

The Scroll

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Erskine, MN

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

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

332 Vance Avenue

Post Office Box 204

Erskine, MN 56535

Phone: 218-687-4035

Email: gracelc@vnet.com

Pr. Tsena Dinssa

Return Service
Requested



Turn away from sin

February 28th:
Attendance ~ 43
Offering ~ \$1,961.00

March 7th:
Attendance ~ 42
Offering ~ \$2,786.00

March 14th:
Attendance ~ 43
Offering ~ \$1,780.00

March 21st:
Attendance ~ 36
Offering ~ \$3,662.00



The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday April 14th at 7:00 PM. All meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise stated.



"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 (nighitime)

*Gary Walter ~ 218-687-3074
*Gene Haugom ~ 218-563-3292



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



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.

WNALC Meeting:
April 8th, 2:00 p.m.
Group #1 will serve

Hope Circle: April 22nd, 2:00 PM at the church

Rebecca Circle: April 22nd, 6:30 PM at the church

Mission Circle: will not meet in March



APRIL 2021 Grace Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 EASTER 10:30am- Worship w/Holy Communion	5 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	6 8am-MBS 3pm-BSF 8pm-AA mtg.	7 7pm-Rebroadcast	8 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-WNALC	9 GOOD FRIDAY	10 9am- Rebroadcast
11 9:45am-Sunday School 10:30am- Worship	12 9:30am -LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	13 8am-MBS 3pm-BSF 8pm-AA mtg.	14 7pm-Council mtg. 7pm-Rebroadcast	15 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open	16	17 9am- Rebroadcast
18 9:45am-Sunday School 10:30am- Worship w/Holy Communion	19 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	20 8am-MBS 3pm-BSF 8pm-AA mtg.	21 7pm-Rebroadcast	22 2pm-Hope Circle 6:30pm-Rebecca Circle	23	24 9am- Rebroadcast
25 9:45am-Sunday School 10:30am- Worship	26 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	27 8am-MBS 3pm-BSF 8pm-AA mtg.	28 7pm-Rebroadcast	29	30	

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

Ushers :

Communion Assistants:

Altar Flowers:
Rebecca Circle

Altar Guild:
Maxine Walter

R= Reader
V=Video

A=Acolyte

APRIL 4th:
R ~ Mavis Haugom
V ~

APRIL 11th:
R ~ Betty Lundin
V ~

APRIL 18th:
R ~ Paul Mahlen
V ~

APRIL 25th:
R ~ Jason Carlson
V ~
A ~

GRACE COUNCIL, continued
 Nick is thinking of putting the equipment in the library for additional use. Balcony could be open as overflow, with the middle row blocked off and people are allowed to accommodate 50 percent. Gary made the motion accept the options of operation as above. Including opening the balcony for overflow only on Easter. If needed we would use the basement, but this ONLY for overflow at the discretion of the ushers in charge. Lori conceded. Motion carried * Note: State guidelines were changed Friday, March 12, so our worship protocols have already changed for our worship since our meeting March 10.
Discussion of large anonymous gift: We will discuss this next meeting. Yvonne made the motion to table until April. Nick seconded. Motion carried **Designation of any Lenten Offerings:** Ann moved to table to April. Hollie seconded. Motion carried.

and received a bid based on a list provided of things that needed to be done. Hollie had the WNALC help compile this list. They are a small business from our area. Bid was for a top-to bottom cleaning *except* for the carpet cleaning. The bid was for \$2500 and would be completed by Easter. *Maid To Perfection* has two primary employees and options for extra help if necessary. In reference to the carpet apparently, our extractor isn't working properly. Mary mentioned that the carpets are of MAJOR concern. Dean will check into the extractor situation and then a decision about the carpet will be made. Hollie made the motion to accept the bid for cleaning from *Maid To Perfection*. Gary seconded. Motion carried.
Lake Directory (no action taken) en)
Released Time for 2021-2022: Wednesday mornings have been proposed to both the school and Grace. Gene reported that this is truck day for the Food Shelf and that could pose a problem if there were people needing the Sunday School rooms. Also, of concern is the difficulty for teachers to have students out of their classroom in the morning. This is considered prime teaching time. More discussion and information will be needed before decisions can be made. Historically, we have always had Released Time in the afternoons. Open to all lay people at Brook-

