



Fifth Sunday of Easter

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
408 9TH STREET NW
MANDAN, ND 58554**

Building Faith and Transforming Lives in Christ

May 3, 2026

9:30 A.M.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN *“Jesus, the Very Thought of You”* *ELW #754 or Page 8*

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray....

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

² **Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.**

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.**

⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵ **My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.”

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God’s saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God’s chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” ⁸ and “A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.



The Holy Gospel according to John.

“Glory to you, O Lord.”

GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The gospel of the Lord.

“Praise to you, O Christ.”

SERMON *Pastor Phil*

HYMN OF THE DAY *“All Are Welcome” (v. 1, 3 & 5) ELW #641 or Page 9*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Following the hymn of the day, those being welcomed and the ministers gather on the chancel steps before the assembly.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly in these or similar words.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for *these new members*, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome into the life and ministry of First Lutheran Church of Mandan.

The presiding minister addresses those being welcomed.

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

Those being welcomed respond.

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for *these new members* in *their* life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

WELCOME

Let us welcome *these sisters and brothers* in Christ to this community of faith.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Let us welcome you with our applause.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: “Merciful God,”

Congregation: “receive our prayer.”

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the treble staves.

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

Thank you for your financial offerings to First Lutheran. Your generosity enables us to carry out the mission of Christ through our life together here in this congregation and through our loving service to our neighbors beyond our walls. We now have resumed the traditional offering practice of "passing the plates." For those who contribute to First Lutheran's ministry in ways other than weekly in-church offerings and would still like to be included in the in-worship gathering of the offering, laminated "Offering Cards" are now included in the pew racks for you to place in the offering plates.

OFFERTORY

"We Are an Offering"

ELW #692 or Page 10

OFFERING PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

MEAL

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER

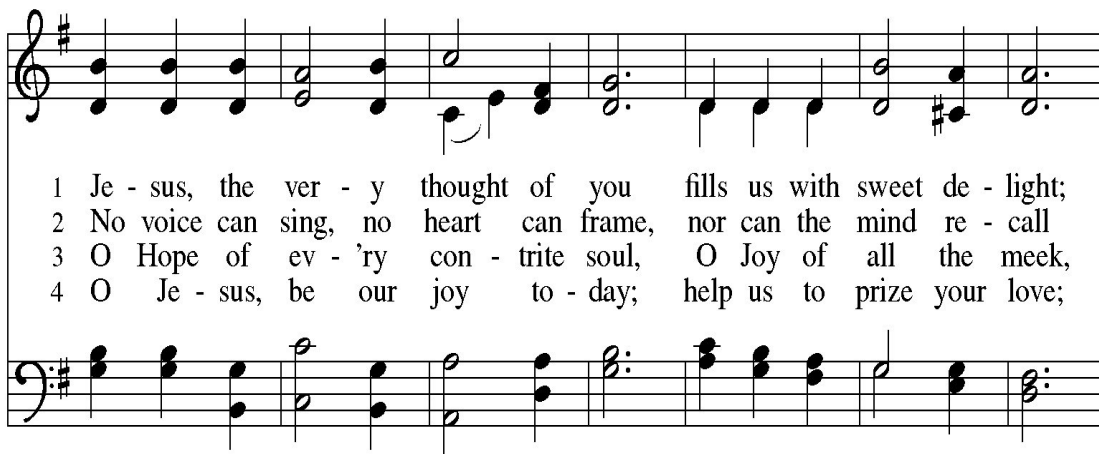
BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN *“Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing”* *ELW #389 or Page 11*
(v. 1, 2 & 3)

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

Jesus, the Very Thought of You



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
Music: ST. AGNES, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

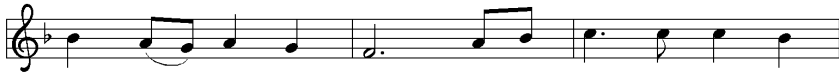
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen

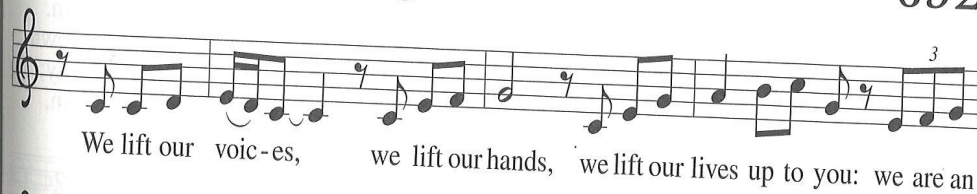
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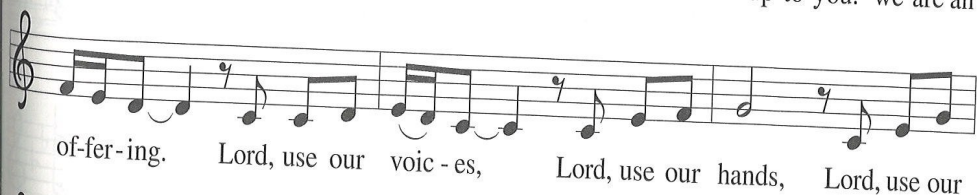
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We Are an Offering

