

The Scroll



I want to start out with a message of thanks to all who participated in our Holy Communion distribution. Our volunteers did a wonderful job of keeping the process moving along and our members blessed the volunteers with smiles and expressions of gratitude. I hope everyone who was able to

follow along with Pastor Mike found participating in the sacrament to be as meaningful as I did. We will do this exercise again.

Next, I would like to again address holding worship in our sanctuary. Even though the Council hasn't met to officially discuss this, I have visited with many of the members in anticipation of some sort of in-person worship being allowed. I am confident in saying that the overwhelming sentiment is that just because some sort of in-person worship may be allowed, it doesn't mean it is the right thing for our church. We are fortunate to be able to deliver worship several different ways and have now figured out how to share Holy Communion from a distance. Our current situation will have to suffice for a while longer. Other churches with a different set of circumstances may make a different decision. I speak only about Grace Lutheran Church in Erskine. Keep in mind that when we do ultimately decide to gather as a group, we are asking a pastor and other worship aides to participate. It is not simply a matter of personal choice. Know and trust that I will work with the Council to find the right time for our church to again gather together for worship. I can't wait for the day that I can welcome everyone back to our sanctuary.

Finally, I will address the issue that I am sure is on the minds of many of our readers. That issue is, of course, the visit by Pastor Randy Conley. To make sure all members are aware of what the visit consisted of, here is a quick run-down. Pastor Randy and his wife Robbie met with church staff on Friday and had a face-to-face meeting with the Call Committee on Friday evening. Pastor and Robbie toured the parsonage and church on Saturday morning and had the first of two meetings with Council members at noon. We had to split up the Council to keep group size at an appropriate level. The second meeting with Council was over dinner on Saturday and the visit culminated with Pastor Randy delivering the message on Sunday morning. I think the visit went very well. I want to thank Mary and the rest of the Call Committee for their efforts over the weekend.

Where are we now? Well, the Call Committee and Pastor Randy are both in the midst of a period of reflection. If both parties are moved by the Holy Spirit to continue the process, the Call Committee will make a formal recommendation to the Council.

Continued on Page 7

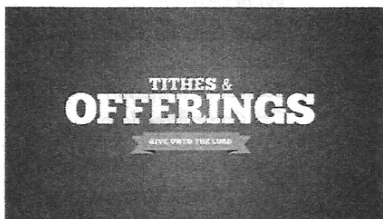
Inside this issue:

NALCW Meeting	2
'Men of Courage'	2
Attendance & Offerings	2
Home Visits	2
Council meeting	2
Financial News	3
Acolytes & Video Techs	4
In Our Prayers	4
'Women of Grace'	4
WORSHIP ONLINE	4
Grace Council Meetings	5
Grace Council, continued	6
Council Information	7
Call Committee Info	7
Council News, continued	7
News about Rangga	8
The 13 Folds of Old Glory	9
A Bit of Humor	10
June Calendar	11

**GOD
DOESN'T
DEMAND
YOUR
WORSHIP.
HE DESIRES
YOUR LOVE.**



The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday June 10th at 8:00 PM. All meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise stated.



- May 3rd:**
Attendance~ 7
Offering~ \$1,385.00
- May 10th:**
Attendance~ 7
Offering~\$ 1,825.00
- May 17th:**
Attendance~ 7
Offering~ \$1,900.00
- May 24th:**
Attendance~ 10
Offering~\$ 1,215.00

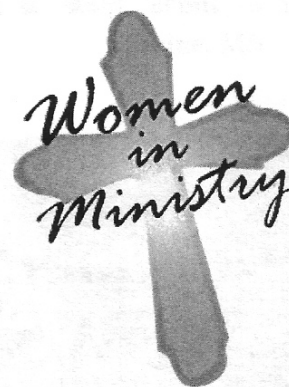
"I was sick and you visited me . . ."

