

# Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)



Rev. Henry T. Koch

## Worship

Sunday: 9 a.m.

Tuesday: (See Calendar)

Saturday: Noon

Online Services: EFriedens.com



# FRIEDENS' FAITH IN FOCUS

September 2025



*"Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings," (Psalm 17:8)*

## A Place for Everything; and Everything in Its Place

Have you ever needed a tool that you knew you owned, but could not find it in the drawer, tool chest or cart? Maybe you started out collecting one tool at a time as you could afford each of them, until your original, simple tool box could no longer organize or even hold them all. Or have you looked for a particular size of baking pan or kitchen utensil, but could not find it when you needed it? For some people, spending money on tool storage and drawer organizers is not as enjoyable as adding a wonderful new tool itself, but even those not fond of organizing often realize there is value in sparing oneself needless frustration and wasted time finding tools (or kitchen equipment). Maybe you have even bought a second or third set of identical tools, because you could not find the first set! There are costs to not being organized.

God has provided his children with many spiritual tools in the 66 books he guided over 40 men to write. There are 1,189 chapters in those books, written to serve a wide variety of functions. People lump the Old Testament into categories of History, Poetry and Prophecy (which serves at least as a large grouping), but those 3 categories are like having just 3 deep drawers for 929 tools! Would you like to toss all your wrenches into 1 drawer, screwdrivers and sockets into another drawer, and your pliers, cutters, snips, and powered tools into the third? A better way is to separate a little more, and identify some tools that you will likely be reaching for more often, so you don't have to dig and dig every time. *How many times do we not know what to tell someone who needs some spiritual help, because we don't know what tool to use, or where to find it?*

The following is a list of common spiritual tools known as **VICs** (Very Important Chapters). You don't have to accumulate and sort all 1,189 different tools in order to do some practical work. Think of how you get comfortable with tools. Start by learning how to identify what a tool is used for and where to find it, but start with only a basic dozen or so tools. Read these chapters, perhaps one per day, and the following day glance back over it for a brief, familiarizing review of the previous day's chapter, then read the next.

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR HENRY T. KOCH

**Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church** | 28983 – 181<sup>st</sup> Avenue | New Prague, MN 56071

Pastor's Cell: (952) 393-5786 | Church: (952) 758-2828 | Church E-mail: [FLCsec@bevcomm.net](mailto:FLCsec@bevcomm.net) | Website: [EFriedens.com](http://EFriedens.com)

Memorize the book name and chapter number that goes with its content. You will be skipping 98% of the chapters to learn how to use the most common ones, just as a person standing in front of a professional mechanic's thousand tools has to discover certain tools are common. But in a month, you can have some tools and a mental picture where to find them.

Following this handy reference list is the same list but scrambled into a challenge. See if you can match the chapter to what it teaches. There could easily be other chapters nominated to a favorite list of spiritual tools--but start here. Perhaps next month we can look at some VIPs (Very Important Passages).

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 1	Creation
Genesis 2	Marriage
Genesis 3	Fall into Sin
Exodus 20	10 Commandments
Psalms 2 & 22	Messianic Psalms (Foretell the Savior)
Psalms 23	Shepherd Psalm (Comfort)
Psalms 51	Penitential Psalm (For Repenting)
Isaiah 53	The Messiah's Suffering

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 5-7	Sermon on the Mount
Matthew 24-25	End of the World
Luke 2	Christmas/ The Savior's Birth
Luke 15	The "Lost" Chapter (Parables of a Lost Sheep, a Lost Coin, a Lost Son)
John 10	The Good Shepherd
Acts 2	Pentecost
Romans 13	Government
1 Corinthians 13	Love
1 Corinthians 15	Resurrection
Ephesians 5	Marriage
Hebrews 11	Heroes of Faith



**Youth!**  
**September 14, 1 p.m.**  
*See Pastor Koch for more details.*

**DRAW LINES TO CONNECT THE CHAPTER TO ITS CONTENT**

(Alternate Way: Write the content of the chapter in the blank next to the book and chapter #)

Genesis 1	Resurrection
Genesis 2	End of the World
Genesis 3	Pentecost
Exodus 20	Marriage
Psalms 2 & 22	Penitential Psalm (For Repenting)
Psalms 23	Messianic Psalms (Foretell the Savior)
Psalms 51	Shepherd Psalm (Comfort)
Isaiah 53	Love
Matthew 5-7	Marriage
Matthew 24-25	Fall into Sin
Luke 2	10 Commandments
Luke 15	The "Lost" Chapter
John 10	Christmas/ The Savior's Birth
Acts 2	Heroes of Faith
Romans 13	Sermon on the Mount
1 Corinthians 13	Creation
1 Corinthians 15	The Messiah's Suffering
Ephesians 5	Government
Hebrews 11	The Good Shepherd

Each of these chapters are favorites for good reason. Can you think of how you can now use/share the message of any 3 of these chapters?



