

“Serving all people by sharing God’s Word
and Gift of Grace”

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Erskine, MN 56535
Phone: 218-687-4035
Email: gracelc@gvtel.com

Pr. Tsena Dinssa

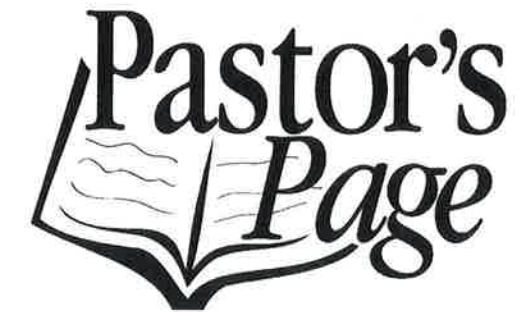
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The Scroll



What is fasting?

Fasting is usually abstaining from food and drink for a certain period of time. There are different types of fasting in the Bible. People who fasted in the Bible include Moses, David, Daniel, Anna, Paul, and Jesus Christ. The purpose of fasting is to aid in focusing the inner heart upon God. Yet fasting has been neglected, forgotten, and viewed as unusual & anachronistic in contemporary Christian culture. Therefore the 24/7 PFN practice & argues for fasting not as unusual idiosyncrasy but rather as an urgent and necessary Christian discipline by studying & providing a historical survey of fasting in the Scripture.

Types of Biblical Fast

Various types of fasting can be found in the Bible, but the most common are:

- **A Partial Fast** - This type of fast generally refers to omitting a specific meal from your diet or refraining from certain types of foods (Dani 1:12, 10:2-3).
- **A Regular Fast** - During a regular fast people refrain from eating all kinds of food but still drink water or the like drink.
- **A Full Fast** – During a full fast there is neither food nor drink. It is a complete fast. Example 1: Acts 9:9: "For three days he was blind and did not eat or drink anything." Example 2: Esther 4:15-16: "Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will fast as you do." When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish." It is recommended that this type of fast be done with extreme caution and not for extended periods of time. Fasts that extend beyond three or seven days can be found in the Bible, but these ESPECIAL / RADICAL fasts were exceptions based upon direct guidance from God or a supernatural ability given by God to complete the fast. Examples are Moses (Deuteronomy 9:9-18 and Exodus 34:28); Elijah (1 Kings 19:8); and Jesus (Matthew 4:1-11).

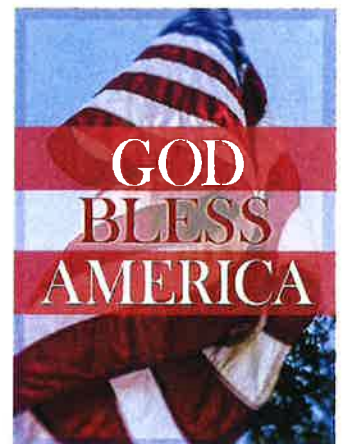
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Grace Lutheran
Church

July 2021

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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.



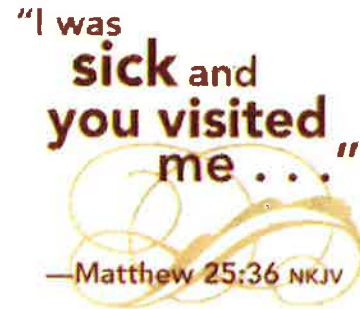
May 30th:
Attendance~49
Offering~\$2,343.00

June 6th:
Attendance~35
Offering~\$1,376.00

June 13th:
Attendance~ 41
Offering~ \$2,921.00

June 20th:
Attendance~ 31
Offering~\$1,235.00

June 27th:
Attendance~ 53
Offering~\$2,001.00



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.

*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: July 8th, 2:00 p.m.

Group #4 will serve



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Grace WNALC welcomes all our church women to our July 8th meeting at 2pm.

Along with our regular

devotions, bible study and meeting we will be learning about the mission of "prayer shawls".

If you crochet or knit, beginner or advanced join us. If you have an experience or story to tell about the comfort of a prayer shawl, we'd love to hear your story.