692



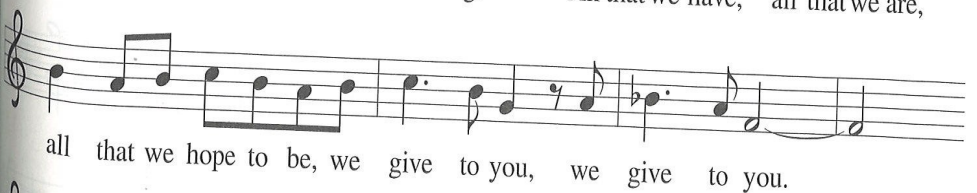
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an



of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our



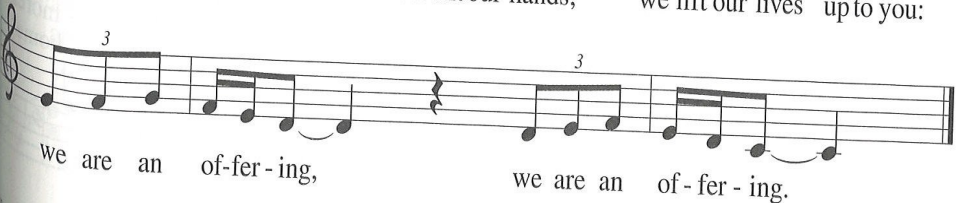
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,



all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.



We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:



we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Lyrics: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
Music: Dwight Liles
Words and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING
PM

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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Attendance last Week: Sunday 8:30 - 76 10:45 - 70
Wednesday 6:30 - 53

ON-GOING PRAYER CONCERNS:

Noel Albrecht, Brad Schmidt, Joan Hanson, Debbie Martineson, Hal Lang, Patrick Lang, Jason Bjorgen, Ken Charvat, Dave Thomas, Joann Meyer, Preston Joyce, Susan Voigt, Toby Kienzle, Pam Weng, Lois Smith, Barb Carl, Jeff MacIver, Brady Mattson, Darin Hinsz, Jerome Bauer, Wendel Mongeon, Brenda Hersch, Jared & Jenn Barnhart, Ray Stenmoen, Connor Hertz, Teresa Seeman, Linda Stastny, Rachael Hankin, Opal Renken, David Jung, Dina Walker, Kay Link, Tammy Krein, Terry Tanaka, Wanda House, Tom Burau, Judy Walters, Monte Olmsted, Pat Kincaid, Victor Saeman, Lualice Stockert, Katy Anseth, Sarah Weishaar, Anna Anderson, Brenna Blankenship, Ted (Theodore) Delfs, Allen Janz, Justin Hankin, Judy Anderson, Rori Messer, Jayar Kindsvogel, Kristen Rasmussen, Jerry Iverson, Jason Klipfel, Lois Helmer, Pius Johner, Cori Musolf, Stan Hepper, Eunice Wolf, Adam Walker, Mary Hogan, Corey Palmer, Sandy Hertz, Avis Rowe

First Lutheran Church will be updating the prayer list periodically. If a name is not listed and you would like it re-listed please call the church office at 663-3594. We will re-list names for prayers.

PLEASE KEEP THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED TO SERVICE FOR OUR COUNTRY IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Todd Bauer, Alex Dove, Jacob Selzler

If you know of anyone who has ties to our congregation and is called to active duty, please contact the church office.

Pastor Phil Leer's phone number: 701-341-7784
(If you need to reach him please give him a call)

Ushers:

Peg Nyberg

Reader:

Corby Rachel

Communion Servers:

Britany Barden

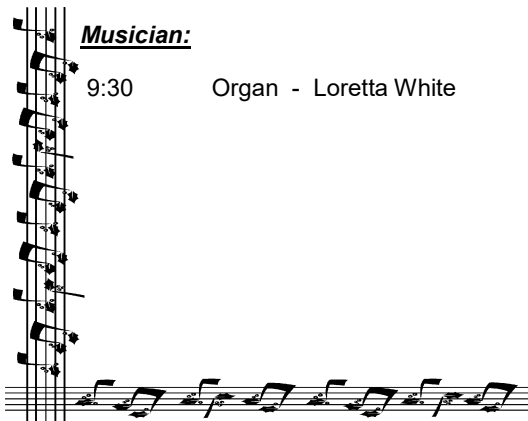
Communion Set-Up:

Corby Rachel

Musician:

9:30

Organ - Loretta White



Mission of the Month - Dakota Children's Advocacy Center

Items needed are Bottled Water, Individually Packaged Snacks (nut free), Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Tissue, Clorox Wipes, Hand Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner, Combs/Brushes, 13-Gallon Garbage Bags, Baby Soap, Adult & Child Body Wash, Toothpaste.

