



## Church Events

- Sundays—9:30 am Worship  
10:30 am Fellowship
- Tuesdays & Fridays at 9:30 am—Coffee with the Staff
- Wednesdays—5:30 pm Meal  
6:15 pm Worship  
6:30 pm Wednesday School  
6:45 pm Confirmation  
7:00 pm Handbell Practice
- Thursdays at 7:00 am—Men's Breakfast at the Fry' Pan
- Nov 1 at 5:15 pm—Staff Meeting
- Nov 8 at 1:00 pm—Prayer Shawl  
5-7 pm—Meatball Dinner
- Nov 9 at 7:15 pm—Council Meeting
- Nov 10 at 1:30 pm—Abigail Circle  
7:00 pm—Rebekah Circle
- Nov 13 & 20 at 10:30 am—2nd Grade Bible Class
- Nov 15 at 6:00 pm—Evening Quilting
- Nov 16 at 9:00 am—Quilting
- Nov 17 at 6:30 pm—LYO
- Nov 20 at 4:00 pm—Joint Thanksgiving Service at Breckenridge United Methodist Church
- Nov 24 & 25—Office Closed

## 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

## Pastor's Message—Pastor Ale Tulu

The Shoe Is On the Other Foot

*"I know what it is to be in need and what it is to have more than enough."  
Philippians 4:11*

As I look back over the years of my life, one of the things I cherish so much is my childhood memory of growing up in a boarding school in Ethiopia. It was a beautiful place to grow up. It had four nice identical buildings, each of them accommodating up to thirty-two kids. There was also another building for infants and babies. The school had every good thing life has to offer to children.

We used to have visitors from Europe and the United States quite often, and by telling those visitors how nicely they care for us and what kind of good educational opportunities they provide, the school used to receive lots of gifts and financial support. Therefore, we were like a showcase, and that was one of the reasons they used to take good care of us.

One of the most exciting times at that boarding school was the Christmas time. As the day approached, we used to have competitions between dorms for the best Christmas decorations which was a fun thing to do. Then, on the day of Christmas, the school used to set up dining tables outside in the soccer field. They would prepare and serve a nice traditional Christmas meal, and we came for lunch dressed up nicely in our school uniforms.

After the meal was served, Santa comes riding on a donkey bearing gifts for us and saying, "Ho, ho, ho, Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas." Then, he goes around and greets us. After that, he sits down in his big chair and calls each of us by name and gives us a Christmas gift sent by Red Cross. Those gifts were very much like the Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts we now send to children around the world to help them celebrate Christmas. Oh, what joy it was to open those boxes and discover those treasures.

Maybe it is hard to know the joy of such a simple gift unless we find ourselves in such a situation. But those were the things that used to make our Christmas very special and also to know that there are people in this world who thought about us and cared enough to send a gift.

Now I get very excited when November comes, and we take part in Operation Christmas Child. I often can't wait to fill up those shoeboxes with gifts and bring them to the church. Before, I was on the other side of the world receiving those Christmas presents; now I am on this side, sending them to make someone's Christmas very special.

Thank you to all who take part in Operation Christmas Child. Because of your kindness, so many children around the world are celebrating Christmas with great joy every year. Have a blessed thanksgiving.

Pastor Ale



**YOU MUST CONTACT THE OFFICE TO  
REQUEST ENVELOPES FOR 2023.**



*My Offering*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

General     Other

*2 Cor 9:7 ... for God loves a cheerful giver.*

Give online at [brocklutheran.org](http://brocklutheran.org) | Text to give: 844-771-1333

## 2023 Offering Envelopes

In an effort to reduce waste & cost, we will not be ordering pre-printed offering envelopes for 2023. Options for next year: 1) Use the generic envelopes available in church, 2) request the office to print envelopes with your personalized information, 3) checks may be put in the offering plate, 4) use any of the electronic options available: bill pay from your bank, give online, text-to-give, or set up automatic debit (Simply Giving) with the office. (Please note: Your envelope number will remain the same.)

## Stewardship—Orrin Ausen

### A Budget is a Statement of Faith

What does your church's annual budget represent?

Is it a proud menu of the hopes, dreams and missionary ministries your congregation wants to accomplish in the year to come?

Or is it a life-support prescription for how the congregation expects to pay the staff, keep the lights burning, the staff paid and property maintained?

In a workshop when she was stewardship officer for the Episcopal Church, the late Terry Parsons gave this "Devil's Dictionary" definition of a church budget: "It is the means by which we notify the Lord of the limitations we intend to impose on his gifts for the coming year."

