

# The Scroll

Grace Lutheran  
Church

June 2024

## PASTOR'S CORNER

### The Hope of Faith

How beautiful it is to see the fields begin to green. It is the season of planting. There is a great deal of faith in this process. Fields are tilled, the soil prepared. Seeds are planted. All this with an expectation of a good harvest. That is faith. There is nothing that one can do to make seeds grow except to give the right conditions. It is God who has placed within the ability and sequence of growth – of life. Farmers, gardeners, too, have faith that something will grow. It's a matter of nurturing and of waiting.

The Hope of Faith is no small deal. God promises us that no matter what, there is a good harvest coming in our lives. The seed of faith planted takes root and grows as we keep a prepared heart.

*Psalm 128:1-2 A Song of Ascents. Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways! <sup>2</sup> You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.*

Hope in the Lord, walk in his ways sowing the Word, walking with Him, nurturing the faith and looking forward to the promise of the harvest of faith – good things and life eternal.

It takes faith to live through the storms. But faith is of God. Faith is a work of Holy Spirit. Let the hope of faith keep you grounded and looking up.

*Psalm 121:1-8 A Song of Ascents. I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? <sup>2</sup> My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. <sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. <sup>4</sup> Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. <sup>5</sup> The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. <sup>6</sup> The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. <sup>7</sup> The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. <sup>8</sup> The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.*

The fields do produce eventually. An end to troubles comes for us, too. Though *weeping endures for the night, joy comes in the morning.* (Psalm 30:5 paraphrased).

In ministry together,  
Pastor Pam

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The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday June 12th at 7:30 PM. A reminder that all regular council meetings are open to all members of Grace Church.



The Grace WNALC will meet on Thursday June 13th at 2:00 PM. Group #6 will serve.



- \* Jon Clementson
- \* Pastor Pam Thorson
- \* Annette Farder
- \* Steve Jacobson
- \* Carr Smeby
- \* Wendy Smeby
- \* Maci Smeby
- \* Allen Jenson
- \* Steve & Linda Evenson
- \* Becki Haugen
- \* Dianne Hamre
- \* Pr. Tim Lundeen
- \* Bob Magnussen
- \* Dan Salvhus
- \* Jesse Hickman
- \* Dustin Close
- \* Greg Kaster
- \* Jolene Bradley
- \* Torrey Erickson
- \* Ron Juve
- \* Mark Wild
- \* Bill Donner
- \* Perry Grundyson
- \* Shut-ins and Nursing Home members
- \* Ukraine
- \* Israel



**Hope Circle:** June 26th at 10:00AM at the church.

**Rebecca Circle:** June 27th at 6:30 PM at the church.



## NOTICE

Groceries Plus no longer has a drop box for grocery receipts for Grace Lutheran Church. If you want your receipts to go to the youth at Grace Lutheran Church, please bring them to the box on the table by the mailboxes.

- May 5th:**  
Attendance~ 64  
Offering~\$3,750.00
- May 12th:**  
Attendance~ 89  
Offering~\$2,698.00
- May 19th:**  
Attendance~86  
Offering~\$2,121.00
- May 26th:**  
Attendance~ 50  
Offering~\$1,446.00





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 –



Grace is a generous congregation and we thank you for contributing to the work of God. We do have some financial concerns. In 2023, giving did not keep pace with expenses. We were in the red at the end of 2023. Our main fund is the general operating fund. As a council, we encourage our members and friends to contribute directly to the General Fund first and foremost. While we have endowments, we cannot rely on those to take care of our everyday needs. God always provides and we will continue to be faithful stewards of all we have.

**March 2024 Financial Summary**

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$16,592.25

Expenses:

Administrative - \$7,407.27

Education - \$235.93

Mission Outreach - \$930.00

Pastoral - \$7,574.16

Worship - \$1,269.17

Total Expenses -

**\$17,416.53**

Net Loss

**(\$ 824.28)**



Did you know?

If you are a Thrivent member, you are eligible to receive money to help support events

you or others are having. Simply gather a team of friends, family or neighbors to put on a fundraiser, educational event or service activity. We'll provide the resources you need to get started – including up to \$250 in seed money. Clients with benefit membership are eligible to lead two Thrivent Action Teams per calendar year, and clients with associate membership are eligible to lead one per calendar year. There are many examples on the Thrivent website @ [Thrivent Action Teams Hub \(cotribute.co\)](http://ThriventActionTeamsHub.cotribute.co). Some ideas: Grandparents Day, Vacation Bible School, Fish Fry, Easter Festival, Food Shelf, Disaster Response Buckets/kits, K9's for Mobility, Quilts for Others, or Yarn for Prayer Shawls.

