

 **Grace Lutheran Church**
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 Fairmont, MN 56031
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 **Grace Lutheran Church**
 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.

September 2023



CELEBRATING **10** YEARS

DETAILS ON PAGE 9


“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday



September 10, 2023

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 Coordinator office@gracelutheranchurch.org
- Brad Anderson**- Maintenance Emergency contact number: 507- 236-1123
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



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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PASTOR'S PEN	MISSIONS APPLE PIE BAKE	BLAST & CONFIRMATION
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Generosity

“A generous person will prosper, whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.” Proverbs 11:25

What is generosity? Basically, it is giving freely and abundantly to others. Those others are family, friends, colleagues, neighbors, and even strangers. It is a way of living in the world with others and our interactions with them. It is how we use our time, talents, energy and money.

The “how” of generosity can take many forms. The following forms are: emotional and relational support, monetary support, hospitality support, gift support, and service and volunteering support. All of these are ways we are giving ourselves to others.

Who is to be generous? Anyone can be a generous person. However, we as Christians are called to be generous people. God has been generous with us with his love and goods. We, too, are to imitate his generosity in the world.

When are we to be generous? When we see a need in a person and/or the community, we are to help address that need. Generosity is a way of life. It is to be practiced on a daily basis with our loved ones and others.

Why be generous? For Christians we are told it is better to give than receive. It is good to give and receive graciously. As the proverb states, generous people will prosper; it feels good to give of ourselves and resources. Yes, it does cost us something, our time, energy, or money. However, the benefits outweigh the cost. One of the fruits of the Holy Spirit is generosity. When we are living by God’s will and ways, generosity is expressed.

It is in giving that we receive, this is a big part of Christianity and being a Christian. If we listen to the world, we can be driven by a lack of supply and scarcity. If scarcity is in your world view it will be harder to be generous. However, if we trust in God and his great abundance we are driven towards generosity. God is willing and able to provide for us.

In the book, The Paradox of Generosity, they did research on generous and ungenerous people. What the research shows is that people who regularly practice generosity have a better well-being in life. They are happier, have better bodily health, a purpose in living, avoidance of depression, and interest in personal growth. Consequently, generosity produces a win-win situation for the giver. That is, whatever is given can bring benefits to us. Let us all continue to work to practice all forms of generosity in our homes, community, and the world. It makes a difference in us and for others.

Pastor Cheryl Indehar



September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 7:00am - 8:00am Baptism 9:30am Sunday Worship	28 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	29 1:00pm - 2:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 2:30pm - 3:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting	30 6:30pm - 7:00pm Wednesday Worship in the Park	31 5:00pm - 8:00pm Kinship Community Resiliency Meeting	1 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	2
3 9:30am Sunday Worship	4 Labor Day 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 5:30pm Worship Team Meeting	5 9:00am - 3:00pm Common Threads Sewing Bee - Community 11:30am - 1:00pm Staff Appreciation Lunch at Jake's 1:00pm Mary Circle 1:00pm - 2:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 2:30pm - 3:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 5:30pm - 6:30pm Worship Committee Meeting 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	6 NO Wednesday Worship in the Park 6:00pm - 6:30pm BLAST Orientation 6:30pm - 7:00pm Confirmation Orientation	7 📍 1:15pm Anna Circle 2:00pm - 5:00pm Community Bible Study Setup 3:00pm Missions Meeting	8 8:00am - 2:00pm Women's Community Bible Study Training 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	9
10 9:30am - 10:30am God's Work. Our Hands! 9:30am Sunday Worship	11 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 5:30pm Worship Team Meeting	12 8:00am - 2:00pm Women's Community Bible Study Training 1:00pm - 2:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 2:30pm - 3:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Committee Meetings: Service, Stewardship, Fellowship, Outreach, & CYF	13 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 10:00am - 10:40am Goldfinch Assisted Living Service 10:45am - 11:15am Goldfinch Memory Care Service	14 10:00am - 11:00am Lakeview Senior Worship 4:00pm - 6:00pm Aktion Club Theatre 📍 5:15pm - 6:45pm Girl Scout #37835 6:30pm Shalom Circle	15 Ways of Grace Submission Deadline 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	16
17 Bibles & Blessing of the Backpacks Both Services 8:30am Traditional Worship 10:45am Contemporary Worship	18 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm - 7:30pm Silverlake 4-H	19 1:00pm - 2:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 2:30pm - 3:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting	20 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study	21 5:00pm - 8:00pm Kinship Community Resiliency Meeting	22 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	23 First Day of Autumn Missions Apple Pie Bake 
24 8:30am Traditional Worship 10:45am Contemporary Worship - Jacob James Maday Baptism	25 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting	26 1:00pm - 2:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 2:30pm - 3:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting	27 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study	28	29 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	30



Thrivent Grants Needed!

