

 **Grace Lutheran Church**
 300 S Grant St
 Fairmont, MN 56031
 Address Service Requested



Non Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Fairmont, Minnesota 56031
 PERMIT NO. 147

 **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.

November 2023 

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Sunday November 19th




MORE
 DETAILS ON
 PAGE 3!



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
- 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:

Thanksgiving Food Drive	All Saints Day	Missions Christmas Trees
 5	 3	 7

Gratitude



By definition attitude means a manner, disposition, feeling toward a person or thing. Have you ever thought about your general attitude or disposition? What controls your attitude? Have you ever thought about God's attitude or disposition toward you?

Well I have thought about God's attitude and disposition toward us. That attitude and disposition is one of unconditional love and grace. God is love and he expresses that love through his grace towards us.

What is God's grace? It is his unmerited favor towards us. Unmerited favor is the kindness, mercy, forgiveness and love from God that we don't deserve because we are sinners. God's grace is a gift to us. There is nothing we have done nor can we ever do to earn this favor. God is in that habit of giving us his grace freely. God has this wonderful habit of loving you no matter what you have done, like the love of a parent to a child.

How do we know that God is like this? Scripture tells us. We have a God who wants to be with us in our pilgrimage. He is not far away and unconcerned about us. He was there at the beginning of our lives when he knit us in our mother's womb. Think about the story of Adam and Eve, God walked in the garden with them. Even after Adam and Eve had sinned, God sought them out and clothed them. God came to Abraham and promised him a son and many descendants. Jesus showed God's grace by forgiving the woman caught in adultery, the soldiers who crucified him and the thief on the cross; and by forgiving our sins because Jesus was willing to die on a cross for us.

Jesus tells that he is with us until the end of the age and that nothing will snatch us out of his hand. He also said that if a person loves me, my Father and I will come and make our home with him. In our Baptism we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. We have this Triune loving God wanting to be with us and in us.


God created us in His image and calls us His children. He breathed life into us and sent us on the earth pilgrimage. God knew that his creation is good, but now sin, evil, devil and death are part of it. God calls on us to resist sin and evil and gives us ways out when we are tempted. God walks with us when we have challenges. He is willing to take our worries and concerns when we give them to him. God is able to do something with them. God wants us to have the fruits of the Holy Spirit that are love, joy, peace, faithfulness, generosity, and self-control.

Knowing all this about our God who loves and takes care of us, what should our attitude be? We should have an attitude of gratitude. We can be thankful for all the blessings he has given us. As we live out this gratitude towards God, let us touch others with the kind of love we have experienced from God.



Pastor Cheryl Indehar

November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Nicole Christenson Confirmation Party 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Confirmation Service 10:45am Contemporary Worship	30 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice 9:00pm Silverlake 4-H	31 9:00am Common Threads 1:00pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 2:30pm Weekly Prayer Meeting	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 7:00pm - 8:00pm Confirmation	2 9:00am - 10:00am Sarah's Circle 9:00am WOTC	3 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	4
5 Daylight-Saving Time Ends 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Contemporary Worship 3:30pm - 7:00pm Boys HS Soccer Awards Dinner	6 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Mary Circle 5:30pm Worship Team Meeting 6:00pm - 7:00pm 4-H 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	7 9:00am Common Threads 9:00am - 3:00pm Common Threads Sewing Bee - Community 10:00am Lakeview service 1:00pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 2:30pm Weekly Prayer Meeting	8 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 10:00am Goldfinch Assisted Living Service 4:45pm - 6:30pm Open Door Meal 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 7:00pm - 8:00pm Confirmation	9 4:00pm - 6:00pm Aktion Club Theatre	10 1:00pm Worship Service Aired 5:00pm - 8:00pm Cora Bridal Shower	11
12 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Contemporary Worship 10:45am Willow Dianne Evans Baptism	13 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice 6:30pm CYF Meeting 6:30pm Shalom Circle	14 9:00am Common Threads 10:00am - 11:00am Lakeview Senior Worship 1:00pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 2:30pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 5:30pm Service Team Meeting 6:30pm Committee Meetings: Stewardship, Fellowship, & Outreach 6:30pm Silverlake 4-H	15 Ways of Grace Submission Deadline 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 7:00pm - 8:00pm Confirmation	16	17 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	18
19 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Contemporary Worship 11:45am Church Council Meeting	20 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	21 9:00am Common Threads 1:00pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 2:30pm Weekly Prayer Meeting	22 5:15pm - 6:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 7:00pm - 8:00pm Confirmation	23 Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed 	24 Office Holiday 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	25
26 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am - 10:35am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Contemporary Worship	27 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:30pm Celebration Choir Practice	28 9:00am Common Threads 1:00pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 2:30pm Weekly Prayer Meeting	29 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 7:00pm - 8:00pm Confirmation	30	1 1:00pm Worship Service Aired	2

WORDS FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, November 5 - ALL SAINTS DAY

Micah declares God's condemnation of those who abhor justice. Jesus warns against hypocrisy. Paul urges the Thessalonians to lead a life worthy of God. Called to be humble servants, we gather for worship, seeking justice and welcoming all people to share the banquet of life.

