



GRACELINES

July 2017

Grace Lutheran

Church Hours:

Monday—Thursday
8 am to 4:00 pm
Friday— 8 am to Noon

Phone: 320-679-1062

Our Staff

Pastor ? - Coming soon!
Visitation Pastor Cindy Gray (August)
Director of Children, Youth & Family
(CYF) - coming soon!
Leah Smith, Office Manager
Krista Elvehjem, Office Assistant
Matt Smith & _____?, Custodians

Email: church@gracechurchmora.org
www.gracechurchmora.org
www.facebook.com/gracechurchmora

*The church has a AED
(defibrillator) located in the
East Narthex next to the
Library door.*

Important Church Updates

Children, Youth & Family Update:

Summer events....

Vacation Bible School June 12-15—A success once again! Thank you to all who volunteered!
Rafting June 25th. - Fun time had by all!
Scavenger hunt July 19th
Feed My Starving Children August 9th
Saints Baseball game August 13th
More information is on the Youth Board in the narthex at church.

Leadership team... We have assembled a team of parents to help us plan our program and hire a person to be our Director. Applications have been received for a permanent person for this position. Will keep you posted.

Call committee update: Interviews are going well, there may be a recommendation very soon for the full time pastoral position.

Pastoral coverage for summer: Pastor Mike will be with us through July 2nd. During July we will have pulpit supply on Sunday mornings. If you need a pastor please call the church office.

Visitation Pastor update: We are very excited to Welcome Pastor Cindy Gray as our new Visitation Pastor! She will officially start in August but will be joining us for service sometime in July. Please introduce yourself and welcome her to the Grace family!

Custodial Position update: If interested, application and job description is available in church office. Weekday position has been filled, however, still looking to fill weekend position with permanent person/people.

The deadline for the August 2017 newsletter is July 20th at NOON.



Pastor Mike's Message

Church Email: wordwilltravel@yahoo.com

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Grace and peace to you from God, our Father, and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Twelve months ago we were just beginning to get to know each other. We all knew that this would be a limited time engagement and now our time together has come to an end.

Even though I have always known that a 'good-bye' was around the corner I will still be sad when we say our final 'good-byes'.

You are great people and the love of Jesus is part of your DNA. Your warmth, hospitality, graciousness, humor, sense of adventure, and patience are all signs that God's Spirit is alive and well here at Grace Lutheran Church.

Above all I need to say... Thank you!!!!

I, and Natalia, have really felt at home here and we will always hold you tenderly in our hearts.

I am also thankful to the leaders here at Grace. This has been a year of many transitions and tough decisions. Everyone has worked hard this past year and you have pulled together to share your gifts and you are working on an exciting staff configuration for the future of Jesus' work here. I am super excited for you and for your future.

So, I pray God's blessings upon you as you welcome an entire new ministry staff into you midst. May you all work together in unity and harmony to fulfill God's will for this special mission field in Mora, Minnesota.

Goodbyes are not forever.
Goodbyes are not the end.
They simply mean I'll miss you
Until we meet again!
~Author Unknown

As brothers and sisters in Christ I am confident that we shall meet again. Until then...

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. God bless you as you continue to live as Spirit-filled disciples of Jesus Christ with your commitment to change the world by God's grace. I'll be praying for you in sure confidence that you are making the world a better place.

Thanks again for sharing this past year of partnership in the gospel!

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Mike

8:00 am

July 2nd

Greeters/ Ushers: Arnie Barabash &
Rollie Fredrickson

Lector: Rollie Fredrickson

Psalmist: Mikala Peterson

Acolytes: Mikala Peterson & Owen Marohn

Communion Assistants: Barb Ennis

July 9th

Greeters: Ernie & Renee Capra

Ushers: Dan & Sue Halsey

Lector: Sue Halsey Psalmist:

Acolytes: Emmie Otto & Katie Wicklund

July 16th

Greeters: Roger & Vera Grams

Ushers: Jim & Lynette Skolte

Lector: Sue Oehrlein Psalmist:

Acolytes: Ben Nordenstrom & Ty Graves

Communion Assistants: Bonnie Boyer

July 23rd

Greeters: Randi & Kris Johnson

Ushers: Dave & Pam Johnstone

Lector: Pam Johnstone Psalmist:

Acolytes: Sam Udstuen & Jakob Felger

July 30th

Greeters: Ron Stark

Ushers: John & Lynn Paulson

Lector: John Paulson Psalmist:

Acolytes: Eva Holmgren & Sage Lukenbill

August 6th

Greeters: Pat Meyer & Pat Weiss-Meyer

Ushers: Bonnie Boyer & Shari Winters

Lector: Martha Gotfredson Psalmist:

Acolytes: Kayla Jensen & Valerie Horning

Communion Assistants: Pat Meyer

August 13th

Greeters: Kathy Menze

Ushers: Larry Menze & Roger Peterson

Lector: Roger Peterson Psalmist:

Acolytes: Noah Nielsen & Owen Marohn

August 20th

Greeters: Karl & Bev Deis

Ushers: John & JoAnne Skillicorn

Lector: Vonnie Olson Psalmist: Jack Sampson

Acolytes: Jack Sampson & Ben Wright

Communion Assistants: Vonnie Olson

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

9:30 am

July 2nd

Greeters: Sara Horning & Tim O'Quist

Ushers: Don Franko & Joan McClay

Lector: Mary Olson

Psalmist: Valerie Horning

Acolytes: Kayla Jensen & Valerie Horning

Communion Assistants: Don & Mary Olson, Gail Lange

July 9th

Greeters: David & Chloe Kottke

Ushers: Art & Luette Kottke

Lector: Sara Kottke

Psalmist: Chloe Kottke

Acolytes: Noah Nielson & Owen Marohn

July 16th

Greeters: Don & Elaine VanDriel

Ushers: Dale & Wendy Barnick

Lector: Kris Pulford

Psalmist: Gabbie Wright

Acolytes: Jack Sampson & Ben Wright

Communion Assistants: Keith & Stephanie Girard,

Mary Schwartz

July 23rd

Greeters/Ushers: Thomson Family

Lector: Jaci Boxrud

Psalmist: Sierra Thomson

Acolytes: Ben Wright & Sierra Thomson

July 30th

Greeters/Ushers: Blegen Family

Lector: Teri Heggernes

Psalmist: Josh Heggernes

Acolytes: Carson Falk & Noah Blegen

August 6th

Greeters: Stacey & Logan Peterson

Ushers: Mike & Austin Peterson

Lector: Dave VanBurkleo

Psalmist: Mikala Peterson

Acolytes: Mikala Peterson & Tommy Mulford

Communion Assistants: Joe & Julie Mulford,

Dave VanBurkleo

August 13th

Greeters: Steve, Beth, Stella Denzine

Ushers: Ray & Diane Knutson

Lector: Steve Denzine

Psalmist:

