

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

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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# The Scroll

**Grace Lutheran  
Church**

July 2022

## *Fourth of July Poem*

*Written by Steve Patterson*

*Freedom came with a price, the price of  
Christ blood shed on the Cross.*

*Our Lord and Savior saved us all from our  
sins.*

*Unrighteous we may be, but the grace us  
God set us free.*

*Rely on God, He will show our paths.*

*The truth is in God's Word, the Bible, His  
Holy Book.*

*Helping one another along the way.*

*Obedient to what God wants us to do.*

*Father, Creator, God is He.*

*Jesus died for our sins.*

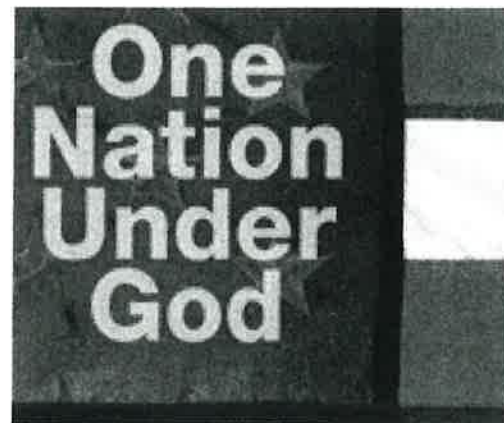
*United one day, we believers will be in  
Heaven.*

*Love one another as Christ loved us.*

*You are a special creation made from God,  
our Heavenly Father.*

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**NO MEETING  
IN JULY**



The Grace WNALC will meet on Thursday July 14th at 2:00 p.m. Group #5 will serve. All women are invited to attend.

**Hope Circle:** July 27th 9:00 AM at the church

**Rebecca Circle:** Does not meet during the summer

- \* 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
- \* Nursing Home members
- \* Grace Call Committee
- \* Ukraine

**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.



**Happy 4th of July!**

- May 29th:**  
Attendance~62  
Offering~\$1,000.00
- June 5th:**  
Attendance~ 48  
Offering~\$3,760.00
- June 12th:**  
Attendance~ 72  
Offering~ \$2,110.00
- June 19th:**  
Attendance~ 54  
Offering~\$1,545.00
- June 26th:**  
Attendance~55  
Offering~\$1,907.00



**JULY 2022** *Grace Lutheran Church*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 10:30am- Worship w/Holy Comm.	4 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast 6pm-24/7 Prayer Group	5 8:00am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	6 7pm-Rebroadcast	7 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-WNALC	8 15	9 9am- Rebroadcast
10 10:30am- Worship w/Holy Comm.	11 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast 6pm-24/7 Prayer Group	12 8:00am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	13 7pm-Rebroadcast	14 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open 2pm-WNALC	15	16 9am- Rebroadcast
17 10:30am-Worship	18 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast 6pm-24/7 Prayer Group	19 8:00am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	20 7pm-Rebroadcast	21 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open	22	23 9am- Rebroadcast
24 10:30am-Worship	25 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast 6pm-24/7 Prayer Group	26 8:00am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	27 9am-Hope Circle 7pm-Rebroadcast	28	29	30 9am- Rebroadcast
31 10:30am-Worship			<b>Greeters:</b> 3rd: Paul & Kim Mahlen 10th: Mark & Cindy Nelson	17th: Anne Nevin 24th: Jeff & Kris Normes	31st: Debbie Noyes	

\*CIRCLES\*

Hope at the church  
Rebecca no meeting

**Ushers :**  
Lee Hoas  
Jim Ferden  
Brady Lee  
Ray LaBrecque family  
Randy Lee family

**Communion Assistants:**  
Liz Jenson and Yvonne Halvorson

**Altar Flowers:**  
Rebecca Circle

**Altar Guild:**  
Mary Bratrud

**R= Reader**  
**A=Acolyte**  
**P=Power Point**  
**JULY 3rd:**  
R~ Joanne Sannes  
A~ Josie Johnson and Jordyn Halstenson