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

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

Mission Circle: no meeting

JULY 2021

Grace Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 Independence Day 9:00am- Worship w/Holy Communion	5 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	6 7:30am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	7 7pm-Rebroadcast	8 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-WNALC	9 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open	10 9am- Rebroadcast
11 9:00am- Worship w/Holy Communion	12 9:30am -LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	13 7:30am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	14 7pm-Rebroadcast	15 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open	16 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open	17 9am- Rebroadcast
18 9:00am- Worship	19 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	20 7:30am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	21 7pm-Rebroadcast	22 2pm-Hope Circle 6:30pm-Rebecca Circle	23 2pm-Hope Circle 6:30pm-Rebecca Circle	24 9am- Rebroadcast
25 9:00am- Worship	26 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast 6:30-8:30pm- VBS	27 7:30am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	28 6:30-8:30pm-VBS 7pm-Rebroadcast	29 6:30-8:30pm-VBS	30 6:30-8:30pm-VBS	31 6:30-8:30pm-VBS

CIRCLES

Hope at the church
Rebecca at the church
Mission no meeting

Ushers :

Communion Assistants:

Altar Flowers:
Rebecca Circle

Altar Guild:
Mary Bratrud

R= Reader
V=Video

A=Acolyte

JULY 4th:
R~ Mary Bratrud
V~
A~

JULY 11th:
R~ Andrew Hanson
V~
A~

JULY 18th:
R~ Gary Walter
V~
A~

JULY 25th:
R~ Betty Lundin
V~
A~

When I do all these ministries God shows people who need help and I help them with GTU fund.

GRACE TO UKRAINE supports such people during the year	
Ministry name:	Amount of people:
Support for pastors	9-17
Support for missionaries	3-5
Support for preachers	5-9
Support for Sunday school teachers	2-4
Support for musical ministers	1-3
Support for needy people	
1) Handicaps	3-9
2) Widows	5-16
3) Homeless	3-12
4) Food for needy families	5-15
Support for medical needs	2-5
Support for seminary students	2-5
Evangelization (each month) / school supply for kids (autumn)/ Christmas gifts (winter)	2-4/30-35/70-90

This chart helps to see how many people get help from our ministry on monthly bases. Each month we help to different amount of people. If somebody from our support list starts to have better income we help somebody else who have bigger need. Amount of people is different each month.

AMERICA
BLUE
CELEBRATE
FIREWORKS
FLAG
FREEDOM
GOATEE

GOVERNMENT
HAT
HISTORY
HOLIDAY
JULY
LIBERTY
NATION
PARADE
PATRIOTIC
POSTER
RED
STARS
STRIPES
SUMMER
SYMBOL
UNITED STATES
VICTORY
WHITE



UNCLE SAM WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



W Y Y S P D W R E L O B M Y S
H R G O A T E E M H E D F W S
I O R G F T P O J C K B T A H
T T H V S M D S P N C U D G C
E S N O I E D A F E Y N I S I
L I P O E C R M L P A I T T T
S H E R I A T E B R D T N R O
T K F A D T B O L L I E E I I
F V R E C R A I R S L D M P R
L K C O A I B N E Y O S N E T
A S C T W E R U M A H T R S A
G T E F R E L E O F G A E H P
F A Y T D B R C M P N T V O B
L R Y J U L Y I F A B E O R F
N S S U M M E R F P L S G B O



The words appear UP,
DOWN, BACKWARDS,
and DIAGONALLY.
Find & circle each word.



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.

May 2021 Financial Summary

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$14,587.00

Expenses:

Administrative - \$6,332.80

Education - \$459.92

Mission Outreach - \$1,000.00

Pastoral - \$6,976.59

Worship - \$898.03

Total Expenses - \$15,667.34





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

A group of 33 Norwegians and 10 Swedes constituted the first congregation. It was decided that each voting member contribute \$1.00 for seats and other necessities. Pastor Heirman received \$22.50 as salary for his first year as pastor. It was decided then to take a free subscription from the members and if possible to pay the pastor in June and at Christmas. Later on the records show that the pastor would be paid whatever they could collect.

FROM THE PASTOR, con't.
How do you perform spiritual fasting?

Perform spiritual fasting by deliberately removing all or specific food items from your diet for a predetermined period of time. Instead of eating, focus your energy on something else, using the hunger pains to remind you of why you are fasting. Think of people in hunger who do not eat every day. Feel what they feel, by doing so you may imitate your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

First of all, choose what to cut out. When choosing which food to fast from, it is best to start with something small and work up to fasting from all foods. The physical effects of immediately cutting all food sources without practice, especially sugar or fat, can cause headaches, fatigue, and exhaustion.

