

 **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.*


March 2024

HIE LIVES!




**Our Staff:**

- Rev. Dr. Allison Cobb** - Senior Pastor [cobb@gracelutheranchurch.org](mailto:cobb@gracelutheranchurch.org)
- Rev. Cheryl Indehar** - Interim Associate Pastor [indehar@gracelutheranchurch.org](mailto:indehar@gracelutheranchurch.org)
- Jane Reiman** - Finance Director [reiman@gracelutheranchurch.org](mailto:reiman@gracelutheranchurch.org)
- Nicole Kolbe** - Office Administrator [office@gracelutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@gracelutheranchurch.org)
- Brad Anderson**- Maintenance Emergency contact number: 507- 236-1123  
 Office: 507- 238- 4418

 Fairmont Grace Lutheran Church - [www.gracelutheranchurch.org](http://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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Journeys

Our life is one big journey. We come into this world as mere babes and leave it to go back home to God. During our lifetime, we may make many journeys and may even travel to faraway places. We usually think of journeys in terms of leaving our homes and traveling to some other place on earth. In the middle of winter, we may have traveled to a warm location or wished we could have gone there.

Every journey has the potential to change us. But we can also take a journey that is inward focused. That is what Lent is about, taking that journey inward into our soul and our relationship with God.

The journey starts with out with Ash Wednesday, February 14 this year. We come to this service to be reminded that we are dust and of our mortality. As the ashes are placed on our foreheads, the words from Genesis are spoken, "remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." The ashes remind us that we are sinners who need to repent. The cross on our foreheads also reminds us of Jesus resurrection and forgiveness. This does not sound like a fun place to start our journey, but it is necessary. It is our reality check of who we really are, sinners and saints living in a physical bodies. Our bodies are amazing things, but we are more than our bodies. Our bodies don't last but our souls do.

This Lenten Journey lasts for 40 days, not counting Sundays. It is based on Jesus who after his baptism was in the wilderness for 40 days. In those 40 days Jesus fasted and was tempted by the devil who offered to Jesus things that would be to his liking. Jesus refuses the temptations. After the 40 days, Jesus begins his ministry of teaching, healing, and collection of disciples.

During Lent, we may not be in the wilderness but we can still go on a journey. One of the things we can do that is like Jesus is fast. Fasting is a Christian discipline. Jesus talked about when we fast not to be like the Pharisees who would let everyone know that they were fasting. Fasting can be just one meal, or two meals. Starting out one should stay with just one day at a time. The time spent on preparing, eating, and clean up can be spent on focusing on God.

This Lenten journey can be a time for soul searching and reflection. Questions that one can ask are: Am I the person that God created me to be? Am I living my life as a disciple of Christ 24/7? Am I doing the will of God in my life or just my will? If I am not, what can I do with God's help to change?

This Lenten journey can be a time for a reflection of Jesus. It is a time to think and study his life, his teachings, his ministry, his death, his burial, and his resurrection. One can read one of the gospel texts, Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John. Each text uniquely tells of Jesus' life. As a disciple, one is to become like the teacher. After reading the text, ask yourself, "how can I become more Christ like during my Lenten journey and beyond?"

During the Lenten Journey, one can work on the relationship that one has with God. One of the ways to work on any relationship is communication. The way we communicate with God is through our prayers. Prayer is a having a conversation with God. It is being in contact with God so that His life and power can be channeled through us into others. Prayer and a prayer life are life-creating and life-changing for us and others. We come to God has his beloved children, being open, honest and trusting when we pray.

This Lenten Season of the Church year, take a journey inward with God. Become closer to him, become more like his Son, Jesus, by fasting, study and prayer. Even though it may seem that we start on a low note with Ash Wednesday, by taking a journey with God. You will hit a higher note on Easter because you took the journey.