Acolytes: Emmie Otto & Katie Wicklund

August 20th

Greeters: Maggie & Layla Berry

Ushers: Matt & Leah Berry

Lector: Kelly Kehr

Psalmist: Leah Kehr

Acolytes: Ben Nordenstrom & Ty Graves

Communion Assistants: Doyle & Vicki Jelsing,

Pam Hallauer

Grace Lutheran Church Council Information— May 8th, 2017 Meeting

Members Present: Kelly Kehr, Jessica Thomson, Roger Peterson, Laura Strand, Kristin Nelson, Mary Schwartz, Harry Blegen, Marlene Marohn Pastor Mike. Absent: Adam Herwig

The meeting was called to order at 5:44. Devotions were read by Marlene. Places council members have seen Jesus included care and help from family members after a loss, young adults reaching out to a member in various places, and positive changes in health. Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Roger and seconded by Marlene. Carried.

President: Kelly Kehr
Vice President: Roger Peterson
Secretary: Marlene Marohn
Treasurer: Kristin Nelson

Harry Blegen, Adam Herwig,
Jessica Thomson, Mary Schwartz,
Laura Strand

Pastor's Report: Pastor Mike met with Personnel. Rich Rasmusson resigned his position. Personnel positions are a three-year term. Two people are needed now. Our constitution states that they will be appointed by the Pastor and Council President. Personnel conducted exit interviews with Pastor Kate and Dwight and Patti Belsheim.

Pastor Mike's contract ends at the end of June. Pastor Mike is willing to work month to month starting in August if he has not received a call or if Grace Lutheran has not found a pastor. He will have one week of paid vacation to use in July. He will need to take the rest of July unpaid. He is unable to work in July as he is preparing for a move. Pastor Mike will work on covering the Sundays in July with pulpit supply. A motion was made by Roger to approve the staffing plan and seconded by Harry. Carried.

A rafting trip down the St. Louis river near Carlton has been planned for June 25th. Participants must be 12 or older and there is a minimum of ten people for the group rate. The cost is \$30.00 per person. Another release time teacher has been found for May. There are several changes planned for Confirmation in the fall. Students will eat dinner with their small group and mentor at 6:30. They will next move to the large group for learning, then to small groups with mentors and end with a large group closing. Pastor Mike met with a group of confirmation parents and these were some of the ideas from that group. He will continue to look at curriculum.

Approval of the April 10th, 2017 minutes with a correction to the number of youth confirmed. There was 18 rather than 21. Motion to approve minutes was made by Roger and seconded by Laura. Carried.

Treasurer Reports: There was a positive balance at the end of the month. April consisted of five Sundays, Easter and Confirmation. Expenses were average. A motion was made by Roger to approve the Treasurers report and seconded by Laura. Carried. WELCA: The report was briefly reviewed.

Ministry Reports: Social Justice submitted a report. The Woodbury concert was very successful with our share of it being \$8,994.70 to benefit the food shelf. The Volunteer Coordinators report was briefly discussed.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Technology Upgrades in the FLC: Work will be done May 9th to complete upgrades. The screen and cage will be completed.
- b. Call Committee Update: Some tweaks are needed on MSP. We are waiting for a call. Pastor Mike will help with interview questions for call committee.
- c. Youth and Family Ministry: The role of the Youth and Family Ministry leadership team was discussed. They will act as a call committee for Youth and Family, and give input into what that program will look like. Additional members are needed and several people will be contacted to see if they have an interest. Kelly will email people with a meeting date. Discussed the need for a possible part time youth person in the interim. There may possibly be people in our community who may have an interest.
- d. Visitation Pastor: Members from Finance, Executive Committee and Personnel conducted an informal interview with a retired pastor. They will be looking at others as well. The draft for the job is complete but will be reviewed with the candidate.

New Business:

- a. Custodian: Jason and Ryan Sjoberg will take care of the grass. The building will be closed if no staff is present.
- b. Summer Youth Activities: VBS takes place June 12th-16th, a white water rafting trip is scheduled for June 25th, a scavenger hunt for youth entering 7th grade-9th grade is taking place July 19th, and a St. Paul Saints game is being organized for August 13th. Harry will work on putting the Saints game together. He will make a sign-up sheet with a deadline of June 25th.
- c. Transportation Guidelines: Tabled until June meeting.

Correspondence/Future Meeting Dates: The next Council meeting will take place on June 12th at 5:30pm. Motion to adjourn at 8:06 by Roger and seconded by Laura. Carried. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Pastoral Acts: (since last newsletter)

TRANSFERS/ RELEASED TO OTHER CHURCHES:

Hazel Lynn Anderson to Round Lake Presbyterian Church P.O. Box 367 McGregor, MN 55760 May 23rd, 2017

FUNERAL

Lorraine Erickson, non-member, Deceased May 19,2017, funeral June 26, 2017 by Pastor Mike Peterson



5th Wheels on the Go is a group for singles for whatever reason (never married, divorced, widowed) and married people whose spouse is unable to go places with them. Our goal is simply to go places and have fun. Contact Kathy Hovland at 679-2076 or Barb Maul at 320-679-5290 if you have questions or would like to attend. We will need to know if you plan on attending at least 4 days in advance so we can make sure we have ample transportation. You need to call us. We will not be calling you to find out.



