

 **Grace Lutheran Church**
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 **Grace Lutheran Church, ELCA**
 Fairmont, MN

WAYS OF GRACE

Our Mission: To boldly live out our faith in Jesus through worship, fellowship, and service to God and our neighbor, here and around the world.


April 2024

HAPPY EASTER!

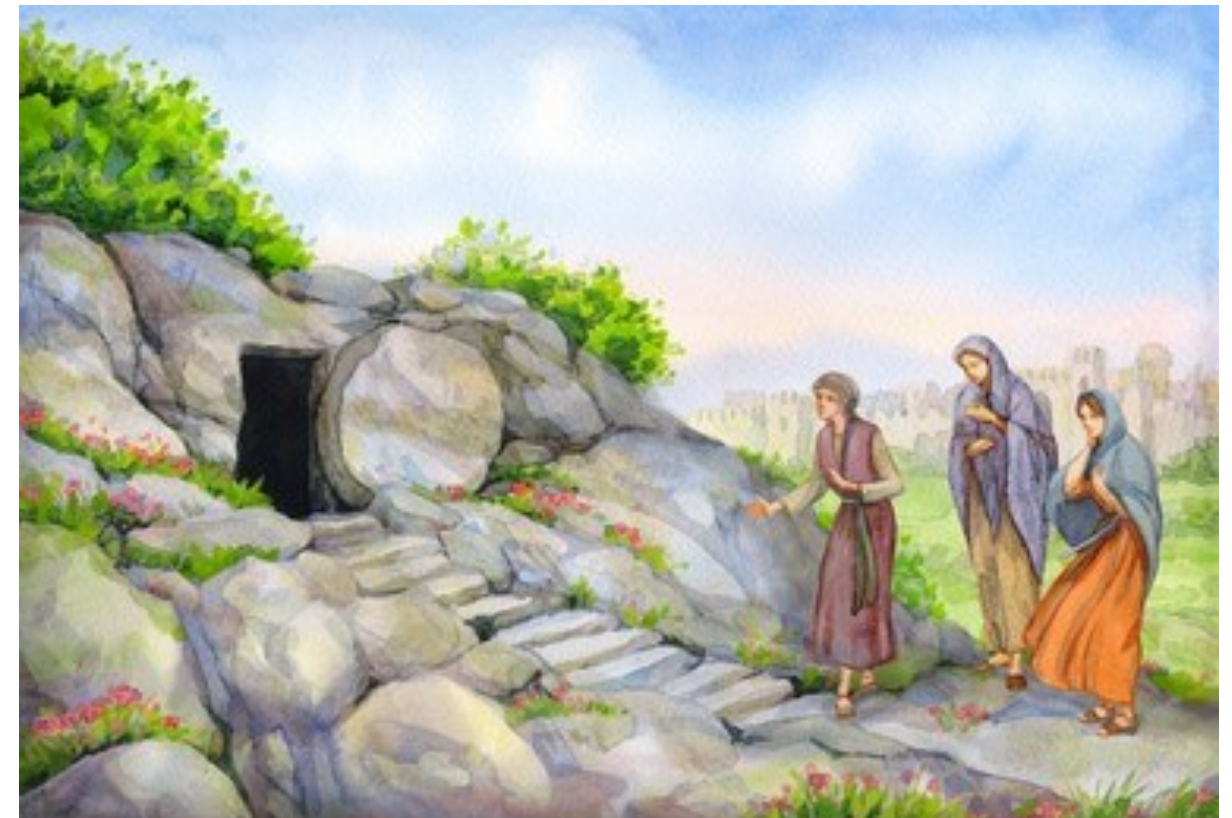


Our Staff:


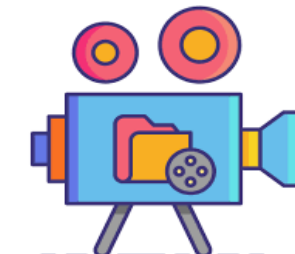

- Rev. Dr. Allison Cobb** - Senior Pastor cobb@gracelutheranchurch.org
- Rev. Cheryl Indehar** - Interim Associate Pastor indehar@gracelutheranchurch.org
- Jane Reiman** - Finance Director reiman@gracelutheranchurch.org
- Nicole Kolbe** - Office Administrator office@gracelutheranchurch.org
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 Office: 507- 238- 4418

