



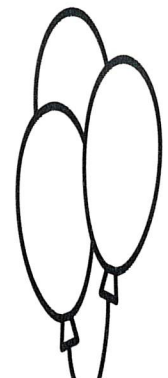
SEPTEMBER 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 7:30 PM Trustees 7:30PM Youth Group	4	5	6 6:00 PM Worship 6:45 PM Potluck
7 9:15 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 12-1PM Confirmation Orientation-Parent/ Student/Mentor	8 WIC-9AM-5PM	9	10 9:00 AM Sew 'N' Sews 7:30 PM Youth Group	11 7:00PM Bible 101	12	13 6:00 PM Worship
14 9:15AM Adult Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 12-12:30 PM- Confirmation Pizza Party Lunch	15	16	17 9:30 AM UMW 7:00 PM Ad Council 7:30 PM Youth Group	18	19	20 UMM-9AM 6:00 PM Worship
21 9:15 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30AM Worship	22	23	24 9:00 AM Sew 'N' Sews 6:30-7:30PM- Confirmation 7:30PM Youth Group	25 7:00 PM Bible 101	26	27 6:00 PM Worship
28 9:15 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30AM Worship	29	30				

DATE	USHERS	SCRIPTURE READER	CHILDREN'S TIME	AUDIO/ CAMERA
9-7	Charlotte Burr Janee Montgomery	Linda Keiper	Janee Montgomery	Amy/Stacy
9-14	Kim Wadkins Todd Meyer	Sandy Sell	Linda Keiper	Kollars
9-21	Darryl Volquardsen Denise Volquardsen	Alan Van Cleave	Carol McGregor	Amy
9-28	Jessica Kier Tyson Kier	Denise Catlin	Pastor Doreen	Kollars

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

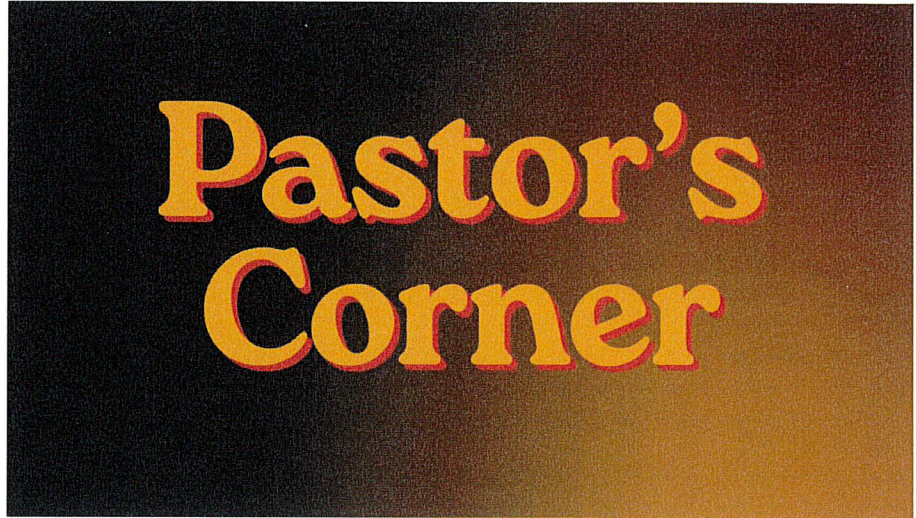


<i>9-2 Roger Kenkel</i>	<i>9-10 Korben Kenkel</i>	<i>9-23 MaKayla Thornburg</i>
<i>9-2 Nate Evans</i>	<i>9-12 Tegun Evans</i>	<i>9-24 Kelly Murr</i>
<i>9-3 Nathan Zwink</i>	<i>9-12 Piper Zwink</i>	<i>9-25 Carrie Leisinger</i>
<i>9-6 Leon Smith</i>	<i>9-15 David Sines</i>	<i>9-26 Tara Tracy</i>
<i>9-7 Shane Rockefeller</i>	<i>9-17 Kyle Swanson</i>	<i>9-26 Brian Leisinger</i>
<i>9-7 Paige Peterson</i>	<i>9-19 Aiden Middleswart</i>	<i>9-30 Richard Rose</i>
<i>9-10 Dan Sell</i>	<i>9-19 Kalel Leisinger</i>	<i>9-30 Noah Summers</i>

Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

As the seasons shift, I often find myself thinking about the rhythms of life, how growth and rest, joy and challenge, all flow together under God's care. Just as the fields need both sun and rain to flourish, our hearts need times of peace and times of trial to deepen our faith. With the start of a



new school year, life becomes busy once again. The pace picks up, not just in our homes and schools but here at church as well. Ministries that took a pause over the summer will be coming back, and I am excited to see our community active and engaged.