—Matthew 25:36 NKJV

As deacons we made it known at the last council meeting that we are committed to making pastoral visits to the sick and dying. If someone were to call with a prayer request you may ask them if they wish a visit and give them our information.

We thought the congregation should be aware of this commitment with it being addressed in a bulletin from time to time and same with the scroll.

- *Mary Bratrud~~ 218-521-0793 (daytime)
218-687-2150 (nighttime)
- *Gary Walter~~ 218-687-3074
- *Gene Haugom~~218-563-3292



**NALCW Meeting:
June 11th, 2:00 PM.**

Hope Circle: June 25th,
2:00 PM at the church

Rebecca Circle: June 25th,
6:30 PM at the church

Mission Circle: June 26th,
2:00 PM at the church



The Grace 'Men of Courage' will meet on June 2nd and 16th at 5:30 PM, at Grace Church. All men are welcomed to join this group.





Giving Options

Not only can you give through your offering envelope on Sunday morning, but our church offers other options to receive your offering:

Automatic Giving – You can set up monthly or weekly automatic deductions from your bank account. Contact the church office (218-687-4035) for a form to complete.

Online Giving – There are several links throughout our website (www.gracechurcherskine.org) that will allow you to give a one-time or regular donation from your bank account, credit card, or debit card.

Mobile Giving – You can utilize your mobile device and scan the following code –



Benevolence Ideas

Our church has several special funds to meet needs that can't be met through our General Fund. Currently, these special funds are: Building Improvements, Grace Youth Group, Joy Ride Fund, Oil Candle, Sunday School Improvements/Supplies, Sunday School Outreach, Video Ministry, Vacation Bible School, Worship Hearing Aids, 'Men of Courage' Men's Group, and Shoebox Funds. In addition, our church houses the Grace Food Shelf and we ask for donations on their behalf as well as for the After School Backpack Program. Finally, our church is a part of the Grace Cemetery Association and we ask for donations on their behalf for the maintenance of the Synod, Pioneer, and Fairview Cemeteries in rural Erskine. Please contact Jim Ferden if you have any questions.

April 2020 Financial Summary

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$11,444.00

Expenses:

Administrative - \$5,885.61

Education - \$120.00

Mission Outreach - \$950.00

Pastoral - \$1,365.40

Worship - \$347.54

Total Expenses - \$8,668.55

*Happy
Father's
Day*



JUNE ACOLYTES

7th: Clare Stuhaug and Kyra Stuhaug

14th: Dylan Hagen and Emily Strom

21st: Calvin Hill and Josie Fortman

28th: Claire Juve and Paige Breitbach

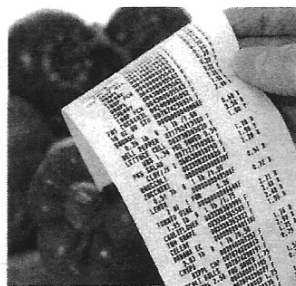
JUNE VIDEO TECHS

7th: Izabelle Ostenaar

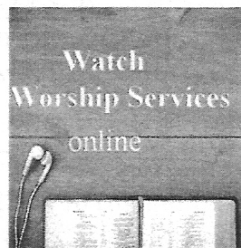
14th: Hunter Westcott

21st: Presley Haugen

28th: Josie Johnson



REMINDER – Please save your grocery receipts from Groceries Plus in Erskine and Jered’s Grocery in McIntosh. Both stores are donating 1 percent of the total purchases to the youth group. There is a container for the receipts at the church in the hallway by the coat racks.



* Type gracechurcherskine.org into your computer browser. You will see the YouTube recording front and center on the page. Click the Play button in the center of the picture to view the video. You will also find a link to our church Facebook page on the right side of the screen.

* Garden Valley Channel 30 will broadcast replays of our service on Mondays at 10:00 am, Wednesdays at 7:00 pm and on Saturdays at 9:00 am.