Next, decide how long to fast. Begin by fasting for just one day and observe how your body is affected. Some people have genetic tendencies to feel more negative effects of fasting than others, so before going multiple days without food it is important to take the time to see how your body reacts to make sure you fast safely. Here in Grace 24/7 Prayer and Fasting Network (PFN) we are fasting from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. the next day. We drink water, tea, and even some fluids such as Cranberry juice, Coconut water and the like.

Focus on the reason for fasting. This often means contemplating

needs or requests according to the will of God. A spiritual fast is never successful unless you are able to focus on the reason for it.

Fasting from food is not for everyone. Some people should not fast from food, those who are pregnant, the young, and those with medical reasons, such as diabetes. In anyway if there is medical issue it is better to consult your doctor before start fasting. Christians today may commit to fasting from other activities as well. Some give up entertainment such as TV or movies to concentrate on prayer. Others fast from sleep or another activity for a specified period of time. There is nothing to lose in attempting a fast. There is no failure, for even if you "fail" to achieve your stated goal, you will have learned and experienced much of value.

~Pr. Tsena

Food Shelf



The Food Shelf Advisory Meeting will be held on Thursday July 1st at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, here at Grace Church. This meeting is open to anyone who wishes to attend. Any thoughts and ideas brought to the meeting will be considered.

Three branches of our ministry

Family ministry	Church ministry	Education ministry
<p>Marriage counseling In Christian families increased the level of divorces. So I with my wife Luda invite families who are going to divorce to our house and we spend several days together with them doing biblical counseling.</p>	<p>Discipleship I have plan according spiritual growth to each member of my church. I help them to understand their spiritual gifts and teach them how to use them in their families, society and church.</p>	<p>Seminary education I teach in Irpin Biblical Seminary from 2012. It is the biggest evangelical seminary in all Europe. We have 365 graduates this year. I teach people who are already in ministry and help to raise their level. I teach soteriology, ecclesiology and exposition of Collosians.</p>
<p>Family visitation 1) We build relationships with young family couples and share Gospel with them. 2) I as pastor in my town visit many families who have financial, medical and spiritual needs. 3) I visit families who lost their love ones in order to comfort them. I do free funeral ceremonies and I try to build relationship with people after that.</p>	<p>Church visitation I am elder pastor in my region, so I visit regularly different churches and help them to resolve their problems, ordain pastors and deacons, I participate in camps and evangelisms, funerals, weddings... Also each church in my region needs to visit one other church each month. I made schedule for them. Bigger churches are responsible for smaller ones and help them in ministry.</p>	<p>Pastoral training Each month I gather all pastors in my region and teach them hermeneutics, expository preaching and theology. (Most of pastors during USSR did not have any theological education), Also I teach them how to do discipleship and biblical counseling.</p>
<p>Home children evangelism My kids Victoria and Dima invite kids of our neighbors' to play together. We feed them, teach them English and tell them about Jesus. We have up to 15 kids in our yard some days. We let to use them trampoline, bicycles, scooters, slides, children's playhouse</p>	<p>Children church evangelism We try to reach kids with Gospel and reach their parents after that. Sometimes people say that we spend more time with kids than their own parents. We train Sunday school teachers in order they have interesting classes for kids. We have not only summer camps but we have all year activity with kids. We take them to retreat centers, zoo, pizza... Also we practice street evangelism and kids are involved in it.</p>	<p>New bible school organization I was invited to teach in many seminaries and bible colleges. I was an academic dean in Kiev Christian University. So I am often invited to help in organization new bible schools. Not all people can go to study in seminary so we open local bible schools for people all over Ukraine. In September I plan to open Bible school for 100 people in my area.</p>

Three branches of our ministry

Family ministry

Marriage counseling



Church ministry

Discipleship



Education ministry

Seminary education



Family visitation



Church visitation



Pastoral training



Home children evangelism



Children church evangelism



New bible school organization



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

June 9, 2021

7:00 P.M.