If we view the budget — and present it to our congregations — as an administrative necessity to ensure proper financial management, then we shouldn't be surprised to wind up with bare-bones measures that are grudgingly funded. If funded at all. But if we present the budget to our congregations as opportunities to invest in the Reign of God and stretch ourselves to see how much we can do with even the nickels and dimes God has given us, then the possibilities increase.

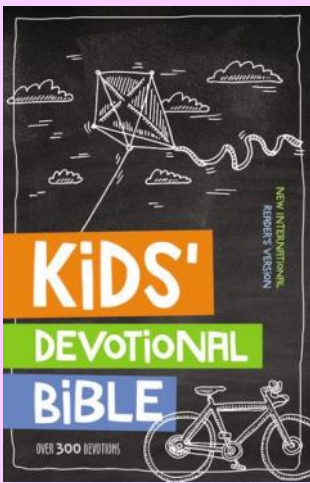
In the end, a budget is a statement about how a congregation views the future. Do your people trust that ours is the God of abundance who rewards faithful stewards and will stand behind servants who proclaim the Reign of God? If an outsider looked at your budget, what would he or she conclude about your congregation's faith?

And what would be a "God's Dictionary" definition of a church budget? How about, "It is the means by which we make the most of the abundance the Lord is giving us." Hmm. That will look nice on the cover of the annual report.



### 2nd Grade Bible Classes

Bible classes for 2nd Graders have been rescheduled to November 6th & 13th. They will receive their bibles on November 20th.



## President's Message—Jill Ockhardt Blaufuss

This newsletter I just wanted to take some time to update folks about all the different things going on at church.

October's Monthly Mission is the Circle of Nations and I really hope you'll consider giving. About four years ago I coached the school's 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls basketball teams. It was a very good experience. Most of the kids didn't have great shoes for playing sports. We were able to purchase a few of them shoes, but I remember kids sometimes sliding around on shoes with no grip or borrowing each other shoes. One game I borrowed a boy the shoes I was wearing because he was sliding around so bad. There are other sports too besides basketball where there is a need for good shoes and other gear. I hope you'll consider giving the cost of one pair of athletic shoes (about \$60) to this mission by the end of October.

Lexi Hought, our 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation teacher, has been doing such a great job with creating a sense of community with all our confirmation aged kids. She's organized a lot of outings and activities from this summer's Valley Fair trip to the recent trip to the Haunted Farm. She is inclusive of Foxhome confirmation kids too to a lot of outings. We're so lucky to have her.

This weekend, as a project of the landscaping committee, we removed all the plants and brick edging from around the church. When we got to digging, we found brick edging that had been buried in many spots, and sometimes the bricks were double stacked in the ground. My husband Andy hauled dirt into town and used his Bobcat to regrade the ground around the building so that water will flow away from the church. Next Spring, Orrin Ausen said we can start planning a new landscape around the building. A big thank you to Andy Blaufuss, our little Margot (for her patience all afternoon), Merlin Granfor, Orrin Ausen, Pastor Ale and Mary Ann Conrad for helping with this project.

Wednesday programming has close to the same healthy numbers as last year, and it's a lively evening from 5:30 to 7:15pm. If you know of anyone who is interested in join the education – either Wednesday School or Confirmation - it's never too late in the year to join in. And the meal is always free will offering. We don't care if you don't throw money into the basket, just come eat with us! If you want to contribute but forgot cash, we can now accept credit card offering and will have that set up most Wednesdays downstairs by the dining room. Families are graciously asking to help with meals (thank you!), and we have two nice new ovens courtesy the BLW.

Our TV and online broadcast system seems to be functioning well again for viewers at home. Thank you to Scott Wendorff for your work on that. And the property committee has called on a professional company who provided a quote for streamlining and updating some of the systems which we'll hopefully get in place too.

The elevator project is unfortunately stalled out, due to delays in manufacturing. Our elevator servicer, Schindler, at this time, is unable to give us a prospective start date on the work, as their parts manufacturer is unable to manufacture our specific parts. They're experiencing long delays in getting the materials in themselves. It's frustrating for us, as we'd like to make the fellowship hall accessible for folks that need a little help getting downstairs easily, and those who cannot do stairs at all. But please know we are in frequent contact with Schindler to find out a start date.

We are looking to elect a new president and vice president starting in January. And we are also looking for someone to be on evangelism and worship committees. So if you have any ideas for nominees, please let me know!