Are you a Thrivent Financial member? If so, did you know that you get two \$250 grants a year which can

be used for ministry projects? If so, the office is collecting names and email addresses of Thrivent members so we can email the list if we have a need for a grant. Some ministries where grants have been used in the past are as seed money for buying food for an outreach event, a deposit on a mission trip, yarn for prayer shawls, candy for the glow parade attached to our worship times, etc. The staff has many ideas for ministries, and we know you do too! If you have ideas on how to use your grants, please let us know! While grant applications only take just a few minutes to do online, we would be happy to do them with you in the church office. Please let the office know if you would like to be added to the list. Thank you!

Open door meals	God's Grace is Amazing Day	Glow Parade Candy and Supplies
Pizza with the pastor	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
Lenten book study	Worship in the Park Outreach	Thanksgiving fellowship event
Valentine treats for shut ins	Confirmation supplies	Shut-in Christmas Gifts
Palm Sunday Brunch	BLAST supplies	Sock Tree
Care Bags	God's Work Our Hands Sunday Service	Christmas Eve Cocoa and Carols
First communion class	Worship on the Water	Confirmation Caroling at Senior Residences
Baccalaureate gifts	Confirmation retreat	

Want to Fund a Grounds and Landscaping Project at Grace???

(Project estimates are subject to change)

Bathroom light switches with auto turnoff/shut off:	\$1,050
Lawn and sidewalk supplies:	\$1,200
Misc. areas paint and supplies:	\$1,500
River rock for landscaping / pea rock for playground:	\$1,500



For more project information, please contact the office or see our maintenance worker, Brad. Thank you!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Tuesdays:** 2:00PM Fairmont Cable TV Channel 12 (pre-recorded)
- Wednesdays:** 6:30PM Wednesday Worship in the Park
- Fridays:** 1:00PM Fairmont Cable TV Channel 12 (pre-recorded)
- Sundays:** 9:30AM Last Day: September 10
8:30AM & 10:45AM Services will resume September 17th



*Communion is offered each Sunday and Wednesday.

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

At Goldfinch Senior Living Worship Services are the 2nd Wednesday of the month. 10AM at Assisted Living and 10:45AM, with Communion, at Memory Care. Every 2nd Thursday of the month, 10AM, at Lakeview Methodist home, with communion. Please come and worship with our friends & members of Grace!

Associate Pastor Search Continues: Our recent pastoral candidate has declined to move forward with Grace. They felt very called here yet the resources needed for one of their children were not available in our community. They shared that our hospitality and welcome from the Call Committee was excellent and the best they and their family had experienced at all the churches they had interviewed with. We thank the Call Committee for their constant prayers and work as we continue to follow where the Holy Spirit leads Grace. At the same time, we are blessed to have Pastor Cheryl here through Easter as we diligently work to on our stewardship initiatives to make Grace more financially stable to afford the staff needed for our ministries. If you would like to be a part of the Stewardship Team, please contact the office. Thank you!

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



September 10, 2023

God's Work. Our Hands! Mark your calendars for a morning of worship, service, and fellowship on Sunday September 10. We will be worshipping at 9:30AM with guest preacher Pastor Kathy Chatelaine, Assistant to the Bishop for Global Ministry. At 10:30, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall to assemble health kits for Lutheran World Relief as well as a few local projects. A picnic lunch will be served at 11:30AM. Come for a special time of loving God and our neighbors here in Fairmont and around the world!

Lutheran World Relief Health Kit Donations Needed!

For God's Work. Our Hands Sunday, we will be assembling kits and need the following items. Please drop off new items, still in original packaging, in the Gathering Space. Our goal is to assemble 100 kits to be shipped to people in need around the world. Last year, the kits made by churches in Minnesota were given to people in Burkina Faso, Guatemala, Haiti, Peru, and Sierra Leone.