# March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Contemporary Worship	26 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS	27 9:00am - 2:00pm American Red Cross Blood Drive 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	28 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 12:00pm Holden Prayer Service 4:45pm - 6:30pm Open Door Meal 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer Service/ Confirmation	29	1 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	2
3 Baptism 8:30am Traditional Worship - Baptism 9:35am - 10:35am Hospitality Training 10:45am Contemporary Worship	4 7:00am Ranch Men's Breakfast 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Mary Circle 5:30pm Worship & CYF Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS	5 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 5:00pm Outreach/Fellowship Meeting 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	6 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 12:00pm Holden Prayer Service 4:45pm - 6:30pm Open Door Meal 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer Service/ Confirmation	7 9:00am - 12:00pm Blue Earth River Conference Meeting	8 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	9
10 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Contemporary Worship 11:45am Church Council Meeting	11 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Lakeview Senior Worship 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:30pm Shalom Circle	12 9:00am Common Threads 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 Celebration Choir Practice 6:30pm Stewardship 6:30pm Martin County 4-H	13 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 10:00am Goldfinch Worship 12:00pm Holden Prayer Service 4:45pm - 6:30pm Open Door Meal 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer Service/ Confirmation	14 4:30pm - 6:00pm Aktion Club Theatre 6:00pm - 8:00pm Boy scouts	15 Ways of Grace Submission Deadline 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	16
17 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Contemporary Worship 	18 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:30pm Martin County 4-H	19 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	20 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 12:00pm Holden Prayer Service 4:45pm - 6:30pm Open Door Meal 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 5:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer Service/ Confirmation	21	22 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	23
24 8:30am Palm Sunday Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Youth Brunch (Youth Serving) 10:45am Palm Sunday Worship 	25 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS	26 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	27 CBS - Easter Break 5:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	28 4:30pm - 6:00pm Aktion Club Theatre 6:30pm - 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service	29 12:00pm Good Friday Ecumenical Service 1:00pm Worship Service Aired 6:30pm Good Friday Worship	30
31 7:00am Easter Sunrise Service 8:30am Easter Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Mission Team Fellowship Hour 10:45am Easter Contemporary Worship 	1 7:00am Ranch Men's Breakfast 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Mary Circle 5:30pm Worship Team Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS	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 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	3	4 9:00am - 10:00am Sarah's Circle 9:00am WOTC	5 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	6

## Sunday, March 3 - Third Sunday in Lent

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
Gospel: Mark John 2:13-22

## Sunday, March 10 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9  
Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10  
Gospel: John 3:14-21

## Sunday, March 17 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and

draws God's love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God's love with all the world.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10  
Gospel: John 12:20-33

## Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday

This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11  
Gospel: Mark 14:1--15:47

## Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

My Father Bill Schoer/Wilbert Schoer was a teacher at home and in his work as a High School Shop Teacher and Art Teacher. He was raised in a Christian home and was inspired to help others in all aspects of his life. My Father found the importance of Christ in his life as he journeyed through the high and lows that presented themselves throughout his life. He found out how life giving his Savior was when he ultimately needed Christ to carry him and my mother's burdens through a very difficult time in their life.

You see this was setup to be a joyous time to celebrate, because they had just experienced the birth of their youngest son (Mark Schoer) and they both couldn't wait to start this journey forward as a complete family, which included my only sibling (My Brother David Schoer). But, the day after I was born on May 17th this Joyful experience all began to cloud up. You see my mother, Donna Schoer (Roebbeke) woke up with a raising temperature with no answer for why this was happening. You see when my mother was giving birth to me on May 17th, the physicians and care team decided that they need to do a c-section to deliver me. This is where the answers were found for the temperature raising for my mother. They found that next morning that the care team had nicked my mother's bowel when doing the c-section procedure and after they had sewn my mother up on that day, the next day they found my mother's stool was spilling throughout the inside of her abdominal cavity.

This called for immediate action, and they called for the ambulance to rush my mother Donna Schoer to St. Mary's Hospital in 1961. In those days there was not the high-tech equipment found in today's world. But was found very much alive and well was the Power of Prayer and Our Lord's Spirit Present to flow and care for my mother and give the Hospital Care Teams the appropriate mindset to accomplish a miracle. Along with OUR LORD present each day beside my mother, was an amazing care team which included the nuns. They prayed daily with my Mother and Father at my mom's bedside for God to bring forth a miracle and save my mother's life.