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

Present: President Jason Carlson, Dorothy Sandberg, Ann Brekken, Nick Walk, Wade Farrell, Gene Haugom, Gary Walter, Hollie Stewart, Yvonne Halvorson, Gene Haugom, Pastor Tsena

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

Devotions: Pastor Tsena lead us in devotions. Based on Hebrews 4:12-16. The text is about connection to God and how we may feel when/if we are disconnected from God. God knows how we feel and he will understand and provide what we need. We must meditate on the word of God. P.U.S.H. (Pray Until Something Happens) Prayer is a two-way communication between God and you.

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

Secretary's Report: Gary moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Wade . Motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report: Yvonne moved to approve. Seconded by Nick. Motion carried.

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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.

GRACE COUNCIL, continued**Treasurer's Report:****Cash Flow Report**

• Undesignated funds available to be used for May's General Fund expenses totaled \$15,501.50. This amount approximately equaled the month's General Fund expenses totaling \$15,667.34.

- Congregational giving to the General Fund was \$14,587.00. The monthly budget goal is \$16,880.54.
- Noteworthy Other Giving:
 - o Miscellaneous - \$500 pass through donation to the food shelf from the Omaha Community Foundation and \$357.52 of capital credits from Garden Valley.

Some of the noteworthy expenses this month included:

Administration – Custodian – No tax payments due to timing.
Mission Outreach –
Miscellaneous – Pass through gift to food shelf.

Pastoral – Health Insurance – Reflects reimbursement to Pastor for his May monthly insurance premium as well as expenses for Pastor Mike's services in April and May. It also includes all other salary and benefit expenses for the first half of May due to Pastor exceeding his 4 weeks of paid vacation.

Personal Compensation – Reflects compensation for the second half of May.

Worship – Organist – No payroll tax due to timing.

Budget Report

- We ended the month at approximately 5.8% or \$11,700 under budget.

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

History of Regular Giving to the General Fund Report

- May's giving was up from April and the highest so far in 2021.
- Looking back since 2011, this was one of the highest offerings for the month of May.
- May 2021 giving was ahead of May 2020 giving by almost \$4,000!

Year-to-date giving is nicely above last year at this time.

History of the General Fund Balance

The May balance reflects a slight decrease from the April General Fund balance.

Account Balances Report

- Building Fund - Reflects donations made during the month. In addition, it reflects expenses for the separate elevator phone line (\$39.35); repairing the pipe leak in the food shelf room (\$418.00); and reimbursement to Nick Walk for video related expenses (\$49.00).
- HS Scholarship CD – Reflects interest earned.

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- * Rosie Kolstad
- * Everett Osland
- * Owen Strom
- * Bev Hamre
- * Paul & Bev Stennes
- * Burton Stennes
- * Steve & Linda Evenson
- * Steve Jacobson
- * Becki Haugen
- * Don Lundin
- * Dean Lindberg
- * Michael Jenson
- * Mark Thompson
- * Torrey Erickson

GRACE COUNCIL, continued

son. Bought 1,300 pounds from the Food Bank and we sent out 1,800 lbs so we did draw down from stock. We also took 205 pounds of food from the Socular employee food drive with the promise of a check coming as well. Looking at only 2021 we have received \$5,543 in donations and we have had \$4,713 in expenses. Needs Wednesday-2 people, June 10 need 5 people June 17 need 5 people. Let Gene know if you are available to work any of those dates. New freezer is in and it is full.

Old Business:

Complete Annual Meeting Ballot: Pioneer Delegates will be Mavis Haugom and Gary Walter. Sarah Strom has agreed to be on the Education Committee. Motion by Hollie to approve. Seconded by Wade. Motion carried.

Education Building Roof: Discussed last month and as reported the company fixing it patched it, but would not guarantee it. Jason and Wade are going to check with the local person from Skinner to see what a full roof replacement would cost. Once that has happened a decision can be made. Wade will try to get more than one bid for comparison purposes.

Continue discussion about getting back to a more 'normal' worship service. We will stay with the communion from the disposable elements that we have been using. We will not be in a hurry with our hymnals yet.

Jason will send a letter again talking about reopening. We must find some backup for Pam and Nick so they can have a day off if needed. We probably need two people. Needs help for July 25th. We are excited to be able to add more fellowship and get people coming back to worship. We might want to consider coffee/cookies again. Hollie will ask if anyone wants to make coffee or coordinate it.

Cleaning service (Maid to Perfection): Jason has not had time to visit with Ryan yet getting a cost from Maid to Perfection. Jason wants to visit with Brian about the building maintenance and keeping up the building without all of the basic cleaning duties.