- ONE light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- ONE sturdy wide-tooth comb
- ONE metal nail clippers

NOTE: Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name OR any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage

WORDS FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, September 3, 2023 Lectionary 22

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21
 Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21
 Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

Sunday, September 10, 2023 Lectionary 23

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11
 Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14
 Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Sunday, September 17, 2023 Lectionary 24

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21
 Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12
 Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Sunday, September 24, 2023 Lectionary 25

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

First Reading: Jonah 3:10--4:11
 Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30
 Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16



Open Door Meals
return in September!
 Join us in the Fellowship Hall
 on Wednesday evenings from
 4:45PM to 6:30PM.
September's Menu:
 Sept. 6th: Tacos
 Sept. 13th: Creamed Chicken
 on Biscuit
 Sept. 20th: Sloppy Joes
 Sept. 27th: Meatballs

THANK YOU so much to Dan and Mary Kehrberg, Enos Breitbarth, Joanne Soma, and Brad Anderson for your efforts in repainting the Fellowship Hall!

Please feel free to check out the beautiful work our volunteers did.



Wednesday Nights

WHAT'S THE 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: 7PM - 8PM

Important Dates

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

BLAST & Confirmation Orientation:

Sept 6 in the Sanctuary

BLAST families: 6PM - 6:30PM

Confirmation families: 6:30PM - 7PM

2nd Grade Bibles & Blessing of the Backpacks:

Sept 17, 8:30AM & 10:45AM Services

BLAST Teacher Orientation:

Sept 23rd @ 5:30PM in the Fellowship Hall.



Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help make this BLAST year a great one!

Spots remain unfulfilled and we are still in need of teachers for **3year old Preschool, 1st Grade and 3rd grade!** The Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Team asks you to prayerfully consider serving as a classroom teacher!

Teaching is made easy and fun with preplanned lessons. Students will also attend choir, weekly for 25-minutes. We thank you in advance for your help and consideration!

Please use the link for Sign Up Genius below to register!

[Grace Lutheran Church: BLAST Teacher Sign Up \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)

July Council Minutes will be featured in the October Issue. Thank you for your understanding!

What We Value at Grace Lutheran! The Grace Lutheran Church Council met in February for our annual retreat, and during that time, articulated the core values of our congregation: Faith, Christ-centered Community, and Service. On Sunday, July 16, the Council met again to develop the congregation's Mission and Vision statements. After much prayer and discussion, the following statements will be used to guide the ministries of Grace Lutheran moving forward. Our ministry teams will be focusing their work to align with these statements in order to share the love of Jesus and grow in our faith within and outside the walls of our congregation.

Core Values:

- + Faith
- + Christ-centered Community
- + Service

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

Vision Statement: Guided by prayer and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Grace Lutheran welcomes people of all ages and backgrounds, to be fed and forgiven as we meet Jesus at the table, and to participate together in making Jesus known to all.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT FOR JULY



Memorials:

Charlie Bremer Memorial

Michael & Nancy Droegemuller Undesignated

Mike Kimmet Memorial

Michael & Nancy Droegemuller Undesignated

Jean Schultz Memorial

Michael & Nancy Droegemuller Undesignated

Arnie Swenson Memorial

Velma Vickerman Missions

Al & Darlene Hauglid

Stained Glass Windows

Jolene & Joe Rosol

Tari Riley

Charles Kuntz

Undesignated

Doris Tjernagel

Elroy & Sandra Nuss

Eric & Sheryl Leill

Fred & Lorraine Carlson

Harlan & Larainne Gorath

Karen Jacobson

Marian Holland

Rod & Diane Palmquist

Scott & Cheri Drever

Sherwood & Carol Sagedahl

Bob Zemke Memorial

Jennelle Cunning

Stained Glass Windows

Joan Engquist

Undesignated

Jack Zimmer Memorial

Michael & Nancy Droegemuller

Undesignated



ANNOUNCEMENTS



ATTENTION! Stewardship Team Needs You!

Are you passionate about the ministries of Grace and want to share that excitement with others? If so, please consider being a part of the new Stewardship Team. This group will work to invite people to give their time, talents, and treasures to support where the Holy Spirit is leading our congregation. Troy Nemmers, our Council Treasurer, will chair this committee which will meet at 6:30pm on the second Tuesday of the month, Committee Night. For more information or to join this team, please email Pastor Allison at cobb@gracelutheranchurch.org or give the church office a call. Thank you for prayerfully considering being part of this important ministry!