After months and months of critical care brought forth. With many tubes found present to care for my mother and which found my mom laying in ice beds day after day and week after week to help control the high fevers when medicine was not found to help. God did bring forth a Miracle and saved my mother's life. My Mother and Father never pointed fault to anyone for my mother's care when I was born. They always expressed God is with us and we are Grateful for each moment together no matter the circumstances.

You see my Mother and Father only spoke of the compassionate care from so many at the Mayo Clinic and the kindness shown by families in Rochester Minnesota who took in my Father during his stay at Rochester during those many months my Mother was in the hospital. My Father Always Mentioned That God Revealed his amazing Glory/Grace throughout this entire experience. Thus the reason you see this cross present at Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont Minnesota during Lenten/Easter Season.

You see my Father had a prayerful discussion with Pastor Ed at Grace Lutheran Church. When my father, asked if he could create a cross with a crown of thorns to be present up front during the Lenten/Easter Season. Pastor Ed whole heartedly agreed for this to come to be. My Father wanted All to See God's intention for "The Tree of Life". God's Love is forever present in our lives and God's intension was to reveal that Love to us in Dramatic and Powerful ways.

God Bless Each of You at Grace Lutheran Church.  
We are So Grateful for Each of Your Ministries!!!

Mark Schoer and Jodi Schoer (Palmquist)



# 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.

**Mid-Week Lenten Worship:** Come for Wednesday worship this Lenten season at Noon and 6:30PM. We will be singing Holden Evening Prayer and hear a drama read each week that focuses on a character in the Easter story. Hope to see you there for a time to breathe and be in community with others as we walk this road to the cross.

**Goldfinch Senior Living Worship Service:** 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10AM on the Memory Care side with Communion at Goldfinch and every 2nd Monday of the month, 10AM, at Lakeview Methodist home, with communion. Please come and worship with our friends and members of Grace!



**Lent Began on Ash Wednesday, February 14:** Lent is a season of repentance and self-examination where we see what is not life-giving, ask for God's forgiveness, and turn our lives back around to God. In the sanctuary, you will find a black box which is our Baggage Box. During this season, you are invited to write down any burden, sin, shame, or fear that is weighing you down and holding you back in your life and relationship with God and one another. On Easter morning, we will burn this box as a symbol of the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, lighting the Christ Candle from these flames. Confirmation students and their mentors are asked to worship together on Wednesdays in Lent as we sing Holden Evening Prayer together with a time for discussion, ending at 7:30PM.

## Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday Traditional Worship at 8:30AM  
Palm Sunday Breakfast 9:30AM-11AM  
Palm Sunday Contemporary Worship at 10:45AM

## Wednesday, March 27

No Open Door Meal, BLAST, or Confirmation

## Thursday, March 28

Maundy Thursday Worship at 6:30PM

## Friday, March 29

Good Friday Community Service hosted by St. Martin's Episcopal Church at Noon  
Good Friday Worship, Grace Lutheran Church, at 6:30PM

## Sunday March 31

Easter Burning of the Baggage Box at 6:45AM  
Easter Sunrise Worship with Re-dressing of the Altar at 7:00AM  
Easter Traditional Worship at 8:30AM  
Easter Contemporary Worship at 10:45AM



## Holy Week & Easter

# Congregational Care Ministry

God calls us to keep our eyes open to opportunities to serve him using the gifts and talents that He has given us. One place to start looking for opportunities is at Grace's Care Table. This will help you to get connected to Grace and its ministries. By the Care Table you will find a large volunteer sign-up board. It covers opportunities to being an usher, lector, sound person, etc. Just sign the sheet and Nicole from the office will contact you.