- * The family of Terry Lucken
- * Don Lundin
- * Don Barrow
- * Hazel Bernard
- * Rosie Kolstad
- * Darrel Johnson
- * Michael Jensen
- * Elaine Austin
- * Grace Call Committee



The 'Women of Grace' young women's Bible Study will not meet during the summer months. They'll be back in the Fall ready to dig into the Word.

**GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING**

**April 8, 2020
8:00 P.M.**

*'Serving all people by sharing
God's Word and Gift of Grace'*

**No meeting or reports due to
the Covid 19 Virus**

**GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING**

**May 13, 2020
8:00 P.M.**

*'Serving all people by sharing
God's Word and Gift of Grace'*

**No meeting due to the Covid 19
Virus. All the minutes infor-
mation shared via e-mail re-
porting.**

Treasurer's Report:

Cash Flow Report

- Undesignated funds available to be used for April's General Fund expenses totaled \$12,107.63. This amount exceeded the month's General Fund expenses totaling \$8,668.55.
- Congregational giving to the General Fund was \$11,444. The monthly budget goal is \$17,957.40.
- Noteworthy Other Giving –
 - o Miscellaneous: Majority was a donation of \$250 to be passed

through to the Grace Food Shelf.

- o Thrivent Choice Program: Donations totaled \$654 all of which went to the General Fund.

Some of the noteworthy expenses this month included:

Administration – Custodian: Hours are less during this time, so he only submits his hours once during the month.

Copier Maintenance: No expense this month (not sure why).

Insurance: No expense due to timing of when premium was paid.

Various property taxes: First half on church, parsonage, and parking lots was paid.

Education –

Miscellaneous: End of year gifts for SS & RT teachers.

Mission Outreach –

Miscellaneous: Pass through donation of \$250 to Grace Food Shelf.

Pastoral – None

Worship – Organist Salary: Payroll taxes are from last month.

Organist waived his monthly salary until we are back having regular worship.

Budget Report

- We ended the month at approximately 16% or \$34,400 under budget.

All of the major budgeted expense categories ended under budget for the month.

History of Regular Giving to the General Fund Report

- April's giving was down slightly from last month and the lowest to date in 2020.
- This was the lowest giving for an April in 10 years.
- This was the lowest giving year to date since 2011.

History of the General Fund Balance

- Highest balance ever!!
- Balance continues to increase due to decreased monthly expenses.

Account Balances Report

- Building Fund - Reflects the month's donations as well as the monthly expense for the separate elevator phone line. In addition, it reflects the annual elevator maintenance contract (\$1,160.40).
- HS Scholarship Fund – Reflects a donation.
- Oil Fund – Bldg Upkeep reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas revenue.
- Oil Fund – Church Emergencies reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas revenue.
- Oil Fund - Missions reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas revenue.

SS Offering Outreach Fund - Reflects the monthly donation of \$38 to Compassion International.

Brovold Investment Valuation Report

- The ending balance had a nice increase over last month.

Continued on Page 6

GRACE COUNCIL, continued

The balance is now back above the original balance.

Gunderson Investment Valuation Report

The ending balance had a nice increase over last month.

The balance is now back ab

Deacons:

Prayer Video spearheaded by Mary and produced by Bobbi has been completed and can be viewed on the Grace Church website. Thank you to all who participated.

Call Committee:

Mary Bratrud is inviting the Council to a scheduled Zoom meeting regarding the pastoral candidate on May 17 for those interested.

Mary provided the Council with a proposed agenda for the proposed pastor visit from Friday May 22-Sunday May 24.

Old Business:**New Business:**

The Communion elements are in! Pastor Mike will prepare them on Sunday and we will distribute next week and share in the sacrament next Sunday, the 24th. We are planning a drive-by distribution on Thursday the 21st from 6:30-8:00. We will perform no-contact deliveries to shut-ins upon request

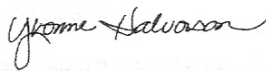
Our proposed pastor will give the sermon on Sunday 24 via the live link from our website. Website: <http://gracechurcherskine.org>

Received a resignation from Dale Branstner as Grace Choir Director. We regretfully accept it. Dale has served our congregation for the past 30 years and we are so grateful to him. His leadership and testimony through music is second to none. Thank you Dale. We will formally do a congregational thank you once Covid 19 issues are gone.