 Fairmont Grace Lutheran Church - www.gracelutheranchurch.org

MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU
 AND KEEP YOU
 THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE ON YOU
 AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU
 THE LORD TURN HIS FACE TOWARD YOU
 AND GIVE YOU PEACE
 NUMBERS 6:24-26



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Looking for an easier way to give your offering?
 Please scan the QR code with your smartphone to support the ministry of your choice.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. (John 10:10)



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Happy Easter! Did you know that in the Christian calendar, we celebrate Easter for 7 weeks? This is more than double the time we celebrate Christmas with three weeks of Christmas Eve, Epiphany, and the Baptism of Jesus. While the Christmas season in our secular culture is full of twinkle lights, trees, gifts, and glitter, we remember in the church each December the promise of a newborn king who will come and save the world from sin and death. We rejoice with angels at his birth and hold his beloved parents in our hearts.

It is the heart of Mary that Simeon speaks to when Jesus is dedicated as an infant in the temple. He proclaims to Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul, too.” (Luke 2: 34- 35) Easter is a celebration, yes, but we had to travel through many weeks of Lent first. We walked with Jesus through temptation, betrayal, doubt, grief, fear, and agony he experienced as he went from beloved rabbi to hanged criminal. We also must remember what the prophet Simeon shared in the temple as Jesus was dedicated.

²⁸ Simeon took [Jesus] in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹ “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word, ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” (Luke 2: 28-32)

But for Jesus to deliver his people, to be their salvation, Jesus took on the sin of the world. That extreme heaviness might be why we celebrate with joy for 7 weeks at Easter because the tomb was truly empty. The stone had been rolled away. Jesus is alive! And he has conquered death so that we would have that life too. Life meant to be lived in joy and hope. Life lived abundantly or as some other translations say, to live life to the fullest.

So, what does it mean to live life to the fullest? I believe a full life walking as a disciple of Jesus means ordering our days around community, sabbath, worship, and service. To be with other believers to support one another. To take at least one day a week to rest and be with God, to stop working, and praise God for all the blessings we have been given. To worship regularly and meet Jesus in the Word, the bread and wine, and in one another. And to serve our neighbor by using the time, talents, and treasures that God provides.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 6:45am Easter Burning of the Baggage Box 7:00am Easter Sunrise Service 8:30am Easter Traditional Worship 10:45am Easter Contemporary Worship	1 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00am Ranch Men's Breakfast 5:30pm CYF Meeting	2 9:00am - 3:00pm Common Threads Sewing Bee - Community 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 5:30pm Outreach/ Fellowship Team Meetings 5:30pm Worship Team Meeting 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	3 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 10:00am Assisted Living Goldfinch Worship 10:30am Goldfinch Memory Care Service 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST	4 9:00am - 10:00am Sarah's Circle 9:00am WOTC	5 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	6
7 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Contemporary Worship - Baptism	8 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Lakeview Senior Worship 1:00pm Mary Circle 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:30pm Shalom Circle	9 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 5:30pm Service Team Meeting 6:30pm Stewardship Team Meeting	10 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 4:45pm - 6:30pm Open Door Meal 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 6:30pm WOW- Worship on Wednesday 7:00pm - 8:00pm Confirmation	11 4:00pm - 6:00pm Aktion Club Theatre 6:00pm - 8:00pm Boy Scouts	12 9:00am Common Threads 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	13
14 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Contemporary Worship 11:45am Church Council Meeting	15 Ways of Grace Submission Deadline 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS	16 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired	17 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 4:45pm - 6:30pm Open Door Meal 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 6:30pm WOW- Worship on Wednesday 7:00pm - 8:00pm Confirmation	18	19 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	20
21 Thrivent Sunday 8:30am & 10:45am Baccalaureate Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study	22 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS	23 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired	24 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 4:45pm - 6:30pm Open Door Meal 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 6:30pm WOW- Worship on Wednesday 7:00pm - 8:00pm Confirmation	25 4:30pm - 6:00pm Aktion Club Theatre	26 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	27
28 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Tech Training 10:45am Contemporary Worship	29 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:30pm Martin County 4-H	30 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired	1 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 4:45pm - 6:30pm Open Door Meal 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 6:30pm WOW- Worship on Wednesday 7:00pm - 8:00pm Confirmation	2 9:00am - 10:00am Sarah's Circle 9:00am WOTC	3 1:00pm Worship Service Aired 4:00pm - 6:00pm Bowling Banquet	4