This month we will highlight some of the Congregational Care Ministries. The Prayer Chain and weekly Prayer meeting is for lifting up in prayer a person or situation to God. Individuals who ask for prayer, are asked if they want to be on a prayer list. If they say yes, it is given to the 57 people email prayer team, put in the bulletin and each week another prayer team of 12 prays in person for the request. Prayer requests can be given to the office, written on cards in the pews, or to a pastor.

Along with prayer are our prayer squares and prayer shawls. Our knitters have lovingly created these items of comfort and prayed for you while they worked on them. Please feel free to take a prayer shawl or square to someone you know who needs God's love to wrap them up during a challenging time in their lives.

Grace has many food ministries. There is Open Door Meals every Wednesday night during the school year from 4:45-6:30 pm. All are welcome! Another food ministry is meal ministry. This is where meals are brought to a person or family during a time of hardship like an injury. Meals are brought for a few weeks during the week. Grace has a Food Pantry for all to use. Various food items and personal care items are available. The funeral meal servers will serve a meal after a funeral in Fellowship Hall. They provide hospitality for a grieving family.

To stay in contact with members who may have mobility issues, are the Care Caller Team and the Visitation Team. Call callers reach out by phone and cards once a month to connect with folks. The Visitation Team will meet monthly with those who want a visit and communion.

If any of these ministries sound exciting to you, sign up on the bulletin board, contact the office or let a pastor know. Let the Holy Spirit Guide and direct you to where you can use your gifts and time.



Our First Communion Class was held on February 4th. The kids worked together to bake communion bread!



## Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes February 17, 2024

**CORE VALUES:**  
**Faith, Christ-Centered**  
**Community/Connections, Service**

**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.**

**2024 Focus Areas: Constitution,**  
**Stewardship, Community**  
**Relationships**

**Members Present:** Joice Forster, Josh Ensrud, Carolyn Bird, Kris Boerner, Ardel Prescott, Jaime Core, Mark Morris, Brandon DeClercq, Jane Reiman, Pastor Cheryl Indehar, Pastor Allison Cobb

**Absent:**  
Joyce Eisenmenger, Troy Nemmers

**Call to Order:**  
Joice Forster called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Martin County Museum Parsonage.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**  
The November 2023 minutes were approved on December 11, 2023 via email.

### **Financial Report**

Jane Reiman, finance director, gave the council an update on the finances of the church. For January 2024, the church took in \$3245.19 more than in January of 2023.

### **Election of Officers**

The election of officers took place. With the following council members serving as officers for the 2024 year:

Co-Presidents:  
Carolyn Bird and Troy Nemmers  
Secretary: Joice Forster  
Treasurer/Stewardship Chair: Mark Morris

The council will meet the second Sunday of the month after the second service September-May and after the 9:30 service June-August.

### **Team Liaisons**

Council members volunteered to serve on the following church committees:

Service: Troy  
Personnel: Carolyn  
Children/Youth/Families: Jaime, Joice  
Worship: Kris, Josh  
Outreach/Fellowship: Brandon, Ardel, Joice, Carolyn  
Stewardship: Mark

Meeting dates and times will be the following for the committees:

1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month at 5:30: CYF and Worship Teams  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 5:30: Outreach/Fellowship Team

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 5:30 Service Team 6:30 Stewardship Team

**Team Reports**

**Worship:** Pastor Allison reported that Worship in the Park will be extended from May 22<sup>nd</sup>-September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Praise Band will continue to be the musicians.

**CYF:** Jaime reported the CYF team is planning the Palm Sunday Breakfast and the End of the BLAST/Confirmation Year Celebration. Vacation Bible School will be June 17<sup>th</sup>-June 20<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-12:00 noon.

**Outreach/Fellowship:** Del reported that the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Training went well with the children helping bake the bread. March is National Food Shelf Month. Grace will be participating with the request for food items from March 3 to March 31<sup>st</sup>. Grace will be hosting pastors in March for the Blue Earth River Conference. The team will be providing refreshments.

**Service:** Jane reported the Service Team renewed the lawn service contract with Lawn Solutions. They also approved an order to replace a broken window, as well as purchase a new vacuum.