New Business:

Worship Aides: Ushers-Perhaps not start yet. We don't have communion yet so there really isn't a huge need yet. Giving plates- we will continue to use the boxes. We will take all of this up so we'd be ready to go by September. Nick brought up the wireless system mics and speakers because there was a lower price one on Amazon. We also want to make sure we purchase something that must hopefully be in place once school starts. We want to research well.

Discuss whether or not to meet in July: Yvonne made the motion to not meet in July, Nick seconded. Motion carried.

August retreat: (church convocation 4-6 at Corpus Christi—there is an application that is available

for some financial aid)

Announcements

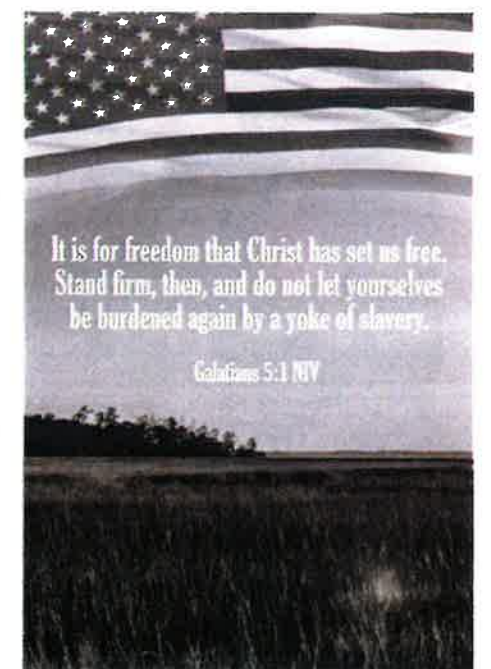
Next council meeting is August Thank you from Jackie Arneson for the opportunity to have Bible Study here at Grace. They served nearly 30 women.

Thank you from Bryce DuChamp for his scholarship. He will be attending UND majoring in Wildlife Management. He gave a wonderful account of his activities and thankfulness.

Adjourn / The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Salvo





Vacation Bible School is coming!

July 26-29, 6:30-8:30 pm

Open to any child entering preschool through 6th grade

Pre-Registration

Registering is helpful but not required. Contact Ann or the church with the following info:

Student name, grade entering, emergency contact name/number, any allergies.

Health Guidelines

The MN Dept of Health continues to recommend but not require masks for anyone unvaccinated. Masks are welcomed but not required at VBS. We will use outside space as long as weather allows and maintain social distancing if we are inside. Contact Ann if you have other questions.

School Supplies Drive

We will be collecting school supplies for the WEM school for the upcoming school year, as well as for our Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. If you'd like to donate school supplies, simply bring them to the church in July or send with your child to VBS!

Volunteers

We will need volunteers to help with classes. If you would like to teach, or you have a junior high/high school student that would like to help, contact Ann.

GRACE COUNCIL, continued

- HS Scholarship Fund – Reflects a donation.
- Oil Fund – Bldg Upkeep reflects a portion of this month's 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.

• Organ Fund – Reflects tuning and maintenance expense.

• Seminar Scholarship CD – Reflects interest earned.

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

Brovold Investment Valuation Report

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

Gunderson Investment Valuation Report

The ending balance increased from last month and is the highest balance ever!

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

Pastor Report: *Establishing Grace Prayer Group:* Plans to start a 24/7 prayer group if possible intensified by fasting. (Fasting is not a must) He has contacted those volunteers to

Pastor Report:

have our first meeting on Monday, June 14, 2021

Grace Youth: We are working to re-organize Grace Youth committee, especially including youth themselves on the committee. We want to give them chances to participate in leadership and decision making. Working with Pr. Tim and his congregation in their plan to do something together with youth.

Confirmation: New plan (pre-confirmation and confirmation) class, we have only two confirmation class students this year.

Adult Bible Study: Adult Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke will commence in August/September 2021 depending upon the school calendar.

Shut-ins, Nursing Home, and Hospital Visitations: Visited with Steve Jacobson at Grand Forks Hospital. Visited Rosie Kolstad ion Crookston Nursing Home and all our people in Pioneer here at Erskine. His phone calls and home visits experiences were fascinating.