WORDS FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, April 7 - Second Sunday of Easter

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35
Second Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2
Gospel: John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 14 - Third Sunday of Easter

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19
Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7
Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

Sunday, April 24 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our

lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12
Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24
Gospel: John 10:11-18

Sunday, April 28 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40
Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21
Gospel: John 15:1-8

Sunday, May 5 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48
Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6
Gospel: John 15:9-17

When we commit our lives to community, sabbath, worship, and service, we follow the command of Jesus to love God and love our neighbor. This is what it means to live life to its fullest. Not worried or pre-occupied with our own selves, but looking outward to follow where Jesus leads. Next month, on Sunday, May 5, we have an opportunity during this joyful season of Easter to practice this abundant life together on God's Grace is Amazing Day. We will gather in community for worship, service, and a meal to do God's work together in this community. Thank you to Nancy Backer and Cindy Wohlhuter who are coordinating this special day. There will be indoor and outdoor service projects for all ages and ability levels. I look forward to this Easter-time celebration of what it means to live out our calling to follow our living Lord in love.

Blessings to you all!

Pastor Allison

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays:	8:30AM Traditional 10:45AM Contemporary
Tuesdays:	2:00PM Fairmont Cable TV Channel 12 (pre-recorded)
Wednesdays:	12PM & 6:30PM Holden Prayer Service
Fridays:	1:00PM Fairmont Cable TV Channel 12 (pre-recorded)

***Communion** is offered every Sunday and Wednesday.

***Sunday services will be streamed on Facebook, YouTube, and our webpage.**

The Office will be closed: Monday, April 1 in observance of Easter!

Senior Living Worship Services this month: April 3 at Goldfinch, 10AM in Assisted Living and 10:30AM in Memory Care, and Monday, April 8, 10AM at Lakeview. Please come and worship with our friends and members of Grace!

Summer Worship Sundays: A reminder that we move to one summer worship service beginning on Sunday May 26 at 9:30AM. The Worship Team is working with our wonderful musicians to provide two traditional and two contemporary services a month. We hope you will attend and have an opportunity to worship with others who may normally worship in a different service than you do during the school year. It is a joy to get a chance to all worship together!



BUSINESS OF GRACE

Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes March 10 2024

Members Present: Troy Nemmers, Joice Forster, Josh Ensrud, Carolyn Bird, Kris Boerner, Jaime Core, Mark Morris, Joyce Eisenmenger, Jane Reiman, Pastor Cheryl Indehar, Pastor Allison Cobb

Absent: Ardel Prescott, Brandon DeClercq

Call to Order:

Carolyn Bird called the meeting to order at 11:54 a.m.

Devotional: Troy Nemmers led the devotional on meeting today's problems with God's strength. Live for today.

Gathering Prayer: Council members shared prayer requests, with Pastor Allison concluding with a prayer to address these requests.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The February 17, 2024 minutes were approved on February 19, 2024 via email.

Financial Report

Jane Reiman, finance director, gave the council an update on the finances of the church. Giving was 17% higher than last year's giving at this same time. As Service Team will meet Tuesday, March 12th, Jane will be sending the financial report via email.

Team Reports

Worship: Josh reported that Worship in the Park will be extended from May 22nd-September 4th, 2024. This will be held at Sylvania Park. Praise Band will continue to be the musicians. He also stated there will be a 3-year rotation for Advent and Lenten services: 1. Dialogue 2. Faith stories from Grace members 3. Pastor devotions. The Joyous Light service will be shared during the Advent evening services while the Holden Service will be used during Lent and for all noon services, both Advent and Lent. Worship on the Water on August 11th will have the musicians on land in Wards Park, but boaters are welcome to attend by

water. Pastor Allison is looking for a way to broadcast the service through the radio, similar to our outdoor pandemic services.

CYF: Jaime and Joice reported the CYF team are planning the Palm Sunday Breakfast on Sunday, March 24th. Fairmont Foods donated the eggs and sausage. Confirmation students are donating muffins and working the event. The team will be handing out Grace blankets to our Seniors on Sunday, April 21st at both services, as it is Baccalaureate. Families need to submit the name of their Senior if they want it printed in the bulletin. The team is also planning an End of the BLAST/ Confirmation Year Celebration on Wednesday, May 15th with registration for VBS and next year's BLAST and Confirmation classes taking place. Vacation Bible School will be June 17th-June 20th from 8:00-12:00 noon.

