

February 22, 2026

Grace Lutheran Ministry Minutes



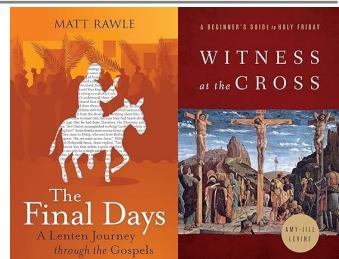
The Season of Lent!

The season of Lent began on February 18 with Ash Wednesday. 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 *Unfailing Light* together with a time for discussion, ending at 7:15PM. We will also offer *Holden Evening Prayer* Wednesdays at noon in the chapel. We hope you will come for a time of mid-week reflection, to take a breath, and acknowledge the presence of Christ in our midst.

Adult Education at Grace!

Come join the discussion on Sunday mornings about the ministry of Jesus. On Sunday, January 25, we began our new adult ed. series *The Final Days: A Lenten Journey Through the Gospels* by Rev. Matt Rawle. On Sunday, March 8, we will begin the series *Witness at the Cross: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Friday*. Invite a friend and come for a time of faith formation together. Hope to see you there!



Men's Breakfast

Next Men's Breakfast is Monday, March 2. Join the guys at Grace for a devotion and breakfast at the Ranch in Fairmont, 7AM, and invite your friends. Come for a time of fellowship and discussion!

Readings for Sunday, February 22: First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7,
Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19, Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:1-11



First Communion Class on March 1!

At Grace, we commune children at whatever age parents feel it is appropriate. Jesus welcomes all to the table so if you come from a tradition where even the littlest commune, you are welcome to do so at Grace. Likewise, if you prefer your children to have taken an introductory class to communion first, that is welcome as well. There is no "right" age to commune, and no one can ever fully understand the holy mystery of Christ being present at communion. Jesus simply welcomes all! The pastors offer a class once a year geared toward ages five through twelve which offers hands on learning as we hear the promises of Jesus brought to us in this holy sacrament. **Please call or email the office** if you would like to enroll your child in this year's class which will meet **NEXT Sunday**, March 1, from noon to 3pm. **An adult must attend with each student.** We will start with a pizza lunch followed by lessons, a craft, tasting communion elements, and baking communion bread. Students will mark this special milestone of first communion in both worship services on Sunday, March 8.

American Red Cross Blood Drive at Grace

The American Red Cross is facing a severe blood shortage as requests from hospitals exceed the available supply of blood, drawing down the blood supply by about 35% over the past month. Book an appointment or stop by Grace on February 24 at www.redcrossblood.org to support the Red Cross. Thank you!



Save the Date: Baccalaureate Sunday

High School Baccalaureate Sunday will be on Sunday, March 22nd at the 10:45am worship service. We look forward to celebrating with our seniors!

Upcoming Meals for Open Door:

February 25: Porkalicious
March 4: Creamed Chicken/ Biscuit



THIS WEEK AT GRACE

February 22, 2026

Sunday, February 22nd

8:30AM Traditional Worship
9:35AM Adult Ed. in the Lounge
10:45AM Contemporary Worship

5:15PM Chancel Choir Practice
5:30PM BLAST
6:30PM Unfailing Light Lenten Worship
6:30PM Confirmation
7:00PM High School Class

Monday, February 23rd

9:00AM Staff Meeting
6:00PM Evening CBS

Thursday, February 26th

1:00PM Ways of Grace Assembly Team
4:30PM Aktion Club Theatre

Tuesday, February 24th

9AM-2PM American Red Cross Blood Drive
9:00AM Sewing Circle
1:00PM Prayer Meeting
1:30PM Women's Bible Study
2:00PM Worship Service Aired

Friday, February 27th

Saturday, February 28th

Sunday, March 1st

8:30AM Traditional Worship
9:35AM Adult Ed. in the Lounge
10:45AM Contemporary Worship
12:00PM First Communion Class

