

The Scroll

June 2021

Running the Race Summer Bible Reading Plans

Staying connected and remaining in God's Word can be surprisingly tough in the summer. People's lives and schedules are busy, and church attendance is often lower during summer months. Between family travel plans and other obligations, the summer months can seem just as busy – or even busier – than the rest of the year.

Although almost everyone has easy access to the Bible these days – it's available on our phones, on computers and, of course, in physical form – many Christians struggle with maintaining the daily habit of reading God's Word. Reading the Bible is a great way to remain in God's Word and to set aside time for him and your faith development throughout the summer.

Instead of a 30 day reading program, we opted instead to create one that's 26.2 days long – to match the distance number in a marathon! This also allows for a few grace days within the month or during the summer weeks.

Summer Bible Reading Plan for Children

We've selected Bible verses from both the Old Testament and New Testament books, including Bible verses from Deuteronomy, Psalm, Proverbs, John, Acts and Hebrews. These Scripture verses are simple and easy to read, and they take kids on a journey through the Bible while revealing the great big-picture story of Running the Race as a Christian. Children can use this Summer Reading Plan to build spiritual strength by growing closer to Jesus, God's Son.

The children's Bible Reading Plan consists of 27 different reading squares. Each square lists a small section of Scripture to read and then provides a question, activity or prayer that corresponds with that Bible verse or passage.

To get started, choose your reading pace with your child or children. Younger kids may need a slower pace than older kids, so be sure to pick a pace that works best for your family's specific needs. Kids can complete one square each day or every other day (or even once a week, if you wish to spread out the Bible Reading Plan further than just over the summer).

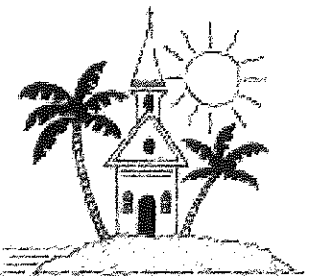
Next, choose which Bible version you wish to read from. We recommend NIV (New International Version) or ESV (English Standard Version) for children, which is a slightly easier Bible translation for readers of all ages to understand in plain English.

Finally, after deciding on your pace and Bible version, set aside a consistent time to complete your run through these Scriptures each day or week. Set an alarm on your phone or even schedule regular "appointments" with God in your calendar.

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DON'T TAKE A
VACATION
FROM CHURCH



The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday June 9th at 7:00 PM. All meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise stated.



- May 2nd:**
Attendance~29
Offering~\$2,416.00
- May 9th:**
Attendance~46
Offering~\$ 1,603.00
- May 16th:**
Attendance~44
Offering~ \$2,256.00
- May 23rd:**
Attendance~46
Offering~\$2,029.00

"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



The 'Women of Grace' young women's Bible Study are not meeting during the summer months. They will return in the Fall.



WNALC Meeting: June 10th, 2:00 p.m.

Group #3 will serve



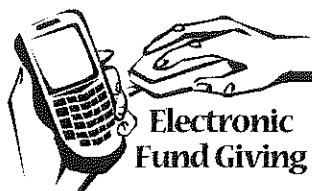
If you missed the fun in May then: Come join us at WNALC at 2pm on June 10th. We have a planned activity to

learn, make, and mail notes of encouragement to church members who may be confined, ill, or just because, and wanted you to know notes. Come have fun and learn something new. Might just be your mission calling.

Hope Circle: June 24th, 2:00 PM at the church

Rebecca Circle: June 24th, 6:30 PM at the church

Mission Circle: no meeting



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 2021 Financial Summary

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$13,713.00

Expenses:

Administrative - \$7,054.33

Education - \$167.50

Mission Outreach - \$774.31

Pastoral - \$4,132.61

Worship - \$933.37

Total Expenses - \$13,062.12

Happy Father's Day!



Godliness with contentment
is great gain.

1 Timothy 6:6, ESV

Communion At Home

Communion elements are still available for those who wish to take communion at home. Stop by the office to pick them up.



PAUL'S HISTORY CORNER

At the organizational meeting in 1891, that I mentioned last month, Rev. Heierman presided at this meeting and was chosen to be their first pastor. The following were chosen as officers: John Mestad, Secretary; G.K. Espeseth, Treasurer, and Nels Rasmussen,, Olaf Brenna and T.S. Langie, Trustees.

The first services of this new organization were held in stores and homes. The first annual meeting of this congregation was held January 18, 1892.

