

# The Scroll

Grace Lutheran  
Church

September 2024

## PASTOR'S CORNER

### Pastor's Corner

Here we are in the business of the start of a new season in the life of the community. God is so good to give the seasons so we can experience different facets of the life of nature. That's why we live in this part of our world, isn't it?

Summer gives us time off for the most part. Back in 1882 we had the first Labor Day parade with a day off to celebrate the laborers who have worked so hard. But God did it first as creation was completed way back in the beginning. God took the 7<sup>th</sup> day off and rested and said it was good. If God can do that, don't all need a Sabbath rest? That's a time to just be and enjoy. Really, it's to reflect on all that is good, even if there's chaos around.

The Apostle Paul had this to say, "*The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup> do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.*" Philippians 4:5-8.

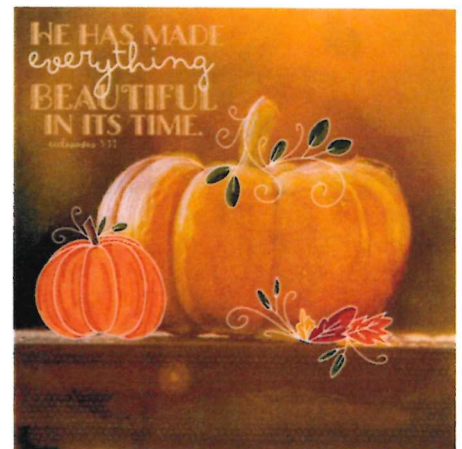
That in itself and something to do even when we're too busy. Take that time out. Find something nice. What we think of is what we dwell on. God says, look up.

I'm looking forward to getting out to make visits again, but still a bit limited. I am feeling well. We are grateful for such a loving community to call home.

We return to 10:30 service September 1.

In ministry together,  
Pastor Pam

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The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday September 11th at 7:30PM at the church. A reminder that All Council meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise specified.



Grace Church is looking for a person, or persons, who would like to promote and advertise activities that take place at Grace Church. This would include social media, local and area newspapers, and TV. Let John Carlson or Pastor Pam know that you're ready to step in.



The Grace WNALC will meet on Thursday September 12th at 2:00 PM at Grace Church. Group #9 will serve.

**Hope Circle:** September 25th at 10:00AM at the church.

**Rebecca Circle:** September 26th at 6:30PM at the church.



**August 4th:**  
Attendance~ 75  
Offering~\$1,975.00

**August 11th:**  
Attendance~ 46  
Offering~\$3,410.00

**August 18th:**  
Attendance~ 49  
Offering~\$1,235.00

**Augusts 25th:**  
Attendance~ 56  
Offering~\$2,860.00



Paula LaBrecque

Paul Stennes

Jon Clementson

Pastor Pam Thorson

Annette Farder

Ogden Farder, Jr.

Steve Jacobson

Carr Smeby

Wendy Smeby

Maci Smeby

Allen Jenson

Steve & Linda Evenson

Becki Haugen

Dianne Hamre

Jesse Hickman

Greg Kaster

Jolene Bradley

Torrey Erickson

Ron Juve

Mark Wild

Bill Donner

Perry Grundyson

Mike Johnson

Shut-ins and Nursing Home members

Ukraine

Israel



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.

**July 2024 Financial Summary**

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$14,310.00

Expenses:

Administrative -	\$7,293.85
Education -	\$ 0.00
Mission Outreach -	\$ 920.00
Pastoral -	\$6,977.12
Worship -	<u>\$1,077.74</u>
Total Expenses -	<u>\$16,268.71</u>
Net Loss	<b>(\$ 1,958.71)</b>



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 \(cotribute.co\)](https://www.thrivent.org/teams-hub). 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

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

With fall approaching, the Education Committee is again preparing for Release Time classes.

This is an important mission of our church. Last year we served over 80 students in grades 1-8.

The majority of these students are not members of Grace, and some are unchurched.

Elementary classes will begin on September 25, and Jr. High classes start on October 2nd.