Yvonne Halvorson
 Respectfully submitted,

ings SD. Bishop will be in attendance. The Bishop is really pushing for disaster help for the Texans. The Eastern SD district will be in attendance with us. If anyone is interested give info to Pastor, Gary, or Jim. Deadline is April 9 for registration. Kim will have the info.
Senior Quilts: (Dorothy) We will discuss it at our April meeting to set a Senior Sunday date.
Announcements:
 Next council meeting is April 14 at 7:00 p.m.
Adjourn
The Lord's Prayer

I have many memories of when I taught 3&4 yr. olds in Sunday School many years ago. My first class was 12 students. One of my students was Peter Hamre and he never said much as he had his teddy bear with him every Sunday. Another student, Alyssa Gaalswyk would do her work and his too. The next year as I had them 2 yrs, he told his mom Dian "I want Mrs. Hamberger for my teacher again." Now many of those students back then are married with families, Ann Jensen Brekken, Amy Halvorson Roragen, Alyssa Gaalswyk Hickman, Jenny Haugen and Jay Mahlen in the area. ~Dorothy Sandberg



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 Candles, 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.



Total Expenses - \$13,102.61

Worship - \$849.62

Pastoral - \$3,247.50

Mission Outreach - \$700.00

Education - \$150.44

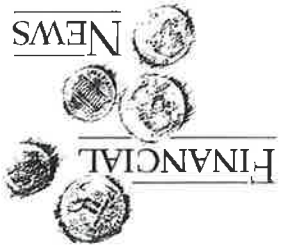
Administrative - \$8,155.05

Expenses:

\$10,271.00

Congregational Offering to the General Fund -

February 2021 Financial Summary



A Prayer for Putting on a Face Mask

Creator God, as I prepare to go into the world, help me to see the sacramental nature of wearing of this cloth. Let it be a tangible and visible way of living love for my neighbors, as I love myself.

Christ Jesus, since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart, that people would see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes. Since my voice may be muffled, help me to speak clearly, not only with my words, but with my actions.

Holy Spirit, as the elastic touches my ears, remind me to listen carefully and caringly to all those I meet. May this simple piece of cloth be shield and banner, and may each breath that it holds, be filled with Your love. In Your name and in that love, I pray, Amen.



We hope you enjoy using this four-fold approach to exploring God's Word in community with others. Thanks for choosing to study Joseph with Bible Study Fellowship! Still available for those who wish to take communion at home. Stop by the office to pick them up.

Call or text Mary Bratrud at 218 521 0793. bsfinternational.org For more information visit bsfinternational.org



Try BSF's for this next five-week study of Joseph that begins with lesson 23!

We will cover Genesis from 37-50. Starting Tuesday March 23, 3:00pm at Grace Lutheran Church, Erskine

We hope God speaks to you through His Word and your group discussion.

Here's how the Bible study works:

- Read and answer the questions for the assigned passage each day.
- Discuss your answers with your small group at the end of the week.
- Listen to a teaching on the week's passage.
- Read the notes with the passage's historical background and life application.
- Repeat!

Grace Church is now LIVE on Garden Valley Channel 30. You can tune in at 10:30 AM Sunday morning and catch our Worship Service live.

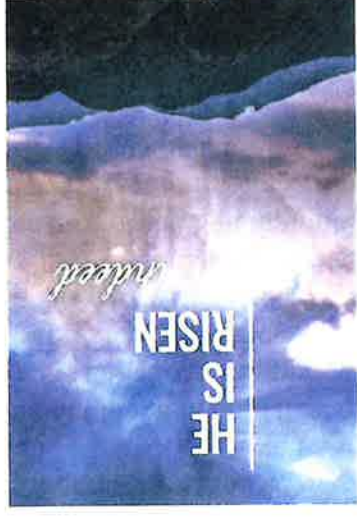


*Grace Church is now LIVE on Garden Valley Channel 30. You can tune in at 10:30 AM Sunday morning and catch our Worship Service live.