Let's get together and figure out how we can use these benefits for the work of ministry.

~ Pastor Pam



### Grace Council Meeting May highlights

#### Financial Secretary

Operating Income Total	\$18,896.64
Building Fund Income	\$43,874.00
Minus electronic Deposits (\$4899.75)	
Anonymous Deposit	\$5000.00
Total Deposits Made	\$52,870.89

**Total Income \$67,770.64**

#### Treasurer

Congregational Giving to General Fund \$17,956.89  
 Monthly goal \$21,363.85  
 Noteworthy giving- Roof Repair 2 anonymous gifts totaling \$35,000  
 Ended the month at approximately 4.9% or \$12,500 under budget. April had the highest giving so far in 2024.

#### Account Balances Report

- Building Fund - Reflects donations of \$50.00. It also reflects expenses related to the separate elevator phone line (\$39.09).
- Oil Fund – Bldg Upkeep reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas revenue.
- Oil Fund – Church Operating Emergency Fund reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas revenue and a refund of the funds previously transferred to the General Fund.

- Oil Fund - Missions reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas revenue.
  - Organ Fund – Reflects a donation of \$5.00.
  - Roof Repair Fund – Reflects donations of \$43,824.00.
  - Scholarship Fund – Reflects a donation of \$10.00.
  - SS Equipment Fund – Reflects a donation of \$5.00.
  - SS Outreach Fund – Reflects donations of \$53.00, and the expense of the monthly gift of \$43.00 to Compassion International.
- VBS Fund – Reflects a donation of \$10.00.

#### Pastor

Minkota Mission District – Good Shepherd, Lake Wilson, MN. – Conducted Pre-call workshop April 28.

NALC – I sit on the vetting team for pastor's coming into the NALC from other Lutheran and non-Lutheran denomination.

Worship – Summer worship will not be a traditional liturgy, but will have all the parts of our normal worship with different music. Home Visitation and Communion Team is ready. The team is working in pairs. Over a month all on the list will have been visited. The purpose is to keep the homebound connected to the Body of Christ. The teams will always ask for prayer requests, pray, and read scripture usually utilizing one or more of the lessons for the week. Pastor will continue to make visits.

#### President's Report:

- John worked with Kim on the key card software with assistance from Garden Valley.
- Helped set up the original (first month) of visitations.

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*Youth Ministry:* Pres. John & Ann reported

37 people participated in Feed My Starving Children.

May 19 youth will be cleaning ditches.

August event will be the Toby Mac concert in Bemidji.

*Education:* Ann reported

Last day of Sunday School was April 28. Had 19 teachers to thank. We had a great year! August 5-8 VBS

Andrew and Becky Hanson will take over the Education Director's job.

*WNALC:* Hollie reported Meeting at Mac Senior Living May 9 at 2:00

*Trustees:* Gene reported (items are in old and new business section)

*Deacons:* Carla reported: Home communion training going on. Communion Assistants list is being completed.

Gary reported: Jail ministry going well. 3 hospital runs this month.

*Video Ministry:* Motion to have Nick look into getting a monitor for the back of the church.

#### *Food Shelf:*

For April we served 91 individuals and 37 households. Since we only had cheese available, we gave each household a \$15 voucher either to

*Continued on Page 5*

**GRACE COUNCIL**, continued each household a \$15 voucher either to Groceries Plus or Jered's.

Starting in May we will be open on the third Saturday of each month from 9-12.

We had our quarterly advisory board meeting. Mavis was re-appointed as Coordinator.

#### **Old Business**

**Building:** Roof reconstruction should start June 19.

**Summer picnic:** August 4 with kick off to VBS.

**Church Keys:** Updating timing of locking doors and the use of the key cards.

#### **New Business**

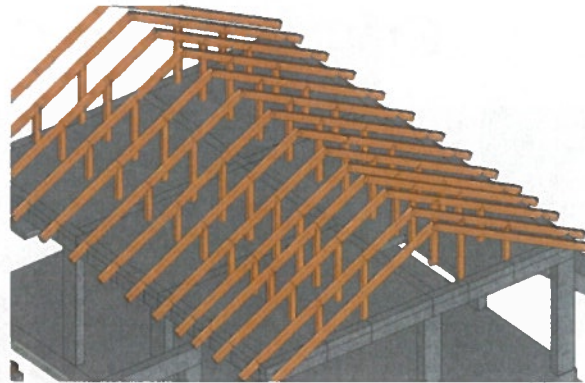
**Sunday School Room Repair.**

With the wall removed the room needs repair: new heaters and outlets, and flooring.