Wednesday, February 25th

9:00AM Women's CBS
12:00PM Holden Prayer Lenten Worship
4:30PM Open Door Community Meal

PRAYERS

Members and Loved Ones: Linda Vlieger, Jeanette Nelson, Harley Jordan, Dawn Potthoff, Gladys, Peterson, Carol Myhre, Carolyn Kryzer, Steph Johnson, Karen Meier, Parker Lintelman, Kathleen Ferguson, MaryAnn Kehrberg, Jean Nimz, Nathan Marks, Karen, Delphine Hanson, Jon VonBank, Leah Edward, Elayne Hested, Loren Dunham, Leroy Sandberg, Amber Elliot, Adeline, Kaitlyn, Maynard Johnson, Sue Langford, Melissa Carlson, Mark Brown, Carol Madsen, Susie Davis, Carolyn Bird.

Ongoing Concerns: For people to see Jesus in the face of their neighbor, those affected by the ongoing conflict in the Holy Land, for a revitalization of our faith community and re-connecting with one another as we enter into more familiar times, for our pastors and church staff that they may hear and bear witness to the Holy Spirit at work in our midst, for the Spirit's leading in our ministries within and outside the walls of the church, for continued generosity of people during these difficult economic times as prices of food and gas rise and cupboards are bare, for an end to racial injustice, for peace in our cities, and for our military and police officers who put their own lives on the line every day, and healing for our communities and world from the anger, division, and war that so many people are experiencing.

OUTREACH

2026 Stewardship Stats

\$526,496	2026 Annual Budget
\$74,047	YTD Income, P&L report: Jan 1- Feb 17
\$13,844	Collected Feb 10 - Feb 17
\$9,921	Needed Weekly to meet 2026 budget

FAIRMONT receipts only.



\$156,000 #48



\$109,000 on #15

Ministry Assistants for February- 8:30AM Traditional Service

		Sunday, Feb. 1	Sunday, Feb. 8	Sunday, Feb. 15	Sunday, Feb. 22
Communion Preparer	Sharon Elliot Jennifer Moore	Joyce Eisenmenger Peggy Jones	Sharon Elliot Jennifer Moore	Peggy Jones Jennifer Moore	
Communion Server	Allen & Karen Struck	Peggy Jones Mary Kotewa	Marian Holland	Marian Holland Ben Jordan	
Lector	Scott Drever	DeeAnne Helfritz	Ben Jordan	Ben Jordan	
Sound Tech	Justin Schmidt	Justin Schmidt	Jolene Rosol	Mark Vogelsang	
Ushers	Curtis & Kirsten Bressler	Curtis & Kirsten Bressler	Curtis & Kirsten Bressler	Curtis & Kirsten Bressler	

If you are unable to serve on your day, please find a replacement and ask them to let the head usher, Brian Huebert, know when they arrive. If you can't find a replacement email Brian at bluebert_ford@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Ministry Assistants for February- 10:45AM Contemporary Service

		Sunday, Feb. 1	Sunday, Feb. 8	Sunday, Feb. 15	Sunday, Feb. 22
Communion Preparer	Brenda & Randy Lubenow	Elayne Baumgart Coleen Ehlert	Brenda & Randy Lubenow	Brian & Deb Roggow	
Communion Server	Brian & Deb Roggow	Becky Johnson Enos Breitbarth	Elayne Baumgart Abby Ehlert	Brian & Deb Roggow	
Lector	Deb Morris	Abby Ehlert	Joice Forster	Carolyn Bird	
Sound Tech	Pam Krill	Jolene Rosol	Amber Hansen	Blake Potthoff	
Slide Tech	Enos Breitbarth	Corey Klanderud	Amber Hansen	Corey Klanderud	
Ushers	Joel Teskey, Harry Brumbaugh, Mark Morris, Mark Paskey				

If you are unable to serve on your day, please find a replacement and ask them to let the head usher, Bruce Ehlert, know when they arrive. If you can't find a replacement email Bruce at bruce.ehlert53@gmail.com. Thank you!