We also continue to offer the other options we've had in the past.

* 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.



GRACE COUNCIL, continued

Education: Ann reported Sunday School going well with about 28 or 29 students consistently attending. Thank you to the Bible Study group for providing more space for classes by moving their location. A few students are going to give a short talk about their experience at Bible Camp to encourage others to attend. Pastor Tsena and Ann have talked a lot about future plans and will get together to formalize Confirmation upon Pastors return home.

Youth Group: Nothing for each member of the **WNALC:** Hollie reported. The service book will be coming out soon. **WNALC** will be the acronym from now on because it's the correct one for the **NALC** organization. Shifted the groups so members will not serve in the same month all the time. They are talking about changing the Bible Study to a one-page document that each person could have in front of them.

This practice would make the study more interactive and hopefully more meaningful. Hollie will be handing out a card to everyone at the meeting asking for advice on how to better reach our 30-50 year olds. We want to be able to provide relevant meetings to encourage more attendance. Included on the card will be an opportunity to reflect on the day's meeting and how we can continue to better serve, improve our meeting, and get others involved.

Deacon: Gene reported (Pastor Tsena was also present) Talked about calling the shut-ins and then get them visited personally. They are going to start contacting additional people to read the

Planning to add a hands-on activity that would be something fun to participate in and learn from. Going to add blank line after the list for each group were a possible new person could be added if they would like to be in a service group and currently are not. We want to remember that EVERY lady is considered part of the **WNALC** and welcome always! Dorothy reported about how she's displaying the greeting cards—some will be on sale us to consider this for our church. Pastor has used this hymnal in his prior church. He discussed this with Kim and she was familiar the hymnal. We do use some of the hymns now. Pastor would like this hymnal placed under the pew with the **HLC.** The current hymnals will not be replaced. We would have some additional worship options to enhance our service. Cost for the 'With One Voice' is about \$14 each. We would purchase 50 books. Hollie made a motion to purchase 50 books. Nick seconded. Motion carried.

Easter Worship: (Jason reported) Worship **COVID** guidelines * Jason sent us the state recommendations via e-mail to review. Guidelines are in support of allowing some singing, but on the screen not with hymnals. We will continue to follow the state guidelines, without calling a meeting when they change, until further notice.

Regarding using the balcony: We will need to get the former A.V. equipment removed.

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lessons to get more people involved in our service. Last month they served 28 families made up of 53 people, average order received was 98 lbs. They were open 3 times this month due to a water pipe break.

Old Business: (None)

New Business:

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Easter Worship: (Jason reported) Worship **COVID** guidelines * Jason sent us the state recommendations via e-mail to review. Guidelines are in support of allowing some singing, but on the screen not with hymnals. We will continue to follow the state guidelines, without calling a meeting when they change, until further notice.

Regarding using the balcony: We will need to get the former A.V. equipment removed.

GRACE COUNCIL, continued

• Oil Fund – Church Emer-

gencies reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas revenue.

• Oil Fund - Missions reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas

revenue.

Organ Fund – Reflects a dona-

tion.

Bvoid Investment Valuation

Report

• The ending balance is basi-

cally unchanged from last

month.

Third month of the balance re-

maining relatively stable.

Gundererson Investment Valua-

tion Report

The ending balance decreased

approximately \$1,000 over last

month.

Other Information

I have been working closely this

month with Pastor Tsena, get-

ting his retirement account es-

tablished and funded, as well as

working through how he wants

to handle his payroll taxes and

health insurance expenses.

Jim noted that we must remem-

ber that we will have more ex-

penses as we move into the next

months due to having a full-time

pastor. General balance is in-

flated due to the \$31,000 dona-

tion. Jim noted that the giving

was down at bit.