First Reading: Revelations 7:9-17
 Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3
 Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Sunday, November 12 - TIME AFTER PENTECOST

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24
 Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Sunday, November 19 - DAY OF THANKSGIVING

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good.

In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

First Reading: Psalm 100
 Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-9
 Gospel: John 6:25-35

Sunday, November 26 - TIME AFTER PENTECOST

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
 Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23
 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays: 8:30AM Traditional
 10:45AM Contemporary

Tuesdays: 2:00PM Fairmont Cable TV Channel 12 (pre-recorded)

Wednesdays: 6:30PM WOW, Worship on Wednesday!

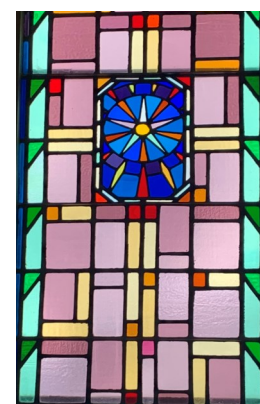
Fridays: 1:00PM Fairmont Cable TV Channel 12 (pre-recorded)



*Communion is offered each Sunday and Wednesday.

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

Goldfinch Senior Living Worship Service is the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10AM on Assisted Living side with Communion. Every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 10AM, at Lakeview Methodist home, with communion. Please come and worship with our friends and members of Grace!



Thanksgiving Worship: November 19th Come to worship and praise God at our annual worship services of thanks. We will be blessing the food that you have donated in our fill the altar food drive and dedicating our revitalized stained-glass windows. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to both feeding our neighbors and securing our windows for years to come. Both worship services will share this Thanksgiving theme with a special fellowship hour in the Gathering Space between the services where pumpkin bars and cider will be served. Invite your friends for a festive celebration of thanks to God!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On All Saints Sunday, November 5th, we will honor & remember all those saints from our congregation who have passed from this life to their eternal home. During this service, a candle will be lit in their honor and in remembrance of them. As their name is read, a bell will be rung and family and friends will be invited to stand.

Kim Anderson	Lauren Ettesvold	Ryan Lunn
Henry Bollum	Butch Hanson	Robert Nicoson
Marge Bolster	Fern Hoaglund	Dennis Rosberg
Mel Breitbarth	Marylin Holtey	Robert Swanson
Dan Cress	David Johnson	Arnold Swenson
Randall Cress	Rose Jordan	Louine Thorstenson
Joan Engquist	Denise Koob	Bruce Johnson
Laurel Engquist	LaDonna Levik	





Adult BLAST



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. We will have a different topic each month from the *Animate: Faith* series. This month we will discuss "Religion: Spirituality is not enough." Come and eat, enjoy study and fellowship from 5:30pm

-6:30pm while kids are in their BLAST classes, and then stay for worship from 6:30pm-7pm. We will meet the first Wednesday of the month in the Lounge. The pastors will rotate facilitating this class and we hope to see you there!

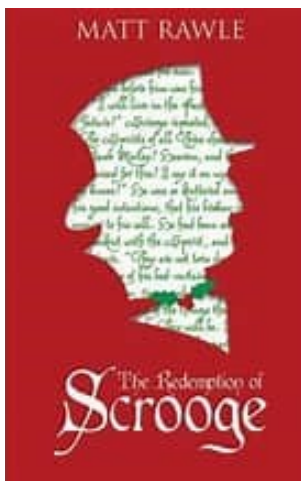
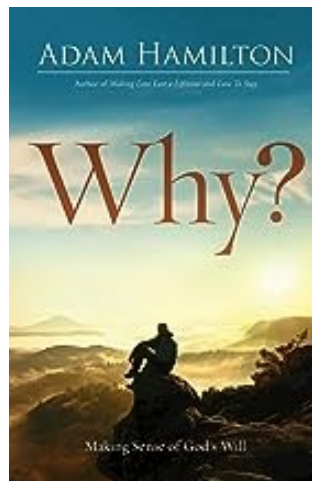
Men's Breakfast: Men of all ages are invited to a monthly breakfast at The Ranch restaurant on the first Monday of the month at 6:30AM. Come for a devotion, fellowship, and good breakfast food. *When: Monday November 6 at 6:30AM Where: The Ranch Restaurant Why: Because Jesus says that when a few are gathered in his name, he's there too!*



Chancel Choir: Please be sure to welcome Joyce Jorgenson as our new Chancel Choir Director! Joyce comes to Grace with amazing experience and a passion for church music. She also directs the choirs at St. John Vianney Catholic Church and First United Church of Christ. We are blessed to have her. The chancel choir always welcomes new voices from confirmation age on that love to read music and sing! We rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:30 and sing at the 8:30am traditional service. We hope to add more voices this year as we praise God in song!

