



“Take care of him, and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.”

- The Good Samaritan, Luke 10:35

The Good Samaritan was a neighbor to a stranger in need. He gave time and money to care for the victim of a roadside mugging. **Can you think of a time when you helped a stranger in need?** Be as specific as possible. What were the circumstances? Who was the person? What did you do?

Here at Good Soil, we strive to work together to help people in need in our community and around the world. In fact, one of our guiding principles is, “Following the Holy Spirit by serving and partnering with the wider community.” (Read GSLM’s other Guiding Principles on back).

We may not know many of them closely, yet still we call them our neighbors. Jesus commends the Good Samaritan by saying he was a neighbor to the man by the side of the road. **Being a neighbor is how we do God’s work in the world.**

Fred Rogers used to sing, “Won’t you be my neighbor?” Imagine someone in need — maybe someone in our community, maybe someone around the world. Next, hear yourself say to that person, “Won’t you be my neighbor?” Then see yourself being a neighbor to that person through your actions. Finally, see our congregation, together, being their neighbor



WEEK THREE — THE JOY OF GENEROSITY

THE JOY OF DOING GOD’S WORK TOGETHER



Good Soil Lutheran Ministries

Purpose Statement, Guiding Principles & Ministry Priorities

Purpose Statement

- ❖ Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve

Guiding Principles

- ❖ Encouraging spiritual growth through Christ-centered worship and faith formation
- ❖ Fostering a faith community of love, support, and discipleship
- ❖ Embracing the joyful energy of families and children and supporting them through life's struggles
- ❖ Inviting all people with grace, compassion, and affirmation
- ❖ Following the Holy Spirit by serving and partnering with the wider community
- ❖ Sharing God's abundance with generosity

Ministry Priorities

- ❖ Provide opportunities to build and deepen supportive and authentic relationships within the congregation.
- ❖ Nurture spiritual growth and facilitate faith formation opportunities for children, families, and adults.
- ❖ Strengthen relationships with our ministry partners and with our neighbors in the community where the Spirit is at work.
- ❖ Cultivate a culture of invitation and enthusiastic welcome, especially for those for whom the church has not always been a welcoming place.