Jim discussed Pastor's health

insurance, as provided by Grace,

at the cost of \$13,300 annually

that is part of Pastor's payroll

package. Pastor Tsena found an

Treasurer's Report: Jim report-

ed.

alternately insurance product that

he would prefer that is less ex-

pensive than coverage through

the NALC vendor. Pastor Tsena

has asked if he could receive the

difference between the budgeted

amount for insurance and the al-

ternate insurance in cash. Jason

discussed that Cash in Lieu isn't

a responsible option for financial

and other reasons. However,

since Pastor is going to have cov-

erage and is willing to risk more

out of pocket costs, this isn't real-

ly Cash in Lieu. As Pastor plans

to take 6 weeks off to address

family issues, and he has 4 weeks

paid vacation in his contract, we

could offer him a possible option.

The option is that Grace would

pay Pastor's salary (out of the

insurance difference) for the two

additional weeks of vacation time

trip. Pastor Mike graciously

agreed to help us in the same ca-

capacity as he did prior to Pastor's

hiring. Salary will be the same as

when Pastor Mike served us be-

fore. He provides more than pul-

pit coverage. He also provides

service for our funerals and for

near death situations. We are so

grateful to him. Gary made the

motion to approve. Hollie se-

conded. Motion carried.

Stewardship Lori reported

(meeting via e-mail) They are

looking for bulletin board ideas

and updated pictures. Photo ideas:

get pictures of the new flags, 2

Bible studies going on, SS pic-

tures, Quilting, WNALC.

Continued on Page 13

Confirmation: Thank you for all

days. He plans to be back for

church on April 22.

Confirmation: Thank you for all

who volunteer to Sunday School

and Confirmation especially dur-

ing COVID.

Pastor is planning a two-part

Confirmation course. Pre-

Confirmation for upper elemen-

tary (5th through 8th grade)

Confirmation class for 9th and 10th

grade. At the current time, we

have one Confirmation student

who will be confirmed next

year.

Prayer and Fasting Network Plan-

ning to start Grace prayer group.

We can incorporate prayer into

our daily routines without any

change to our schedule and with-

out any pressures. Jason talked

with Pastor Mike regarding his

helping out during Pastor Tsena's

trip. Pastor Mike graciously

agreed to help us in the same ca-

capacity as he did prior to Pastor's

hiring. Salary will be the same as

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Committee Reports:

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get pictures of the new flags, 2

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tures, Quilting, WNALC.

Continued on Page 13



My name is Greg Packer and many of my family's ancestors lived in Erskine and I suspect perhaps we still have some distant relatives in the area. I believe our ancestors were all very involved in the Lutheran Church in Erskine. They would have been Johnsons, Dussels, Fougners, and Haugs, Most of my family lives on the west coast now, and we've been very interested in learning more about our family history. We've been able to track most of our ancestors who lived in Erskine, but we're trying to find out more about our ancestor Joseph W. Dussell, and we feel we've exhausted every available online resource so we wanted to reach out to residents of the town. Joseph was born in Germany in September 1867 and immigrated to the U.S. in 1884, and lived most of his life in Erskine with his wife Augusta Haug. We're trying to find out if there are any members of your congregation with any relation to Dussels that might have any information? Or are there any family history resources you may be aware of for the area?

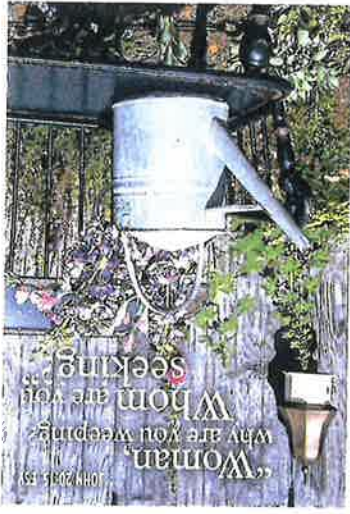
Thanks very much in advance and have a wonderful Sabbath. Your friend in Christ,

GREG PACKER

706-306-9805

gregorpacker@gmail.com

- Masks that cover the nose and mouth are required while in the church
- We ask that anyone attending worship uses hand sanitizer upon entering the building
- Avoid congregating while in the church
- After worship, wait in your seat to be excused.