Texting/Email Alert!

JUST A REMINDER~ for members to give the church office their cell phone number when they no longer have a land line. Or if you just get a new number please let us know. Any new emails would also be nice. Thank You



MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS

Please be there at 10:45 to pick up the meals.

- July 27 Don Franko, Dave Franko,
First Citizens Bank
- July 28 Ernie & Dolores Blaisdell
Dave Franko & Don Franko

COFFEE SERVING TIME: *Coffee will be served between the services and after the 9:30 service. Please be at the church by 8:15 to get the coffee started and things set up. Please keep this copy, we will list your name in the bulletin the week before you are to serve.*

If you change with someone, please let Dianne know at 320-679-2412 or the church office.

Thank you for all the help with these two ministries all year!

COFFEE AND COOKIE SERVERS

Attention Servers: Please bring 8 dozen goodies each to share. Thank you for your help!

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| July 2 | Bring your own! |
| July 9 | Dale & Jean Hawkins |
| July 16 | Carol Nordeen , Andrea Downs |
| July 23 | Lydia & Dave Franko,
Dick & Arlene Ericson |
| July 30 | Marlene Marohn, Kelly Kehr |
| August 6 | Jodi Schultz, Bonnie Boyer |
| August 13 | |
| August 20 | Diane Runquist, Pat Weiss-Meyers |
| August 27 | Julie Mulford, Deanna Felger |



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Vacation Bible School

VBS 2017 comes to an end! What a wonderful week of Christ centered fun, fellowship, music and learning we had! The collaboration between St. Mary's, Calvary, Grace has been going strong for over 15 years. This year was no exception. We had over 160 kids grades Preschool to 6th grade participate this year. A BIG THANK YOU goes out to the 70 volunteers that gave of their time and talents during the week.



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CAN DRIVE!!

Start saving your cans!

July 9th through July 16th Grace will be collecting cans on the East side parking lot! All monies collected will be going into the Grace Youth account for youth events.



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Come along with us to the St. Paul Saint Baseball Game

WHEN: August 13th at 5:00 pm.

We will be leaving GLC @ 2:00 pm. We will be car-pooling.

There is a sign-up sheet on the Youth Table.

Deadline is July 9th!!

Tickets are \$18.00 and parking is additional.

Please Make Checks Payable to Grace Lutheran with baseball in the memo, all money is due July 9th.





Happy Moments....Praise God

Difficult Moments....Seek God

Quiet Moments....Worship God

Painful Moments....Trust God

EVERY Moment....THANK GOD

This is a nice reminder of when we should trust in God the most. Summer can be used as a time to reflect on where your spiritual talents could serve the church. We have many ministries here at Grace that would love to see new faces. If you have questions about the type of ministries we offer at Grace, don't hesitate to contact me in the church office, 679-1062.

Blessings~ Krista Elvehjem– Volunteer Coordinator

A NOTE TO GLC MINISTRIES AS YOU HAVE YOUR MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Please be sure to get your minutes in to the church office after your meeting so copies can be distributed to our Council members at their monthly Council Meeting. This should aid in communications on what is happening in this busy Church.



Ministry Meetings



Save the date—June 23-July 2, 2018

Journey with us to explore how THIS can change everything.

And then join us

June 23 - July 2, 2018

on the NE MN Synod Journey to the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering.

Watch the bulleting for garage sale dates and for summer youth fundraisers

Summary of the Women of the ELCA Gathering at Sugar Lake Lodge near Grand Rapids by Barbara Orstad. Thank you so much for opportunity to attend the June 8th and 9th gathering "Walking in the Light".

We began on Wednesday evening by meeting new and old friends and joined together in a Polka Praise Time. On Thursday morning a big semi-trailer was in a parking lot, boxes upon boxes of quilts and other kits were unloaded from cars, pickups and trailers and loaded into the semi-trailer. What a sight to see all the donations. We all joined together for the opening of the gathering Litany and the purpose and mission statements. Lucy Schultz was our voting delegate so she attended all the business sessions. I was a non-voting attendee and there were workshops to attend. There were 6 very interesting workshops, but I could only attend 3, so the choices were difficult.

Rev. Dr. David M Carlson presented his research. We learned to grow in understanding local earth stewardship as a vital component of participating in God's mission today. His work is rooted in scripture and Lutheran Theology. We explored how congregations can take steps in integrate creation care practically in ministry areas of worship education, congregational life, building and grounds, and community engagement. Pastor Dave believes the church in general and Lutherans in particular are well suited to help society address ecological needs and the problems of climate change, and that congregations are ideal settings for modeling the kind of earth stewardship needed for a more sustainable world. He gave many resources if we feel this is a project we want to work on.

Kim Dickey – Global Health Ministries - Lutheran nonprofit based in Minneapolis. GHM has partnered with Lutheran churches in Liberia for almost 30 years and was instrumental in the PV for Phebe Project which is a dream come true. GHM partners with Lutheran churches in more than 11 countries around the globe, equipping mission hospitals and clinics for their work and supporting health programs that serve some of the world's most vulnerable people. Many of the NE MN Synod congregations also send Hospice and Newborn Kits and rolled bandages to GHM.

Joan Iveson – Journaling: Creating you own Sacred Writings. Joan states journaling is an ancient way to reflect on the world around us and within us. Writing and drawing a few pages a day often opens up pathways to new thoughts, new insights and new energy. The pen is often the key that unlocks the door to a hidden world of peace, beauty and a renewed sense of being protected by a good, generous and gracious God.