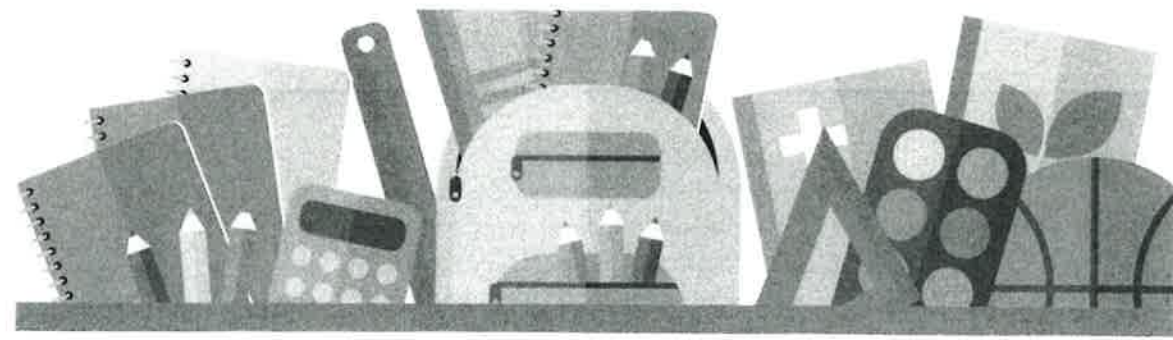
**P~ Cameron Svalen and Claire Juve**  
**JULY 10th:**  
R~ Yvonne Halvorson  
A~ Cameron Svalen and Claire Juve

**P~ Hayden Johnson and Carter Fortman**  
**JULY 17th:**  
R~ Nancy Jenson  
A~ Carson Fortman and Carter Fortman

**P~ Jarreth Walk and Lillian Shimpa**  
**JULY 24th:**  
R~ Paul Mahlen  
A~ Jarreth Walk and George Juve

**P~ Josie Fortman and Presley Haugen**  
**JULY 31st:**  
R~Dorothy Sandberg  
A~Hayden Johnson and Charley Carlson

**P~Calvin Hill and Riley Kochman**



## 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 shoebox project this winter. You can bring supplies to church any Sunday in July or send them with during VBS, August 1-4.

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



### 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 –



### May 2022 Financial Summary

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$13,028.50

Expenses:

Administrative - \$6,819.31

Education - \$457.15

Mission Outreach - \$750.00

Pastoral - \$2,948.66

Worship - \$798.26

Total Expenses - \$11,773.38

### **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.



Psalm 33:12

GRACE LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING

June 8, 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, Gary Walter, John Carlson, Wade Farrell, Ann Brekken, Jim Ferden, Dorothy Sandberg

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

**Devotions:** Jason gave a devotion about wisdom. God gives us his wisdom generously. Ask God for his wisdom and think about what roles we have as church leaders to use that knowledge for the betterment of our congregation, and to follow the mission of this church.

**Approve Agenda:** Motion to approve the amended agenda by Gary. Seconded by Nick. Motion carried.

**Secretary's Report:** Lori moved to approve amended May minutes. Seconded by Wade. Motion carried.

**Financial Secretary's Report:** Dorothy reported.

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

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Cash Flow Report**

- Undesignated funds available to be used for May's General Fund expenses totaled \$15,654.37. This amount was well above the month's General Fund expenses totaling \$11,773.38.

- Congregational giving to the General Fund was \$13,028.50. The monthly budget goal is \$19,160.69.

- Noteworthy Other Giving:
  - Miscellaneous - \$2,238.19 from Garden Valley capital credits.

Some of the noteworthy expenses this month included:

Education: Bible Camp – Reimbursement for bible camp tuition.

Miscellaneous – Pass through donation to the youth group (\$50) and food for the last day of SS (\$42.03).

Mission Outreach: Miscellaneous - \$50.00 was passed through to the Grace Food Shelf.

Worship: Worship Aids – Renewal of online worship resource from Sola Publishing.

#### Budget Report

- We ended the month at approximately 13.2% or \$30,300 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 down from last month.

- May giving is the third highest so far in 2022.

- This is the best year-to-date giving since 2018.

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

#### History of the General Fund Balance

- The May balance reflects a nice increase from April's balance.

- The General Fund balance is the highest ever!

The May 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 (\$38.57) and sound equipment from Tricorne Audio (\$4,719.51).

- HS Scholarship CD – CD was renewed in May. Balance reflects interest and additional \$3,000 added to the balance from the HS Scholarship Fund.

- HS Scholarship Fund – Reflects a donation and a \$3,000 transfer to the HS Scholarship CD.

- 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.

*Continued on Page 5*

## 2 John 4-6

*<sup>4</sup>It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us. <sup>5</sup>And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another. <sup>6</sup>And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.*

There is a temptation for Christians to view their church the way they view their neighborhood gas station—a place to get what you want, fill up, wipe your windows, get a snack, and move on, totally oblivious to the other people that are there. John urges us to grow in love in our congregations, that is, to work on our relationships, to practice kindness and mercy, to listen to another's troubles, to carry one another's burdens, to speak kindly, to forgive the slights and wounds we have received, to encourage others and build them up, and to find satisfaction not only in getting but in giving.