Letter to my sponsor

Shalom my dear sponsor. How are you doing there? I hope that you and your family are doing well and healthy. My family and I are doing well and healthy as I am writing this letter to you. I can only go to school 3 times a week - an hour-long per meeting due to the spread of coronavirus/covid19. We have been visited by the Compassion Project/Center mentors for studying and for grocery distribution at the same time. I managed to spend time with my younger sibling who is now 2 years old. How are you doing there? What have you been up to these days? How have you been spending your time at home?

Please pray that I can get good scores on the exam. Please pray for me and my family too. I will always pray for you and your family. Thank you so much for sponsoring me. This is all that I can write for now. May Jesus Christ bless you.

Pauline

March 16th, 2021. Shalom my dear sponsor. How are you doing there? I hope that you and your family are doing well and healthy. My family and I are doing well and healthy as I am writing this letter to you. I can only go to school 3 times a week - an hour-long per meeting due to the spread of coronavirus/covid19. We have been visited by the Compassion Project/Center mentors for studying and for grocery distribution at the same time. I managed to spend time with my younger sibling who is now 2 years old. How are you doing there? What have you been up to these days? How have you been spending your time at home?

Please pray that I can get good scores on the exam. Please pray for me and my family too. I will always pray for you and your family. Thank you so much for sponsoring me. This is all that I can write for now. May Jesus Christ bless you.

SUMMER READING, con't.

When each child reaches the finish line, they can start over again for more practice. If you plan to repeat the Bible Reading Plan a few times during the summer, try choosing a different translation each time!

You can even invite a friend or family member to take the joyful journey with you.

Summer Bible Reading Plan for Adults

In this reading plan, you will journey through significant chunks of several New Testament Epistle books this summer.

After reading the suggested Scripture passage that is listed on each square, you can complete the question, activity or prayer that is also provided. This combination of themed resources will help you faithfully train in your run as a follower of Jesus.

First, set your individual pace. You may choose to complete one square each day or every other day. Just keep in mind your other plans for the summer and consider what is reasonable to achieve.

Once you've set your pace, next choose which Bible translation to read from. You might even want to challenge yourself to go through this Bible Reading Plan three times this summer, each time using a different Bible translation.

After choosing your pace and Bible version, next set a dedicated time in your day to do your reading and "running." This may

be early each morning with a cup of coffee or tea before the busy day begins. Or evenings may work better for you, as you unwind your mind and refresh your soul before heading to bed. To create a good, lasting habit, it is always best to choose a certain time, schedule it in your calendar and then remind yourself to stick with it.

*** You will find the reading plans elsewhere in this edition of the Scroll. BE BLESSED!*



Grace Church is now LIVE on Garden Valley Channel 30. You can tune in at 9:00 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.

Updated Guidelines

In following the guidelines of the MN Department of Health, the latest update is as follows.

*Masks are no longer needed for individuals who have received a Covid vaccine. If you have not received a Covid vaccine, you are encouraged to continue to wear a mask.

*Grace Church is open to 100% capacity. Social distancing is suggested if possible.

*We continue to offer hand sanitizer, masks and gloves if you wish to use them.

*As always, if you are NOT feeling well, please stay home and get well.

*Grace is doing her best to keep up with all the changes that seem to continue almost daily. Though it seems that the worst is behind us regarding this pandemic, it's still out there and we encourage you to remain careful and most of all, stay well.

We look forward to seeing you soon as we gather for worship.



Hello Ladies!
Thank you for
all your feed
back from last
month's meet-

ing. We sure had a fun time and many of you have said so. It was a nice celebration of Mother's Day. The old pictures were very touching and I guess that kinda sums up Mother's Day - love and touching hearts. Seeing your kids as they grow up and then seeing what our Mom's saw when our grandkids grow up. Makes you appreciate all the generations that surround us in our families. One of the parts of the Proverb 31 women in our May Bible study. Thank you for all the baby items that were collected at this meeting. They will be going to the Detroit Lakes Women's Shelter and I'm sure will fill a need in God's time. Thank you to Mary for all her work and planning to make this day so special! Our next meeting will finish up the Bible study series we have been in for the last few months. Our activity will be learning HOW TO MAKE SPECIAL NOTE CARDS FROM MAGAZINE PICS we like. Mary will bring the equipment she uses and we will try it for ourselves. She gave us samples last month at our tables to take home. This looks like fun. Jill from WNALC will be coming June 21st with her husband and a truck for pick up of disaster relief items to take to our new warehouse in Caldwell,

Ohio. We have Bibles and quilts ready for donating and since its hard to send items in a flood bucket, we are going to put one or more together at our next meeting with items donated from our members. Here's a list of items in one bucket...if you would pick something from the list and bring to the next meeting or the day before if you can't make it this time.