Hollie moved to approve. Gene seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: No one present. Jason plans to talk about Stewardship ideas in our retreat in August. Please continue to provide pictures for the bulletin boards. Look for ideas on how to engage people.

Education: Ann reported. VBS will be July 26-29. Materials

have been ordered and information will be given to families. 6:30-8:30 Mon-Thurs.

Youth Group: (see notes on Pastor Tsena's report).

WNALC: Hollie reported. Meet Thurs June 10. Last study in the current Bible Study. 1:30 leadership meeting prior to meeting. Mary will be bring materials on how to make envelopes from calendars and/or pictures. They are going to make envelopes and then send some notes out to people on our list. Auction will be October 6. Becki Lindseth is the chairperson. Hollie will be checking on the status on Mission Circle. Hollie noted the donations for the buckets. June 21 they will pick up the buckets.

Trustees: Wade reported. Sidewalk is completed. Work on the gravel and the striping for the lines next to the sidewalk. Weed spraying has been done. Dean will take care of the paint for the cinder block foundation. Sound issue from the air conditioners is much better. Gary—Thank you for taking care of the bushes.

Deacon: Gene reported. Mary has decided to resign her deacon position. There are two years left on Mary's term so that will need to be fulfilled. We still want to look into Youth Sundays.

Food Shelf: Gene reported. Thank you to Jim, Mavis, Judy, and Betty for working Thursday! May numbers: Pounds distributed 1,836 in May, 26 families served with 71.7 pounds per family and 43.3 pounds per per-

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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
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. WNAI.C	687-3730
Lori Hole	Stewardship	687-3585
Tyler Brekken	Stewardship	687-2205
Bobbi DuChamp	Stewardship	687-3000

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JULY

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 4, 2021**

First Reading - Ezekiel 2:1-5
Psalm - Psalm 123:1-4
Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 12:1-10
Gospel - Mark 6:1-13

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 11, 2021**

First Reading - Amos 7:7-15
Psalm - Psalm 85:1-7, 8-13
Second Reading - Ephesians 1:3-14
Gospel - Mark 6:14-29

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 18, 2021**

First Reading - Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm - Psalm 23:1-6
Second Reading - Ephesians 2:11-22
Gospel - Mark 6:30-44

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 25, 2021**

First Reading - Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm - Psalm 136:1-9
Second Reading - Ephesians 3:14-21
Gospel - Mark 6:45-56



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.



Members of Grace,
Happy Summer! I am writing with an overdue update. First, I would like to recap some decisions regarding worship that were made at the June Council Meeting. By and large, worship will look like it currently does through the rest of the summer. We will continue to rely on the big screen to reading and singing. We will still limit physical contact so shaking hands will not be encouraged. The collection boxes will continue to be used vs. passing plates. These decisions were made due to the fact that worship seems to be going well and we would like for those who may want to start attending again to feel comfortable while we are in our lower attendance summer period. The council plans to meet in early August to revisit the topic and plan a sort of Rally Sunday for all of our members. We are not far away from that call to worship that I had hoped to make so long ago! So, if you haven't yet attended worship in-person because you haven't been comfortable, you are welcome to start again while we are still showing a bit of caution. We will certainly continue our video ministry into the future but there are wonderful benefits to worshipping together in the same place.

I will close with a reminder. I ask that we all be thankful for the many active ministries we have at Grace. We have been blessed by so many volunteers and the dedication they have shown to keep their groups connected to our church to again share fellowship in Christ. Please pray for the leaders and participants in our many ministries and don't be shy with expressing your thanks when you have the opportunity. We are blessed at Grace.

~~Jason Carlson, President



**July School Supplies
Drive Back to School/
Operation Christmas
Child**

The Grace Education Committee is holding a school supplies drive through the month of July along with Vacation Bible School. All supplies collected will be donated to the Win-E-Mac school and our Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes this winter. You can bring supplies to church any Sunday in July or send them with during VBS, Ju-

Here is a list of suggested items:

- *backpacks
- *ear buds/headphones
- *dry erase markers
- *folders
- *notebooks
- *markers
- *colored pencils
- *highlighters
- *pencil boxes
- *scissors
- *crayons
- *glue sticks
- *hair brushes
- *combs
- *toothbrushes
- *toothpaste
- *soap with holder
- *washcloths
- *deodorant

Thank you!

Grace Education Committee