Announcements:

Next meeting is June 10 at 8:00 p.m. pending Covid 19 virus reports

Respectfully submitted,



Yvonne Halvorson, Council Secretary

**GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING**

May 14, 2020

*'Serving all people by sharing
God's Word and Gift of Grace'*

**Executive Committee Meeting
held via e-mail.**

**Present: President Jason,
Nick, Yvonne**

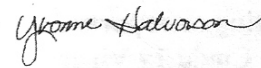
Call Committee Request:

We (as the Call Committee) would like to have a potential candidate pastor visit us over Memorial Day weekend (May 23-25). Not too sure of all the details currently as this is preliminary. We are asking for for-

Council approval so we can proceed with this visit.

Motion to approve the visitation of a potential pastoral candidate the weekend of May 23-25 made by Yvonne. Seconded by Jason, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Yvonne Halvorson, Council Secretary

**GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING**

May 17, 2020

*'Serving all people by sharing
God's Word and Gift of Grace'*

**Executive Committee Meeting
held via e-mail.**

**Present: President Jason,
Nick, Yvonne**

Call Committee Request:

We (as the Call Committee) would like to have a potential candidate pastor visit us over Memorial Day weekend (May 23-25). We are asking formal approval of the budget of approximately \$2000 to fund the candidate's trip to Grace.

Motion to approve the visitation budget made by Yvonne. Seconded by Jason, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Halvorson, Council Secretary

GRACE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jason Carlson	President	563-2490
Nick Walk	Vice President	637-2219
Yvonne Halvorson	Secretary	687-5190
Dorothy Sandberg	Financial Secretary	687-3575
Jim Ferden	Treasurer	563-2377
Gene Haugom	Deacon	563-3292
Gary Walter	Deacon	687-3074
Mary Bratrud	Deacon	687-2150
Wade Farrell	Trustee	563-2216
Ryan Breitbach	Trustee	687-2215
Dean Bernard	Trustee	687-2105
Ann Johnson	Superintendent / Education	687-2205
Sarah Strom	Education	687-3488
Shelly Juve	Education	687-2929
Cassie Senn	Education	687-3313
Hollie Stewart	Pres. NALCW	687-3730
Lori Hole	Stewardship	687-3585
Tyler Brekken	Stewardship	687-2205
Bobbi DuChamp	Stewardship	687-3000

GRACE CALL COMMITTEE

Mary Bratrud	687-2150	Chairperson
Austin Tadman	280-8266	Vice-Chairman
Nick Walk	637-2219	Sec'y / Council Rep
Gary Walter	687-3074	
Brady Lee	289-5587	
Mavis Haugom	563-3292	
Shirley Kraft	687-4477	
Rhonda Breitbach	687-2215	

COUNCIL NEWS, continued

Assuming the Council votes to follow the recommendation of the Call Committee, you will then be notified of a vote to be taken by the congregation. I think we have a plan to vote in a safe manner that is not in conflict with our Church Constitution. If you have questions about the visit or would like to comment about Pastor Randy's message, please contact a member of the Call Committee or Church Council.

~Jason Carlson, President

HE HAS PUT
His angels
IN CHARGE OF YOU
THEY WILL
WATCH
OVER YOU
wherever you go!

Psalm 91:11

Dear Friends,

This season of isolation has felt so long for so many. But I truly believe that one of the ways to strengthen our spirits is to look outside of ourselves. To spend some time praying for our neighbors, our leaders, and the children we serve around the world.

Below, you will find the latest update from Indonesia. I hope this update helps you as you pray for your sponsored child and as you lift up prayers for wisdom and guidance for the national leaders.