These past weeks have been a season of challenge for many in our congregation. Some of you have been in and out of the hospital, and others are still recovering and not feeling well. At the same time, I am aware of the quiet, faithful work of those among us who are giving care; visiting the sick, making meals, offering rides, or simply holding a hand in prayer. Your ministry of love does not go unnoticed, and it reflects the heart of Christ in our midst.

Psalm 34:18 reminds us, *"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."* These words are a promise to those who are suffering, but also to those who stand beside them, offering care. God is present not only with those who are ill, but with the caregivers as well, providing strength, patience, and wisdom as they minister in love. To every one of you who has offered your time, energy, and heart to care for someone in need, I offer my deepest gratitude. Your faithfulness is a tangible expression of God's love, and it blesses our entire church family.

For those recovering from illness or navigating ongoing health challenges, please know that you are not alone. We are a community that walks together, supporting one another through prayer, encouragement, and practical help. Let us continue to check in with one another, reach out when someone needs care, and celebrate the small victories along the way.

I also want to encourage anyone who feels called to reach out for support, prayer, or a pastoral visit to do so. My door is always open, whether in person, by phone, or online.

Together, we can carry one another's burdens and share the hope that God offers in every season.

Even in difficult times, faith reminds us that God is at work—through our prayers, through our care for one another, and through the strength God provides each day. May we continue to lean on Him, support one another, and trust that God's love surrounds us, sustains us, and guides us forward.

With love, prayers, and blessings,

Pastor Doreen



Registration for our **2025–2026 Confirmation program** has been on going in August, and we are excited to see students stepping forward in their faith journey. If you have been considering having your child participate, it's not too late! We are extending the registration deadline to **Sunday, September 7th**.

This important step in our faith journey is typically offered for 7th and 8th graders. However, rather than focusing only on age or grade, we believe parents and students should prayerfully decide together when the time is right to make a mature commitment and grow deeper in faith. For that reason, Pastor Doreen is more than willing to teach Confirmation to anyone in **Grades 7–12** who is ready. Those that have already been confirmed but would like to learn more and continue growing, are also warmly invited to participate.

Students will also have the opportunity to choose their own mentor from within the church family. If you are willing to mentor a student please reach out to the pastor. The program will begin with a **Parent/Student/Mentor Orientation on Sunday, September 7th at 12:00 PM following worship**. At the meeting, we will discuss the schedule, expectations and some special events that will be offered throughout the year. Classes will officially begin on Sept 24 at 6:30 PM. **All expenses are covered by the church**—including materials, activities, and retreats.

If Confirmation is right for you and your family, or if you have any questions or concerns, please notify Pastor Doreen at dtoe@greatplainsumc.org. We would love to walk with you and your family through this important journey of faith!

Visit with the Pastor

Pastor Doreen would love to connect with you! If you'd like to set up a time to meet, please reach out so an appointment can be arranged. She has been trying to connect with some members and may have left a voicemail—if so, this is a gentle reminder that she'd be glad to hear from you.

Your response helps her make sure she can spend time with you personally.



Community Pantry Update

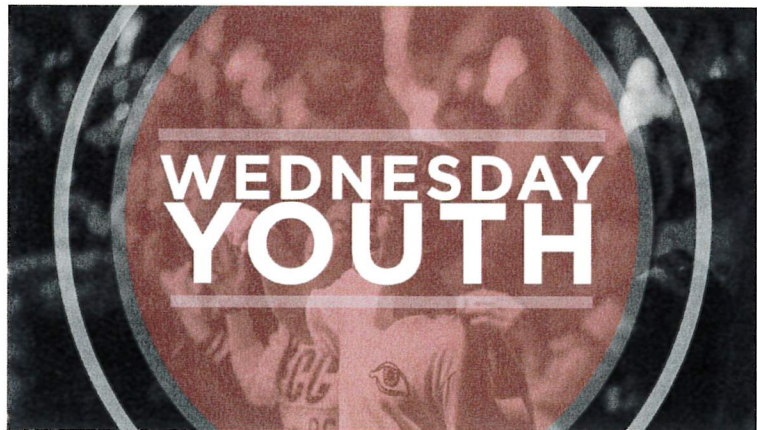


Our free pantry continues to be a busy hub of service, helping many in our community each week. We are especially grateful for everyone who has stepped in to volunteer. The pantry continues to serve the wider community every Tuesday and Thursday night from 6:30–8:00 PM. Beyond our incredible volunteers including staff from the Exchange Bank, we extend a huge thank you also to Adam's Corner Market and our food bank partner in Omaha for their generous support.