I didn't come to Erskine until the 8th grade, but after we were confirmed (both Yvonne and I), we got to sing in the choir. Marjetta Hadler was our director. In those days we always sat in the choir loft (where the piano is today) and we had a great view of everything going on in the sanctuary. On Easter Sunday we would check out all the Easter hats to see who would have the number 1 hat! It was most enjoyable! Lots of the ladies and their daughters wore hats in those days.

Grace has always been my we'd be in church one of the things I remember is that we always had the same opening hymn. When I was really young it was "Holy, Holy, Holy" and then a little later in my grade school years it changed to "O Savior Precious Savior". Those two hymns have stuck with me all these years and I really appreciate knowing the words to them. ~Yvonne Halvorson

~Daryl Halvorson



While we are in this transition time of worshipping at different places with limited fellowship, we are going to try a new way to share with each other. We are looking for members of the congregation to share favorite memories associated with our church. The memories can be of a wedding, baptism, confirmation, Sunday School program, your name going to do this year will start this meeting. The Quilting group (NALC) congregations to attend our up-coming convocation 23-24 April in Brookings, South Dakota.

I would like to invite all members of Minkota Mission District - NALC

I would like to see you all to take a look at your books if you haven't have stayed together but group numbers and month of service have not. This means that you will not have the same month you have for the last few years. This will keep changing every year. Also, a blank line to add new members to each group. Give me a call anyone who would like to join.

See you on the 8th.
Easter Blessings to all!!!

Hope that you will have a wonderful Easter.

Our next meeting is the following Thursday on April 8th and I'm glad to say that we will be able to have our coffee and dessert with our meeting.

Group I will be serving with Lila Lucken chair and Trudy Carlson co-chair. We will pick up our Bible study where we left off in November. Something new we are going to do this year will start it. Whatever is meaningful to you that you are willing to share fits the bill for this project. If you can't decide on just one favorite memory, you are welcome to submit more than one. We will take the memories submitted and publish them in the Scroll over the next several months. Submissions can be sent in to the church office or sent via e-mail to graceclc@gvtel.com. As an incentive to get submissions in soon, a \$50 Ness Cafe gift certificate has been donated. The authors of submissions made by April 1 (one entry per author) will be entered into a drawing for the gift certificate. But don't wait! We would love to have some stories to share in the April Scroll.



I would like you all to take a look at your books if you haven't have stayed together but group numbers and month of service have not. This means that you will not have the same month you have for the last few years. This will keep changing every year. Also, a blank line to add new members to each group. Give me a call anyone who would like to join.

See you on the 8th.
Easter Blessings to all!!!

Minkota Mission District - NALC

I would like to invite all members of Minkota Mission District (NALC) congregations to attend our up-coming convocation 23-24 April in Brookings, South Dakota.

It has been a long time since we were able to gather so we hope circumstances will permit a large gathering this time.

Bishop Selbo will be with us so the focus will be on the ministry and future plans for the NALC.

Our NALC Disaster Relief organization will be doing an in-gathering of supplies.

Finally, we will also be having elections for district council, clergy and lay, as well as dean. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Pr. Lyle Bellecque, Dean of Minkota Mission District

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL MEETING

March 10, 2021

5:30 P.M.

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

General Fund expenses totaling \$13,102.61.

Congregational giving to the General Fund was \$10,271. The monthly budget goal is \$16,880.54.

Noteworthy Other Giving: \$16,880.54

Miscellaneous - A majority of this income consists of a rebate from Otter Tail Power Company for the new lights installed in the church sanctuary and the basement (\$574.56). Some of the noteworthy expenses this month included:

Administration - Church Telephone & Internet - No expenses for the items this month due to timing.

Workers Comp - As noted last month, this expense relates to adjustments made to the insurance premiums for 2020 and 2021 due to the recent workers comp audit.

Budget Report

We ended the month at approximately 3% or \$5,700 under budget.

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

History of Regular Giving to the General Fund Report

February's giving was down from January.

- February is historically a lower month for giving. Historically, it falls in the middle of giving over the past 11 years.