"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." (Proverbs 25:11)

# Outreach News

## Czech Out New Prague | Memorial Park August 7, 2025



### Ambassadors for Friedens

From Left (Back Row): Pastor Henry Koch, Will Rancour, Tracie Zampa.

From Left (Front Row): Russ Meyer, Keith Barta, Karen Schroeder, Brenda Rancour, Linda Jandt.


### FRIEDENS COOKBOOK DRAWING

69 People signed up to win a cookbook (13 People won a cookbook by their name being drawn).

32 People indicated they already belonged to a church.

37 People didn't indicate if they belonged to a church or not (just wanted the cookbook).

**Out of the 69 people, 3 wanted more information sent to them about Friedens.**



Yay--we got  
a few nibbles!



**Thank you to our Ambassadors (fishermen)!**





*"Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye." (Proverbs 7:2)*

# MISSION FESTIVAL 2025

August 3

Guest Preacher: Rev. Luke Wolfgramm, Head of Europe Missions

On August 3, Rev. Luke Wolfgramm (accompanied by his lovely wife Jennifer) came to Friedens to preach and give a mission presentation on WELS Mission happenings in Europe.

*A Delicious Potluck followed the Mission Presentation!*

## Highlights of the Mission Festival Presentation

- Pastor Luke Wolfgramm and his wife Jennifer live in an apartment in Leipzig, Germany (where Bach worked). They travel 6 months out of the year. They do a lot of Pastoral mentoring and teaching. He thanked us for our Mission support.
- London/UK: There are 8 million people living in London. They planted a church 3 years ago there. There are a lot of empty churches there, though. There are also Christian churches that are growing.
- Europe Churches: Pastor Wolfgramm spoke a little about all of WELS UK churches.
- Pastor Wolfgramm and his wife are staying in the US till September 10. Then, they will start traveling to the different mission fields, as they teach about Jesus.
- Pastor Wolfgramm will be having an Evangelism workshop in Leipzig soon—"How to share Jesus with people."
- Pastor Koch asked Pastor Wolfgramm what he thinks American Christians' weaknesses are. Pastor Wolfgramm replied that we move really quickly through our services. Other countries are slow-moving in worship.
- Pastor Wolfgramm and his wife Jennifer raised their children in Russia, where they have "state" churches. Their children now live in the U.S. They miss Russia.
- Pastor Wolfgramm said that they regularly sing up to 6 hymns in a worship service in Germany.
- Albania has outlawed all churches.





"Their heart cried unto the LORD, O wall of the daughter of Zion, let tears run down like a river day and night: give thyself no rest; let not the apple of thine eye cease." (Lamentations 2:18)

Thank you to all who helped!



Paul Roemhildt teaching  
(Levi & Paul's Grandson Noah)



Kinsley & Hope  
Making Bookmarks



Beth Sirek Teaching Her  
VBS Students



Gay Eaves Teaching Her VBS Class



Megan and Ryan Warner & Kaelyn Barta Helping with Games

V  
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2  
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2  
5

August 6 | 11 Children Learned About Jesus!



# We Have a New Member . . . CHURCH CHICKEN!!!



Yay!  
Free Easter  
Eggs for  
Everyone!



Church Chicken Lurking in the Bushes Between  
the Neighbors House and the Church

Hmmm . . .



Church Chicken Peeking in the Back Loading  
Dock Door by the Kitchen . . .

"Peck, peck. Hello, hello! I'm Hungry!  
I hope someone adopts me before winter."

As you may know, Pastor Koch takes walks in the evenings. He's not the **ONLY** one. There is a little creature that has started living at the church. Pastor took this picture of the little church chicken when he spotted the precious poultry. Pastor checked with the neighbor, and the neighbor said that the little feathered fowl didn't belong to him.