**Stewardship:** The team has been working hard and planning a stewardship drive program for Grace.

**Personnel:** End of year chats were done

for each employee with accolades, opportunities, and goals being discussed.

**Old Business**

A vote took place via email to approve paying for internet for Pastor Cheryl's Fairmont residence. Motion made by Kris. Seconded by Jaime. Motion carried on January 31, 2024.

The search for an Associate Pastor is continuing by the Call Committee. There are just not many candidates available.

**New Business**

Mark made the motion to empower the personnel committee with employment authority on behalf of Grace Lutheran Church Council. Brandon seconded. Motion carried.

Ardel moved to have a council resolution to allow the council to make motions and vote via email when needed. Seconded by Carolyn. Motion carried.

Josh motioned for alternate service times for upcoming special Sundays: God's Grace is Amazing Day, Worship on the Water, God's Work. Our Hands, and one summer Sunday morning Service at 9:30 a.m. Brandon seconded. 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 all they are doing for Grace.

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

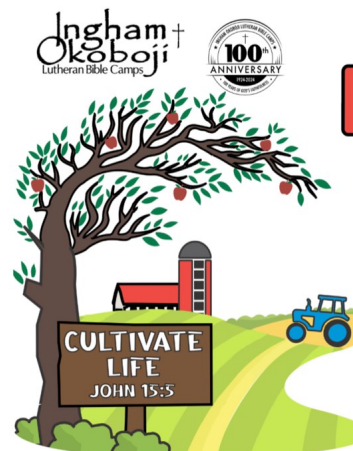
**Confirmation, 7th-9th Grade:** 7:00PM - 8:00PM

[Note: During Lent, students worship with mentors at 6:30PM followed by discussion until 7:30PM.]



**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!

<h1>PALM SUNDAY YOUTH BREAKFAST</h1>	
<p>Please join our Confirmation Youth, in a time of fellowship, as they host "Palm Sunday Breakfast"</p>	<p><b>Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Muffins, Juice and Coffee</b></p>
<p><b>When: Palm Sunday March 24, 2024 9:30AM - 11AM</b></p>	<p><b>Free will donation will help support our youth in upcoming mission trips.</b></p>
<p><b>Where : Fellowship Hall</b></p>	
<p><small>If you would like to assist in planning future mission trips, please contact Pastor Allison, Pastor Cheryl or a Children, Youth and Family team member. Thank you!</small></p>	



**DAY CAMP  
VBS  
SAVE THE DATE  
JUNE 17-20**

**Sunday, April 28 is Baccalaureate at the 10:45AM worship service**



# WELCOME

**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!

**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.



**Hospitality Training on March 3:** On Sunday, March 3, between the worship services, all current hospitality teams are invited to the Chapel for training. If you are interested in learning more about being an usher or greeter, please plan to attend as well. Thank you in advance for being a part of this important ministry of welcome!

**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 30 seats reserved 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!

### Upcoming Dates

Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Worship and CYF Team Meetings  
 Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.- Outreach/Fellowship Team meeting  
 Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Service Team Meeting Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting in the Laurel Lounge. Troy Nemmers will lead devotions

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m., with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by Joice Forster, Secretary

### Approval of Secretary's Report

The February 18, 2024 council minutes were reviewed and approved via email on February 19, 2024. Motion by Josh. Seconded by Brandon to approve. Motion carried on February 19, 2024.