Naomi Nelson and Kathy Sauve – Lutheran Social Service Saving Grace. This presentation focused on the local need of understanding and responding to the specific needs of sexually exploited and sex trafficked youth in Central MN. They explained the tactics of traffickers use to recruit victim and how they gain power and control of the victim. The State of MN is responding to this issue, but it takes a village to combat sex trafficking and serve those who are impacted the most. They told how to identify victims and how to respond to someone with red flags. Trauma informed services, including housing, mental health, advocacy, and healthcare are just a few of the necessary services for victims of this crime to take the next steps forward. LSS Saving Grace program provides support for trafficking victims. LSS Regional Navigator provides a wide range of training opportunities. Everyone has a role; what is yours?

Mary Jo Mettler and BJ Allen – RREAL News from Phebe.

The lights are on in the Phebe Hospital in Bong County Liberia about 120 miles north of Monrovia. Mary Jo traveled to Phebe with the Women of the ELCA in 2012 and was crazy enough to ask "Is it possible to bring solar power to a rural hospital in Liberia?" BJ special projects manager at Rural Renewable Energy Alliance in Pine River, MN said a resounding yes and the movement began. Now a new project "Current for Curran".

Pastor Andy Berry – What would Katie Brew – A history of women in brewing. Pastor Andy an avid brewer, researcher and historian of brewing. He has found that Katie Luther was a very good brewer and it was the women who brewed in that time period. He also researched the ingredients and recipes that Katie may have made and has quite successfully brewed them. He explains the brewing process as well as the history and stories of Katie and Martin. As an evening choice he entertained with samples of Katie's brews, root beer and cider.

An evening pontoon ride was enjoyed by several attendees. A silent auction was help during the 2 days with churches donating the items and the funds going to help women attend the Triennial gathering in Mpls July 13 – 16. You can still register to attend, W/ ELCA will pay half of registration.

Friday's session opened with a welcome and a worship service with Pastor Kari Williamson from Nisswa. We took a break to look and talk to representatives of our Partners in Ministry, EcoFaith Network, The School of Lay Ministry, Global Health Ministries, Lutheran Social Services and Thrivent Action Teams. There was Lots of information on ways to help and patterns for making items. We did a Hymn Study of our theme song "We Are Called" with Karen Bockelman. Karen also gave the Keynote presentation which was very motivational. The Executive Director of the Women of the ELCA, Linda post Bushkofsky, updated us on what is happening nationwide. Joan Iverson, Executive Board Member, and a very inspirational talk. We had a spirit song sing along and a Bible study. We ended with Scholarship sharing, convention report of donations (which was amazing), silent auction total, Traveling Trophies and installation of the new board. We concluded with a Closing Litany.

The facility was wonderful and relaxing, the food was amazing and the rooms were very comfortable. Please consider attending next year. It was very uplifting and hopeful to be with our sisters in the NE Synod. It will be June 4 – 6, 2018 at Sugar Lake.

FINANCE MINISTRY

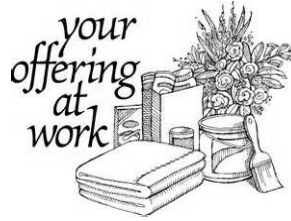
Members: Doyle Jelsing, Roger Peterson, Bonnie Boyer, Kristin Nelson, Matt Felger

Thank you for your continued support of Grace Lutheran Church and all of the wonderful ministries!



May General Checkbook:

Beginning balance	1,082.39
Donations	25,713.55
Expenses	<u>(30,949.43)</u>
Ending balance	(4,153.49)



Scan to donate! Once scanned, it will direct you to a secure site.

Mortgage:

First of month balance	104,308.17
monthly payment	(1,634.39)
additional principal pmt	<u>(242.50)</u>
End of month balance	102,431.28

If you don't have the reader app, the same destination is on our website at the GIVE NOW tab.

www.gracechurchmora.org

Complete financial statements can be obtained in the church office or by contacting one of the finance ministry members.



ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

Do you have an interest in preserving the history of our church?

We are in need of people to organize this information that has been accumulating around the church.

Contact the church office! Future generations will thank you!

If you would like to help or have photos you would like displayed on the archives computer,



Thank you for supporting small farmers and artists around the world.

New coffees in various strengths have arrived along with the individual serving (K-cups).

Thank you to all who purchased SERRV and Global Mama's items. IT makes a real difference to struggling people around the world. We do have new items: baskets, scarves and jewelry in the glass case by the office. Please see Leah to purchase. Thank you.



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.™

Choice Dollars: Please remember to designate. Grace Choice Dollars are designated for youth.

Thrivent Action Team Projects: We are looking for photos from all Thrivent Action Team Projects from the past. Please send to purplefroggy@yahoo.com **Do you have questions about the Thrivent Action Teams? Let us help you.**

Your Grace Lutheran Advocates: Wendy Barnick, Rich Berry, Rollie Fredrickson, Diane Knutson, Ruth Mills, Barbara Orstad, Betty Smith and Leah Smith.

ATTENTION!



Are you a youth/young adult who would be willing to read the Psalm on an occasional Sunday? Our Psalm readers are in VERY short supply. We have gone from having 24 psalmists to 13. Many people in the congregation truly appreciate hearing and seeing younger children take an active part in God's word. Please encourage your child to participate in this special ministry. The Psalm lesson, including intro, will be sent to your house the week of the reading so there will be time to practice. You are able to use whichever Bible you feel comfortable reading. If you only want to read at a specific service that is fine too, just let me know. Please contact me in the church office, 679-1062.

Peace~ Krista Elvehjem, Coordinator of Volunteers

Grace Lutheran Church Prayer Shawl Ministry:



**Shawl
Ministry**

"I'd like to make a Prayer Shawl..."

"I'd like to give a Prayer Shawl..."

"What is a Prayer Shawl?..."

"What do I do with my Prayer Shawl?..."

Here at Grace Lutheran, our Prayer Shawl Ministry supplies yarn to those who would like to knit or crochet a Prayer Shawl for someone who is hurting, happy, sick, or stressed.

The "mystery" of a Prayer Shawl is in the peace, comfort, and warmth that it brings to the maker of the shawl as well as the receiver of the shawl. The pattern is not complicated so that the maker can focus not only on the craft, but also on prayer or a mantra (repeated words of faith or comfort) directed to God for the person who will receive the shawl. Thus the making of a shawl is as much a blessing as the receiving of a shawl.