FLOOD BUCKET- ONE 5 gal bucket w/cover, TWO- large trash bags, ONE- gallon bleach, one of each of the following- comet or scouring powder, Pine Sol or liquid floor cleaner, Dust mask-N-95 required, Scrub brush, leather gloves, cotton gloves, heavy rubber gloves, broom, rake, shovel, hoe (debris removing tools).

This is one buckets worth. As you can see from the list, this can't ship in the mail so here's our opportunity. I remember how we hung on words and pictures in the newspaper and on TV in 1997Flood. The list of people in the Grand Forks Herald that said who was ok and where they were and the TV news film from the National Guard boats traveling the streets of East Grand and Grand Forks. Waiting for our relatives to make it across the river somewhere down towards Fargo so they could get to our house. Well, if you've got some of those memories too, here's what was needed when they returned home. A more resent story is in our WNALC newsletter at <http://www.WNALC.org/newsforyou/disasterresponse/>. It's Minot 10

years ago. God uses us. Becky Lindseth is checking on dates for the Fall Auction so watch for coming info on that. It was agreed by all, that we want to see an auction again this year and shake off our COVID cobwebs. Thank you Becky for this work that you do.

And now just a reminder from last time. I really meant it when I said, We would love to see you at our meetings even if that means only a short time, some time in the meeting, as you come or go to/from work, pick up at school or any number of the things that we do in a day. This group is for all Grace women. Give each other grace as we receive from God and be there for each other.



- * Rosie Kolstad
- * Everett Osland
- * Owen Strom
- * Steve & Linda Evenson
- * Steve Jacobson
- * Becki Haugen
- * Don Lundin
- * Michael Jenson
- * Mark Thompson

**GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING**

May 12, 2021

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, Dean Bernard, Lori Hole, Mary Bratrud, Wade Farrell, Jim Ferden, Gary Walter, Ann Brekken

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

Devotions: Jason based devotions on "Opportunities". "A favorable moment in time when good things can happen". Our God is an "opportunity giving" God. Seeing opportunities and seizing them is our challenge. (Ephesians 5:15-17). Seizing opportunities requires faith and action.

Approve Agenda:

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

Secretary's Report:

Lori moved to approve minutes. Seconded by Nick. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report:

Yvonne moved to approve. Seconded by Ann. Motion carried. (Report on file).

Treasurer's Report:

Cash Flow Report

- Undesignated funds available to be used for April's General Fund expenses totaled \$14,100.59. This amount exceeded the month's General Fund expenses totaling \$13,062.12 (not including the anonymous gift distribution).

- Congregational giving to the General Fund was \$13,713. The monthly budget goal is \$16,880.54.

- Noteworthy Other Giving:

- o Thrivent Choice Program – We received another nice donation from Thrivent thanks to church members who have designated their Thrivent Choice dollars to the church.

Some of the noteworthy expenses this month included:

Administration – Various Property Taxes – First half is now due for the church, parsonage, and 2 parking lots. These taxes were up slightly from previous years.

Custodian – No record of work hours was received in April.

Workers Comp – Additional quarterly payment was due.

Mission Outreach –
Miscellaneous – Majority of expense (\$31,000) was the distribution of the anonymous gift for missions given back in February. Balance was for a flood bucket.

Pastoral – Interim Pastor Expenses – No expenses reflected due to oversight. Double ex-

pense will be reflected in May.

Health Insurance – Reflects reimbursement to Pastor for his March & April monthly insurance premiums (\$446.68). Balance reflects all other salary and benefit expenses due to his exceeding his 4 weeks of paid vacation. Personal Compensation – Reflects only half of one pay period's expenses due to his exceeding of 4 weeks paid vacation. All other April compensation was offset against the health insurance expense category as he will eventually receive the unused balance.

Worship – Organist – No compensation due to oversight. Double expense will be reflected in May.

Budget Report

- We ended the month at approximately 4.7% or \$9,600 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 March's.

- Looking back since 2011, this was one of the lowest offerings for the month of March.

- March 2021 giving was ahead of March 2020 giving by \$2,300.

- Year-to-date giving is just slightly lower than last year at this time.

