

# The Scroll

Grace Lutheran  
Church

June 2022

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL MEETING

May 11, 2022

7:00 P.M.

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

**Present:** President Jason Carlson, Nick Walk, Hollie Stewart, Yvonne Halvorson, Gene Haugom, Lori Hole, Wade Farrell, Ann Brekken, Jim Ferden

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

**Devotions:** Jason discussed vigilance from a devotion by Billy Graham. "Take away the apathy that often blinds my vision" prayer by Billy Graham. We all need to be responsible and called to action to help serve.

**Approve Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda by Gene. Seconded by Lori. Motion carried.

**Secretary's Report:** Nick moved to approve April minutes. Seconded by Wade. Motion carried.

### **Financial Secretary's Report:**

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

### **Treasurer's Report:**

#### Cash Flow Report

- Undesignated funds available to be used for April's General Fund expenses totaled \$18,429.57. This amount was well above the month's General Fund expenses totaling \$14,895.66.
- Congregational giving to the General Fund was \$15,200.00. The monthly budget goal is \$19,160.69.
- Noteworthy Other Giving:
  - o Thrivent Choice Program – \$890.00
  - o Miscellaneous - \$60.00 donated by the congregation to Grace To Ukraine.
- Noteworthy Outreach Giving:
  - o Anonymous donation of \$2,500 to World Missions.

Some of the noteworthy expenses this month included:

Education:

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The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday June 8th at 7:00 PM. All meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise stated.

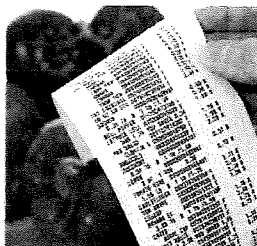


- May 1st:**  
Attendance~76  
Offering~\$2,720.00
- May 8th:**  
Attendance~98  
Offering~\$2,910.00
- May 15th:**  
Attendance~ 50  
Offering~ \$1,473.00
- May 22nd:**  
Attendance~ 40  
Offering~\$795.50



The Grace WNALC will meet on Thursday June 9th at 2:00 p.m. Group #3 will serve. All women are invited to attend.

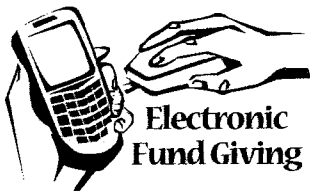
- Hope Circle:** June 22nd 9:00 AM at the church
- Rebecca Circle:** June 23rd 6:30 PM at the church.



**REMINDER** – Please save your grocery receipts from Groceries Plus in Erskine and Jered's Grocery in McIntosh. Both stores are donating 1percent 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.



- \* Marlene Ross
- \* Arlene Bly
- \* Allen Jenson
- \* Everett Osland
- \* Steve & Linda Evenson
- \* Steve Jacobson
- \* Becki Haugen
- \* Judy Boucher
- \* Jolene Bradley
- \* Mark Thompson
- \* Torrey Erickson
- \* Mark LaPlante
- \* Grace Call Committee
- \* Ukraine



### 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](http://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**

Please update this to read - Our church has several special funds to meet needs that can't be met through our General Fund. Currently, these special funds are: Building Maintenance/Improvements, Sunday School Outreach, Vacation Bible School, and Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes. In addition, our church houses the Grace Community 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.

### March 2022 Financial Summary

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$12,720.00

Expenses:

Administrative - \$8,409.48

Education - \$246.25

Mission Outreach - \$6,968.00

Pastoral - \$2,948.66

Worship - \$709.13

Total Expenses - \$19,281.52

### April 2022 Financial Summary

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$15,200.00

Expenses:

Administrative - \$7,003.87

Education - \$425.08

Mission Outreach - \$3,897.00

Pastoral - \$2,948.66

Worship - \$621.05

Total Expenses - \$14,895.66

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

Bible Camp – Reimbursement for bible camp tuition.

Miscellaneous – Year-end gifts for Sunday School & Release Time teachers.

Mission Outreach: Miscellaneous - \$60.00 was passed through to the Grace To Ukraine mission; \$2,500.00 was passed through to World Missions; \$587.00 was passed through to Grace Cemetery Association; and \$50.00 was passed through to the Grace Food Shelf.

Budget Report

- We ended the month at approximately 9.9% or \$22,900 under budget.
- All of the major budgeted expense categories ended under budget for the month, with the exception of Mission Outreach due to previously discussed reasons.

History of Regular Giving to the General Fund Report

- Giving is up nicely from last month.
- April giving is the second highest so far in 2022.
- This is the best year-to-date giving since 2018.

This is the third highest year-to-date giving since 2011.

History of the General Fund Balance

- The April balance reflects a nice increase from March's bal-

ance.