If you receive a Prayer Shawl USE IT!! Use it at home... Use it when you go out... Use it in exuberance and in joy! May it bring you peace, comfort, warmth, and growth.

Our Grace Lutheran Prayer Shawl Ministry will not meet formally again until Fall, but there is yarn for the making. Please contact either Dianne Wachsmuth or the church office if you want some or need a pattern.



Worship, Music and Arts Ministry

Members: Judy Radeke, Linda Johnson, Jacki Peterson, Dick Schultz,
Carol Allman, Todd Sjoberg, Rhonda Felland, Sharon Haggemiller

Altar Guild

Contact: Sharron Ahonen, 320-679-2898

July: Judy Roeschlein and Kathy Hovland

August: Sharron Ahonen and Arlene Erickson

October: Kristin and Kinzie Nelson

September: Melissa Weinreich and Judy Morgenweck

November: Leah & Matt Smith and Alexis Hughes



If you have an abundance of flowers that would make nice bouquets and would like to donate the arrangement for our altar flowers, please let the church office know.

Flowers



RADIO

Our Sunday morning worship is on the air at KBK 95.5 FM. Listen to the 8:00 AM worship service *rebroadcast at 10:00 am Sunday mornings*. The service is also put on our website the following week.

A GRACE COUNTRY HARVEST FALL BAZAAR UPDATE

By now the flower and vegetable gardens should be growing and blooming. Soon the fruits will be ripening. Please remember the fall bazaar when you are making your homemade jams, jellies, pickles, and salsa. These are popular items at the HARVEST SWEET SHOP. Hopefully some of you will have extra produce such as squash, potatoes, and apples to donate to the GARDEN OF GRACE. Don't forget about drying some of your flowers or even weeds from the fields and road ditches. Beautiful bouquets can be made with these items.

Again this year we are asking for your help. We need a variety of craft items—"year-around" items as well as seasonal items. Use your imagination and get crafting!

The annual GRACE COUNTRY HARVEST FALL BAZAAR will be on Saturday, November 11, 2017. In the past the congregation has responded very generously with their time and talents. The money raised at the past bazaars has been used for a variety of needs and projects here at Grace as well as various special needs in the community. We hope all of you will get involved using your talents and abilities in order to continue the success of our bazaar. If you would like to get more involved with the Bazaar, please come to the Bazaar planning meetings which will begin in September. Please call Sue Halsey at 1 612-390-1094 to receive notices of our meetings. Consider how you could be more involved in this very worthwhile endeavor.

Banner Ministry – ‘Expressing the Faith’

Contact: Barb Sjoberg

January, February, March –

July, August, September – Sue Halsey

April, May, June – Barb Sjoberg

Oct., Nov., Dec. – Sharon Holmstrom, Dar Wicklund

“May we shout for joy over your victory, and in the name of our God set up our banners.” Psalm 20:5a NSRV

WHERE ARE WE IN THE CHURCH YEAR AND

WHAT ARE THE LITURGICAL COLORS FOR JULY?

We are now in the Time after Pentecost. This is a long season of life and growth when we learn much about our faith and life in Jesus.

Green is the liturgical color for this church season. Green, seen everywhere in plants and trees, symbolizes life and hope. Green is used, to indicate our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ.

We focus on the growth of the church as the Body of Christ - a community of faith.

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

Theme: The Church fulfills the Great Commission

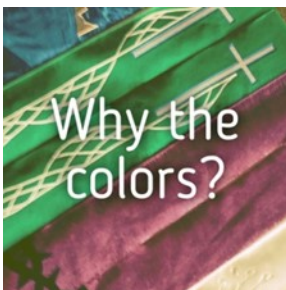
Dates: The Time after Pentecost lasts from the day after Pentecost to the day before Advent. Thus it begins on June 5th, 2017 and ends on December 2nd, 2017.

This is the final season of the Christian year, is the longest season and is the time where the church focuses on outreach and fulfilling the call Jesus gave right before His ascension- "...to go and baptizing every nation" using His power given through the Holy Spirit.

♥ LOVE LIKE JESUS ♥

ONE BODY ♥ ONE CHURCH

EVER WONDERED, "WHY THE COLORS?"



In the Christian tradition colors are used for vestments and paraments, serving to adorn the worship space and to call attention to the nature of the season or festival being celebrated. Today, the ELCA provides a system of colors for use by its congregations and for the most part, the same system is also used by Roman and Anglican churches, at least in the United States.

Colors have different associations across the globe, just as they have had different associations over the course of the church's history. For example, white is the color North American and European Christians typically associate with Christmas and Easter, the color white signifying the purity of Christ, light or joy. In many Eastern cultures, however, white connotes mourning.

For more background and a seasonal list of colors, head over to the blog: <http://blogs.elca.org/worship/?p=541>

The Season after Pentecost continues to focus on life, growth and hope.

Principal Themes of the Season:

Living as God's faithful followers and responding to the call of discipleship.

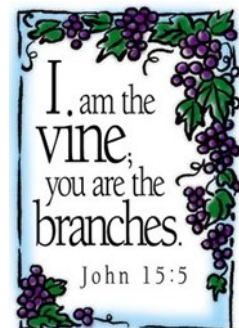
Learning from God's word, growing in our lives of faith, and serving God and neighbor.

Rejoicing that God gives us what we need to do these things.

A Time of Growth

Jesus told His disciples, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing." John 15:5

We are grafted into Jesus and made a branch of the Vine by the power of the Spirit in Holy Baptism. We stay connected to Jesus, our Vine, by hearing the preaching of God's Word and by receiving Absolution and the Lord's Supper. This is how our life in Christ grows: by the power of the Spirit working in our hearts through Word and Sacrament.





“Will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word.” Acts 6:4b NRSV

As Paul exhorts Timothy in 1 Timothy 2:1 “I urge, then, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone.” Our goal is to pray and petition on behalf of our church family needs, uplifting one another in prayer to the Lord.