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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. WNALC | 687-3730 |
| Lori Hole | Stewardship | 687-3585 |
| Tyler Brekken | Stewardship | 687-2205 |
| Bobbi DuChamp | Stewardship | 687-3000 |



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.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JUNE

**Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 6, 2021**

First Reading - Genesis 3:8-15

Psalm - Psalm 130:1-8

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Gospel - Mark 3:20-35

**Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 13, 2021**

First Reading - Ezekiel 17:22-24

Psalm - Psalm 1

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 (11-17)

Gospel - Mark 4:26-34

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
June 20, 2021**

First Reading - Job 38:1-11

Psalm - Psalm 124:1-8

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Gospel - Mark 4:35-41.

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
June 27, 2021**

First Reading - Lamentations 3:22-33

Psalm - Psalm 30:1-8

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 13-15

Gospel - Mark 5:21-43



GRACE COUNCIL, continued

This was the lowest year-to-date giving total since 2011.

History of the General Fund Balance

The April balance reflects a slight increase from the March General Fund balance, due to the monthly giving exceeding expenses.

Account Balances Report

- Building Fund - Reflects donations made during the month. In addition, it reflects expenses for the separate elevator phone line (\$39.35); the deep cleaning of the church (\$3,000.00); and reimbursement to Nick Walk for video related expenses (\$98.00).
- 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.

Stained Glass Window Fund – Reflects the purchase of additional sidewalk/street flags (\$594.00).

Brovold Investment Valuation Report

The ending balance has been steady for the past five months and up slightly from last month.

Gunderson Investment Valuation Report

The ending balance decreased slightly from last month.

Other Information

- I completed the State and Federal quarterly withholding tax returns.

I audited the Grace Cemetery Association's 2020 financial records and no concerns were noted.

Jim reported. We received Thrivent Donations again and are very thankful to all those who designated their funds.

Noted: Pastor's section of the financial report looks a bit different this month. This is due to the change in pastor's original requested time off that was required for his stay in Ethiopia. The dollars used were available through the use of the difference in the fringe benefit amount of insurance (as stated in pastor's contract) versus the lessor amount for the insurance policy he has chosen to pay himself. A portion of this dollar difference will offset the cost that resulted due to pastor needing to use more than his four weeks of vacation due to illness. Additional cost for Pastor Mike's service during the extra time taken was also out of this health expense fund. More discussion will result once Pastor Tsena returns because communication is very difficult.

We will need to check on any quarantine issues when pastor gets home.

We are so thankful for Pastor Mike again. What a wonderful friend he is being to Pastor Tsena and Grace!

Dean moved to approve the report. Nick seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor Report: Jason reported.

Pastor Mike will not be here the last week in May. Pastor Tsena should be back for service by then. The blessings we have received from Pastor Mike's time with us is unmeasurable!

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: Lori reported. Bobbi updated the bulletin board. It looks wonderful.

Education: Ann reported. Finished Sunday School. Ann was very happy with the attendance results (averages were 25-30 SS students, 7-8 for Confirmation). Need to set dates for VBS. We will wait to set date until Pastor Tsena returns. VBS will have a similar setup as last year in the evenings. Looking at some time in August. Lots of thanks go to Ann and the teachers!

Youth Group: Jim reported. Pastor Tim called and said he had a group of 5 families that would like to do something together with the youth. The proposal is for a shared time at the Sandhill Bible Camp north of Fosston. Pastor Tim would like to know if we want to join them. It is a very nice facility. Jim gave a tentative

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GRACE COUNCIL, continued

YES, but will have to clear this with Pastor Tsena when he returns. Pastor Tim was going to make arrangements and get back to Jim with details. This could be a great opportunity to re-energize our youth interest.

NALCW: Hollie reported. May 13 meeting with Group 2 serving. They are going to have a Mother's Day event that is being planned by Mary. Going to bring in baby items to be donated to the Detroit Lakes Shelter. Format is changing a bit for our meetings. These new events are being offered to regenerate and renew interest. ****NOTE***All are welcome and you are welcome to come for any **part of the meeting** that you can make work. If you can only stay for 15 minutes—**That's just fine!**

