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August 4, 2024

Grace Lutheran Ministry Minutes



Congregational Meeting TODAY!

Thanks to our wonderful call committee and their hard work, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we have a candidate for our Associate Pastor of Youth and Outreach. A congregational meeting will be held today, Sunday, August 4. This meeting will be in the sanctuary directly following worship to vote on this candidate. Please plan to attend if you are able, to learn about this pastor, and vote for their call to come to Grace. Your prayers are appreciated during this time of transition for Grace and our potential new pastor.

Men's Breakfast Tomorrow!

Next Men's Breakfast is tomorrow, Monday, August 5. Join the guys at Grace for a devotion and breakfast at the Ranch, 7:00AM, and invite your friends. Come for a time of fellowship and discussion.



**Readings for Sunday, August 4: First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15,
Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16, Gospel Reading: John 6:24-35**



Congratulations Chris and Carol Nasby!
The flowers on the altar are in celebration of their
60th wedding anniversary.



American Red Cross Blood Drive at Grace!

Fairmont High School will be hosting a Blood Drive through the American Red Cross this Wednesday, August 7th from 9AM - 2PM in the Fellowship Hall. We hope to see you there!

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Save the dates

August 20th - BLAST Teacher Orientation

September 11th - Back to Fall Night Orientation
for BLAST & Confirmation Families

September 18th - BLAST & Confirmation begin

September 29th - Blessing of the Backpacks
2nd Grade Bible Presentation

October 27th - Reformation Confirmation Sunday

Watch for more detailed information to come!

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Help Wanted:

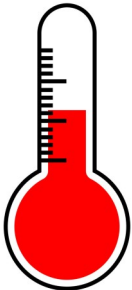
Grace Lutheran Church Open Door Meal Coordinator. For more information, please visit the Grace website or stop by the office. This is a paid position which runs August through May. Please share this with anyone gifted in food and hospitality who would like part time work.



Stewardship \$5 Challenge

(\$5,006 Collected as of July 29)

We are in the last month of our challenge and halfway to our goal! We are challenging the families of Grace to add \$5 per week to their offering. Special envelopes for this challenge are available in the gathering space. 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 donations! Please continue your prayers and thoughtful consideration of how you can impact Grace Lutheran church and fulfil this Offering Challenge!





God's Work. Our Hands!

Mark your calendars for a morning of worship, service, and fellowship on Sunday September 8. We will be worshipping at 9:30AM with our bishop, Bishop Regina Hassanally of our Southeastern Minnesota Synod, preaching in worship and joining us for this day of service and fellowship. 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 noon. 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! 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.

- 1 light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color
- 2-3 bath-size bars of soap 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- 1 adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- 1 sturdy wide-tooth comb
- 1 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.



OUTREACH

| 2024 Stewardship Stats | |
|------------------------|---|
| \$507,915 | 2024 Annual Budget |
| \$248,741 | Year to Date Income, P&L report: Jan 1- July 29 |
| \$6,279 | Collected July 23 - July 29 |
| \$11,268 | Needed Weekly to meet 2024 budget |
| \$5,006 | \$5 Challenge: As of July 29 |

Please only FAIRMONT receipts



\$72,500 #45



\$144,000 on #13

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

The Week of August 4, 2024

Sunday, August 4th

9:30AM Summer Worship Service - Baptism
10:30AM Congregational Meeting

6:30PM Praise in the Park - Sylvania Park
Baptism

Monday, August 5th

9-10AM Staff Meeting
1:00PM Mary's Circle
5:30PM CYF Team Meeting
5:30PM Worship Team Meeting

Thursday, August 8th

4:00PM Aktion Theatre
6:30PM Boy Scouts

Friday, August 9th

1:00PM Worship Service Aired

Saturday, August 10th

Tuesday, August 6th

9:00AM Sewing Circle
9:00AM Common Threads Sewing
1:00PM Weekly Prayer Meeting
1:30PM Women's Bible Study
2:00PM Worship Service Aired
5:30PM Outreach/Fellowship Team Meeting

Sunday, August 11th

9:30AM Summer Worship Service - Baptism
11:00AM Worship by the Water - Ward Park

Wednesday, August 7th

9AM-2PM American Red Cross Blood Drive
Hosted by Fairmont High School

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday:
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



PRAYERS

Members and Loved Ones: Linda Vlieger, Jeanette Nelson, Harley Jordan (*Ben Jordan's brother*), Weston (*Lisa Fritz's great nephew*), Dawn Potthoff (*Deb DeBoer's sister*), Gladys Peterson, Carol Myhre, Carolyn Kryzer, Pat Witty, Steph Johnson, Parker Lintelman, Karen Meier, LeRoy and Bernice Sandberg, Kay Wrucke. Brian Rosenfeldt (*Patty Jones' Nephew*), Ben Hamilton, Susie, Marlene and Jim Kuperus. Evon Lyle, Mike Swanson, Eli, Phyllis Niehaus, Kathleen Ferguson, Ernie Nuss, Mary Ann Kehrberg, Jean Nimz, John Bisbee family, Darlene Parks, Megan Ask, Nathan Marks.

Sympathy for the family and friends of: Delores Holz, Dan Rolling

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 hiring a new Associate Pastor of Youth and Outreach and the Call Committee in their tireless work, 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.