Outreach/Fellowship: Carolyn reported that the team is hosting a food drive in March as it is National Food Shelf Month. 10% of the proceeds will go to Heaven's Table. The rest will stay in the Grace Pantry. The team will be furnishing cookies for the Baccalaureate Service on April 21st.

Service: Jane reported the Service Team will meet Tuesday, March 12th. She will send the report via email.

Stewardship: Mark reported the Stewardship Team will meet Tuesday, March 12th. He will send the report via email.

Personnel: Sandy will be meeting with staff members to devise a plan for what will happen if they are not able to do their work due to an employee having an accident or emergency.



Old Business

The search for an Associate Pastor is continuing by the Call Committee. There are no candidates available. Pastor Allison has asked the synod to share our call with other nearby synods. God's Grace is Amazing Day is being planned for Sunday, May 5, 2024. Cindy Wohlhuter and Nancy Backer are chairing this very worthwhile event.

The reviewing of the Grace Lutheran Church Constitution was discussed. The synod

Children's Message and Cherub/Alleluia Choirs Singing On Palm Sunday!



CULTIVATE LIFE

JOHN 15:5

DAY CAMP

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

DATE: JUNE 17 -20, 2024

LOCATION: GRACE LUTHERAN

TIME: 8AM - NOON

OTHER DETAILS:
 GLC is once again teaming up with Ingham Lake Okoboji for VBS! Children 4 years old through those entering 6th grade will learn how to CULTIVATE LIFE, JOHN 15:5! Watch for more info to come!

recommends updating it every 3 years. The last revision for ours was 2012. Carolyn and Mark visited with Ken Scott to get the background on the last revision, as he was a part of it. The council will be working on updating our constitution starting with a review of the Grace constitution in April. They will then look at the ELCA model constitution in May.

New Business

Maundy Thursday volunteers needed for stripping of the altar on March 28, 2024. Pastor Allison informed the council that all positions for this have been filled.

The council discussed setting an amount of dollars for which the Service Team or any team must get council approval. Mark moved to set a \$5,000 cap. Josh second. Motion carried.

Pastor Report

Pastor Allison and Pastor Cheryl sent written reports on the work they have accomplished the past month. The council is very appreciative of the work our pastors are doing.

Upcoming Dates [Updated from original minutes]

Monday, April 1st at 5:30 p.m. CYF Team Meeting
 Tuesday, April 2nd at 5:30 p.m.- Outreach/ Fellowship and Worship Team meeting
 Tuesday, April 9th at 5:30 p.m. Service Team Meeting
 Tuesday, April 9th at 6:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting
 Sunday, April 14th at 11:45a.m. Church Council Meeting in the Laurel Lounge Brandon will lead devotions.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m, with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by Joice Forster, Secretary

Approval of Secretary's Report

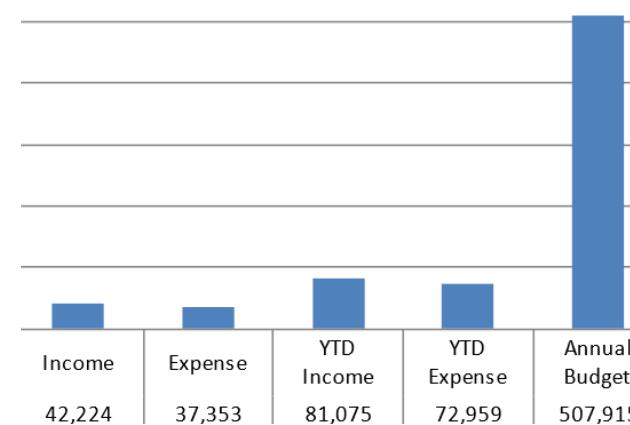
The March 10, 2024 council minutes were reviewed and approved via email on March 11, 2024. Motion by Mark. Seconded by Joyce to approve. Motion carried.