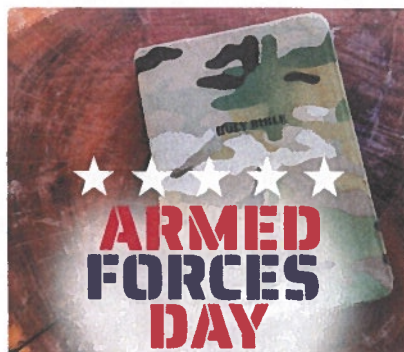
Considering moving the wall in the library to increase size of a joining room.

Motion made to install TV's in each classroom. Passed. Limit \$2500.

Outdoor worship was discussed as part of the picnic on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Will look in feasibility.

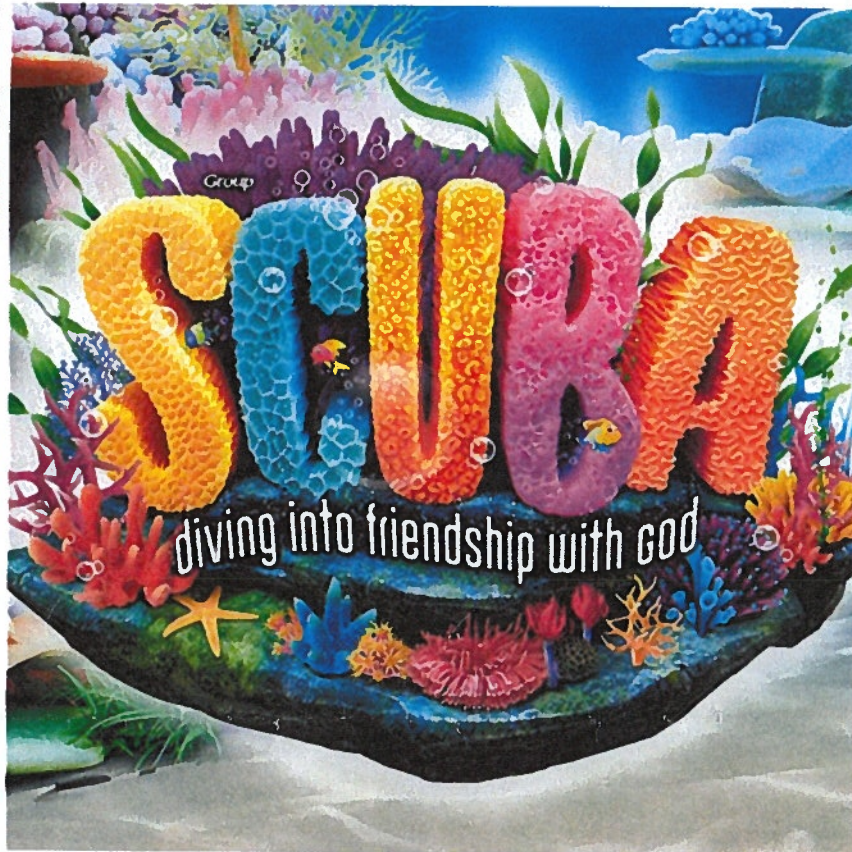


Our Roof Reconstruction is on schedule for early summer. We do not have the funds to pay for this but count on God's provision as we complete this much-needed project. **\*UPDATE** ~ As of April 30th, we have reached 27% of our goal. Total contributions thus far is \$46,929. Praise the Lord for this news. Thank you for seeing the need of this building project. As we move forward, seek the Lord in deciding how you can contribute. Earmark your giving to the Roof project. Above all, keep this in your prayers.



**9:00 AM**  
**June 2nd—August 25th**

## Grace Lutheran Church VBS 2024



Join us August 5-8, 2024 from 6:30-8:30 pm each evening. Classes available for those entering Pre K through 6th grade. Students entering 7th grade and up are encouraged to volunteer! You do not need to be a member of Grace to attend-invite your friends! There is NO COST to attend VBS. We will have a family program the last night of VBS, August 8th. More info to come!