PRAYER INFORMATION – One of the great privileges and ministries listed in the New Testament is the opportunity to remember one another in prayer, to “bear one another’s burdens.” To help us in this ministry, Grace Lutheran offers a prayer chain to which specific prayers may be made.

PRAYER IS ONE OF THE WAYS WE ARE ABLE TO RELATE DIRECTLY WITH GOD.

A quiet moment of reflection. A talk with Jesus. A recited text celebrating faith. Though very different, all of these are valid definitions for “prayer.” Prayer is an intentional and meaningful way that every individual — no matter of age, race or background — can deepen his or her personal relationship with God. — *ELCA Prayer Center*

DO YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? – If you have a prayer request, please contact the church office at: 320-679-1062 OR the Prayer Ministry Coordinator: Barb Sjoberg at: (H) 320-679-5373

BECOME A PRAYER VOLUNTEER – If you would like to be added to the email prayer chain, you can either email Barb or the church office. Barb Sjoberg encourager4him@hotmail.com Grace Lutheran church@gracechurchmora.org

JULY PRAYER CONCERNS: *With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need and all of God’s creation. Let us pray for those who suffer, that the sick may know God’s healing, the tormented may know God’s peace, and the despairing may know God’s hope.*

We especially lift up in prayer: Bev Huebner, Earl Fredrickson, Taylor Bohn, Jeannie Fischer, Vern Stromberg, Sandee Otto, Deb Funk, Barb Branum, Celina Murney, Don Stewart, Donald All, Bill Gotfredson, Irene Johnson, Becci Steffen, Derek Hughes, Douglas Olsen, Mindy Johnson, Dawn Christen, Ernie Capra, Anita Guida, Ken Gardner, Sharron Ahonen, Rochelle De Boer, Shaleen Black, Lee Svoboda, Debbie Gorham, Pam Mattson, Mark Nordeen, Renae Rowland, Phyllis Ramsey and Jessica Jeffers.

Service Personnel: Pray for these military personnel and their families as they serve our country. Jesse Kottke, Kevin Eklund and Nick Lacey.

JULY PRAYER PETITIONS: *These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.*

† Pray that we encourage, engage in and plan responsible, respectful, safe tourism and vacationing that fosters better understanding and respect among people and nations, provides opportunities for greater awareness of diverse heritages and cultures, contributes to the well-being of local communities and economies, and contributes to the strengthening of world peace

† The Association of Lutheran Church Musicians is meeting in Minneapolis and celebrating the music, song and liturgical treasures of the last 500 years and looking to the future. Pray for musicians who use their gifts to help us understand God’s word, express our faith and love for God, share the good news, and worship together.

† Pray to be filled with words and actions that give witness in the world to God’s gracious and almighty actions across all generations, the glory of God’s everlasting kingdom and God’s mercy and love.

† While the impact and reach of our ministries, programs and endeavors may vary greatly and not be clear to us, we trust that God is at work through us. Pray for faith in the presence and activity – seen and unseen – of the Spirit of God in the world.

† Pray for congregations and ministries serving rural and remote areas that they are assured of our support and encouragement for their pastors, leadership and members, and find effective training and resources for their contexts and challenges. Lift up recognition and appreciation for the gifts and perspectives they share with this church.



Library Ministry



Members: Kailey Berry, Sarah Berry, Penny Casavant, Lynnae Christianson, Jeanne Granlund, Sue Halsey, Mary Lykins, Char Mayer, Ruth Mills, Jane Myers, Laura Strand, Jackie Thompson

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

Mission Statement

The Grace Lutheran Library Mission will support all the members of Grace using the library resources to help them interpret what they read, hear, see and experience within the context of the Christian Gospel.

Children’s Books

“Storyteller” by Patricia Reilly Giff. While staying with her Aunt Libby, Elizabeth discovers a drawing of her ancestor from the Revolutionary War Days named Eliza who was called Zee. The drawing of Zee looks very similar to Elizabeth. The book alternates chapters between the 21st Century Elizabeth and the Revolutionary War era story of Zee. The lives of the 2 girls reflect each other as each is called to find their own inner strength and explores the need for belonging. Come with Elizabeth as she rediscovers Zee’s story. This book is in the children’s section and is labeled with a “D”.

Non Fiction

“The Color of the Night, Reflections on the Book of Job” by Gehard E. Front. This book examines the Book of Job in short reflective essays. A quote from the Preface: “Why reflect on the Book of Job? Because it nourishes our sense of wonder and helps us live with mystery enabling us to let God be God, even during his silences.”

“The God You’ve Been Searching For” by Mac Brunson. A quote from the introduction: “If there’s one thing we all need to get through our heads and into our hearts about the God we’ve been searching for, it’s this: He truly and deeply wants to bless each of us with abundant life so that we might actually enjoy Him now and into all eternity.”

These two books are found in the non-fiction section under the window in the library in Section 8.

Fiction

“The Song of the River” Trilogy. This book contains 3 short novels by Diane T. Ashley & Aaron McCarver. The stories are set during the era of the mighty Mississippi riverboats. Each book tells the story of one sister in this historical romantic series. “Lilly” tells the story of a young entrepreneur desperate to find financial independence for herself and her sisters. Will her business partner, Blake Matthews be able to anchor her heart or will she fall for another man’s charms? “Camellia” tells the story of a Mississippi belle who falls for a Union soldier. When the Civil War divides a nation and the siege of Vicksburg hits home, will Camellia be willing to risk everything to save him? “Jasmine” tells the story of a young woman who leaves the Riverboat to seek fame. She gains new opportunities and romantic attention but also finds herself in danger. Is her dream of fame worth living and sacrificing for?

CD’s by Jonathon Rundman

The Grace Lutheran Church Foundation has purchased a selection of CD’s by Jonathan Rundman which have been donated and placed in the library. These CD’s are ready to be checked out and can be found on top of the Y shelf in the center of the library or in a basket in that same area. Jonathan Rundman recently gave a performance here at Grace which was enjoyed by many.