Thank you,



## Mission Report

**The Amazing Journey of a Simple Shoebox Gift**—The Missions focus for **November** is **Operation Christmas Child**. Since 1993, Samaritan's Purse has collected shoebox gifts filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items for children around the world. More than **198 million children** in more than **170 countries and territories** have received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox. The project delivers not only the joy of what, for many kids, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love. Tens of thousands of volunteers from local churches around the world partner with us to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ at festive outreach events where children are surprised with these shoebox gifts. A simple shoebox gift begins with you and results in evangelism, discipleship, and multiplication.

Look for gift suggestion lists for girls and boys by age posted outside the overflow entrance and online at [brecklutheran.org](http://brecklutheran.org). A drop-box for donations is located outside the church office. A donation has purchased shoeboxes and confirmands will assemble and deliver them to the drop site. Donations for overseas shipping are also welcome and can be left at the office or made online on our website. **ALL DONATIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>.**





## Memorials and Gifts

In memory of:	Given by:
<b>Elevator</b>	
Mel Klindt	Diane & Mike Belseth, Gerhardt & Jane Fick, Jan Michels, Ken & Cleo Reitan, Kitty Hansen, Marvin & Joyce Aarons
<b>General</b>	
Mel Klindt	Clark & JoAn Dybdahl, Evie & Gerald Fox
Tim Bogenreif	Joel & Melanie Herder
<b>Quilting</b>	
Mel Klindt	Marilyn Johnson

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



Circles will meet on November 10th. Abigail will gather in the Luther Room at 2 p.m. and Rebekah at the Geri Young's home.

Newsletter articles for the December 2022 Issue of "Good News" are due **NOVEMBER 23, 2022.**



## Youth Ministry

This fall we hosted a game night at the church and a trip to the haunted farm. We had 5 vehicles full of kids go to the haunted farm. They had a great time. We appreciated all the parents willing to drive. Many adults from our congregation showed support of our youth in October by helping put up Christmas lights at Chahinkapa Park. This brought in \$1,000 for our future programming. A big thank you to everyone that helped! Upcoming events include helping with the church-wide campaign for Operation Christmas Child and the filling of shoeboxes for kids around the world.

The North West Synod Youth Gathering will take place Nov 18-19 at Luther Crest Bible Camp. It has been several years since we have sent youth to this gathering but are excited to promote the opportunity again this year. It is for grades 6-8. We will leave after school on the 18th and return around 4 pm on the 19th. Cost is \$100. Youth can expect a fun time with games, breakout session, praise bands and good food. Online registration <https://www.nwmnsynod.org/pages/synod-youth-gatherings>, chose option to mail in payment and instead checks can be made to Breckenridge Lutheran LYO and dropped off at the church.

Lastly, mark your calendars for the LYO Christmas party Dec. 3rd at 7 pm. More details to come.

## Financial Summary (as of September 30, 2022)

August Financial Summary	
General Account Income in September 2022	\$16,604.64
General Account Expenditures in September 2022	\$17,600.78
Cash Loss for the month	(\$996.14)

Weekly Giving—September 2022	
September 4	\$5,119
September 11	\$3,174
September 18	\$6,233
September 25	\$1,814.64
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,340.64</b>

Year to Date Income	Year to Date Expenses	Year to Date Net Loss	Monthly Budget	Weekly Budget
\$173,349.59	\$184,150.96	(\$10,801.37)	\$24,680	\$5,696

## Upcoming Events



**Breckenridge Lutheran Church**

**2022 ELECTION NIGHT MEATBALL DINNER**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH**  
**5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM**

In-House Dining with option for Carry-Out or Delivery  
 Contact a member of Breckenridge Lutheran Women or the church office (218-643-4892) for tickets.

**\$12 Meal Ticket includes: Homemade meatballs w/gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, coleslaw, dinner roll and dessert**

*Raffle Tickets also available:*  
 1st Prize: Yeti Cooler Package - value \$500  
 2nd Prize: Apple iPad w/keyboard and case - value \$315  
 3rd Prize: \$200

Raffle tickets: \$10 each or 3 for \$25  
 Drawing to be held November 8th (need not be present to win)

**BRECKENRIDGE LUTHERAN**  
 301 6TH ST N | BRECKENRIDGE



**BLC** Breckenridge Lutheran Church

**Thanksgiving Service**

A JOINT SERVICE WITH ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC, BETHEL LUTHERAN, EVERGREEN UNITED METHODIST, BRECKENRIDGE METHODIST AND BRECKENRIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Sunday November 20, 2022 at 4:00 pm  
 Breckenridge United Methodist Church  
 910 Main Street, Breckenridge, MN