This Month in 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. Our November series is "Why? Making Sense of God's Will" by Rev. Adam Hamilton. We will explore why the innocent suffer, why prayers seem to go unanswered, why it is hard to see God's will for our lives, and ultimately why God's love prevails. Then, on the last Sunday of the month, we will begin our Advent series by Rev. Matt



Rawle entitled "The Redemption of Scrooge." Through this beloved Charles Dickens classic, we will see the birth of Jesus through the lens of Ebenezer Scrooge, representing just one of God's beloved that Jesus loves and came to save. Come for light-hearted conversation as we prepare to welcome the Christ child this Advent season.



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-10th Grade: 7:00PM - 8:00PM



Congratulations to our 2023 Confirmands!
May God bless you and may you always remain strong in your faith!

Macklain Anderson
 Owen Blaufuss
 Kendra Blomster
 Alayna Buntjer
 Dayton Draper
 Nolyn Goerndt
 Caine Gronewold
 Cedric Johnson

Logan Junkermeier
 Logan Madsen
 Ainsley Malo
 Jase Meade
 Lilly Meyers
 Kailyn Miller
 JadyN Musser

Anthony Napier
 Bryanna Petschke
 Madi Peyman
 Merritt Pomerence
 Braden Prafke
 Isaac Stone
 Colton Wells

Confirmation Service Project: Glows Parade!

Mark your calendars for Friday, November 17th. All confirmation students and families are invited to walk with the Grace Float. We will hand out glow sticks, candy, and bags with Christmas Eve worship times to welcome our community to Grace. Please drop your student off in the Lakeview Funeral Home parking lot at 5:45PM and pick them up at 6:45 PM at Immanuel Lutheran Church parking lot after the parade. Hope you can join the fun!



Cherub/Alleluia Choir: Kris Tillotson, director of the Cherub and Alleluia Choirs, would like to invite all Grace Lutheran Church children to sing in the children's choirs at Grace! Cherub Choir (3 yrs. to 1st Grade) meets in the Chapel from 6:00- 6:25PM on Wednesday evenings, and the Alleluia Choir (2nd - 6th Grade) meets in the Chapel from 5:30- 6:00PM on Wednesday evenings. Both choirs will follow the Open Door schedule. When there is no Open Door or if school is called off on a Wednesday, there will be no Cherub and Alleluia Choirs. Come and join Miss Kris and our wonderful accompanist, Carol Madsen, to sing and Praise The Lord!!

BUSINESS OF GRACE

Memorials:

Bob Zemke Memorial

Rod & Diane Palmquist Stained Glass Windows
Mark & Ilene Reiter Stained Glass Windows

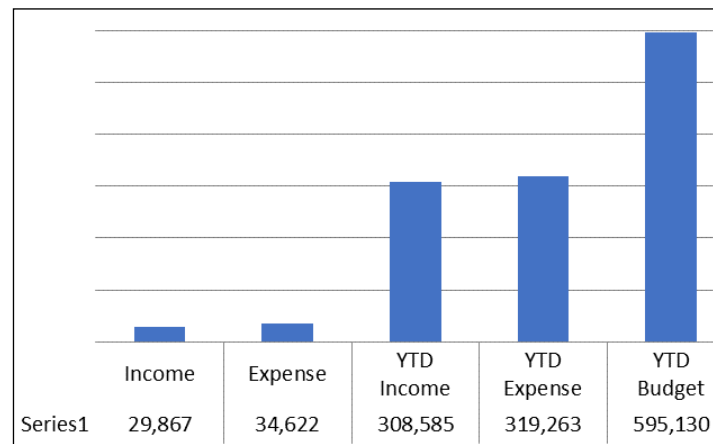
Randy Cress Memorial

Carol Myhre Stained Glass Windows

Dennis Rosberg Memorial

Judith Klenz People Helping People

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT FOR SEPTEMBER



Care Callers Team Needs You! Did you know 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.



Come Join the GLOWS PARADE! This year, confirmation students will be walking behind the Grace Lutheran Church float driven by Ken and Mary Kotawa. On Friday, November 17, we will be handing adults bags with candy canes and our Christmas Eve worship times to welcome the community to Grace. We will also be handing out glow sticks and candy to the kids. Come join us and share the love of Grace with our neighbors! More details will be forthcoming on where to meet and be picked up. A great way to start the holiday season!

