

The Scroll

November 2020



After much, thought, prayer, discussion, and study, we are ready to add worship in the sanctuary as an option to go with GVTV, Facebook, and YouTube. Please carefully read and prepare to follow the guidelines printed below if you choose to use the in-person option for worship. We do not have a

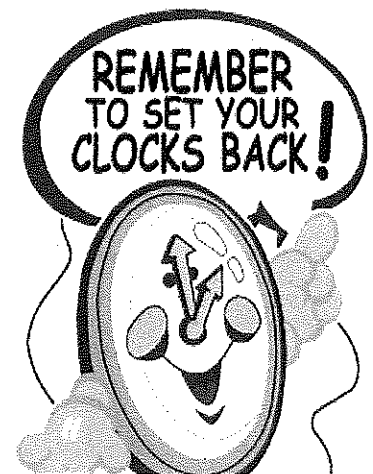
firm date for when worship in the sanctuary will begin. The date is dependent on three items: One, that we do not have a large active outbreak in our community. Two, our heating project is complete. Three, we have volunteers to help with cleaning high touch areas between services and with helping direct folks during worship. I mentioned last month that getting a list of volunteers would be necessary before the sanctuary opened. Kim received no calls or messages prior to the last council meeting. We can't just print a list of ushers and expect that to work out. If you are interested in worshipping in the sanctuary and are able to help, please contact the office. Lastly, I want to remind everyone that this option is being added as an option for those who really want or need it. It is one of several options we have in place for members of our congregation (and others) to hear God's Word and teachings on it. The addition of being able to access the sanctuary on Sundays should not be seen as a call to worship in and of itself. This is one option of several we have to answer the call to worship. No one should feel bad for choosing any of our worship options. I so look forward to the day when we can invite everyone back to worship together and engage in fellowship directly with one another. That day is not yet here.

1. If you are sick in any way, please stay home.
2. Entry to the sanctuary should be through the main door in the southwest corner of the church. If you need to use the elevator, you may enter through the narthex.
3. Facemasks that cover the nose and mouth are required in the church building at all times. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided for you.
4. Hand sanitizer should be used when you enter the church.
5. Upon entering the sanctuary, you must sign in with name and phone number. (This is for contact tracing if necessary)
6. A collection plate will be placed in the back of the church for offering.
7. After signing in, please find a seat in designated areas, maintaining social distancing as you do so. Households may sit in the same designated area together. The balcony will be closed. (Seating is arranged to not exceed 50% capacity and the balcony is closed to cut down on the amount of cleaning needed between services)

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The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday November 11th at 8:00 PM. All meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise stated.



- September 27th:**
Attendance~ 7
Offering~ \$2,120.00
- October 4th:**
Attendance~ 7
Offering~\$1,500.00
- October 11th:**
Attendance~ 7
Offering~ \$5,870.00
- October 18th:**
Attendance~ 7
Offering~\$433.00
- October 25th:**
Attendance~ 7
Offering~ \$2,610.00

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

—Matthew 25:36 NKJV

As deacons 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.

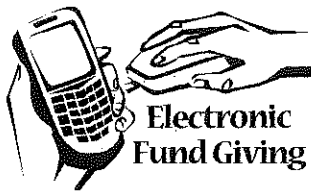
- *Mary Bratrud~~ 218-521-0793 (daytime)
218-687-2150 (nighttime)
- *Gary Walter~~ 218-687-3074
- *Gene Haugom~~218-563-3292



**NALCW Meeting:
November 12th,
2:00 PM.**

- Hope Circle:** November 19th 2:00 PM at the church
- Rebecca Circle:** November 19th, 6:30 PM at the church
- Mission Circle:** will not meet in November

Good Luck Deer Hunters!



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.

September 2020 Financial Summary

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$10,317.96

Expenses:

Administrative - \$6,325.02

Education - \$164.45

Mission Outreach - \$1,123.00

Pastoral - \$1,365.40

Worship - \$283.99

Total Expenses - \$9,261.86





Whether new to the Bible or a seasoned reader, Bible Study Fellowship explores Scripture together verse by verse, as God's Truth, to be studied, savored and lived out. We believe God's Word speaks across cultures, denominations, and generations to every one of our 400,000+ members around the world. Join us right here at Grace Church for an Afternoon Women's BSF class every Tuesday at 3:00 pm. Go to bsfinternational.org to register for our Genesis study or call Mary Bratrud @ 218-521-0793 for more information.