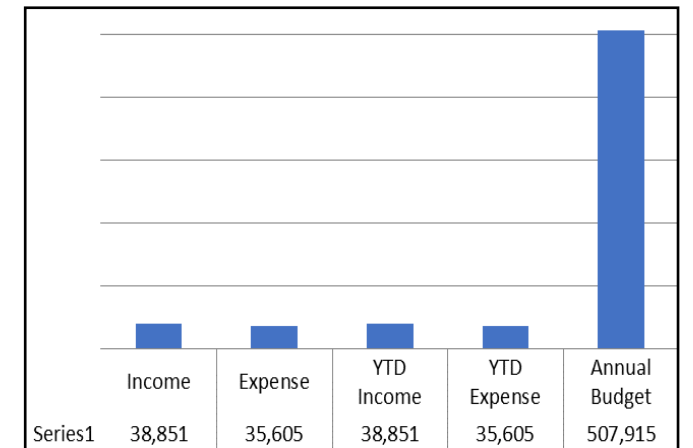


### Memorials:

#### Bob Miles Memorial

Patricia Jones	Building
Arvin & Joanne soma	Undesignated
Dan & Mary Kehrburg	Undesignated

### FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT FOR JANUARY



**March  
Open Door Meal  
Menu**

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

Mar 6: Sloppy Joes  
 Mar 13: Masons Spaghetti  
 Mar 20: Meatballs  
 Mar 27: NO OPEN DOOR MEAL

## 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.
- ✦ **Fellowship and Outreach Teams:** Meet the 1st Tuesday at 5:30PM monthly to oversee our Grace pantry, fellowship hour, and special events.
- ✦ **Stewardship Team:** Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 6:30PM monthly to oversee year round stewardship of time, talents, and treasures.

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

The Spirit is moving in Grace!

A Stewardship Committee has been created and the members are Pastor Allison, Mark Morris, Pat Jones, Becky Johnson, Jane Reiman and Cindy Wohlhuter.

The purpose of this team is to support the mission of Grace by providing opportunities for the congregation to share their gifts of service, time, presence, and offering dollars for both our general budget and special ministries. We look forward to sharing updates with all of you each month in our Stewardship Corner! If you would like to join this team which meets monthly, the 2nd Tuesday of the month, please see one of the pastors.

## ANNOUNCEMENT REMINDERS:

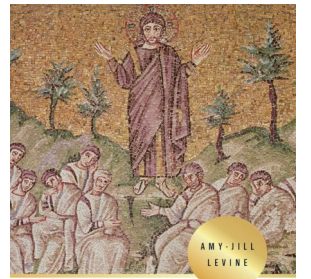
- ✦ **Chancel Choir:** Practice Wednesdays at 5:15PM, Sing at 8:30AM worship services.
- ✦ **Celebration Choir:** Practice Tuesdays at 6:30PM, Sing at 10:45AM worship services.
- ✦ **Service Team:** Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 5:30PM monthly to discuss budgets, assets, and more!
- ✦ **CYF Team:** Meets the 1st Monday at 5:30PM monthly to discuss youth ministry & events.
- ✦ **Common Threads:** 9AM on the first & third Tuesday of each month in Laurel Lounge.
- ✦ **God's Grace is Amazing Day:** Sunday, May 5
- ✦ **Pizza with the Pastors:** Sunday, May 19 is for all those new to Grace



## MARCH IS MINNESOTA FOOD SHELF MONTH:

We will be collecting non-perishable food items for Grace's Food Pantry, with 10% going to Heaven's Table beginning Sunday, March 3rd through Sunday, March 31st.

**Adult Bible Study:** 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. Each week will include a brief video lesson from a Bible scholar or preacher and discussion with one another. Come for light-hearted conversation and faith education. On February 18, we began our six-week Lenten study by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine entitled *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*. Come anytime and study together the beatitudes as well as many other teachings of Jesus that he shared with the crowd and his disciples. Hope to see you there!



SERMON on the MOUNT  
A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN



**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 March 4 at 7:00AM Where: The Ranch Restaurant Why: Because Jesus says that when a few are gathered in his name, he's there too!**

**Adult BLAST on Wednesday March 6 @ 5:30PM:** You are invited to something new!!! As the kids learn in BLAST, we hope you will join us as we Belong | Learn | Apply | Serve | Tell. We have heard from you that the hour of BLAST time can be a great time to run errands or grocery shop. At the same time, many have shared a deep desire to get to know more adults here at Grace. We welcome adults of all ages for a once-a-month time of faith formation and community building.

