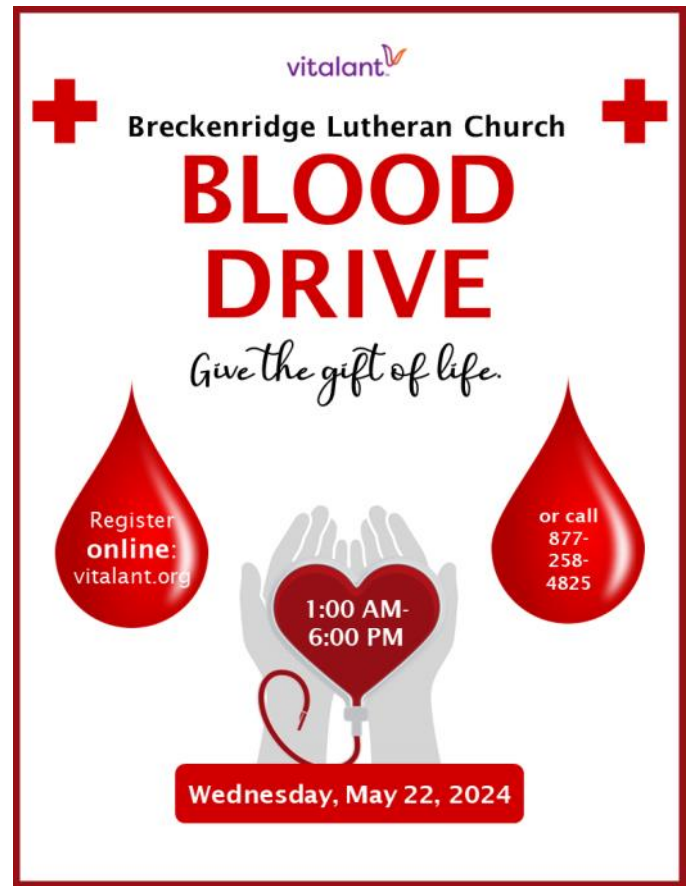


## Upcoming Events



**2024 Senior Recognition**

Sunday, May 19th  
at the 9:30 am  
Worship Service



vitalant<sup>lv</sup>

**Breckenridge Lutheran Church**

# BLOOD DRIVE

Give the gift of life.

Register online:  
vitalant.org

or call  
877-258-4825

1:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Wednesday, May 22, 2024



**ADOPT A HIGHWAY CLEANUP**

**Date:** Sunday, May 5, 2024

**Time:** 10:45 – 12:45 with Lunch afterwards at the Hought Farm (3105 330th Ave, Foxhome)

**Meeting Place:** Friedrichs Seed on the South Side of Hwy 210

*For more info please call/text/email: Lexi Hought  
701-430-1821, lexihought@gmail.com*

**Notes:**

- If time gets too late for anyone with young kids, they are welcome to take off earlier.
- If anyone needs a ride, let Jill know.
- Safety vests and garbage bags will be supplied
- BYO garden gloves



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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## Breckenridge Lutheran Church

Located at 301 6th St N | Breckenridge, MN

### Our Mission

Learning to be disciples and to make disciples,  
Reaching out to witness and support our community,  
Welcoming all to worship and serve Jesus Christ!



### Worship Schedule

Worship Service—Sundays at 9:30 am | Fellowship at 10:30 am

Wednesday Meal at 5:30 pm | Worship Service at 6:15 pm | Education at 6:30 pm | Confirmation at 6:45 pm

*Holy Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sunday*