The call committee has interviewed and recommended to council a visit from a potential Pastor.

We have been in prayer and conversation with Pastor Tsena Dinssa and are excited to introduce him to our congregation. He will be visiting with us November 13-23. More details regarding visit will follow in a letter. Rejoice and continue to pray that we may indeed be meeting our long awaited Pastor.

The Call Committee



*Now thank we all our God,
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms,
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is our today.*

*O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near me,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.*

*All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.*

*Give Thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.
Psalm 107:1*





*Annual Deer Hunters
Meatball Supper
Sponsored by Grace
Lutheran Church*

Saturday, November 7, 2020

Serving from 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Curbside "To Go" from West Alley at

Erskine Community Center

Cost: Free Will Contribution

Everyone Welcome!

Prayer for our Brave Men and Women

Almighty God,

You are our Creator and Sustainer.
You are our Light and our Fortress.
You are our Wisdom and our Strength.

Lord, you moved upon men to establish this great nation. You stirred men to hope and to dream for a land of freedom. We praise you for this great nation.

Lord, you have inspired many of our best and brightest to volunteer to proudly stand and defend our beloved country. You have given us brave and loyal men and women who have steadfastly served in their chosen branch of our military.

We gather today to remember our military personnel. We acknowledge that their service enables us to walk as free men and women in this great land.

Lord, today we seek to honor your sons and daughters who have served or who are serving our country. We are reminded that because of their service we can live in safety.

We ask that you abundantly bless those who have previously served. May their service time be rewarded in every way. May they gain earthly and heavenly blessings from their unselfish love of country.

Lord, we stop now and remember those who are currently serving. We ask that you provide

them with your protection, your strength, and your peace. We ask that you would abundantly provide for all their needs. We ask that you would enable them to overcome every personal and professional obstacle. We ask that you would protect their families from hurt and harm.

May each of our veterans feel honored not just today but every day.

Father, we also give special recognition to our wounded warriors. We realize that many of our heroes are dealing with physical and emotional wounds that occurred as a result of their time of service to our country.

We ask that they would be given the best treatments available and that you would add your supernatural blessings to all the efforts given to them to help them. We ask that you, Lord, would show them miracles as they seek to gain health, stability, and wholeness.

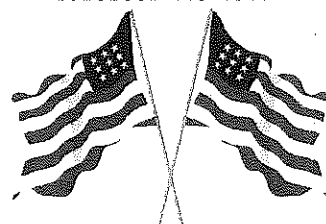
We pray these things in Jesus' name.

Amen

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**THANK YOU
VETERANS**

REMEMBER AND HONOR





NOVEMBER ACOLYTES

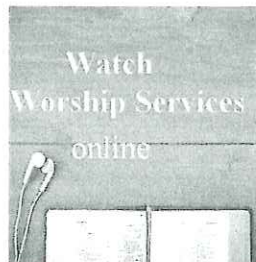
- 1st:
- 8th:
- 15th:
- 22nd:
- 29th:

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.

- * Becki Haugen
- * Don Lundin
- * Gloria Staehnke
- * Sonja Kilberg
- * Michael Jenson
- * Elaine Austin
- * Mark Thompson
- * Grace Call Committee

NOVEMBER VIDEO TECHS

- 1st:
- 8th:
- 15th:
- 22nd:
- 29th:



* 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.



The 'Women of Grace' young women's Bible Study are meeting via Zoom. If you're interested in joining, contact Rhonda Breitbach at 687-2215.

* 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.