Living Grace Library is open whenever the church is open. Come in any time.

Please remember to return your finished books. The book you may have forgotten to return may be just the book someone else is patiently waiting to read. Thank you.



News from the Sty

The farmer next door had a coyote problem: they kept getting into his hen house. So he trapped them, shot at them, tried poison...but they kept stealing his chickens. One day he got so angry he came up with his 'ultimate' plan: so he trapped one and tied a stick of dynamite to its tail. He thought it would run to its den and blow the whole thing up and he would be rid of his problem. Well, he lit the end of the long fuse, opened the door to the trap, out ran the coyote... directly into the chicken coop totally destroying the coop and his flock of hens. Is there a moral to this story? Several actually: First, don't make decisions when you are angry! They probably won't be good ones. Second, there is a natural order to things and you need to figure that out before you can try to change it. Third, (my last one for now) maybe the root of the problem was not the coyotes but the lack of good protection in the hen house. So fix the hen house!

Unless you are raising chickens you probably are wondering what this story has to do with you or with stewardship. Good question.

Ever had a problem with dwindling resources (loss of chickens)? Maybe the cause of the problem is not out there with someone else...maybe the cause of the problem is closer to home. Take a good look at your own 'house' before you blame someone or something else. Happy farming!

Your pal in the sty, Stewie



We are very excited to Welcome Pastor Cindy Gray as our new Visitation Pastor! She will officially start in August but will be joining us for service sometime in July. Please introduce yourself and welcome her to the Grace family!

A bit about Pastor Cindy:

She was born in St. Paul, MN on January 8, 1954. Cindy has two younger brothers (one which died in a mining accident in 1989) and a younger sister. Her father passed away in 1992 and her mother still lives in Hibbing.

It took Cindy a long time to settle on a career path., In late 1982, she was working as a switchboard operator and praying God would guide in in a new direction. Her hopes were that the knight in shining armor would appear; instead the call to ministry came through my home pastor, "Cindy, I always thought you should go to seminary." I laughed out loud; but God kept prodding me, despite my prayer that it would be "OK" if I wasn't accepted, didn't pass the GRE's, etc. I entered seminary feeling anxious, but how can one say 'no' to God? Summer Greek was my first class in 1983. I had a wonderful internship experience in Aberdeen, WA and spent the net 29 1/2 years in parish ministry.

I had hoped to marry, have biological children, and adopt children, but I was 38 and goal one and two seemed less and less likely. I moved to goal number three and began the adoption process as a single parent. In 1993, my first daughter arrived from India at the age of 4 months; exactly two years to the day later, my second daughter arrived. Parenting has taught me so much about myself and God's love and support. The girls were both in college when a long-time friendship with a seminary classmate took a romantic turn. Jim and Cindy have been married a year now.

Ministry has always held joys and challenges, but I've always felt that it was what God wanted me to do. My last year at Bethlehem in Aitkin, was exceptionally challenging and by August, I found myself 'burned out'. I resigned my call effective the end of September 2016. We bought a house in Sandstone and Jim retired from his position in Grasston, MN at the end of December.

The Milestones Ministry seeks to RECOGNIZE, RESPOND, and REACH OUT in celebration of the milestones of our Faith Journeys

God comes into our world and graciously claims us for the Kingdom of God. This great event is often under-used in our life. Those baptized into new life by God's Word and water will be invited to gather around the Baptismal font to celebrate this great gift of God. Following is a list of members that were baptized this month.

Baptismal Anniversaries

Anderson, Jake	Funk, Michael	Lykins, Mary	Seel, Merlin
Berry, Richard	Geving, Shane	McGrew, Jordan	Sogn, Alice
Blaisdell, Dolores	Haggenmiller, Bella	Myers, Greg	Stassen, Dean
Brandt, Keaton	Hawkins, Jason	Olson, Samuel	Strand, Laura
Christianson, Ryan	Kent, Paul	Overson, Don	Stromberg, Vernon
Danielson, Althea	Kerr, Abby	Overson, Marlys	Weckwerth, Gene
Elvehjem, Brooke	Klepsa, Shirley	Peterson, Mikala	
Felger, Jakob	Knutson, Diane	Rogne, Sheila	
Funk, Gerald	Kritzeck, Charlie	Runquist, Gary	
Funk, Gregory	Larsen, Jessica	Sampson, Kris	



Daniel Emslander 1	Dustin Mensing 8	Deloris Rowley 15	Russell Callander 26
Douglas Olsen 2	Robin Blegen 9	Donna Callander 17	Darcy Qual 26
Karl Gotfredson 2	James Belt 10	Grant Mensing 17	Char Mayer 27
Isabel Schley 2	Kinzie Nelson 10	Tysonn Peterson 17	Nickolas Hippen 27
Bob Sundberg 3	Valerie Horning 10	Lucas Ellingson 17	Vitali Chromey 28
Deb Wright 4	Dolores Blaisdell 11	Wendy Barnick 18	Grady Kerr 28
Shari Graves 4	Richard Rasmusson 11	Zachary Tetnowski 18	Glenn Lobdell 29
Ethan Elvehjem 5	Deb Backlund 11	Robert Schultz 19	Sue Oehrlein 29
Bennett Wright 5	Elizabeth Brandt 11	Jacob Ellingson 19	Lester Lindquist 30
Karen Rasmusson 6	Logan Schritz 11	Lucille Schultz 20	Julie French 30
Barb Ennis 6	Abigail Kapinos 11	Peggy Voss 21	John Paulson 30
Coleton Steffen 6	Greg Myers 12	Judy Roeschlein 23	Ernie Capra 30
Dean Funk 7	Jennifer Schritz 12	James Skolte 23	Jace Johnson 30
Sharron Ahonen 7	Kirby Olson 13	Caiden Stamper 24	Alice Stromberg 31
Irene Johnson 8	Steven Gardner 13	Jessica Patterson 25	Darlene Wicklund 31
Sandra Kapinos 8	Sara Wren 13	Adelina Wren 25	Diane Bayerle 31