Memorials:

Bob Miles Memorial

Marian Holland	Building
Janet Nielsen	Undesignated
Rod & Diane Palmquist	Undesignated
Harlan & Laraine Gorath	Undesignated
Elroy & Sandra Nuss	Undesignated
Ken & Gloria Carlson	Undesignated
Dale & Patricia Knewtson	Undesignated
Tari Riley	Stained Glass Windows
Sandy Ettesvold	Stained Glass Windows

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT FOR FEBRUARY



April Open Door Meal Menu

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday evenings from 4:45 - 6:30 PM

Apr 3: Easter Break NO MEAL

Apr 10: Chicken Fried Steak

Apr 17: Chicken Breast/ Nuggets

Apr 24: Spaghetti

Congregational Care Ministry

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

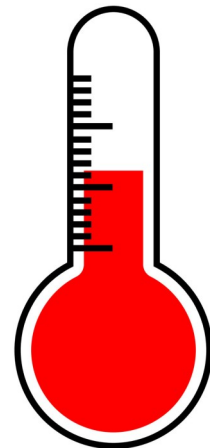
- ✦ **Prayer Shawls & Squares:** Shawls and Squares knitted and prayed over as items of comfort. These are available for you to gift to someone in their time of need.
- ✦ **Prayer Group:** Meets every Tuesday to lift up in prayer, friends, families, & loved ones on our Prayer List.
- ✦ **Care Callers:** Volunteers who reach out via phone or card monthly to connect with members at home.
- ✦ **Visitation Team:** Visit homebound members monthly, who would like communion and some conversation.
- ✦ **Open Door Meals:** Volunteers help cook and serve meals every Wednesday evening during the school year.
- ✦ **Meal Ministry Team:** Deliver meals to those who are struggling, injured, or added a new family member!
- ✦ **Funeral Meal Servers:** Help to provide hospitality while serving meals during Funerals at Grace.
- ✦ **Food Pantry:** Located in our Gathering Area, our Food Pantry is available for all in need to use.
- ✦ **Care Bags:** This team assembles bags with essential items provided for visitors in need.
- ✦ **People Helping People:** A team who responds to requests submitted from people in need of financial assistance or resources, food assistance, and resources.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

The NCAA Bracket Challenge has concluded. I hope your favorite team was able to participate in March Madness. Now it's time for Grace Lutheran's Offering Challenge. The Church Council has partnered with the Stewardship Committee to issue a challenge to the members of Grace. Beginning in April we are challenging the families of Grace to add \$5 per week to their offering. Special envelopes have been made for this challenge and are available in the gathering space. This challenge will run for five months from April-August. If 100 families participate with an additional \$5/week in their offering, Grace Lutheran will see an extra \$10,000 in the general fund giving!

In the first few months of 2024, we have seen our giving near our budgeted amounts and are very grateful. However, in 2024 we also saw increases in several of our normal operating expenses. This challenge will provide needed additional revenue to continue to offer all the services that you as Grace members utilize and expect on a weekly basis. Thank you for your prayers and thoughtful consideration of how you can impact Grace Lutheran church and fulfil this Offering Challenge. Go Team Grace!

Carolyn Bird and Troy Nemmers, Council Co-Presidents



Youth Trip Coordinator Volunteer Needed:

CYF is looking for a lead volunteer to plan future youth trips for students! Some duties would include coordinating details of location and lodging, finding volunteer chaperones, assist with fundraising events for donations, and work with the CYF Team and Pastors on trip details and itinerary. Please contact the office if interested!



The Children Youth & Family Team would like to extend their gratitude and say "THANK YOU" to Fairmont Foods. Fairmont Foods generously donated scrambled eggs and sausage links to serve at our Palm Sunday Breakfast held on March 24th!



CONGRATS!

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Elayna Anderson | Blake Jahnke | Grace Nelson |
| Gavin Artner | Jorvik Jensen | Noah Nielsen |
| Cohl Becker | Cameron Johnson | Kahlyn Ogle |
| Sydney Blomster | Alex Kastning | Addison Olson |
| Reece Buntjer | Hope Klanderud | Will Osborn |
| Cali Cross | Jace Kollofski | Grace Pendergast |
| Shaye Dietz | Hope Kueker | Abi Peyman |
| Ethan Geerdes | Jordan Lamoureaux | Janea Prafke |
| Landon Gilbertson | Addie Lenway | Cameron Schmidtke |
| Savannah Goerndt | Kayden Loeschen | Skylor Schultz |
| Colby Gustafson | Matthew Malo | Harrison Skow |
| Andrew Haefner | Lilian Martinson | Tommy Smith |
| Jonathan Heinze | Rosalie Martinson | Ava Terfehr |
| Emma Hilgendorf | Melody Miles | Aiden Thomas |
| Jozie Hoefker | Noah Miller | |

CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Open Door Meal: 4:45PM - 6:30PM - All are invited to the Fellowship Hall for a meal.