*~Submitted*



#### 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.

, 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!



During the past 125 years, Grace Church has been part of multi-church ministries, including neighboring churches: Broderheim, Saron, Hitterdal, Calvary (Winger), Maple Lake, Rodnes, and Faith (Mentor) Lutheran Churches. Since 2010, Grace Church cared for its ministry as a single ministry site.

The following pastors have faithfully served our congregation: N. Heierman 1891-1892; J. Brynulson 1892-1895; A. Wikre 1895-1897; C. Dalager 1897-1903; A. M. Lunde 1903-1904; J. B. A. Dale 1904-1908; N. H. Lind 1908-1914; O. V. Einerson 1915-1919; A. N. Skogerboe 1919-1953; P. E. Onstad 1953-1975; D. Everson 1975-1978; H. Peterson 1978-1982; S. J. Elness 1982-1990; K. Sanderson 1990-2000; Peter Satren 2002-2005; T. W. Lundeen 2005-20018; Tsena Dinnsa 2021.

Interim pastors who have served over the years: David Nygaard, Paul Larson, Charles Smith, Charles Anderson, Robert Rains, Aage Carlson, Scott Baker and Mike Sletto.



## Vacation Bible School will be MONUMENTAL this year! Music, science lessons, games, snacks-all focused on God's Monumental love for us.

Join us **August 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** Classes are available for those entering PreK through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. (Students entering grades 7 and up are encouraged to come and help!)

You do not need to be a member of Grace to attend-invite your friends! There is no cost.

There are also many ways to volunteer and support our VBS ministry. We need adults interesting in teaching easy to follow lessons each night. Don't feel like teaching? You can lead games, music, snack, or our science center. Other ways to help include assisting with registration (checking kids in) each night as they arrive, serving a snack after our family program, or even helping decorate before VBS starts.

Use this link to quickly register students for VBS and to sign up to volunteer:  
<https://www.myvbs.org/graceerskine/>

### Questions? Contact us!

Ann Brekken:  
 218-280-8580 (call or text)  
[ann.brekken@yahoo.com](mailto:ann.brekken@yahoo.com)

Grace Church:  
 687-4035

Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/GraceSundaySchoolErskine>

#### GRACE COUNCIL, continued

- Oil Fund - Missions reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas revenue.
- Seminary Scholarship CD - CD was renewed in May. Balance reflects additional interest.
- SS Outreach Fund – Reflects the monthly gift of \$38 to Compassion International.

VBS Fund – Reflects the purchase of some materials (\$94.17).

#### Brovold Investment Valuation Report

The balance is up slightly from last month's balance.

#### Gunderson Investment Valuation Report

The ending balance increased nicely over last month.

Jim noted the Capital Credit check from Garden Valley. Year-to-date giving is strong under our current situation. Scholarship CDs up for renewal and that's been taken care of. Ashley Gagner from Ameriprise called to talk to Jim about some investment changes. Jim discussed the annual cemetery contribution that we make with her.

Motion by Nick to approve. Seconded by Ann. Motion carried.

**Pastor Report:** None

#### **Committee Reports:**

*Stewardship:* Lori reported. Received pictures from Mary of Andrew receiving his gift from the congregation for his out-

standing service during Covid. Stewardship bulletin board has been updated.

*Education:* Ann reported. Received another very nice thank you note for cards the SS had sent. Vacation Bible School supplies have been ordered. School supplies fund raiser will be planned again this year. Five children at Bible Camp this week.

*Youth Group:* Ann will be talking to Mavis about the group volunteering for the food shelf. Jim indicated that the aluminum cans are building up and will have to be dealt with again.

*NALCW:* Hollie reported. Meeting on June 9 with Group 4 serving. Planning for a short meeting because it is Amy Ness's 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday celebration at Ness Café. Mavis Finseth and grandchildren will provide music. The Mission Banks that go for disaster relief will be collected. Lori asked if we should consider making the number of people per serving group more even. Some of our groups have 6, others 5, and then some only 4. Hollie will bring this up at the next meeting. To date we have 84 folding chairs that were accounted for in the church. There are supposed to be 100. We need to account for the missing chairs and ask for their return. There will need to be an announcement made at church services and in the newsletter. It was noted at there are 4 in the parsonage so there are 88. Hope Circle meets Wed. Rebecca does

not meet.