Trustees: Wade reported. Received a bid for the concrete sidewalk that is very reasonable so they are going ahead with the project. When the sidewalk is repaired, it will match up with the street. We will need to re-touch our parking lot painting. Hadn't talked to Ryan yet about the furnace project items. Jason will make contact with him. There was a leak in the Food Shelf room and it has been repaired. Skinner roofing has been here to check the roof leak problem. They patched as well as they could. The person who reviewed the roof told us that the roof is basically not repairable and this issue will continue to be a problem. He said that they

would have to come back every year to make repairs, but we have to understand that this will be a continuous problem unless we make a decision regarding a more permanent fix. He will report this information to his manager. Skinner will return information to Wade. Wedges for the front doors did not work so Wade installed the door stops. We thank him for all his extra work. Wade will spray for dandelions on Saturday. Going to order a load of gravel for the handicapped entrance and also for the end of the sidewalk going into the Food Shelf door. Dean has talked to Brian regarding cleaning/maintenance options. Brian is ok with whatever we need. Ryan will check into the cleaning costs and options if we hire for cleaning more regularly. Mary asked about digging out the bushes that are around the church since they are quite unsightly. Decision has been made to cut the bushes way back to see if they will regrow. Nick reported that the robe closet door insert fell off and needs tabs put back on. Dean will report it to Brian.

Deacons: Gene reported. A pall (a cloth spread over a coffin, hearse, or tomb) has been offered to us by Arlene Bly for use at funerals. Gene is looking for help in finding out how to properly take care of it. We thank Arlene for this donation. Deacons asked if there had been any more plans regarding a Youth Sunday. We need to wait until Pastor returns to make any plans. Deacons are wondering if we should consider

having someone willing to work on some guidelines for helping people present and participate in the digital service in the best way. Example: giving some helps for the most effective microphone use, etc. (Not the technical part of production).

Food Shelf: Gene reported. Thank you to the group who distributed food to 10 families on Thursday. For the month, they served 24 families which is down a bit from 28 average. Total food distributed was 2,073 pounds, which is 700 pounds lower than the average for the previous month. Average food per family was 86 pounds for the month with the average being 94 pounds. Per person amount was 46 pounds while the average was 53 pounds per person. There were four new families added in April with one family having six persons. They are glad to serve more. We are so happy people are willing to come for help. Still storing food at the grocery store. Starting next month with a freezer that is 75% full. Have one pallet over in the parsonage garage which is about 50% full. Total food purchased for April from the NCFB was \$454.00. We received a check today from the NCFB for \$266.00. This was a pass made through donation from the Polk County Corn Growers. Volunteers needed: 2 people for May 12, 5 people needed May 13, 5 people needed for May 20. If you can volunteer let them know.

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GRACE COUNCIL, continued**Old Business:****Complete Annual Meeting**

Ballot No movement to date. Still need one Education person, two for the Pioneer Delegates (this involves one meeting per year which is the annual meeting), two for the nominating committee.

Worship COVID guidelines-

Nothing has changed at this time. We can worship at capacity with social distancing, we need to continue to wear masks. We will continue to follow the state guidelines. Mask mandate is still in place for indoor gatherings.

Designation of Oil Mission Funds for 2021. We will table this until there is a more substantial amount. As no additional funds have been received no action taken.

New Business:

Review and Discussion - Minkota Mission District Report Jim reported. Basically all information was reported in the Scroll. Met the new Bishop Dan. NALC has grown significantly. Due to this they are going to divide the country into Regions. Not sure at this time where the Minkota district will end up. Centralized office will be moved to Texas. Mission District Dean is Pastor Steve. He is now in Winaska MN. Gary reported. Bishop Dan preaches that we are Christ centered first, then congregation based. We need to take a lot of

the things we learned during COVID that were positive. Encouraged discipleship. There is a big shortage of pastors. Currently we have 75% of our pastors who are over 60.

Announcements

Next meeting June 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Received a thank you note from the Polk Cty Salvation Army for our donation from Margie Keller.

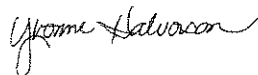
Thank you from Pioneer Memorial Care Center Foundation from Melissa Bergman for our donation.

Thank you Dorothy Sandberg for the \$50 certificate for "Sharing Memories" in the Scroll.

Adjourn

The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,



History of The Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was written in August 1892 by the socialist minister Francis Bellamy (1855-1931). It was originally published in *The Youth's Companion* on September 8, 1892. Bellamy had hoped that the pledge would be used by citizens in any country. In its original form it read: "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1923, the words, "the Flag of the United States of America" were added. At this time it read: "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." In 1954, in response to the Communist threat of the times, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God," creating the 31-word pledge we say today. Bellamy's daughter objected to this alteration. Today it reads:

"I 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."

Section 4 of the Flag Code states: The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: "I 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.", should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute."