*Congrats on the baby news!
Something wonder-
ful in these crazy
times. Stay safe.
Hi Ellie!*

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 Brekken	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	
Rhonda Breitbach	687-2215	

**LECTIONARY READINGS FOR
NOVEMBER****November 1st~All Saints Sunday**

First Reading - Revelation 7:2-8, 9-17
 Psalm - Psalm 149:1-9
 Second Reading - 1 John 3:1-3
 Gospel - Matthew 5:1-12

**November 8th~Twenty-third Sun-
day After Pentecost**

First Reading - Amos 5:18-24
 Psalm - Psalm 70:1-5
 Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians
 4:13-18
 Gospel - Matthew 25:1-13

**November 15th~Twenty-fourth
Sunday after Pentecost**

First Reading - Zephaniah 1:7-16
 Psalm - Psalm 90:1-12
 Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
 Gospel - Matthew 25:14-30

November 22nd~Christ the King

First Reading - Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
 Psalm - Psalm 95:1-7a
 Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15:20-28
 Gospel - Matthew 25:31-46

**November 29th~First Sunday of Ad-
vent**

First Reading - Isaiah 64:1-9
 Psalm - Psalm 80:1-7
 Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
 Gospel - Mark 13:24-37

GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING

October 14, 2020

7:00 P.M.

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

Present: President Jason Carlson, Nick Walk, Hollie Stewart, Yvonne Halvorson, Gene Haugom, Lori Hole, Dean Bernard, Ryan Breitbach, Jim Ferden, Wade Farrell, Gary Walters

Call to Order: President Jason called the meeting to order.

Devotions: Jason chose devotions dedicated to strength from Grand Canyon University: Psalm 28:7. We are reminded not to feel too burdened and lose hope. The Good News is that when we feel like that we can always rely on God. God's strength is our shield. May we trust God to stand beside us and we can always call upon him. As we navigate these difficult times we must remember that we are NOT alone.

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Gary. Seconded by Wade. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Gary moved to approve the Sept. minutes and the Executive Committee Meeting minutes. Seconded by Nick. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report: Yvonne moved to approve. Seconded by Gary. Motion carried. (Report on file).

Treasurer's Report:

Cash Flow Report

- Undesignated funds available to be used for September's General Fund expenses totaled \$10,429.30. This amount exceeded the month's General Fund expenses totaling \$9,261.86.
- Congregational giving to the General Fund was \$10,317.96. The monthly budget goal is \$17,957.40.

• It should be noted that almost 30 percent of this month's offerings were given electronically.

- Noteworthy Other Giving –
 - o Oil Leases – Due to timing, both payments this month came from Oasis Oil. The church did not receive any payments from Continental Oil.

Some of the noteworthy expenses this month included:

Administration – Property Taxes – 2nd half payment was due. Quarterly payment was made to the Financial Secretary.

Worship – Andrew is back to receiving his monthly compensation.

Budget Report

- It should be noted that the electronic offering (credit card) expenses are exceeding the 2020 budgeted amount due to increased use this year. This

amount will have to be adjusted somewhat in the 2021 budget.

- We ended the month at approximately 37% or \$79,000 under budget.

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

History of Regular Giving to the General Fund Report

- September's giving was up for the second month in a row!
- However, it is the third lowest giving so far in 2020.
- This was the lowest giving for a September 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.

It should be noted that a portion of the balance (\$20,100) is now included in a CD

Account Balances Report

- Building Fund - Reflects donations made during the month and the monthly expense for the separate elevator phone line. In addition, it reflects a reallocation of \$25,000 back to this fund due to the upcoming furnace repairs.
- HS Scholarship Fund – Reflects a donation. A portion of the balance (\$1,700) is now included in a CD.

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GRACE COUNCIL, continued

- Multi-Fund CD – This is a reallocation of funds from the previous \$25,000 Building Fund CD. The CD is now comprised of \$20,100 from the General Fund; \$1,700 from the HS Scholarship Fund; and \$3,200 from the SS Fund Raiser Fund.
- 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 Fund Raiser Fund - A portion of the balance (\$3,200) is now included in a CD.

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

Brovold Investment Valuation Report

- The ending balance decreased \$3,100 from the previous month. This is the lowest balance since May 2020.

Gunderson Investment Valuation Report

- The ending balance increased \$1,300 over last month.

It is the highest balance ever!

Other Information

Ashley Gagner from Ameriprise is visiting the Council meeting tonight to discuss the Brovold account and answer questions from the Council.

Jim reported that almost 30% of the giving is done electronically. Jim clarified the funding for the new furnace. We must remember that our expenditures will increase once we have a new pastor hired. We have the funds to cover the expenditures for our current building improvements and projects.

Ashley Gagner will not be here this evening due to some health issues and will be here next month.