- The General Fund balance is the second highest to date in 2022.

The April balance includes the \$25,000 CD.

Account Balances Report

- Building Fund - Reflects donations made during the month and expenses for the separate elevator phone line (\$38.66).
- 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 Outreach Fund – Reflects a donation as well as the monthly gift of \$38 to Compassion International and a gift of \$196.45 in pet supplies for the Polk County Humane Society.

Brovold Investment Valuation Report

- There was no report for 4/30/22. However, the balance on 5/9 was \$59,354.24.

This is down slightly from March's balance.

Gunderson Investment Valuation Report

The ending balance decreased \$2,000 over last month.

Wade made a motion to approve. Seconded by Nick. Mo-

tion approved.

**Pastor's Report:** All is going well.

**Committee Reports:**

*Stewardship:* Lori reported. Received pictures of quilts made by the Grace ladies from Dorothy and Hollie. Stewardship bulletin board has been updated. Lori got the frame that had been purchased to display the current council members and it has been put up by the elevator. Lori will ask Mary for the picture she took of Andrew receiving recognition for his outstanding service during Covid. She will display that on the Stewardship bulletin board.

*Education:* Ann reported. The last Sunday of Sunday School went very well. Education committee will meet and discuss this year's program to evaluate what went well, and what they would like to improve. Completed Released Time instruction. Ann put in a special Thank you to Hollie. SS made gift cards for Sunday School and Released Time teachers. The Council wants to acknowledge a big "Thank you!" to Ann for an outstanding job.

*Youth Group:* No formal report. Ann said they would talk and see if they can plan some kind of an activity this summer, perhaps with the Food Shelf for a shopping day. She will give more information after a decision is made.

*NALCW:* Hollie reported.

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**GRACE COUNCIL, continued**

Meeting tomorrow with Group 3 serving. Bible Study with Mary on "Women in the Bible". Activity will be more card making. For the Alexandria meeting that some of the ladies attended, we sent box of Bibles, a box of personal care kits, a box of devotionals, and two Walmart gift cards as donations from our NALCW.

*Trustees:* Wade reported. Bad news is the sump pump in the parsonage died. Gene picked up another one the next day and all is well. Parsonage got about 4" of water during these last rains. Good news was four people received furnace training from Ryan if the furnace should go down. They should be able to get the furnace going before having to call Sandhill. The tree in front of the parsonage is looking bad and it needs to be addressed. This is especially important when there are cars parked in front of it during funerals or weddings, etc. It will need to be taken down by a professional. Paint has been chosen for the block. It is a dark brown that will match the windows and the metal dark brown trim. Gene indicated that the parsonage garage needs to be cleaned.

*Deacons:* No report.

*Video Tech:* Nick reported. The entire sound system has finally arrived! Nick will learn how to install it. Again we say "Thank you" Nick!

*Food Shelf:* Gene reported.

**Committee Reports:**

- o Thank you to Mavis, Gene, Betty, Shirley, Myles, and Gerri for working on the 21st!
- o 2,350 pounds were distributed. They provided food for 15 families. The average is 17 so we can expect another big day next week (on the 28th). There were two new families that registered this week. We have 37 families registered for the food shelf and we average about 27 actually shopping each month.
- o \$12,111.07 grant that Dave H. applied for was received. The dollars can be used for a variety of things. They also received another \$500 donation.

*Welcome Committee:* No report. Talked about down the road having Welcome Packets available for new people.

*Call Committee:* We are officially posted to the website and our Profile is complete.

**Old Business:**

Need for a Deacon: No discussion. PLEASE prayerfully consider this. We need someone to serve.

Discussion regarding Worship / Covid: All going well and if we have a large attendance we could have two lines to solve any congestion issues.

Space Study, Food Shelf building, Michael J. Burns Architect

Michael J. Burns Architect, came here on Monday to look at our list of wants/needs for our building. Space in our Education area is

priority.

Discussed some options for combining some of our SS rooms to better facilitate our needs with combined classes.

Discussed some of the other issues regarding some wants.

They also discussed some of the code issues that can come up with an old building. Jason found some former plans in the office in regard to past additions and that gave a better picture of what and how the building has been constructed. Also discussed with Burns was our SS roof.

Potential options regarding the Food Shelf's location we discussed.

We are going to get answers to many of the questions, requests, and options that we might have. The committee is dedicated to making an educated decision based solid architectural advice. Burns will now put together some proposals for us. He plans to have them ready for our June meeting if possible.

First Aid Kit: Jason talked to Kim about ordering some. Previously we had talked about getting three fully stocked kits. After discussions with Mary and Wendy, who are medical people, they felt we do not need more than one comprehensive kit that is going to be hung up in a central location. We could still have a small kit in the kitchen with some minor supplies.