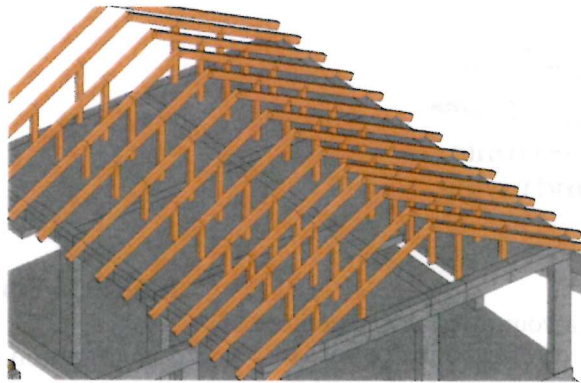
Classes meet every other Wednesday for 45 minutes.

This year, we are looking for a 6th grade teacher, as well as substitute teachers. We use a curriculum with materials and easy to follow lesson plans. If you are considering being a substitute teacher, you might be more comfortable coming up with your own lesson plan. For example, we have noticed that our students are interested in stories about personal faith journeys. If you have traveled to the Holy Land, have experience ministering at a homeless shelter or jail, or have taken a mission trip, you could build a lesson around that. Your faith will GROW as you work with these students! If you are led to participate, or just want

to ask questions, please call or text Nancy Jenson or Hollie Stewart.

Nancy 218-280-3858

Hollie 218-358-0996



### *Grace Lutheran Church Members*

Our Church is one of members who have faith in what our Lord can do. We give our time, talents, treasures, and especially our prayers in serving the Lord. We have seen His work in our building

project. As an example, about a month ago while giving an update on the roof project we asked if you would pray that the electrician and plumbers would find time in their busy summer schedules to complete the work on our church so we would be ready for the start of Sunday School. Within two weeks the electricians were finished and they got done in half a day! No word on the plumbers yet but the insulation company had time in their schedule this week because so many of his scheduled projects were backed up and not ready for him! Of course we all know the Lord is in charge and answering our prayers.

Now for an update cost of the Roof Project.

Roof Material and Labor	\$85,723
Misc. Materials	\$1,000
Total	\$86,723

Electrical bill still to come.

Insulation Bid estimate      \$9,045

Estimates still to come in for gutters, landscaping, and new carpet.

So far is the project coming well under what was projected \$175,000.! Thank the Lord!

When the project was started we had a line of credit through the bank of \$50,000. But because of our generous giving ( Total so far is \$72,789) so far resulting in Grace only has needed to use \$15,000 out of the original leaving the remaining \$35,000 to finish the rest. We estimate that to finish the project we would need to donate about \$50,000 more so we wouldn't have any loans.

Please pray and give as your conscience and the Lord directs you over the coming weeks. It is possible that Grace Church can raise enough funds to pay off the loan and not have to take out any additional loans! Have Faith and pray.

God Bless,  
John Carlson



*The Scroll publishes highlights of the minutes without commentary. You may pick up a full report of the approved minutes from the office upon request.*

**Financial report** summary on another page.

**Pastor Report** discusses pastoral duties: Mc Sr. Living and Fair Meadow Nursing Facility services, John and Mary Sannes wedding, Paul Mahlen burial, taking part in Paul Bly service. Pastor will miss 2 Sunday's in September. 1 for NALC Minkota installation of Rev. Paul Kreuger in Washburn, MN. The other for a Healing conference in Ashville, NC.

The yard work has been done well this summer. Thank you to all for the work.

**Community Youth** ministry is going well. The planning team is excellent in getting activities organized. All is well run. There will be a Ditch cleaning on September 28<sup>th</sup> followed by a bonfire with testimony and worship. Steven Stanley will be in concert a on October 16. The aluminum cans were cleared out and yielded 541 lbs.

**Education** We had 45 children attend VBS! What fun and learning! Becky and Andrew Hanson are our new Christian Ed. Directors. There's a new education office in room 1.

**Education** We had 45 children attend VBS! What fun and learning! Becky and Andrew Hanson are our new Christian Ed. Directors. There's a new education office in room 1. Check it out. Rally Day is September 8 for all classes. Release Time is getting ready for another year. Consider helping, please.