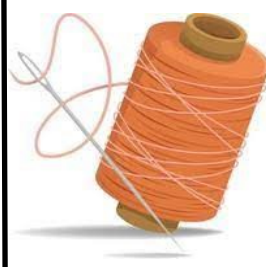
Weekly Bible Study and Prayer Meeting:



All are welcome to join the weekly ecumenical Bible study at Grace which meets on Tuesdays at 1PM in room 302 (the room the elevator opens up to on the top floor). The group is just beginning a study on the book of Acts. This is a casual and informal gathering, welcoming your thoughts and perspective, as the group together discerns how God is speaking through these words of life today. The discussion concludes at 2:30 for a time of prayer together. A prayer liturgy is read each week and every name on our prayer list is lifted up. Come for a time of faith formation and fellowship! For more information, please contact: Elayne Baumgart at baumgartelayne@gmail.com.

Our Outreach Team

is looking for a chair person plus one extra volunteer. Our Outreach Team is working with Heaven's Table gathering food items from Grace and delivering them, and also helping with the ?People Helping People? program, making care bags for community members that need our help. We have also talked about maybe hosting a Progressive Dinner, but we need you to be able to do all these fun activities. Please give prayerful consideration to join us! If interested, call the church office or sign up on the board in the church entry.



Common Threads meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 9:00AM in the Laurel Lounge. Come for fellowship, sewing, and creative fun!

Budget & Building

Do you enjoy discussing finances and managing the wonderful blessing of our church property? If so, please consider joining the Service Team. We would love to have your perspective as we move forward with managing our budgets and assets for the ministries the Holy Spirit is leading Grace to in the future. This team meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm. For more information, please contact Pastor Allison.



ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED...



The Annual Grace Lutheran Missions' Apple Pie Bake will be held on Saturday, September 23. This is a fun, multigenerational event held to raise funds for Mission projects. We will be making approximately 200 pies and need both workers and eaters (pie purchasers). With many workers, we have been able to complete this task in about half a day.

Workers are needed for peeling apples, rolling crust, pie assembly, as well as several other miscellaneous tasks. Most shifts are around four hours. If you are unable to work that long or need to be seated, we will find something that you can do. Just add a note to your sign-up sheet noting when you can work and if you need to be seated. Sign-up sheets for workers will be available on the table by the Mission Bulletin Board in the Gathering Area. All workers will get a slice of pie at the end of their shift.

Pie order forms will also be available on the table by Mission Bulletin Board. If you aren't able to fill out an order form at church, you may call and leave a message for Louise Hendricks at 507-235-3090. Please say and spell your name, provide your phone number, and list the quantity and crust preference of pies you wish to order. A return call will be made to confirm your order. **(This is a landline so please DO NOT text.)**

Apple pies may be picked up on Sat. Sept. 23rd from 12:00-2:30 p.m. or on Sunday, Sept. 24th (8 am – Noon). Pies available for a donation of \$15.00 for one or \$40.00 for three.

Name _____

Phone _____ **(Unbaked pick-up on Saturday only)**

	Quantity	Quantity
Baked pies	Regular crust _____	crumb crust _____
Unbaked pies	Regular crust _____	crumb crust _____

Meal Ministry Team Needs You! Are you willing to deliver a meal to someone who just lost a loved one, is battling an illness, or had a new baby? The idea is two meals a week for three weeks as needed. Anyone who can participate will pick a date to bring the meal. This meal can be homemade or purchased such as chicken and sides from the deli or restaurant. If interested, please email the chair of our Meal Ministry Team, Nancy Backer at nurse_nancyb@hotmail.com. Often the five minutes of visiting and checking on the recipient means more than the food, but the food is great too!



Care Callers Team Needs You! Did you know that Grace Lutheran has over 100 households with people 80 years old and older??? Many come to church and others stay connected through our at home worship and newsletters. Yet we would love to keep the connection with their faith community personal. We would like to form a team of twelve volunteers who will call 10-12 households a month. They will visit, take down any prayer requests to pass along to the pastors, and make sure they know they continue to be a valued part of the body of Christ here at Grace. We hope you will prayerfully consider being part of this important team! To get involved, please contact the office.