Christmas Star Tree: Each year Grace has a Star Tree where our members can take a star to purchase gifts for those less fortunate in our community. Each Star lists the gender, age, and gift request and whether your package should be wrapped or unwrapped. The Star Tree will be ready on Sunday, November 12 and gifts should be returned on or before December 10. Please be sure to sign out your Star with your name and phone number. If you know of someone that you would like added to our giving list or if you have any questions or if you would like to pick a star but shopping is inconvenient for you, please contact Cindy Wohlhuter 507-236-4403. Thank you!



Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, November 26 @ NOON: You are invited to deck the halls of the church as we prepare for Advent. On Sunday, November 26, the Sunday after Thanksgiving, we will meet in the church Gathering Space to decorate. Many hands are needed to get the trees up in the sanctuary and Gathering Space, the manger by the altar, change the flags and paraments to blue, and put out the Advent wreath. With your help, we hope to have this accomplished in an hour or two. Come for as long as you are able as we prepare God's house in anticipation of Jesus coming at Christmas.

Fill the Altar Food Drive! It is that time of year when we thank God for the bounty of the harvest and give to those who are hungry. This month, please bring non-perishable essentials to church and place them at the base of the altar for the Grace Food Pantry. We will tithe 10% of donations to Heaven's Table. Most needed items include: microwave meals, canned pasta, canned or pouch meat, protein bars, cereal, toilet paper, canned soup and chili, small sized laundry detergent and dish soap, hand wipes, deodorant, pads and tampons, small hand sanitizer. Thank you for your generosity and care of our neighbors!



**Grace Lutheran Church
Council Minutes
will be featured in the
December issue of Ways
of Grace.**

**Thank you for your
patience and have a safe
and happy Thanksgiving!**

**November
Open Door Meal Menu**

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

Nov 1: Scalloped Potatoes & Ham
Nov 8: Hotdish
Nov 15: Soup / Chili
Nov 22: Thanksgiving - NO MEAL
Nov 29: Tacos



The Sock Tree Returns: *How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news, proclaim peace, who bring good tidings!* (Isaiah 52:7) You are invited to bring new socks for all ages to keep the feet of God's beloved warm and toasty. Good quality new socks are needed which will be given locally to our schools for children needing socks, Options Pregnancy Center for women and children, the Salvation Army, and Grace Care Bags for our guests this winter. Decorate the bare trees in the Gathering Space with your socks as Grace Lutheran prepares for Christ's coming at Christmas.



Let Us Walk to the Manger Together! The season of Advent will soon be upon us, and there is a place for you here at Grace! Each Wednesday in Advent, we will be offering Holden Evening Prayer at Noon and 6:30PM. Come for supper from 4:45-6:30pm and then enjoy a time of peaceful worship in the sanctuary. **Confirmation students are asked to invite their mentor to join them for worship with a half an hour time of discussion to follow.** This replaces our regular weekly class. Parents are asked to drop off and pick up their students at the parking lot entrance. The Staff at Grace wish you and yours a blessed Advent season.

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.

Fellowship and Outreach Team Helpers Needed: Do you love to plan social events and meet the needs of guests at Grace? Then please consider joining this team which meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month. We oversee the Grace pantry, fellowship hour, and special events. Let's have fun and gather the church together.



WANTED: Church Directory Team: It is time to get a new church directory for Grace! Please consider being a part of this team to oversee, schedule, and work with the directory company. For more information, please call the office. Thank You!



Christmas Poinsettia Order Form:

I would like to buy a Poinsettia:



IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

FROM:

___ 4" Red \$6.00 ___ 6" Red \$12.00 ___ 8" Red \$25.00

One the line beside each size, please write in the amount you would like to purchase. Please drop off this order form and payment in church office. Deadline for orders is November 13th.

Grace Mission Team Christmas Tree Sales

We are looking for volunteers to help with setting up of the lot and for unloading the trees. About 6-8 people are needed for each date. If you are able to assist, please contact Paul Seibert, Larry Traetow, or Louise Hendricks.



Lot Set-up: November 11 from 9 am – noon

Tree Unloading/Unwrapping/Tagging: November 18 from 10 am – 2 pm

Tree sales will start the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. As sales were very busy early last year, we will increase volunteer staffing each shift to have at least three per shift the first week. If we are as busy as last year, we likely will only be open a week or two. A Sign-Up Genius link will be sent out by the first of November for volunteers to sign up to work at the tree lot. This is our largest fundraiser, and we appreciate all the help from the volunteers.

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

(Project estimates are subject to change)

Wi-Fi Upgrade in offices and classrooms	\$1,800
Bathroom light switches with auto turnoff/shut off:	\$1,050
Miscellaneous areas paint and supplies	\$600



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