The original Bellamy salute, first described in 1892 by Francis Bellamy, who authored the original Pledge, began with a military salute, and after reciting the words

Continued on Page 12

The Flag that Makes Men Free

by Kate Brownlee Sherwood

The battle clouds obscured the
land and dimmed the nether
seas,
The dread alarms of war wailed
out on every swelling breeze;
The land the fathers wrestled for
in hunger, cold and thirst,
Lay bound and bleeding in the
toils of tyranny accursed.
They sought for sign or symbol,
but to rescue there was none,
When lo, across the darkness
flashed the flag of Washington;
The bonny flag, the beauteous
flag, the flag of colors three,
Your flag, my flag, the people's
flag,
The flag that makes men free.

And red for human brotherhood;
no matter creed or clan,
The same rich blood proclaims
us one in God's eternal plan;
And white for peace and purity
and heaven on earth begun,
And blue the expanding canopy,
the clustered stars in one;
They kissed its folds and
through the years of storm and
stress they came,
The ragged Continentals
crowned with earth-compelling
fame;
Their star-bespangled banner
streaming over land and sea,
Your flag, my flag, the people's
flag,
The flag that makes men free.

And lo, the scene was shifted
and while the people slept,
Through marts of trade and traf-
fic the toes of freedom crept;

For pride and power they wres-
tled, for lust of greed and gain,
They forged the human shackles
and might resumed her reign;
As jeer and sneer run riot where
dread and discord reel,
The rights of man lay trampled
beneath the tyrants' heel;
They fired the torch of treason
and mocked with anarchy
Your flag, my flag, the people's
flag,
The flag that makes men free.

Then shop and school and farm
and mine and factory outpour,
And thrice a hundred thousand
men are marshalled at the fore;
And thrice a hundred thousand
men with purpose staunch and
true
On storied height, on gory plain,
to die for me and you;
To consecrate our flag anew to
truth's unending fame,
Equality, fraternity, in thunder
tones proclaim;
To fly from fort and citadel for
aye, exultantly,
Your flag, my flag, the people's
flag,
The flag that makes men free.

What word, O fallen heroes,
within the portals low,
Where underneath the southern
cross the sweet magnolias blow?
Guard well that flag! lest while
you sleep, the foe should haul it
down,
While weeping fills our peaceful
land and cannons flame and
frown!

Guard well that flag! lest greed
and graft should splash those

stars of light,
And followed by the orphan's
moan fair freedom takes her
flight!
Guard well that flag! for faith and
hope and better days to be,
Your flag, my flag, the people's
flag,
The flag that makes men free!

The Pledge of Allegiance, con't.

"to the flag," the arm was extend-
ed toward the flag.
At a signal from the Principal the
pupils, in ordered ranks, hands to
the side, face the Flag. Another
signal is given; every pupil gives
the flag the military salute —
right hand lifted, palm downward,
to a line with the forehead and
close to it. Standing thus, all re-
peat together, slowly, "I pledge
allegiance to my Flag and the Re-
public for which it stands; one
Nation indivisible, with Liberty
and Justice for all." At the words,
"to my Flag," the right hand is
extended gracefully, palm up-
ward, toward the Flag, and re-
mains in this gesture till the end
of the affirmation; whereupon all
hands immediately drop to the
side.

The Youth's Companion, 1892
Shortly thereafter, the pledge was
begun with the right hand over
the heart, and after reciting "to the
Flag," the arm was extended to-
ward the Flag, palm-down.
In World War II, the salute too
much resembled the Nazi salute,
so it was changed to keep the
right hand over the heart through-
out.

RUNNING THE RACE

Summer Reading Plan

Loving and following Jesus is like being a runner, the Bible says. And a special "prize" waits at the end of the race! When you're tired or your faith feels weak, trust Jesus to give you strength.

With this Summer Reading Plan, you can complete a box every day or every other day. Read the Scripture and complete each activity to grow closer to Jesus. When you reach the finish line, start over for more practice. Invite a friend or family member to "run" with you!

START

1 Corinthians 9:24-26
Run in place as long as you can. Think of ways you "run" for Jesus.

Deuteronomy 31:1-8
(focus on vs. 6)
How does it feel to know God always runs with you?

Hebrews 12:1-3
Find out what "perseverance" means. Why do runners need that?

Jeremiah 10:23
Pray that God always directs your steps.

Proverbs 3:5-6
Run backward, then in circles, then with eyes closed. Why are "straight paths" simpler?

Psalm 18:32
Memorize this verse.

Isaiah 41:10
Make a paper baton. Practice relay handoffs & discuss God's helpful hand.