*Trustees:* Wade reported. Gene will check with Tessa Balstad about the possible painting start time. Cardboard has been removed from the garage. Gene will get some info about the possibility of getting the missing metal caps on the exterior of the church made. Locks in the parsonage have been changed. Need to contact Jason Haugen about the tree in front of the parsonage that needs taking down. We need an estimate.

*Deacons:* Gary reported. We all need to be responsible and called to action. Gary noted that we have a lot of servants in our church that are answering the call to action. Made a number of visitations, and are planning to add the Country Place to the list. During the visitations they are making sure to remind all of our TV ministry. They revisited and brought flowers to all of the original sites. They plan to expand their visitations to include the staff from time to time with a small gift to acknowledge appreciation for their kind care.

*Video Tech:* Nick reported. Going to get started on installing the new audio equipment.

*Food Shelf:* Gene reported. New management: Two coordinators: Mavis Haugom and Vicki Gustafson and Jim Ferden, treasurer. Initiated Grace Community Food Shelf Newsletter which will include simple, nutritious recipes given out monthly. Received a \$12,111.47 grant from May 2022

*Continued on Page 6*

**GRACE COUNCIL, continued**

to July 2023 for expenditures. THIS IS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN. MONTHLY SERVICE STATISTIC Households - 20; New Visit - 1; Pounds of Food - 1473.3. If anyone from the church just wants to see how the food shelf is run and do not want to be a volunteer, that we can do. It probably is run a lot differently than you think.

*Welcome Committee:* No report. Mary made some welcome bags for visitors. We thank her for that.

*Call Committee:* John reported. Have held a "get to know" meeting with a potential pastor. Committee agreed unanimously to pursue. The candidate is interested in setting up a formal interview. References are being contacted. They are setting up some possible times for a meeting. John received the new updated financial package info from Pastor Shelley.

**Old Business:**

*Need for a Deacon~* Hollie will approach a perspective person. John and Gary will give an explanation about being a Deacon and what would be involved in this position at Sunday services. *Discussion regarding Worship / Covid~* All going well.

*Michael J. Burns Architect~* Received the proposal from Mike Burns for formal architectural plans. (proposal on file) The plans he proposed were based on our list of wants/needs and what

some of these options would look at.

This plan includes the essential need of the roof repair. Additional suggestions that have been made include: Sunday School room renovation to address our changing room size needs, 150 person new space in the courtyard, emergency exit from the balcony.

This proposal would give us the professional input that we would be able to use for planning this project over the next year. We feel strongly about hiring an architect so that we get the professional expertise that would enable us to address meaningfully some of the additional wants/needs.

Our roof is priority and is certainly a need. However, we need to be able to make educated decisions about our roof based on the variety of choices that we can possibly consider. We need to know what the footprint of our building will look like before we undergo the cost and plans for the roof. The roof project can be our window of opportunity to make some additional changes. We must consider our long-term needs.

Prior to getting the proposal done is the question "should we propose the idea of a fellowship hall to the congregation to see if there is enough interest to pursue this suggestion with the architect?" This would change the footprint of our existing building.

Funds to pay for architectural

plans would come from the Oil Building Fund and Building Fund accounts..

Ann made a motion to solicit feedback from the congregation prior to establishing the scope of work with the architect. Seconded by Nick. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

No July Council meeting. Gene moved for no meeting. Gary seconded. Motion carried.

**Announcements**

No July council meeting

**Adjourn**

**The Lord's Prayer**

Respectfully submitted,



**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 JULY**

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost July 3, 2022**

First Reading - Isaiah 66:10-14  
Psalm - Psalm 66:1-7  
Second Reading - Galatians 6:1-10, 14-18  
Gospel - Luke 10:1-20

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost July 10, 2022**

First Reading - Leviticus 18:1-5, 19:9-18  
Psalm - Psalm 41:1-13  
Second Reading - Colossians 1:1-14  
Gospel - Luke 10:25-37

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost July 17, 2022**

First Reading - Genesis 18:1-10a, 10b-14  
Psalm - Psalm 27:1-6, 7-14  
Second Reading - Colossians 1:21-29  
Gospel - Luke 10:38-42

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 24, 2022**

First Reading - Genesis 18:17-19 (20-33)  
Psalm - Psalm 138:1-8  
Second Reading - Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)  
Gospel - Luke 11:1-13

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost July 31, 2022**

First Reading - Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-26  
Psalm - Psalm 100:1-5  
Second Reading - Colossians 3:1-11  
Gospel - Luke 12:13-21



The Grace Food Shelf Advisory Board will hold a meeting on Tuesday July 12th at 2:00 PM here at Grace Church. This meeting is open to any who wish to attend.