Wednesday Youth Programs Return on Sept 3

We're excited to announce that our Wednesday Youth Programs will be back starting **September 3!** This is a great opportunity for young people to grow in faith, connect with friends, and have fun in a safe, supportive environment.

We can't wait to see everyone back and ready for an amazing year! The program is open to all youth in 7th through 12th grades and runs on Wednesday nights from 7.30-8.30 pm. All are welcome!



Blessing of the Backpacks

On **August 10, 2025**, Carol McGregor led our annual **Blessing of the Backpacks** during worship. Children, teachers, and school staff came forward with their backpacks to receive prayers for a safe, joyful, and successful school year. The sanctuary was filled with joy and encouragement as we surrounded our students and educators with blessings for the year ahead.



👥 (Kids, teachers, and school staff gathered together with their backpacks.)

Blessing for Our Free Pantry

On **August 19, 2025**, during the Buffalo Hall Corn Growers Association's **Plot Night & BBQ** at Babel's Barn in Wood River, **Faith United** was honored to receive two generous donations: a check from **Farm Credit Services** and a check from the **Nebraska Corn Growers Association**, totaling **\$3,000**.



These gifts were designated to support our **Free Pantry ministry**, which provides food and essential items for our neighbors in need. We are deeply thankful for the farm community's kindness and generosity, which will allow us to keep pantry shelves stocked and continue being a source of hope for families.

(Pastor Doreen, Mel, and representatives from Farm Credit Services and Nebraska Corn Growers posing with the donation checks.)

This is a beautiful reminder that when the community works together, no one goes hungry. We celebrate these partnerships and give thanks for the seeds of compassion sown in our midst!

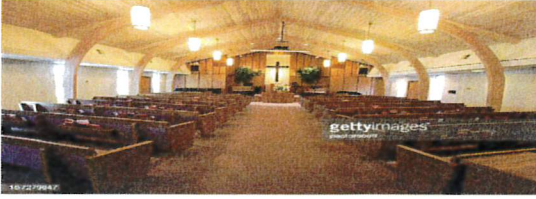
Online Attendance Stats Matter!



We are grateful for all who worship with us online! Your presence is important, and we want to stay connected with you. Please be sure to let us know when you are watching so we can keep track of attendance and continue to support you as part of our church family. You can simply comment watching and you can also let us know where you will be watching from if you wish to do so!

August 30th

No Saturday Night Service



August 30th there will be no Saturday evening church service due to a vacation weekend. We will resume Saturday Night Service on Saturday Sept 6th. Hope to see you there!



Tailgate potluck Party Sept 6th

As is the custom here at Gibbon Faith United, we will be hosting a potluck on Saturday evening, September 6th, following our 6:00 p.m. service. On the menu will be a Tailgate Party with a meat/Cheese/ and chicken strips provided. We ask you bring a side dish, dessert, or tailgate appetizers. So, we invite all of you to bring your families, friends, and neighbors to attend this event so that we can share the meal together. If you also have some free time, please come to worship God with us during the Saturday service at 6:00 pm before the Potluck, so that we can sing, praise, and worship our Lord together.

Fall Bazaar

It is time to start thinking about the fall bazaar!!!! The ladies will be starting to make pies soon and you will be able to place your orders ahead of time. You might be thinking what could i do for the bazaar? We sell almost anything....any kind of homemade crafts for ladies, men, or kids(mittens, blankets, hats, dishcloths, etc.) And homemade can goods of all sorts such as vegetables, salsa, jellies, and jams. Of course, we always need fresh baked items such as cakes, cookies, muffins, bread, cinnamon rolls, etc. We will also need gift baskets that we sell such as themed baskets like beauty, food, games to play, snacks to eat, books, Gift cards, etc. So, start thinking about what you can do to support the bazaar this year. All the monies made from the sales goes to our church, community, and mission projects outside our state. It's a lot of hard work but it is well worth it, and we are so blessed to be able to do it.

In his love and service,

Sew 'N' Sews