Gene made motion to approve. Wade seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor Report: (Jason reported) Pastor is doing well and he is happy to continue in his present service to us.

We need to think about communion again this month. We need to discuss how to effectively dispense the elements so that we make sure they are provided for all in these next months until more firm decisions are made regarding the opening of the sanctuary.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: Lori reported. No report. We have received some of the LOVE envelopes.

Education: (Ann sent report via E-mail) SS lessons continued for families that are signed up. Starting next week Ann is going to do a "Google Meet" with the confirmation students. Lessons are difficult for students to work out on their own so Ann is going to try to assist. Parents have reached out for help.

Ann has also offered a Google Meet for elementary families. If she gets feedback she's going to give it a try. Weekly lessons will still be offered via email.

SS will continue with Operation Christmas Child. Shoebox collection will be Nov 15. If we are not back in SS in November Ann will send out some videos and resources to families about Operation Christmas Child, and there will be boxes and labels available for pickup at the church. Shoebox distribution could perhaps be combined with distribution of the elements.

Youth Group: Hollie and Jim reported. Feed My Starving children is not happening for the rest of this year and perhaps also next year. The organization is going to try to do some virtual programs to help continue to support the needy. We have participated with a \$1000 donation. We will try to support again if they do another drive of some sort. Otherwise the Youth Group is on hold.

NALCW: Hollie reported. NALCW met on Thursday of last week. Group 7 served. Looking for names of 80 year olds from 2020. None were submitted so Hollie asked to please let her know if there is someone anyone knows of. NALCW will keep the same officers until this Covid thing is over. Mavis suggested cleaning of the church could be done by the congregation. There are different methods that could be used. This will have to be discussed.

Continued on Page 11

GRACE COUNCIL, continued

Deer Hunter Supper on Nov 7 from 5-8. Take out only. One more person is needed to work for the Hunter Supper who can be a runner to get the order and deliver the order outdoors. Maxine is sending a thank you note to Tom Helgeson at Ness Café. Tom donated 250 take out boxes. We thank him so much. Next meeting Nov 12.

Trustees: Jason reported. Hollie submitted a list of tasks from the NALCW regarding cleaning suggestions. Jason also asked Mary for some suggestions since she and Doug have done quite a lot of volunteer cleaning. If we consider using congregation members to clean we will need someone to coordinate. The coordinator would need to assist in getting some kind of schedule worked out. The plan would need monitoring to determine if the work completed which could perhaps be done by the coordinator and the Trustees. Dean will talk to Brian about what portion of cleaning/maintenance he wishes to do. Mary was suggested as a possible coordinator. Jason will talk to Mary to see if she is interested in coordinating. Hollie volunteered to help Mary if she agrees to be the coordinator. Hiring a professional cleaning service has also been discussed. Wade did make a call to Merry Maids and got some cost estimates should we decide to hire an agency. Wade reported on the furnace project. Ryan has started the project.

We have about 100 gallons of fuel to be pumped out and we will need to find someone who can do this job. Wade will check with Ryan, as he has indicated that he could pump it out. Still looking for an electrician for the project. In with replacing the door for safety reasons as discussed last month, Wade reported that we have to replace the entire door. He got a proposal from Thief River Glass. Wade had also called Fargo, but didn't get adequate response. If we go with the TRF door their quote will include the automatic opening option that is needed. (Proposal filed)

Deacons: Gary reported. Kim received letter saying that Rosie K. is at the Villa in Crookston. Gary called and talked to the pastor and he indicated that Rosie would like to hear from us, even though we can't go and visit her. She is in Room 231 at the Villa if anyone would like to write to her.

Food Shelf: Gene Reported 2,634 pounds dispensed to 25 families. 3,065 pounds of food came in today. This food came primarily through a grant that the Food Bank received. This money has to be used by November, otherwise it has to be returned. Covid Food Assistance will be held at the school next week if all issues can get worked out. They have 110 boxes to distribute.

Call Committee: Nick reported. Two interviews with a potential pastor have taken place.

The committee has invited this pastor to come on site for a visit. They need to figure out what a visit will look like, and a date/dates for the visit. It will be important to make a plan to get the congregation involved. They are looking for some help in how to plan this. Hopes are to be able to meet the congregation via small groups. The Call Committee will start setting up plans for the candidate to meet the congregation safely. The parsonage will be offered to the candidate for use during the visit. We need heat in the building before we can set any dates.