FATHER DALE LAGODINSKI    PASTOR TOM PETERSON    PASTOR MARY ANN BERNARD    PASTOR MARK GRONSETH    PASTOR ALE TULU



**Daylight Saving Time Ends**

**2022**  
**6th November**





Richland Wilkin

**BACK PACK Food Program**

SUGGESTED ITEM TO DONATE IN NOVEMBER



MACARONI & CHEESE (7.25 OZ. BOXES)



## Planning Council Minutes—September 13, 2022

Present: Pastor Ale Tulu, Jill Ockhardt Blaufuss, Connie Jensen, Lois Fenske, Joel Herder, Orrin Ausen, Evie Fox and Deb Berndt, Ashley Johnson

A. President Jill called the meeting to order.

B. Pastor Ale opened the meeting with devotions – He read from Ecclesiastes and reminded us that no matter what age we are it is important to not put God on the back burner. God should be on the front burner and we should not just give Him our leftovers. He also led us in a prayer.

C. Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes:

a. September Council Meeting minutes were handed out at the meeting.

2. Financial Reports: Financial reports for September 2022 were handed out. They included a Profit and Loss Statement for the month as well and a Balance Sheet dated September 30, 2022. There was a question as to why we had not moved the funds that we made a motion to move last month, and it was stated that we had received enough funds through donations to pay the rest of the balance that will be owed on the elevator and therefore we will keep the undesignated funds and Pastors Discretionary funds where they are for now.

a. Motion: A motion was made by Connie to approve the minutes and the financials as presented.

b. Second: The motion was seconded by Evie.

c. Action: The motion was passed with no opposition.

D. Additions to the Agenda: None

E. Old Business:

F. New Business:

1. Pastor's Report – Pastor Ale reported that the Wednesday night activities were continuing to go well. There will be 4 or 5 kids getting confirmed on October 30, 2022. Since the class is so small Pastor Ale suggested having the Confirmation during the regular church service so that the whole Congregation could be a part of the special service. He will verify this change with the Confirmands parents. The 2nd grade Bibles have not come in the mail yet so Pastor will wait until November 20th to hand them out and will meet with the kids and their parents on the 6th and 13th of November. Pastor Ale also reported that at the Ministerial meeting they talked about the Thanksgiving service to be held the Sunday before Thanksgiving. They had discussed that it will either take place at Breck Lutheran or at the Methodist Church. Father Dale will preach, the service will be at 4:00 pm with Pie and coffee to follow. He also reminded us that we will have the meatball dinner at the church on election day. We were hoping the elevator would be ready but not sure that it would. Pastor Ale also made a final generous suggestion that he was willing to waive the Social Security match that is normally paid to Pastors of about \$5,000.00, his mileage allowance and reimbursement for Continuing Education and we can use those funds to help reduce the Mission Investment loan that we currently. He also thanked Jill for her Temple talk asking for funds to pay for the elevator repairs.

2. President's Report

i. Ethiopian Night - Jill reminded us of the change in date for the Ethiopian night, which is now scheduled for Saturday, April 15, 2022, at the Wahpeton Rec Center. Evie suggested that we investigate using the Hughes Shelter in the Park because it is not quite as big. The Wahpeton Rec center seats over 400 people and the Hughes shelter maybe 120.

ii. Chili Cookoff – originally scheduled for November 19, 2022 was tentatively changed to January 28, 2023 after we realized so many people were going to be out of Town that weekend and we decided that maybe the November date was too close to the election night fund raiser. Ashley, Jill, Connie, and Deb volunteered to help organize the event. Ashley will check on prices for the Styrofoam cups we would need for sampling.

iii. Float Space Rental – Krystal Schaible has offered to let us store the float in one of the garages at her home. We just need to make arrangements to get it moved there.

iv. Personnel meeting – It was reported that the personnel committee had met with Lois, Teresa, and Pastor Ale. They need to meet again to determine PTO and keeping track of it and any other potential changes that may need to be made

3. Property Update – Evie reported that they had only been able to get one bid for the heat tape and that it would cost \$21,000.00. The Council discussed the fact that there was only one bid and therefore nothing to compare it too and with all the other projects we have going on that maybe we should just get the actuator fixed and add

## Planning Council Minutes—continued

more insulation to the roof area and hope for the best. She also reported that they were getting the much needed equipment from Tri-Core in Fargo to fix and upgrade the sound system/recording system so that we can once again depend on televising our weekly service on the cable station and people will be able to see and hear it properly. We also discussed how do we clean the stucco on the church. Can we power wash it or paint it? This item will need to be addressed in the Spring. Lois wondered who handled the organ repairs as she had been told that there was a key that stuck. She was informed that that would be the Worship committee