Jonah chapter 1
(or a book about Jonah) What happens when Jonah runs from God?

Matthew 18:10-14
Think of a time you "wandered off" — and how Jesus found you.

Psalm 119:32
Why do we need to follow rules — and God's commands?

1 Peter 2:21
Play Follow the Leader with friends & family.

Matthew 24:13
Write the verse with sidewalk chalk. "Stand firm" by it and say it aloud.

Luke 15:11-32
(or a book about it)
Why did the son run away? What makes his father run?

John 20:1-10
Act out Easter morning, with runners sharing the good news.

Acts 8:26-40
Why did Philip run? How do you share Jesus with others?

Galatians 5:7
Make an obstacle course. What gets in the way of faith?

2 Timothy 2:5
Make a crown to remember your victory in Jesus.

Philippians 4:13
Write or tell someone your strengths.

1 Timothy 4:8
Do jumping jacks, stretches and physical training.

Revelation 22:20
Pray, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

2 John 8
Play Tag, then "reward" yourself with a cold drink or treat.

2 Timothy 4:7
Draw or make a finish line and run through it.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10
Show muscles and say, "When I'm weak, I am strong."

Philippians 3:13-14
Make a sign that reads "Press on!"

James 1:12
Brainstorm ways to support and cheer other runners.

Hebrews 10:36
Talk about the promises God keeps to us.

FINISH

GO!

We did it!

Great JOB!

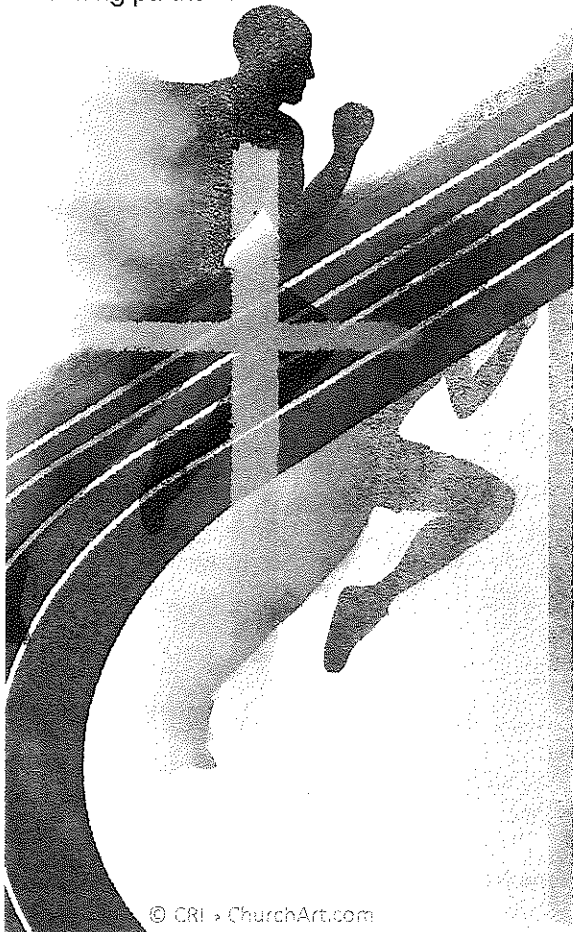
RUNNING the RACE

SUMMER Reading Plan

Life — and exercise — move at different paces for different people.

Some enjoy leisurely walks, strolls or rolls, while others speed-walk, jog or even sprint. Some people have a 26.2 sticker on their vehicle, indicating they've run a marathon, while others boast of running a half-marathon (13.1) or no marathon (0.0)!

Thankfully, you don't have to be an athlete of any kind to run the Christian "race." The Bible uses running metaphors, however, to encourage followers of Jesus to train, focus, persevere and attain the heavenly prize. Use this Summer Reading Plan to strengthen your faith and your relationship with Jesus. Complete one square each day or every other day, and you'll journey through significant chunks of the New Testament this summer. Feel free to invite a friend or family member to join you as a "running partner"!



Mile 1 Read Philippians 1
Re-read verse 6 and consider how your faith journey is a work in progress.

Mile 3 Read Philippians 3
Look back at verses 13 and 14, and brainstorm a list of ways to keep your eyes on the heavenly "prize."

Mile 5 Read Colossians 1
Re-read verse 11. Name three specific ways God gives you strength and endurance.

Mile 7 Read Colossians 3
Look back at verses 23 and 24. What keeps you running for God, not for other people or for personal accolades?