Present: President Jason Carlson, Nick Walk, Hollie Stewart, Yvonne Halvorson, Gene Haugom, Lori Hole, Dean Bernard, Gary Walter, Jim Ferden, Dorothy Sandberg, Ann Brekken, Wade Farrell, Pastor Tsena, Mary Bratrud

Call to Order: President Jason Carlson

Devotions: Pastor Tsena lead us in devotions based on Mark 10:17b-18a, 19-22.

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda as amended by Gary. Seconded by Dean.

Secretary's Report: Ann moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Nick. Motion carried.

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

Cash Flow Report

Undesignated funds available to be used for February's General Fund expenses totaled \$10,297.70. This amount was reported.

Treasurer's Report:

This was the lowest year-to-date giving total since 2011 and similar to the giving to date in 2019.

History of the General Fund Balance

February's General Fund balance includes the \$31,000 anonymous donation for World Missions which has yet to be designated by the Council.

After adjusting the remaining balance for that amount, February reflects the second month of declining General Fund balance due to expenses staying relatively stable while giving remains low.

Account Balances Report

Building Fund - Reflects a donation made during the month and a rebate from Otter Tail Power Company. In addition, it reflects the remaining cost of the furnace replacement project (\$17,434.44). It also reflects the purchase of a laptop computer and printer for Pastor Tsena and the replacement of the church's hot water heater (\$673.30).

HS Scholarship Fund - Reflects a donation.

Oil Fund - Bldg Upkeep reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas revenue.

GRACE COUNCIL, continued

Discussion about how/if to open Sunday School will come once the church reopens. Confirmation will probably continue with the junior high being taught at Sunday School and then with Pastor teaching the actual Confirmation class. This is yet to be determined.

Youth Group: Nothing additional. Ryan B has offered to be on the youth committee when possible for him.

NALCW: No report—still 2 months until they will meet again.

Deacons: Haven't met. Recommend that worship begin in the sanctuary. Gary reported that we want to add some bible verses on the bags that we deliver for Meals on Wheels. We can't put verses on the bag, but we could include them in the bag as long as we put Grace Lutheran Church on the notes with the verses. Laura said it would require about 40 per day. Gary will check on the cost factor.

Food Shelf: Gene reported. 26 families during January served, 2,719 pounds of food, equaling 103 pounds per family and 57.9 pounds per person. Delivered 14 turkeys that were donated by Garden Valley. Still have quite a bit of frozen food stored at Groceries Plus. Received another 1,230 pounds today.

Committee Reports:

Meeting will take place in the sanctuary. The date to be March 14 following worship.

Lori made the motion to set the meeting for March 14 following worship. Seconded by Wade. Motion carried.

New Business: (None)

Announcements:

Next council meeting is March 10, at 7:00 p.m.

Received the correspondence from the NALC regarding our giving history.

NOTE**The sound/picture issue last week was not an in-house problem. GV will get it corrected.

Cabinet for the service t.v. production has been installed.

Adjourn

The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Wynne Johnson



- * Becki Haugen
- * Don Lundin
- * Sonja Kilberg
- * Michael Jensen
- * Mark Thompson

Hollie made the motion that we reopen Grace on Feb 21 and have Jason announce it on Feb 14. Seconded by Ryan. Motion carried.

Set Annual Meeting Date: Meeting must be announced two weeks prior, and written notification required 10 days prior.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL MEETING

February 10, 2021

7:00 P.M.

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

- Undesignated funds available to be used for January's General Fund expenses totaled \$11,143.00. Unfortunately, this amount was less than the onetime expenses are what have pushed this area significantly over budget.

History of Regular Giving to the General Fund Report

- January giving was down from December.

This was the second lowest giving for any January in 11 years.

History of the General Fund Balance

- Balance continues to remain high due to decreased expenses in 2020.

However, the balance has declined from December due to the higher expenses and lower giving level in January.