Old Business: Worship in the sanctuary (Jason)

Jason has sent out a variety of reopening plans. Sign-in sheets will most likely be necessary. (a clean pen/dirty pen bucket and people who can monitor it will be needed) Quite a number of service helpers will be necessary. Jason called Kim to see if she had received any responses to the request that was in the newsletter regarding volunteers when we reopen—no one has called. We are going to have to have volunteers in order to open. We want to make sure that we can provide worship opportunities necessary to meet the needs of our congregation and reopening needs to be one of those opportunities. Jason is willing to put a reopening plan together for us and the council will communicate primarily through e-mail to get a plan set.

Continued on Page 12

GRACE COUNCIL, continued

New Business: School Activities (Jason) We have a very conscientious superintendent who we are thankful for. WEM needed to change their Parent/Teacher conferences to a Wednesday this year. Mr. Bruer reached out to us to make sure they were not conflicting with anything for the church. WEM is always very respectful of maintaining Wed. as church night. We VERY MUCH appreciated his concern and support of church activities.

Discussion with Amy Gagner regarding Brovold investment at Ameriprise. Tabled until next month due to health issues.

Audio/Video for the Sanctuary Nick did purchase a web cam to use for the live broadcast until we make a decision on a new system. He also purchased some cabling and he is working very hard to get keep things working. Currently he's been using some of his own equipment as well as anything he could "rig up" to make things work. He joined Re-Stream which is \$19 per month. Using Re-Stream he can broadcast using up to 30 different social media platforms. Currently we are broadcasting over Facebook and using a YouTube channel. Nick will now need to create an event and then stream it. This coming Sunday will be his first try at this. This method should improve our current set-up for the time being. Nick got a 2nd quote from Garden Valley that was for a smaller system—1st quote was for a 100% live TV

production and the ability to stream. The new quote takes off the live production option (which could be added at a later date). We could still stream live to GV and one additional web based service (this would be the Re-Stream platform). This 2nd quote still includes most of the video equipment but would not include the Tri-caster which is what is needed to do a full TV production. Discussion of the two options from GV followed and the consensus was that if we were going to continue an on-line service we need to be able to provide a quality production with room to grow. Also, purchasing technical equipment in phases can cause problems because the technology changes so quickly that the phase 1 equipment can become obsolete before the phase 2 equipment can be purchased. The original quote from GV was \$25,620. Gary made a motion to accept Garden Valley's original bid for the equipment and training. Hollie seconded. Motion carried.

Announcements:

Next council meeting is November 11, time to be determined.

Adjourn**The Lord's Prayer**

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Salvo



Welcome hunters and hungry people. We will be having our hunters supper on November 7, 2020. It will be a drive-through pick up at the back doors of the Erskine Community Center between 5:00-8:00 PM. We encourage you to stay safe and enjoy the meatball dinner at home with your loved ones. Next year we will be back for more meatballs and sharing stories of the day. Thank you to Becky Lindseth again this year for heading up this project. She does such a great job. This is a fundraiser for our church and a free will offering goes to projects decided on by our Council.

November is the month we recognize our seniors in WNALC. To this date we have no names for this year's recognition. If you know of any 80 year old women in the year 2020 in our congregation, please forward them so they can be recognized at our next meeting.

Quilts were delivered to the Detroit Lakes women's shelter by Jamie Determan. She reported that they were very thankful for receiving those quilts. Thank you to Jamie for delivering them and to our ladies for their time and love making them last winter.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and stay safe this Thanksgiving time.

See you at our next WNALC ladies aid meeting November 12 at 2:00 PM.

SUMMER GRACE TO UKRAINE UPDATE

Greetings in Christ name! Dear and beloved brothers and sisters in Christ! We are so thankful for your faithful love and care for Ukrainian people. I know that it is a difficult financial period for you all. But you are still serving Christ and helping many people. Because of your help you are a part of international mission. You help pastors, preachers, evangelists.... You feed needy people and cover basic needs of poor families... You help widows and orphans.... You preach Gospel and organise ministry for young people and kids... You bring hope to people in hospitals and resthomes... You visit prisoners and help alcoholics and drug users to start a new life with Jesus. Grace to Ukraine is a ministry which lifts hands in ministry for many people all over Ukraine. Today is a great day of opportunities. Jesus is coming soon.