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**GRACE COUNCIL, continued****New Business:**

Update from the recent Minkota-E. SD Mission District's Convocation in Alexandria. Jim reported. Bishop will be up for reelection next year. We currently have 470 congregations. We have been existence for 12 years. 40-45 pastors are studying at this time. This year about 20-25 pastors will be retiring and only 5 pastors per year are graduating. There is a special track for ordination under special circumstances that does allow for some pastors to speed up their education. NALC is starting a new fund raising campaign to raise \$5,000,000 over the next 3 years. Especially noted is these dollars ARE NOT going to be spent on new facility needs in Dallas. As of May 1 they are going to add another layer of assistance for the Bishop by dividing into 5 regions.

Convocation will be held "in person" in Oklahoma City in August. They held a brief Mission District meeting with South Dakota. They needed to refresh memories on council positions and other business since they had been unable to meet due to Covid.

There is a desire to talk about the shrubs around the church as we are slated to get our block foundation painted when conditions are right. Motion by Nick to remove shrubs on the south and west side of the church, and replace with greenery. Seconded by Lori. Motion carried.

**Announcements**

Next month's meeting date is June 8 at 7:00 p.m.

**Adjourn****The Lord's Prayer**

Respectfully submitted,



Yvonne Halvorson

Happy  
FATHER'S  
Day



**OUR CHURCH'S  
HISTORY**

*Parish Education*

Grace Church continues to support youth for Bible camp, mission trips, and active Release Time, Sunday School, and VBS programs.

*Sunday School*—Recognizing the need for the Christian education of their youth, the founders of the congregation began a Sunday School in 1892 with T.S. Langhie as Sunday School Superintendent. In the early 1900's, they held parochial school for 2 1/2 – 3 months every summer. This was held in Knute Town Hall, Oppegard School, and in town. Sunday School was also held in the home of Martin Benson for several years. The present Sunday School addition was dedication in December 1961.

**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
Gary Walter	Deacon	687-3074
John Carlson	Deacon	
Gene Haugom	Trustee	563-3292
Wade Farrell	Trustee	563-2216
Ray LaBrecque	Trustee	
Ann Brekken	Superintendent / Education	687-2205
Sarah Strom	Education	687-3488
Pam Walk	Education	637-2219
Shar Hill	Education	
Hollie Stewart	Pres. WNALC	687-3730
Lori Hole	Stewardship	687-3585
Tyler Brekken	Stewardship	687-2205
Becki Lindseth	Stewardship	

**LECTIONARY READINGS FOR  
JUNE****Day of Pentecost****June 5, 2022**

First Reading - Genesis 11:1-9

Psalm - Psalm 143:1-12

Second Reading - Acts 2:1-21

Gospel - John 14:23-31

**The Holy Trinity****June 12, 2022**

First Reading - Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalm - Psalm 8:1-9

Second Reading - Acts 2:14a, 22-36

Gospel - John 8:48-59

**Second Sunday after Pentecost****June 19, 2022**

First Reading - Isaiah 65:1-9

Psalm - Psalm 3:1-8

Second Reading - Galatians 3:23-4:7

Gospel - Luke 8:26-39

**Third Sunday after Pentecost****June 26, 2022**

First Reading - 1 Kings 19:9b-21

Psalm - Psalm 16:1-11

Second Reading - Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Gospel - Luke 9:51-62



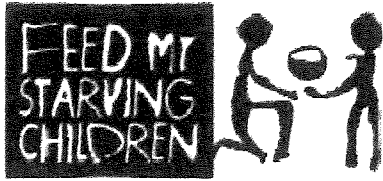
# Letter to my sponsor

1 August 2022

May 10, 2022. Shalom, So happy to write back a letter from you. I hope you are doing just fine like me. I'm doing just fine here. I like to help my parents to take care of my siblings and help to wash dishes, in school, my midterm is coming up soon and I pray that I can get good grades. And I study really hard to move up to level three in middle school and also my activity in compassion project as usual and I am taking guitar music lessons and computer and Thank God I know many things from my siblings that also teach me and I also happy to learn a banner attraction and pray for me

to always be in God's protection and also God always blessed my parents and I pray for you that you are in a good health and blessed by Lord Jesus. I'm so happy and grateful to Jesus that you are still sponsoring me faithfully. That is all from me. Shalom God bless





### *Greetings in Christ:*

We are pleased to report that over 50 Christian churches, plus individuals, businesses and schools, participated in packing 280,000 meals for hungry children March 25-26 in the Grand Forks Minnkota Building—enough to feed 768 kids for one whole year.

We want to thank you for your support, your prayers, your volunteers and your funding that made this effort possible. In addition, volunteers brought supplies for a food pantry.