Account Balances Report

- Building Fund - Activity reflects the purchase of offering collection boxes (\$973.77) and the monthly expense for the separate elevator phone line.
- HS Scholarship Fund - Activity reflects a donation and a scholarship payment.
- Klatt Estate Fund - Activity reflects a refund for the previously purchased desk (\$465.29).
- Multi-Fund CD - Activity reflects semi-annual interest earned.
- Oil Fund - Bldg CD - Activity reflects semi-annual interest earned.

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- We ended the month at approximately 1% or \$1,900 under the 2021 proposed budget.

All of the major proposed budgeted expense categories ended under budget for the month, with the exception of Pastoral-related expenses.

Budget Report

- Church & Parsonage Fuel - This includes propane fills in December as well as January.
- Pastoral - Miscellaneous: Expenses related to Pastor Sletto's service bonus (\$1,632.67) and moving expenses for Pastor Tsena (\$1,449.82).

Financial Secretary's Report:

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

Secretary's Report: Ann

Moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Nick. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report:

Yvonne moved to approve. Seconded by Gene. Motion carried. (Report on file). Jason noted that we followed the guidance for the Christmas Offering as decided last month.

Cash Flow Report

Treasurer's Report:

Yvonne moved to approve. Seconded by Gene. Motion carried.

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 Breithach	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. WNALC	687-3730
Lori Hole	Stewardship	687-3585
Tyler Brekken	Stewardship	687-2205
Bobbi Duchamp	Stewardship	687-3000



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR APRIL

Resurrection of Our Lord	April 4, 2021	637-2219
First Reading - Isaiah 25:6-9	Psalm - Psalm 16:1-11	687-5190
Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Gospel - Mark 16:1-8	563-2377
Second Sunday of Easter	April 11, 2021	687-3074
First Reading - Acts 4:32-35	Psalm - Psalm 148:1-14	563-3292
Second Reading - 1 John 1:1-2:2	Gospel - John 20:19-31	687-2215
Third Sunday of Easter	April 18, 2021	687-3488
First Reading - Acts 3:11-21	Psalm - Psalm 4:1-8	687-2929
Second Reading - 1 John 3:1-7	Gospel - Luke 24:36-49	687-3313
Fourth Sunday of Easter	April 25, 2021	687-3585
First Reading - Acts 4:1-12	Psalm - Psalm 23:1-6	687-2205
Second Reading - 1 John 3:16-24	Gospel - John 10:11-18	687-3000



GRACE COUNCIL, continued

- 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.

Brovid Investment Valuation Report

The ending balance remained approximately the same as the previous month.

Gunderson Investment Valuation Report

The ending balance remained approximately the same as the previous month.

Other Information

- With the start of the new year, it marks the beginning of my 13th year serving as your church treasurer.
- The Christmas Offering of \$50 reflected in the January donations was also given to the Sunday School as designated at last month's meeting.
- All of the traditional reports have been completed for the Annual Meeting whenever that is held.
- W2 and 1099 forms were all prepared and provided to the applicable staff by month end.
- The Federal and State tax forms related to the W2's and 1099's were also completed and submitted to the applicable tax-

ing authorities.

- The 4th quarter withholding tax returns were completed for the IRS and MN Department of Revenue.

I have been working through the traditional year-end worker's comp insurance audit for 2020. Due to a reclassification of staff as a result of the audit, an additional payment of \$1,097 was required for the 2020 premium. In addition, the insurance company will now require quarterly payments in 2021 to cover the additional premium cost required for this year.

Jim reported. There were some one-time expenses that are noted. We need to be aware that our regular expenses will be reflected now that we have a full-time pastor. January is Jim's busiest month here at the church. We will experience an increase in Workmen's Comp due to a job reclassification for some of our employees. This increase will need to be made up. In addition, we received another anonymous gift today for \$31,000 most that is designated to be used for World Wide Mission "The Great Commission". We will need to make some decisions about this generous gift next month.

Nick made motion to approve. Gary seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor Report:

Third week of employment and has met some people in the community. Grace youth ministry leaders

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: Lori Reported Committee has not met at this time. Not much to report until we reopen.

Education: Ann reported. There are 10 junior high students receiving materials (8 consistent). There are 26 additional Sunday School students receiving materials.

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