BLAST, PreK - 6th Grade: 5:30PM - 6:30PM - This includes Cherub & Alleluia Choir, learning lessons, and fun!

Wednesday Worship: 6:30PM - 7:00PM

Confirmation, 7th-9th Grade: 7:00PM - 8:00PM

End of the Year Celebrations!

WHO: BLAST & Confirmation Students, along with their Parents

WHEN: Wednesday May 15, 2024

BLAST 5:30PM - 6:25PM

Confirmation 7PM - 8PM

WHAT TO EXPECT: Activities & Games, Popcorn

*Registration for VBS & Fall 2024 BLAST & Confirmation



.....
: It has been a great year, that we know will soon be coming to a close. May :
: 15th will be our last evening of youth education for this year. Parents please :
: plan to attend with your child. Watch for more detailed information to come! :
.....



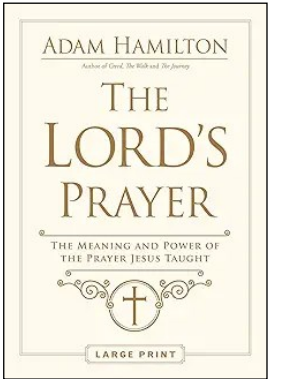
Baccalaureate on Sunday April 21! Come and celebrate this year's high school graduates at both worship services. If you would like your child's name in the bulletin, please email the church office by April 11.

Congratulations to our graduates!!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Education Hour:

Invite a friend, grab your coffee and donut holes, and come to adult Sunday School between the worship services. We meet at 9:35am for a variety of topics throughout the program year. We will take off Palm Sunday and Easter and then start our final series for the program year by Rev. Adam Hamilton entitled The Lord's Prayer: The Meaning and Power of the Prayer Jesus Taught. We will conclude our time with a presentation organized by our Stewardship Team, May 19, by Tharan Leopald, ELCA Gift Consultant, on planned giving.



Men's Breakfast on Monday:

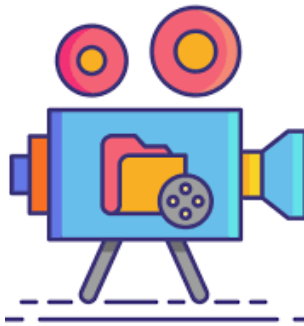
Men of all ages are invited to a monthly breakfast at The Ranch restaurant on the first Monday of the month. Come for a devotion, fellowship, and good breakfast food. **When: Monday April 1 at 7:00AM Where: The Ranch Restaurant Why: Because Jesus says that when a few are gathered in his name, he's there too!**

Thrivent Sunday on April 21:

Have you ever wanted to give to Grace for a special project? Thrivent Action Team Grants are an easy way to do that if you are a Thrivent member. Scott Fuhrman, our local Thrivent rep, will be in the Gathering Space between the services and can show you how to donate \$250 to a ministry project as a Thrivent member. And this year, it is even easier. You can now call Thrivent and they will do the application over the phone instead of online! Thrivent members receive two \$250 grants a year to use. Here are some of the ways you can use them here at Grace:



- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Open door meals | God's Grace is Amazing Day | Glows Parade Candy and Supplies |
| Pizza with the Pastors | Vacation Bible School | Advent cards for our neighbors |
| Homebound communion supplies | Confirmation party | Octoberfest picnic |
| Buildings and Grounds project | Prayer Shawl Yarn | Confirmation fellowship event |
| Confirmation service project | Worship in the Park Advertising | Fill the Altar Food Drive |
| Treats for shut ins | Worship in the Park Outreach | Thanksgiving fellowship event |
| Palm Sunday Brunch | Confirmation supplies | Sock Tree |
| Care Bags | BLAST supplies | Christmas Eve Cocoa and Carols |
| First communion class | God's Work Our Hands Sunday | Confirmation Caroling at Senior Residences |
| Baccalaureate gifts | Worship on the Water | Bread for our members |
| | Confirmation retreat | |



Tech Training April 28!