Church Chicken has found a place to roost in the evenings—a window of the church in the courtyard area.

*Stay tuned for Chapter 2 in October!*

**Church Mouse LOVES her new friend!**

# Thank you to Steve Kotek for the Removal & Replacement of the Pavilion Concrete!



Please see Church Mouse if this is your ring.  
The mouse has it under lock and key.

## Lost & Found

This pretty ring  
wasn't a wedding  
ring, like I thought.

I took it to  
Marquart Jewelers,  
and they told me it  
was a sterling  
silver ring, but the  
“diamonds” were  
only cubic zirconia  
(waa, waa)!



--Church Mouse



# Trailblazers Starts Again in September

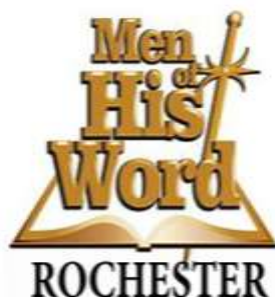
**The kids need us!** Members--please sign up to be a Trailblazer Host! The sign-up sheets are in the Welcome Area above the literature table.

THANKS BUNCHES!!!

(Please see the Trailblazer Informational "How To" page, by the sign-up sheets,



Join us as we Forge  
Ahead in Faith,  
confident in the  
One who calls us  
onward, no matter  
what lies ahead.



Martin Luther  
observed, "A Christian  
is an optimist."  
Confident in God's  
grace, we'll talk  
honestly about real  
challenges we face  
today, always in the  
light of the confidence  
we have in Jesus and his  
promises to bless his  
Church.

**Men of His Word - Rochester**

Saturday, October 25th, 2025

Mayo Civic Center

30 Civic Center Drive SE  
Rochester, MN 55904

Register at: <https://www.menofhisword.org/rochester-registration.html>



# Oktoberfest!

**all are invited to attend  
Oktoberfest!**

October 2  
5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Hosted by: Terry & Linda Jandt;  
Will & Brenda Rancour

**Menu: Pork, Spaetzle & Gravy, Sauerkraut,  
Fried Apples & Desserts**

Free-will offering

WOW! Get the flock together!  
These events sound amazing!





# Friedens Has a Beautiful New Memorial Bench and Stones in the Lily Garden



"Thank you to Dave & Pam Tietz."



## Restoration Project

Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church



One half of the project has been seeded by an estate gift. Until now, all of the estate gift has been invested and generating income to permit more ministry than otherwise possible, including part-time administrative assistant, color copier, Peace Fund, and to cover budget shortfalls. It will be important to replenish this investment fund in order to continue having that ministry and income; so, our goal as members is to donate one-half the estimated project cost: \$200,000.



## Church Attendance July



07/05/25	15
07/06/25	54
07/12/25	15
07/13/25	80
07/19/25	17
07/20/25	60
07/26/25	7
07/27/25	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>298</b>

# Happy September Birthday!



Brenda Rancour .....	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Maggie Hauser .....	4 <sup>th</sup>
Ann Chilson .....	6 <sup>th</sup>
Randy Warner .....	8 <sup>th</sup>
Jana Cornelius .....	8 <sup>th</sup>
Trevor Holicky .....	10 <sup>th</sup>
Cindy Hillstrom .....	12 <sup>th</sup>
DeLynn Barta .....	14 <sup>th</sup>
Addison Storlie .....	19 <sup>th</sup>
Sam Barnack .....	24 <sup>th</sup>
Glyde Burdick .....	25 <sup>th</sup>
Marilyn Grassmann .....	29 <sup>th</sup>

NOTE: If you do not see your birthday shown on the list, please let the church mouse know, and she'll make sure you get on next time your birthday rolls around.

## How Would You Prefer to Get Your Newsletter?



Initially, when I was hired as Admin. Assistant (over four years ago already--WOW), I requested people to let me know how they'd like to receive their newsletter. People had three choices—church mailbox distribution, e-mail or mail. **Please let me know if you'd like to change your choice and have your newsletter e-mailed, or if you'd like to just pick it up at the church. I can put you on the church mailbox distribution list.**

**Thanks so much!**

**—Church Mouse**

## DEADLINE TO SUBMIT TO THE NEWSLETTER

The DEADLINE to submit any information for the next newsletter is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.

**Please keep the size of your submission small (quarter to half page).** Keep in mind that the newsletter is basically finished half way through the month, so last-minute entries might not happen; however, there is always hope.