Be faithful until death, and I will give you the victor's crown of life. (Rev.2:10)

Spread your bread on the water—after a while you will find it. (Ecc. 11:1)

COVID situation and our ministry to people

The situation with COVID becomes more difficult. Each day we have more and more new cases in our area. In last two weeks three pastors in my area died from COVID. A lot of companies became bankrupt. There is a great chaos in education system. People are

angry because they cannot support their families. There are a lot of protests in Ukraine....All these effects church people too. There are a lot of unmature christianity..

We have regular church services but a lot of people are not coming because of fear. So I need to do a lot of visitation. I bring food and spiritual encouragement to people. Four couples were ready to divorce but after biblical counseling three of them renewed their relationship with one another.

Weather troubles and help to people

Whole May and part of June we had each day rain. In one day period we had so much rain as normal in month. In some places such rain was over 6 weeks. There were a lot of floodings in mountain areas. Over 5000 houses were effected with flood. A lot of roads, bridges were destroyed. Because of floodings and a lot of rain a big part of crops were destroyed in Ukraine. Southern and eastern part of Ukraine was like desert without rain...Western, northern and central Ukraine had too much rain. So now all prices are extremely high for agriculture products. So our brothers helped to rebuild houses and we spread food for needy families.

Camps ministry

Camps were not allowed in summer period in public places . We found a new way of evangelism. We invited kids to our house and had biblical program for them. During some period of

time we build relationships with them and invited them to the church. It is very slow process but effective. This method is very effective and I started to teach other families how to do this ministry. According to law we had an opportunity to invite up to ten kids in one yard. So we had summer camps but in another way this summer.

Interesting experience

I was invited to visit one area in Ukraine. That town called Vikovo or Ukrainian Venice. There were no roads, no gaz, no electricity there. People use wooden bridges to walk or boats for transportation. People survive only because of fishing. I became friends with one young man Mathew. We helped his family with food and he made an excursion for us. People there are hard working and very poor (they can have up to 15\$ per day fishing). The nature is very beautiful there. I had a great opportunity to share Gospel there because poor people are more open for Gospel. First time in my life I preached in the boat. That boat was very, very old and I had disciple Mathew with me.

Prayer request for Ukrainian churches

Each month I lead a special educational program for pastors. I teach them how to work with biblical text and preach expository sermons and we discuss church problems in our practical ministry after that. I see that many of them are under the big pressure all the time.

Continued on Page 14

GRACE TO UKRAINE, con't.

Lack of moral support, not enough finances to support their families, problems with health, family difficulties... So I see my calling to bring encouragement to pastors. When I help pastors I see tears in their eyes. Life becomes more difficult in Ukraine. Several young pastors left their ministry recently because they need to feed kids. They moved to other countries for better work. A lot of people emigrate for better job and better life to Europe. Right now 70% of all pastors in Ukraine are over 60 years old. Young people do not wish to become pastors, because there is no support from church and it takes a lot of time. We have near 2500 baptist churches in Ukraine and we need near 1000 pastors now. Please pray for us. Ukraine needs many dedicated believers for ministry. And we need to help people who are already in ministry.

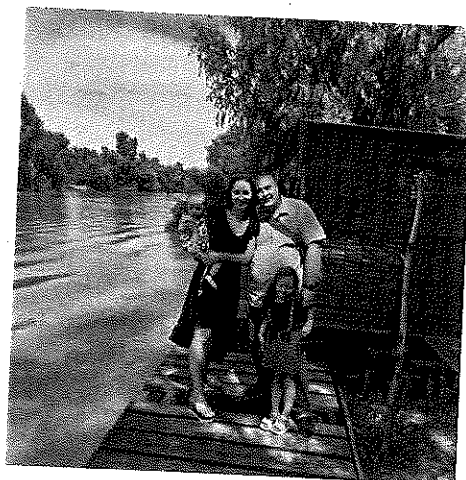
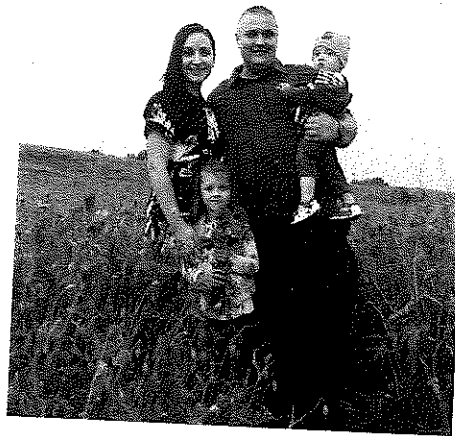
Other branches of ministry