Blake Potthoff will be offering training between the services on Sunday April 28! Please come to learn how to run sound, camera for streaming, and slides. After training, if you would like to be part of a team to run tech on a Sunday, you will be paired with someone who has been doing it for awhile. While it may look complicated, Blake loves to teach and will make it easy to learn. Thanks for considering being part of this important ministry of worship!!

God's Grace is Amazing Day on Sunday, May 5!

Come for a morning full of worship, service, and food!

This year, we will gather in our yellow shirts in the sanctuary for a brief worship service at 9:30AM. Teams will be released for a variety of projects. This year, we will have one big outdoor project as we clean up Sylvania Park, our location for our Wednesday Praise in the Park services. We will also have a craft table at the park for kids to take a break and paint rocks to brighten up our community. Indoors, in the fellowship hall, we will have tables to attach notecards to bread for our neighbors which will then be delivered. We will also be coloring canvas bags for children in the foster care system through Lutheran Social Services. There will also be a rock painting table and a table to write cards to our elders 90+ and those living in care facilities. We will include in the envelope a prayer square lovingly made by our knitters. At 11:30AM, we will conclude our projects and have a picnic lunch. We hope you can come for a fabulous Sunday together!

God's
grace
is amazing



Baptisms in the Park! The Praise Band and Worship Team are excited to share that we are extending our Wednesdays in the Park by two weeks this year beginning May 22. We want to capitalize on the wonderful warm weather and beauty of the outdoors. We will again meet at the Sylvania Park band shell for a half an hour praise service. Each week will have a different pastor or lay leader from our community churches. In addition, Pastor Allison and Pastor Cheryl will preside one week a month so that families who would like a summer outdoor baptism can choose one of those evenings. We had a wonderful summer baptism last year and would like to give other families the opportunity to have a baptism in a casual outdoor setting. Those dates are Wednesdays May 29, June 5, July 24, and August 7. If there is rain, we will meet at the shelter house in Sylvania Park. For more information, please contact the church office.



Bread for Our Neighbors! This year, we will bring loaves of bread to 100 different households close to Grace. But to do that, we need you! In the Gathering Space, you will find a table that has disposable loaf pans. Please pick up a recipe and stack of three mini pans. On Sunday, May 5, bring in your bread still in those pans and wrapped in cling wrap. We will add a welcome card which contains our summer worship times and Bible School dates, and deliver them that morning. Thank you in advance for making this special outreach project happen!

Faith Night at the Mankato Moon Dogs!

In these Spring-like temps, its easy to think SUMMER! We will be offering another trip to the Mankato Moon Dogs on Sunday, June 30!!! Please purchase your tickets in the office as soon as possible. We have 21 reserved seats left and if we need more, we will do our best to purchase additional ones before they sell out.

The cost is \$10 which includes your assigned seat and a hot dog meal. Checks can be made to Grace Lutheran Church with MoonDogs in the memo. We will meet in the Grace parking lot that day at 3:45pm and carpool to the game. Hope to see you at the ballpark!



Mission Team fundraising Cards:

Check out the Mission Team greeting cards available in the gathering area! You are welcome to grab a card for a friend or loved one. Suggested donation is \$ 1 per card. Cards available are Sympathy, Get Well, Thinking of You, Birthday, and blank cards on display. Easter cards will be coming Soon!

New Members: Please email the office with a cell phone picture and we will get it added. The hope is that we can learn one another's names and get to know one another! And for others interested in joining Grace or learning more about our community of faith, please see one of the pastors. You can join Grace at any time and we look forward to having a second Pizza with the Pastors May 19. WELCOME!

WELCOME



Crochet, Anyone? Crochet patterns have now been added to our prayer shawl kits!!! These kits contain yarn, instructions, and labels for both crochet and knitted prayer shawls. Kits can be picked up from the shelves across the office and finished shawls returned in the same bag. As you crochet or knit a shawl, please pray for whomever will receive this gift of God's love, comfort, and peace. Anyone in the congregation may take a prayer shawl to give away and are found by our Care Table. Thank you for sharing your talents with those who need extra care. For more information, please stop by the office or see one of the pastors.