The church mouse is expected to get the newsletter out (via e-mail) before the last Sunday of the month. It then gets mailed out to members the week after the last Sunday of the month. Thank you.



**--Church Mouse**



# Women's Bible Study!



Thursday, September 4, at 6:30 p.m.

Friedens Fellowship Hall

Questions: Call Amy Jirik

952-290-1067



Don't forget that you can give an offering on our church website (efriedens.com). Just click the **"Give"** button (upper right corner) and fill in the fields. Easy!

## USHER SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

DATE	TEENS		ADULTS	
September 7	Lucas Holicky	Mason Storlie	David Tietz	Linda Jandt
September 14	Josef Jirik	Ethan Paler	Roger M. Meyer	Eric Schanus
September 21	Sam Workman	Ruth Workman	Keith Barta	Scott Gilsrud
September 28	Mikkala Quickle	Kameron Quickle	Doug Holicky	Troy Rabenberg

*Thank you for serving as an Usher, as you guide and help worshipers in God's House!*

## Prayer Requests



### Ways to Request Prayers:

1. E-mail: [flcsec@bevcomm.net](mailto:flcsec@bevcomm.net)
2. Phone: (952) 758-2828
  - a. Leave a voicemail
3. Website: efriedens.com
  - a. Click **PRAYER** on the Navigation Bar
  - b. Click the **PRAY** button
  - c. Fill out request form
  - d. Click **SEND**

Members of our Church Family will lovingly send up prayers for you.

# FRIEDENS LUTHERAN CHURCH MEETING MINUTES



## OUTREACH MEETING

June 29, 2025

6 p.m.



Those Present: Russ Meyer, Cindy Koch, Karen Schroeder, Will Rancour, Tracie Zampa (Heidi via Zoom—minutes).

### Czech Out New Prague.

1. Set up at around 3 p.m.
2. Heidi will forward the e-mail from the Chamber to all.
3. Discussion on set up.
4. Pastor will bring a cooler of waters for the volunteers.
5. Talked about posting the winners on the bulletin board.
6. Will is just planning on using his pick-up truck to haul (not his trailer).
7. The Outreach Committee will briefly meet again on August 3, after worship.
8. The ambassadors will wear solid blue-colored shirts (no logos).
9. There was discussion on what container to put the entries in for the cookbook drawing.
  - a. Heidi will add "e-mail" to the contact info slip.
10. Freebies to Hand Out: 9V Batteries (taped to Friedens postcard), cross in my pocket, flyer.
11. Discussed some conversation starters.

### Vacation Bible School.

1. VBS: August 6, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
  - a. Food? Maggie Hauser is in charge of doing the lunch for the kids.
  - b. Pastor is in charge of the VBS this year.

Next Regular Meeting: August 11, at 6 p.m.



## OUTREACH MEETING

August 11, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Those Present: Pastor Henry Koch, Russ Meyer, Larry Bowen, Karen Schroeder (via Zoom), Heidi Gilsrud (via Zoom—minutes).

### Devotion.

1. Pastor led a Devotion on the Parable of the Fig Tree, from the Gospel of Luke. The fig tree in the Parable was in a vineyard. Was it not where it was supposed to be? Not being fruitful? The Gardener is the interceder in the story, asking to give it more time to be fruitful.
2. Pastor led in prayer.

### Czech Out New Prague.

1. Czech Out New Prague (August 7): It was reported that 69 filled out info for the cookbook drawing.
2. It was thought that 3 people wanted further info on our church.
  - a. What is the best way to contact them? Discussion on how best to contact.
3. Pastor would recommend this event for next year.
4. Should there be a map on the other side of the flyer? No. People use their phones/google maps.
5. Pastor or Heidi can give them a tour.



6. Maybe next year, since children really liked the pinewood derby cars, we could have something that would engage the children like that, so it would give church representatives more time to talk with the parents.
  - a. Maybe next year, we could have large tubes that the kids could have races with (sending some Matchbox cars down the tubes). No prize needed—just the fun of racing the cars.
  - b. Maybe giving a bookmark would be nice.
7. The “Cross in My Pocket” seemed to work well with the children.
8. When should we have a meeting on planning the next Czech Out New Prague?
9. The large banner was a good visual.
10. This event peaked from 5:00 p.m.-6 p.m. By 6:45 p.m., few people were there, and at 7:30 there was practically no one.
11. Pastor bought a pizza for the volunteers.