4. Mission Update – Connie reported that they had collected \$340.00 for Honey Sundays and that the Church would receive about \$100.00 of the profits. November Mission emphasis will be the Circle of Nations in Wahpeton and that we will be collecting funds to help provide tennis shoes or other things needed for the students. Joel suggested checking with the schools because often there are clothing and shoe items that are never picked up by the students which we could maybe get the school to donate. The Mission Committee is hoping to partner with the LYO to raise funds for the Operation Christmas Child program next year in November and then in December get donations for kids in Wilkin County to help buy presents.
  5. Youth Education – Ashley reported that we have a new curriculum this year for Wed School that seems to be going over well. We have had great attendance and she is asking to start a text chain to remind parents when things are going to be happening at the church, such as when they sing or will get their Bibles. There will also be a coloring page that the Wednesday school kids will color and write on to send with Operation Christmas boxes.
  6. Finance – Orrin suggested putting up a Thanksgiving money tree that can maybe help remind us of all the gifts that we have to be thankful for.
  7. Worship Update – There was no one present.
  8. Upcoming Elections / Nominating Process – We discussed the need to be thinking about possible candidates for the office that need someone and to be reaching out to them so that they may be giving it prayerful consideration.
- G. Church Pulse – Lois reminded us that we need to go to the Bank to sign the signature card for the safe deposit box – Pastor Ale, Lois Fenske, Rene Hasbargen and Deb Berndt. We also discussed the need to have another signer on the checking account and we decided that it made sense to add Lois.
- a. Motion: A motion was made by Orrin to add Lois Fenske to the signature card for the checking account.
  - b. Second: The motion was seconded by Connie.
  - c. Action: Seeing no further discussion the motion passed with no opposition.
- Lois also reported that the Credit card that the church has is only in Laurie Allen and Pastor Manning's name. She suggested that we get a credit card through the bank.
- a. Motion: A motion was made by Connie to establish a new credit card through Bank of the West with one for Lois and one for Deb as the treasurer.
  - b. Second: The motion was seconded by Orrin.
  - c. Action: Seeing no further discussion the motion passed with no opposition.
- Lois also stated that she and Jill would set up a text chain with Mail Chimp with parents' numbers.
- H. Closing Prayer: We closed with the Lord's Prayer.
- I. Adjournment – President Jill called for a motion for adjournment.
- a. Motion – A motion was made by Orrin to adjourn the meeting.
  - b. Second – Motion was seconded by Connie.
  - c. Action – Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Debra Berndt



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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*



# November 2022

November 2022							December 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 30	31	Nov 1 9:30am Coffee with Staff 5:30pm Staff Meeting	2 5:30pm Meal 6:15pm Worship 6:30pm Wed. School 6:45pm Confirmation 7:00pm Handbell Practice	3 7:00am Men's Breakfast-Fryn' Pan	4 9:30am Coffee with Staff	5
6 Daylight Savings Ends 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am 2nd Grade Bible Class 10:30am Fellowship	7	8 9:30am Coffee with Staff 12:00pm Ministerial Meeting 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 5:00pm Meaball Dinner	9 5:30pm Meal 6:15pm Worship 6:30pm Wed. School 6:45pm Confirmation 7:00pm Handbell Practice 7:15pm Council Meeting	10 7:00am Men's Breakfast-Fryn' Pan 9:00am Conference Meeting 1:30pm Abigail Circle 7:00pm Rebekah Circle	11 9:30am Coffee with Staff	12
13 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am 2nd Grade Bible Class 10:30am Fellowship	14	15 9:30am Coffee with Staff 6:00pm Evening Quilting	16 9:00am Quilting 5:30pm Meal 6:15pm Worship 6:30pm Wed. School 6:45pm Confirmation 7:00pm Handbell Practice	17 7:00am Men's Breakfast-Fryn' Pan 2:00pm Apple Tree Court Service 3:00pm York Manor Service 6:30pm LYO Meeting	18 NW Synod Youth Gathering 9:30am Coffee with Staff	19
20 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am 10th Grade Confirmation Student & 10:30am Fellowship 4:00pm Joint Thanksgiving	21 7:00pm Book Club	22 9:30am Coffee with Staff	23 Newsletter Articles Due 7:00pm Handbell Practice	24 7:00am Men's Breakfast-Fryn' Pan	25 9:30am Coffee with Staff	26
27 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship	28	29 9:30am Coffee with Staff	30 5:30pm Meal 6:15pm Worship 6:30pm Wed. School 6:45pm Confirmation 7:00pm Handbell Practice	Dec 1	2	3