To register, go to: <https://vbspro.events/p/grace-erskine> or contact Ann Brekken.

Take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about!

**GRACE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Pr. Pam Thorson	Pastor	270-872-8269
John Carlson	President	
Russ Johnson	Vice President	
Yvonne Halvorson	Secretary	687-5190
Tina Farrell	Financial Secretary	
Jim Ferden	Treasurer	563-2377
Gary Walter	Deacon	687-3074
Carla Ferden	Deacon	563-2377
Gene Haugom	Trustee	563-3292
Ray LaBrecque	Trustee	
Steve Jacobson	Trustee	
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
Becky Lindseth	Stewardship	

**LECTIONARY READINGS  
FOR JUNE**

**Second Sunday after Pentecost  
June 2, 2024**

First Reading - Deuteronomy 5:12-15  
Psalm - Psalm 81:1-10  
Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 4:5-12  
Gospel - Mark 2:23-28 (3:1-6)

**Third Sunday after Pentecost  
June 9, 2024**

First Reading - Genesis 3:8-15  
Psalm - Psalm 130:1-8  
Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1  
Gospel - Mark 3:20-35

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 16, 2024**

First Reading - Ezekiel 17:22-24  
Psalm - Psalm 1  
Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 (11-17)  
Gospel - Mark 4:26-34

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 23, 2024**

First Reading - Job 38:1-11  
Psalm - Psalm 124:1-8  
Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
Gospel - Mark 4:35-41

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 30, 2024**

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



**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**

If anyone is interested in being a communion assistant the month of August, please let Carla Ferden know. Also, if anyone would like to be added to the reserve list, please let Carla know.

# JUNE

# Grace Lutheran Church

**\*CIRCLES\***

Hope at the church  
Rebecca at the church

**Ushers :**

Gary & Maxine Walter  
Scott Hornbuckle family  
Jason Carlson family  
Communion Assistants:  
Carla Ferden and Kim Mahlen  
Altar Flowers:  
Rebecca Circle  
Altar Guild:  
Hollie Stewart and Mavis Haugom

R= Reader  
A=Acolyte  
P=Power Point  
JUNE 2nd:  
R~ Dorothy Sandberg  
A~ Faith Omundson and Hope Omundson  
P~ Lillian Shimpa and Jareth Walk

JUNE 9th:  
R~ Del Hemmingsen, Jr.  
A~ Gracey Gunderson and Malaina Jax  
P~ Brecken Gunderson and Karl Jax

JUNE 16th:  
R~ Carla Ferden  
A~ Tatum Smeby and Addyson Morgenroth  
P~ Kale Smeby and Owen Strom

JUNE 23rd:  
R~ Becky Lindseth  
A~ Hayden Johnson and Jayden Haugen  
P~ Jorgen Johnson and Scott Omundson

JUNE 30th:  
R~ Jim Ferden  
A~ Carter Fortman and Rian Bergh  
P~ Carson Fortman and Logan Johnson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9am- Rebroadcast
2 9am- Worship w/Holy Comm.	3 9:30am-LBS 10am- Rebroadcast	4 7am-MBS @ Ness Café  8pm-AA mtg.	5 6:30pm-Rebroadcast	6	7	8 9am- Rebroadcast
9 9am- Worship w/Holy Comm.	10 9:30am -LBS 10am- Rebroadcast	11 7:00am-MBS @ Ness Café  8pm-AA mtg.	12 6:30pm-Rebroadcast 7pm-Council Mtg.	13 2pm-WNALC  2-6pm-Food Shelf is open	14	15 9am- Rebroadcast  9am-12pm-Food Shelf is open
16 9am-Worship	17 9:30am-LBS 10am-Rebroadcast	18 7:00am-MBS @ Ness Café  8pm-AA mtg.	19 6:30pm-Rebroadcast	20 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open	21 SCROLL ARTI- CLES DUE	22 9am- Rebroadcast
23 9am-Worship	24 9:30am-LBS 10am-Rebroadcast	25 7:00am-MBS @ Ness Café  8pm-AA mtg.	26 10am-Hope Circle  6:30pm-Rebroadcast	27 6:30pm-Rebecca Circle	28	29
30 9am-Worship				Greeters: 2nd: Tyler & Ann Brekken  9th: John & Pam Carlson	16th: Jon & Julie Clementson  23rd: Mark Cole- man	30th: Wade & Tina Farrell