#### VBS.

1. This year, VBS was mostly education. There were 11 children. We might do a 2-day, 3-day, or we could stick with the 1-day.
2. Maggie Hauser volunteered and did the lunch.
3. Karen asked when we have the Pinewood Derby car race. Pastor relayed that it is usually February (cutting out) and March (race). She would like to share it to New Prague Happenings for kids to come make a car and race it.
4. Volunteering: Start asking people to volunteer already in April for VBS—decorating, crafts, registration, lunch and cleanup.
5. Radio Show: Larry brought up to buy some KCHK airtime once a week for a “Visit with the Pastor”—a “questions and answers” kind of thing, with predetermined questions for him to answer. Try it for a couple of months. Then, at the end of the program, say, “Next week, we’ll talk about this . . .” Larry suggested maybe a 15-minute show.
  - a. Pastor suggested that the Outreach Committee give him some ideas on what he should talk about.

Next Outreach Meeting: September 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.



#### VOTERS' MEETING

July 27, 2025  
10:10 a.m.

Those Present: Pastor Henry Koch, Keith Barta, Jeff Heine, Patrick Schaefer, Larry Bowen, Nathanael Koch, Hank Meyer, Roger M. Meyer, Glydewell Burdick, Russell Meyer, William Schroeder, Terry Jandt, Josh Bulfer, Willard Rancour, David Tietz, Josh Bulfer (Heidi Gilsrud—minutes).

Pastor led in prayer.

New Voting Members.

1. There was a motion to accept new voting members: Bill Schroeder and Patrick Hogan (not present). Motion was approved.

Previous Voters' Meeting Minutes.

1. Read minutes from last Voters' Meeting (January). Motion to approve minutes, seconded and passed.

Roll Call.

1. Everyone had an opportunity to sign in. There are (16) voting members present.

Membership Actions.

1. Baptisms: Violet Bisek and Marci Hauser.



## Unfinished Business

### Parking Lot.

1. Tabled.

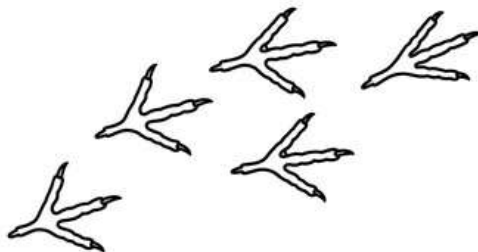
## Reports

### Pastor's Report (Reference Pastor's Report on Literature Table).

1. Music. Choir, Grand Piano, Jan Manthe donates her playing, Patrick Schaefer accompanies choir. Pastor went over how the grand piano is used.
2. Rightnow Media is being canceled. There are still a few days to view programming.
3. VBS (August 6, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.). We are going to go through extra Sunday School lessons for bible lessons. Pastor went through what is included in VBS. We are doing a reset.
  - a. Age-appropriate Bible Lessons will be used.
4. Sunday School resumes on September 7; Catechism resumes September 10; Last day of Sunday School will be May 31.
5. Youth Bike Trip will be planned for September.
6. Bible Information Classes are being done remotely.
7. Pastor went through adult Bible Class topics.

### Elders' Report.

1. Josh went over the worship attendance.
2. A key event was a new-member lunch, where we welcomed new members.
3. VBS: We are looking for volunteers.
4. A member requested ending ushering. It was decided to continue ushering.
5. Mission Festival (August 3).
6. Pastor's Vacation.
7. Next Council/Elder Meeting will be August 14, at 6:30.



### Outreach Committee Report.

1. Czech Out New Prague (August 7): We could use more volunteers. We will be giving away cookbooks and 9V batteries.

### Treasurer's Report.

1. The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. (Pam was not able to be present.) There is a declining balance in our checking account—anywhere from \$2,000 to \$11,000. When you combine all the accounts, we are only down \$4,000. Overall consideration of our investment fund, and all the accounts over the past year, the balances went down only \$1,000. We should always be good stewards.
  - a. Sometimes, there are swings in donations. Some people contribute semi-annually, sometimes quarterly, etc. Our deficit has been fairly steady.
  - b. Our expenses continue to go up.
2. The investment Fund has been growing. At some point, we'll have to take out some money; however, we want to leave our funds in the fund to make more money.
3. The expenses vary. Some expenses are quarterly and some are monthly. Contributions vary, too.
4. The Audit Committee did an audit and everything checked out. Pam has done a tremendous job.