Indonesia

Compassion child development centers are closed until at least May 29. Workers are staying in contact with beneficiaries online and distributing emergency supplies, including soap, clean water, vitamins and groceries. Staff has created online lessons for children. Compassion health specialists are providing videos and flyers on disease prevention and hygiene.

Please continue to pray for those who are impacted directly by this pandemic. **Medical professionals predict the worst may be yet to come for the developing world, which is far more underprepared for testing and caring for COVID-19 patients than we have been in more developed nations.** This means tracking the full impact on our ministry, the children and their families will be increasingly difficult in the weeks and months to come. Our staff around the world have reported suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19 among beneficiaries, family members, staff and frontline church members. We are doing our best to keep you informed of the effect this crisis is having on our ministry but always while respecting the privacy of those who serve alongside us. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Thank you for your continued love and support of Rangga during this time. It is truly a gift of hope and stability for him.

In Him,

Rich Van Eaton
Sponsor and Donor Relations Director
Compassion International

**Prayer
is a strong wall
and fortress
of the church,
it is a goodly
Christian
weapon.**

- Martin Luther

The Meaning Behind the 13 Folds of Old Glory

Most Americans have seen the traditional folding of the American flag, at specific events, such as funerals. Have you ever wondered why Old Glory is folded that specific way? Much more than just pomp and circumstance, each of the 13 folds holds special meaning.

The Flag Itself

The portion of the flag denoting honor is the canton of blue containing the stars representing states our veterans served in uniform. The field of blue dresses from left to right and is inverted only when draped as a funeral cloth over the casket of a veteran who has served our country honorably in uniform. In the U.S. Armed Forces, at the ceremony of retreat, the flag is lowered, folded in a triangle and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to our nation's honored dead. The next morning it is brought out and, at a ceremony of reveille, flown high as a symbol of belief in the resurrection of the body.

Meaning Behind the 13 Folds

The flag-folding ceremony represents the same religious principles on which our great country was originally founded.

- The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.
- The second fold is a symbol

of our belief in eternal life.

The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks, and who gave a portion of his or her life for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

- The fourth fold represents our weaker nature; as American citizens trusting in God, it is Him we turn to in times of peace, as well as in times of war, for His divine guidance.
- The fifth fold is a tribute to our country. In the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but it is still our country, right or wrong."
- The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
- The seventh fold is a tribute to our armed forces, for it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.
- The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor our mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.
- The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood. It has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that has molded the character of the men and women who

who have made this country great.

- The 10th fold is a tribute to father, who has also given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first born.
- The 11th fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- The 12th fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies God the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost.
- The 13th and last fold, when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God We Trust."

After the folding ceremony

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it has the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under Gen. George Washington and the sailors and Marines who served under Capt. John Paul Jones and were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the U.S. Armed Forces, preserving for us the rights, privileges and freedoms we enjoy today.



Spiritual Growth

Thank You for Calling 'The Bible Study Hotline'



Sheila Westrick

If you are the only one who has read the assignment for the fifth meeting in a row; please press 1 for a no-judgement venting session.

If it's Ruth's turn to choose the study & she wants to read Revelation again to "look for more symbolism;" please press 2 for an alternative study.

If you were supposed to bring a tray of cookies shaped like tiny Bibles but they currently look like two large stone tablets of commandments; please press 3 for Pinterest fails.

For instructions on how to carve Noah's Ark out of a wheel of cheese; please press 4.

To find a Bible study group with less complicated snack standards; please press 5.

If you always read the assignment but life got crazy, so you just read the footnotes, explanatory translation notes & cheater helps at the back of the book (just this one time you swear); please press 6.