The bulk of the meals were shipped to Christian distribution organizations in Haiti (101,000) and Honduras (163,300) with some (17,800) in the Eagan FMSC warehouse for later crises.

The 2022 packing brought the total for the last 11 packings to 3,880,000 meals and \$934,000. Looking back, this has been an incredible record for the Christians in our region.

Because of the enthusiastic support in Northeast North Dakota and Northwest Minnesota, we are planning another packing of 282,000 on March 25-26, 2023.

If your church has not been an active participant in the past, we invite you to be a partner in this mission work. By planning your church's support early, it would be possible to make it an all-

Church event through the church budgeting or special fund-raising.

It has been a privilege for us to provide this opportunity to serve Christ side-by-side with other Christian denominations.

Thank you again and may God bless your ministries.

*Serving the Savior Together*

*Bruce & Jodie Storhaug*



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Grace Lutheran church has a beginning foundation of 7 people dedicated to praying 24/7.

Pastor Tsena made an invite to begin a prayer group to have someone praying intentionally each day of the week.

Each of the 7 have one day of the week dedicated to prayer.

Our first goal and prayer would be to increase our numbers to 31 persons anxious to participate in communicating with God and growing in relationship with Him and our community.

The 7 of us meet Monday evenings from 6-7 pm in the church basement. Why? To share our week experiences with growth in prayer. Encouragement to continue prayers that “seem” unanswered and give thanks and celebration for the answered and to be answered prayers.

“Pray without ceasing” 1 Thessalonians 5:17. A huge task especially when we do not live a cloistered life.

So, we are learning from scripture, the Holy Spirit and each other to **DEPEND ON GOD, PRAY REPEATEDLY AND OFTEN, STAY STEADFAST AND BE DISCIPLINED.**

“Praying without ceasing is as easy as breathing when you make prayer **part of your lifestyle.** That way it pleases God and satisfies Paul's advice. Therefore, you can pray while you work, while taking a shower, while waiting at a stoplight and while doing everything else in the course of a day.

You do not have to kneel, prostrate yourself on the floor, look toward heaven, or close your eyes to pray. Audible praying is just one way to pray. Let prayer be **part of your lifestyle.**” Rev. M. Minnicks

Would you join us on Mondays, and we will share with you our focused prayers for this church, community, country, universal church and more. We need you!  
*24/7 Group*

# JUNE 2022 *Grace Lutheran Church*

\*CIRCLES\*  
 Hope at the church  
 Rebecca at the church

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

**Communion Assistants:**  
 Paul & Kim Mahlen

**Altar Flowers:**  
 Hope Circle

**Altar Guild:**  
 Lori Hole

**R= Reader**  
**A=Acolyte**  
**P=Power Point**

**JUNE 5th:**  
**R** Mary Bratrud  
**A** Jareth Walk and Owen Strom  
**P** Brooklyn Gunderson and Presley Haugen

**JUNE 12th:**  
**R** Tyler Brekken  
**A** Josie Fortman and Presley Haugen  
**P** Calvin Hill and Riley Kochman

**JUNE 19th:**  
**R** Kim Mahlen  
**A** Calvin Hill and Riley Kochman  
**P** Jayden Haugen and Rian Berg  
**JUNE 26th:**  
**R** Betty Lundin  
**A** Jayden Haugen and Rian Berg  
**P** Josie Johnson and Jordyn Halstenson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7pm-Rebroadcast	2 7pm-Rebroadcast	3 9am-Rebroadcast	4 9am-Rebroadcast
5 10:30am- Worship w/Holy Comm.	6 9:30am-LBS 10am- Worship Re-broadcast 6pm-24/7 Prayer Group	7 8:00am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	8 7pm-Council Mtg. 7pm-Rebroadcast	9 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-WNALC	10 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-WNALC	12 9am-Rebroadcast
13 10:30am- Worship w/Holy Comm.	14 9:30am -LBS 10am- Worship Re-broadcast 6pm-24/7 Prayer Group	15 8:00am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	16 7pm-Rebroadcast	17 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-WNALC	18 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-WNALC	19 9am-Rebroadcast
20 10:30am- Worship	21 9:30am-LBS 10am- Worship Re-broadcast 6pm-24/7 Prayer Group	22 8:00am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	23 9am-Hope Circle 7pm-Rebroadcast	24 6:30pm-Rebecca Circle	25 6:30pm-Rebecca Circle	26 9am-Rebroadcast
27 10:30am- Worship	28 9:30am-LBS 10am- Worship Re-broadcast 6pm-24/7 Prayer Group	29 8:00am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	30 7pm-Rebroadcast			
			<b>Greeters:</b> 5th: David & Becky Lindseth 13th: Jeff Lucken	20th: John Lucken 27th: Don & Betty Lundin		