You may put your items in the boxes in the Narthex. Thanks!

Women of First Luncheon will be held at Bennigans on Wednesday, May 13th at 11:30 a.m. If you are planning on attending please call the church office at 663-3594 as soon as possible so we can have an accurate count for them. Please bring a food item for the food boxes outside.



Independence with Assisted Living

\$1,000 Toward Moving Costs!



MISSOURI SLOPE
- ASSISTED LIVING -

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WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for ushers, communion servers, readers & communion set up for all worship services. Since we have gone back to passing the offering plate we need at least 2 ushers for every service. If you could help out please sign your name on the sheets provided, by the bulletins, in the narthex.

The Endowment Committee is looking for someone to be on their committee. If you are interested please call Darin Hanson at 701-391-9845.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Carrie Hille, Andrea Hanson & Emily Gustafson's sister-in-law. Please keep her family in your prayers.



SAVE THE DATES!
First Lutheran Church
welcomes



Camp of the Cross Ministries

for 3 fun filled days of Vacation Bible School

When: Monday, June 1st – Wednesday, June 3rd

Who: Kindergarten – 6th Graders

(Pre-K kids should be going into Kindergarten
in the 26–27 school year).

Cost: \$20.00 per child / \$40.00 per family

Please register by May 22 at <http://bit.ly/VBS2026FLM>

DOWNLOAD THE “VANCO MOBILE” APP TODAY!



OR TEXT 8449340609 TO DONATE

If you would like to give electronically, visit our website or contact the church office.

We have to stay financially strong. The ongoing ministry of our church is dependent on the tithes and offerings of our people. Electronic giving is the best way to do this. Many of you are already on our giving platform. If you are not giving electronically, this would be a good time to do that. You can sign up here <https://firstlutheranofmandan.com/>. Simply click on the button on the right hand side that says “Give Online”. If you prefer to make your gifts by check, you can drop it off at the church or mail it to 408 9th St NW Mandan, ND 58554. Staying strong in worship, caring ministries, and finances are important as we work to love and serve hurting people during this tumultuous time.

If you provide your financial offerings to First Lutheran through other ways besides the weekly worship gathering of gifts (e.g.: Vanco, automatic bank withdrawal), you are welcome to place one of the laminated “offering cards” in the pew rack in the offering plate during the Offering.

Notes on Holy Communion:

Practice: *We practice Open Communion, which means if you are here, you are welcome at the table of Christ. If you do not take Communion, or you do not take Communion yet, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing. We can also bring Communion to you in your pew if you are unable to come forward. Please notify one of the ushers.*

Procedure: *You will receive a wafer of bread and a small cup of communion wine (juice and gluten free wafers are also available; please let your server know). Please place the empty cup in the waste basket by the communion assistant as you return to your pew.*

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

408 9TH Street NW, Mandan, ND Phone: 663-3594
email: jackie@firstlutheranofmandan.org www.firstlutheranofmandan.com

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY 3	7:00 COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL 12 OR 612 9:30 WORSHIP/LIVE STREAM WORSHIP 2:00 FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE
MONDAY 4	
TUESDAY 5	9:00 STAFF
WEDNESDAY 6	1:30 HEART RIVER & RUTH CIRCLE 6:00 MISSION TRIP MEETING 6:00 WORSHIP
THURSDAY 7	11:00 LAF ~ CHEF'S CHOICE
FRIDAY 8	
SATURDAY 9	
SUNDAY 10	7:00 COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL 12 OR 612 9:30 WORSHIP/LIVE STREAM WORSHIP

A huge THANK YOU to all of our church school teachers / helpers and confirmation leaders who gave of their time and talents this year to bring the Gospel of our Lord to our children of First Lutheran! You are a blessing to us all!

We want to extend a very special "Thank You" to all who donated items, helped assemble the 40 "May Day" baskets, and/or helped to deliver those baskets to our assisted living, nursing home, and homebound members. You are truly a blessing!