Each month we support with food supply widows and needy people. Because of war we have a lot of orphans and we cannot help everybody but we try our best to see need and help. Because of long time pandemic a lot of man became alcoholics. We are helping such people to start a new life in rehabilitation centers. During time of pandemic all public transportation in Ukraine did not work. Most of people do not have cars. So we as believers served with our vehicles for local communities and preached Gospel. Each day we need God's leading for more and more ways of min-

istry.

My family

We are doing good by Lord's mercy. Victoria is growing fast. She witness about Christ to everybody and invite everybody to the church. She is 4 years old. Dima is one year old. He made his first steps yesterday. My beloved Luda is helping me in everything. My parents are reasonable ok too. I am still pastor in Zhovkva, elder pastor in my area and professor in seminary. We are serving God with joyful sound. We go forward on our knees with humbleness and thanksgiving.

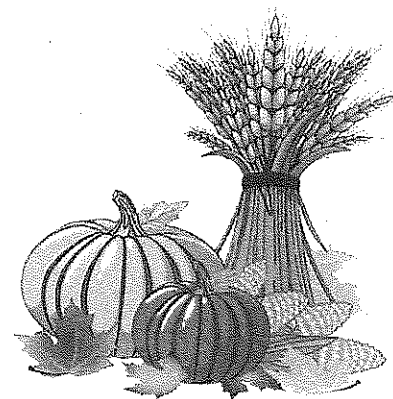


COUNCIL NEWS, continued

- 8. On Holy Communion Sundays, prefilled cups and wafers will be set out in the back of the church. Please take a cup to your seat after you sign in.
- 9. There will be no singing by the congregation at this time.
- 10. After worship, please exit the church from front to back of the sanctuary through the narthex. Wait for the people in the pews ahead of you to leave the sanctuary before you get up to go. Maintain social distancing and avoid congregating anywhere in the building.

To give us the best chance of keeping this option for worship available, please use a different worship option if you are unable or unwilling to follow the established guidelines.

President Jason Carlson



NOVEMBER 2020

Grace Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30am- Worship w/Holy Communion	2 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re- broadcast	3 8am-MBS 3pm-BSF 8pm-AA mtg.	4 7pm-Rebroadcast	5	6	7 9:00am- Rebroadcast 5-8pm-Deer Hunters Supper (take outs only)
8 10:30am- Worship w/Holy Commion	9 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re- broadcast	10 8am-MBS 3pm-BSF 8pm-AA mtg.	11 7pm-Rebroadcast 7:30pm Committees 8pm-Council mtg.	12 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-NALCW	13	14 9:00am- Rebroadcast
15 10:30am- Worship	16 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re- broadcast	17 8am-MBS 3pm-BSF 8pm-AA mtg.	18 7pm-Rebroadcast	19 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-Hope Circle 6:30pm-Rebecca Circle	20	21 9:00am- Rebroadcast
22 10:30am- Worship	23 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re- broadcast	24 8am-MBS 3pm-BSF 8pm-AA mtg.	25 7pm-Rebroadcast	26 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	27	28 9:00am- Rebroadcast
29 10:30am- Worship	30 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re- broadcast					

CIRCLES
 Hope at the church
 Rebecca at the church
 Mission no meeting

Ushers :
 Terry Strom
 Allen Jenson
 Brian Stuhang family
 Tony Stuhang family

Communion Assistants:

Altar Flowers:
 Hope Circle

Altar Guild:
 Mary Bratrud

R= Reader
 V=Video
 A=Acolyte
 NOVEMBER 1st:
 R~
 V~
 A~
 NOVEMBER 8th:
 R~
 V~
 A~
 NOVEMBER 22nd:
 R~
 V~
 A~
 NOVEMBER 29th:
 R~
 V~
 A~