Wedding Anniversaries

07/02/1994	Elvehjem, Ethan & Krista	07/20/1993	Skolte, James & Lynette
07/02/2009	Berry, Matthew & Leah	07/22/1989	Brelie, Galen & Mary
07/06/1963	Teich, Roger & Gerri	07/22/2000	Girard, Keith & Stephanie
07/07/1967	Oelkers, Stephen & Candy	07/23/1966	Holmstrom, Dennis & Sharon
07/07/1969	Smith, Alan & Betty	07/24/1976	Kent, Paul & Jill
07/09/1955	Fredrickson, Roland & Dorothy	07/25/1970	Gravich, Mark & Verona
07/12/2008	Jacobson, Mike & Lynn	07/25/1981	Peterson, Roger & Jacki
07/15/1967	Oxberry, James & Sandy	07/26/2008	Olen, Lucas & Jessica
07/17/1971	Christianson, Ordean & Lynnae	07/28/1973	Schultz, Richard & Deb
07/18/2009	Patenaude, Timothy & Anna		
07/20/1968	Runquist, Gary & Diane		



Motivational and Inspiring Short Stories About Life

Everyone Has a Story in Life

A 24 year old boy seeing out from the train's window shouted... "Dad, look the trees are going behind!"

Dad smiled and a young couple sitting nearby, looked at the 24 year old's childish behavior with pity, suddenly he again exclaimed... "Dad, look the clouds are running with us!"

The couple couldn't resist and said to the old man... "Why don't you take your son to a good doctor?" The old man smiled and said... "I did and we are just coming from the hospital, my son was blind from birth, he just got his eyes today."

Every single person on the planet has a story. Don't judge people before you truly know them. The truth might surprise you.

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Shake off Your Problems

A man's favorite donkey falls into a deep precipice. He can't pull it out no matter how hard he tries. He therefore decides to bury it alive.

Soil is poured onto the donkey from above. The donkey feels the load, shakes it off, and steps on it. More soil is poured.

It shakes it off and steps up. The more the load was poured, the higher it rose. By noon, the donkey was grazing in green pastures.

After much shaking off (of problems) And stepping up (learning from them), One will graze in GREEN PASTURES.

+++++

The Elephant Rope

As a man was passing the elephants, he suddenly stopped, confused by the fact that these huge creatures were being held by only a small rope tied to their front leg. No chains, no cages. It was obvious that the elephants could, at anytime, break away from their bonds but for some reason, they did not.

He saw a trainer nearby and asked why these animals just stood there and made no attempt to get away. "Well," trainer said, "when they are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it's enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free."

The man was amazed. These animals could at any time break free from their bonds but because they believed they couldn't, they were stuck right where they were.

Like the elephants, how many of us go through life hanging onto a belief that we cannot do something, simply because we failed at it once before?

Failure is part of learning; we should never give up the struggle in life.

Friendship Snack Mix



Life is more interesting when you have a diverse "mix" of friends. Show your variety of buddies how much they mean to you by making this snack for (or with!) them.

What you need:

- 1 cup fish-shaped crackers
- 1 cup chocolate Chex
- 1 cup mini pretzels
- 1 cup peanut butter crackers
- ½ cup mini M&M's
- Large bowl
- Snack-sized zippered baggies
- Permanent markers
- Foam stickers

What you do:

1. Mix all the food in the bowl.
2. Write a personalized message on each baggie. Decorate with stickers.
3. Measure some snack mix into each baggie. Seal them shut.
4. Share this snack with your friends!



ROMANS 8:16



Friends in the Lord

Proverbs 27:17 (NIV) says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." It's important to choose friends who help us be more like Jesus. How many words can you make from the word *friendship*?

F R I E N D S H I P

2-letter words: _____

3-letter words: _____

4-letter words: _____

5-letter words: _____

Words with 6 or more letters: _____

In what city was Jesus born?

How many books are in the New Testament?

What type of insect did John the Baptist eat in the desert?

Who were the first apostles called to follow Jesus?

How many people did Jesus feed with five loaves of bread and two fish?

Bethlehem, 27, Locusts, Peter and Andrew, about 5,000 men

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	8		2			9	
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		4			7	3	
						7	
		6	7		8	1	5
	1				5		4

Daily SuDoku: Mon 19-Jun-2017

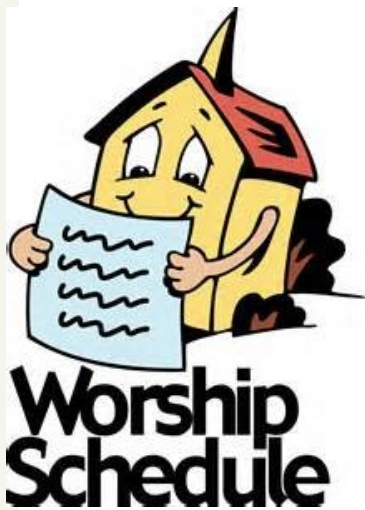
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Grace Lutheran Church

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**Check out our website:
www.gracechurchmora.org**

**Find us on Facebook!
Facebook.com/gracechurchmora**



*“We will go as Spirit filled
disciples of Jesus Christ
committed to change the world
by God’s grace through
worship, education, mission
and ministry.”*

Welcome to Worship!

SUNDAY, July 2, Fourth Sunday of Pentecost

8:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Communion Worship
9:30 a.m. – FLC Communion Worship

SUNDAY, July 9, Fifth Sunday of Pentecost

8:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Worship
9:30 a.m. – Family Life Center Worship

SUNDAY, July 16, Sixth Sunday of Pentecost

8:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Communion Worship
9:30 a.m. – FLC Communion Worship

SUNDAY, July 23, Seventh Sunday of Pentecost

8:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Worship
9:30 a.m. – FLC Worship

SUNDAY, July 30, Eighth Sunday of Pentecost

8:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Worship
9:30 a.m. – FLC Worship