### Trustees' Report.

1. Steeple Leaks: Tuck-pointing, was mentioned and will be covered in the new business segment of today's Voters' Meeting.

## New Business

### Fixing Leaks Around Steeples.

1. We did discover a leak in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> steeples. Bid was given for \$4,600 (pictures passed out) to replace small flat roofs around both steeples. The work will be done during the next month.

### Tuck-Pointing the Church and Parsonage.

- a. A good portion of the church has already been tuck-pointed. Nieman Roofing is going to repair the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> steeples. Tuck-pointing bids were received.



- b. Discussion on tuck-pointing.
- c. We received two bids for the tuck-pointing: \$27,500 and \$31,000.
  - i. Question from Hank Meyer: On the tuck-pointing, do they have to seal it after that? The whole church was supposed to be sealed every so often. Jeff: The church was tuck-pointed and sealed about 10 or so years ago. Hank: After you tuck-point, is there a few years' wait to seal it? Jeff: Yes. Will: One of the bids calls for pressure washing. Are they going to spray off the sealant? Or has it degraded off? Keith: This is really two issues. We'll move on getting bids for sealant later to protect our investment. Dave Tietz: Bids are similar. He would like to go with someone local. Jeff: Jeff answered that he has used R & S before. New owner, but same crew (they are good).
- d. Jeff talked about tuck-pointing. You wait a year or two and see how it's performed. A slight wind can push rain right into the building. There could be a flashing problem, too, so that can be found and repaired when they are doing the tuck-pointing. The major problem is the balcony leak. Even at the parsonage, there is shifting and some stress cracks.
- e. Keith explained the proposed repairs. R & S seems like a top-notch company. No guarantees.
- f. The intent is to have a vote to proceed with the tuck-pointing. If work is approved, another bid will be requested.
- g. Holman Masonry was recommended by Govara Insulation (great company).
- h. Dave reminded that we just spent half a million dollars on our worship area and we should protect that with fixing the outside.
- i. It was determined that painting wasn't necessary at this time.
- j. Keith mentioned that there were comments from non-voting members.
- k. There was a motion and a second to proceed with the tuck-pointing. We can go with raised hands or paper ballots.
- l. Will recommended an amendment to the motion. Will believes that we should take a closer look at the leaks. We could go with this first motion and vote on that. If that passes, then have the Exec. Council review both bids and decide on which company to go with.
- m. Further Discussion. Jeff: Does the exec. Committee have a recommendation on how to pay for this? The Exec. Council said that we can take out of the investment account or do some fund raising. Keith said that they'll watch the checking account balances.
- n. Keith motioned for going ahead with the tuck-pointing of the church and the parsonage. There was a show of hands for tuck-pointing: 15 ayes and 1 nay. The motion for tuck-pointing passes.
- o. R & S Tuck-pointing was recommended by Jeff. It is not uncommon for closer looks at the project while the work is being done.
  - i. Jeff Heine motioned to go with R & S and to allow a \$5,000 contingency for additional work required. All those in favor. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- p. Keith said we will go ahead with R & S Tuck-Pointing.

#### Pavilion (Shelter) Cement Remove & Replace.

- 1. Cracked Cement: We received two bids to repair the cracked concrete.
  - a. Steve Kotek gave a bid (\$10,000 for removal and replacement).
  - b. Discussion: Regarding the trees that caused the problem, the oak is not there anymore, per Russ Meyer.
  - c. Pastor commented on the cracked cement. It can be "shaved" down to reduce the trip hazard. This could be looked at, said Keith.
  - d. The pavilion is about 40 years old. There is a safety hazard here.
  - e. There is tiling around there, but it is about 3 feet away from the perimeter of the cement. You just have to be careful when digging.
  - f. There was a motion to get the cement removed and replaced. It was seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.
  - g. There was a motion for Steve Kotek to go ahead with the work. Motion was seconded. All were in favor. Motion carries.