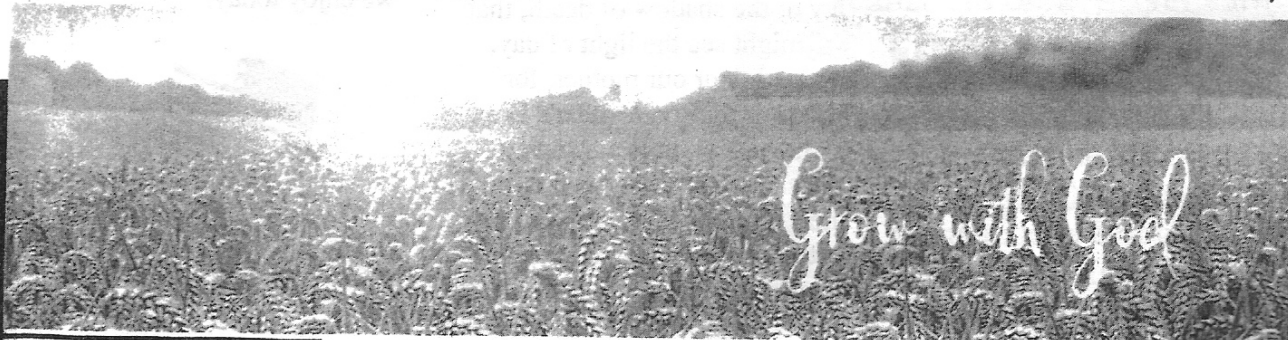
For tips on how to pull the conversation away from Sheila's latest life drama to the current study; please press 7.

If everyone hated the Bible study you chose; please press 8.

If you need a Bible study that has enough "symbolism" to keep Ruth happy but that's not too energetic or controversial as to drag Sheila down a rabbit hole, & also leaves plenty of time for prayer circle; please press 9.

If you couldn't hear all the options because you are calling from church & Sunday school just let out; please press 0 to repeat the menu.

Adapted from Julie Vick's "Thank You for Calling the Book Club Helpline"
Real Simple Magazine – June 2019, pg. 144.



JUNE 2020

Grace Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:30am-MBS 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	2 5:30pm-'Men of Courage' 8pm-AA mtg.	3 7pm-Rebroadcast	4	5	6 9:00am- Rebroadcast
7 10:30am- Worship w/Holy Comm.	8 7:30am-MBS 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	9 8pm-AA mtg.	10 7pm-Rebroadcast 7:30pm Committees 8pm-Council mtg.	11 2pm-NALCW	12	13 9:00am- Rebroadcast
14 10:30am- Worship w/Holy Communion	15 7:30am-MBS 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	16 5:30pm-'Men of Courage' 8pm-AA mtg.	17 7pm-Rebroadcast	18	19	20 9:00am- Rebroadcast
21 10:30am- Worship	22 7:30am-MBS 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	23 8pm-AA mtg.	24 7pm-Rebroadcast	25 2pm-Hope Circle 6:30pm-Rebecca Circle	26 2pm-Mission Circle	27 9:00am- Rebroadcast
28 10:30am- Worship	29 7:30am-MBS 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	30 8pm-AA mtg.				
			Greeters: 7th: Shari Parent 14th: Marc & Kristi Plante	21st: Allan Salveson 28th: Dave & Bonnie Salveson		

CIRCLES

Hope at the church
Rebecca at the church
Mission at the church

Ushers :
 Gary & Maxine Walter
 Scott Hornbuckle family
 Jason Carlson family
 Scott Bixby

Communion Assistants:
 Paul & Kim Mahlen

Altar Flowers:
 Mission Circle

Altar Guild:
 Lori Hole

R= Reader
V=Video
A=Acolyte
JUNE 7th:
R~~

V~~ Izabelle Ostenaar
A~~ Clare Stuhau and Kyra Stuhau
JUNE 14th:

R~~
V~~ Hunter Westcott
A~~ Dylan Hagen and Emily Strom
JUNE 21st:

R~~
V~~ Presley Haugen
A~~ Calvin Hill and Josie Fortman
JUNE 28th:
R~~
V~~ Josie Johnson
A~~ Claire Juve and Paige Breitbart