Mile 9 Read 1 Timothy 1
Doodle about how God's law keeps you from wandering away from him.

Mile 11 Read 1 Timothy 3
What aspects of staying "above reproach" are most challenging for you as a follower of Jesus?

Mile 13 Read 1 Timothy 5
Anonymously perform a kind deed for someone in your family or community.

Mile 15 Read 2 Timothy 1
Describe specific ways your life reveals a spirit of power, a spirit of love and a spirit of self-discipline.

Mile 17 Read 2 Timothy 3
Add a daily Bible-reading time to your spiritual training regimen.

Mile 19 Read James 1
Look back at verse 12. Reflect on how God has kept his promises to you. How does that help you during times of trial?

Mile 21 Read James 3
Re-read verses 17 and 18. Pray for godly wisdom as you continue your faith journey.

Mile 23 Read James 5
After re-reading verse 19, think of ways to reach out to people who have wandered away from God.

Mile 25 Read John 20:1-18
Consider how the good news of Jesus' resurrection gives you reasons to run and share the Gospel message.

➔ **Mile 2 Read Philippians 2**
Re-read verse 5 and pray to have the same attitude as Jesus.

Mile 4 Read Philippians 4
Write verse 13 on a sticky note and place it where you'll see it daily.

Mile 6 Read Colossians 2
Review verses 6 and 7, make a gratitude list and say a prayer of thanks to God.

Mile 8 Read Colossians 4
Write a note or letter to someone who needs spiritual encouragement.

Mile 10 Read 1 Timothy 2
Re-read verses 5 and 6. Offer praise to Jesus for being our mediator and ransom — and for running the race perfectly for us.

Mile 12 Read 1 Timothy 4
As you exercise, ponder verse 8 and brainstorm ways to build your spiritual muscles.

Mile 14 Read 1 Timothy 6
Review verses 11 and 12. In what ways might faith be viewed as a fight? To whom have you made bold profession of your faith?

Mile 16 Read 2 Timothy 2
Re-read verse 5. The next time you participate in or watch a sporting event, compare the value of God's "victor's crown" to earthly achievements.

Mile 18 Read 2 Timothy 4
Memorize verse 7. Think about people you know who have already "finished the race." How can their example strengthen you?

Mile 20 Read James 2
Put your faith into action today by meeting someone's needs.

Mile 22 Read James 4
Review verse 8. Confess your sins to God and ask him to come near you.

Mile 24 Read Luke 15:11-32
When have you run away from God? What brought you back? When have you seen proof of God running toward you (see verse 20, as well as James 4:8)?

➔ **Mile 26 Read 1 John 1**
Re-read verse 7. Write "Walk in the Light" on a sticky note, and place it by a lamp or light switch.

Mile 26.2 Read Revelation 2:10 Praise God aloud: "Come, Lord Jesus!"

JUNE 2021

Grace Lutheran Church

CIRCLES

Hope at the church
 Rebecca at the church
 Mission no meeting

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|------------------------------|--|---|-----|------------------------|
| | | 1 8am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg. | 2 7pm-Rebroadcast | 3 | 4 | 5 9am- Rebroadcast |
| 6 9:00am- Worship w/Holy Communion | 7 9:30am-LBS 10am- Worship Re- broadcast | 8 8am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg. | 9 7pm-Council mtg. 7pm-Rebroadcast | 10 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-WNALC | 11 | 12 9am- Rebroadcast |
| 13 9:00am- Worship w/Holy Communion | 14 9:30am -LBS 10am- Worship Re- broadcast | 15 8am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg. | 16 7pm-Rebroadcast | 17 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open | 18 | 19 9am- Rebroadcast |
| 20 9:00am- Worship | 21 9:30am-LBS 10am- Worship Re- broadcast | 22 8am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg. | 23 7pm-Rebroadcast | 24 2pm-Hope Circle 6:30pm-Rebecca Circle | 25 | 26 9am- Rebroadcast |
| 27 9:00am- Worship | 28 9:30am-LBS 10am- Worship Re- broadcast | 29 8am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg. | 30 7pm-Rebroadcast | | | |

Ushers :

Communion Assistants:

Altar Flowers:

Altar Guild:

Lori Hole

R= Reader

V= Video

A=Acolyte

JUNE 6th:

R~ Dorothy Sandberg

V~

A~

JUNE 13th:

R~ Yvonne Halvorson

V~

A~

JUNE 20th:

R~ Tyler Brekken

V~

A~

JUNE 27th:

R~ Joanne Sannes

V~

A~