#### Exec. Council Spending Limit.

- 1. The Exec. Council recommended that the Bylaws stay the same (\$5,000).
  - a. A motion was made by Larry Bowen to raise the spending limit to \$10,000.
    - i. Jeff shared that the Council needs to keep transparent in their spending. It has been very rare that more than \$5,000 was needed. There is always the option of calling a special meeting. Hank shared that \$5,000 was plenty. Will saw no reason to change this amount. Keith overruled comments, including that there has been inflation.
    - ii. The \$10,000 will not go forward.
  - b. There was a motion to maintain the \$5,000 spending limit. It was seconded. All were in favor. The motion carries.

#### Pastor's Salary.

- 1. Pastor said that the parsonage has been a great blessing.
- 2. Pam Tietz provided a detailed breakout of what the pastor's salary is.
  - a. Current Salary: \$87,107, plus over a benefit package of health insurance, pension and Parsonage.
  - b. The Council recommendation was made for 3%.
  - c. We've always maintained a steady increase.
  - d. Discussion.
  - e. Comments: Pastor has great performance. Should his performance be separate from his salary?
  - f. Jeff made a motion to increase Pastor's base salary by 3% to make \$89,721/year. This was seconded and the motion carries.

Next Voters' Meeting: January 25, 2026, at 7 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Worship (Communion): 9:00 a.m. Coffee Time: 10:00 a.m. <b>Guitar Club: 10:00 a.m.</b> Sunday School: 10:10 a.m. <b>Bible Study: 10:30 a.m.</b> <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER MEETING: 11:15 a.m.</b></p>	<p>Office Closed 1 <b>LABOR DAY</b></p> 	<p>Office Closed 2</p>	<p>Office Closed 3 Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. Games: 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Office Closed 4 FIFAF Book Club: 6:30 p.m.</p>	5	<p><b>Men's Bible Study: 8:00 a.m.</b> Worship: Noon Bible Info. Class: 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>7 Worship (Communion): 9:00 a.m. Coffee Time: 10:00 a.m. <b>Guitar Club: 10:00 a.m.</b> Sunday School: 10:10 a.m. <b>Bible Study: 10:30 a.m.</b> <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER MEETING: 11:15 a.m.</b></p>	8	<p>9 Bible Info Class: 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>10 Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. Games: 10:00 a.m. 5 &amp; 6 Catechism: 4:15 p.m. 7 &amp; 8 Catechism: 5:40 p.m.</p>	<p>11 Ladies Aid: 1:00 p.m. EXEC. COUNCIL MTG: 6:30 p.m.  (Prairie Quilters: 7:00 p.m.)</p>	12	<p><b>Men's Bible Study: 8:00 a.m.</b> Worship: Noon Bible Info. Class: 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>14 Worship: 9:00 a.m. <b>Guitar Club: 10:00 a.m.</b> Sunday School: 10:10 a.m. <b>Bible Study: 10:15 a.m.</b> <b>YOUTH BIKE TRIP: 1:00 p.m.</b></p>	<p>15 <b>OUTREACH MTG: 6:00 p.m.</b></p>	<p>16 Worship at Mala Strana: 11:00 a.m. Bible Info. Class: 3:30 p.m. Worship: 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>17 Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. Games: 10:00 a.m. 5 &amp; 6 Catechism: 4:15 p.m. 7 &amp; 8 Catechism: 5:40 p.m.</p>	18	19	<p><b>Men's Bible Study: 8:00 a.m.</b> Worship: Noon Bible Info. Class: 1:00 p.m.  (Prairie Quilters: 9:00 a.m. - Noon)</p>
<p>21 Worship (Communion): 9:00 a.m. <b>Guitar Club: 10:00 a.m.</b> Sunday School: 10:10 a.m. <b>Bible Study: 10:15 a.m.</b></p>	<p>22  (Blood Drive: 1:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.)</p>	<p>23 Bible Info Class: 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>24 Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. Games: 10:00 a.m. 5 &amp; 6 Catechism: 4:15 p.m. 7 &amp; 8 Catechism: 5:40 p.m.</p>	25	26	<p><b>Men's Bible Study: 8:00 a.m.</b> Worship: Noon Bible Info. Class: 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>28 Worship: 9:00 a.m. <b>Guitar Club: 10:00 a.m.</b> Sunday School: 10:10 a.m. <b>Bible Study: 10:15 a.m.</b></p>	29	<p>30 Worship at Mala Strana: 11:00 a.m. Bible Info. Class: 3:30 p.m. Worship: 6:30 p.m.</p>				

**Rejoice evermore.  
Pray without ceasing.**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-17**