**WNALC** Fall auction is September 18. The WNALC Convocation was on the internet in August. They suggest 4 service projects and working with the youth in addition to having a Disaster Response Sunday. Look for more to come.

**Video Ministry** The sanctuary TV is being replaced with a larger one so we can all see better. The current one will go downstairs. Nick is in charge. Cost is about \$4500. TV's will go in most classrooms. They have been ordered and cost about \$1100. Thank you Nick.

**Food Shelf** services many in our community. 35 households. 2402.4 pounds. It's a great team and enjoys the help of the high school honor students, too. Thank you for helping Grace to be part of the mission.

**Building** Construction is finished on the Education roof. There are still things to be done. See John's full report. Costs are significantly less than anticipated. But we hope to receive enough to pay off the construction loan.

**Deer Hunter's Super** coordinator will be Marie Hamre this year. Thank you!



## CALENDAR TIME

It is that time of year that we start preparing the community calendar for the upcoming year "2025".

Letters will be going out the businesses to see if they would still be interested in a very cost-effective advertisement.

If you know of any changes that need to take place whether it be to add, delete or update.

Please forward that information to Tina Farrell email address:

[grace\\_youthcal@gvtel.com](mailto:grace_youthcal@gvtel.com) or you may leave a message 218-563-2216. I will then follow up with you and confirm changes.

Thank You! For your continued support.

Grace Lutheran Youth Group

**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	
Andrew & Becky Hanson Education Directors		
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 SEPTEMBER****15th Sunday After Pentecost  
September 1, 2024**

First Reading - Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9  
 Psalm - Psalm 119:129-136  
 Second Reading - Ephesians 6:10-20  
 Gospel - Mark 7:14-23

**16th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 8, 2024**

First Reading - Isaiah 35:4-7a  
 Psalm - Psalm 146:1-10  
 Second Reading - James 2:1-10, 14-18  
 Gospel - Mark 7:24-30, 31-37

**17th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 15, 2024**

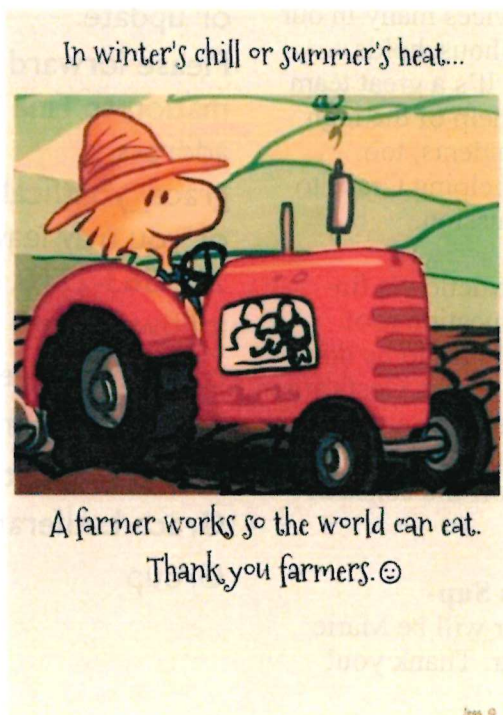
First Reading - Isaiah 50:4-10  
 Psalm - Psalm 116:1-9  
 Second Reading - James 3:1-12  
 Gospel - Mark 9:14-29

**18th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 22, 2024**

First Reading - Jeremiah 11:18-20  
 Psalm - Psalm 54:1-7  
 Second Reading - James 3:13-4:10  
 Gospel - Mark 9:30-37

**19th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 29, 2024**

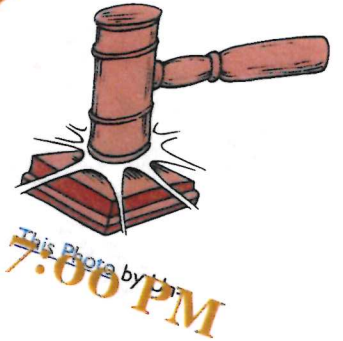
First Reading - Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29  
 Psalm - Psalm 104:27-35  
 Second Reading - James 5:1-12, 13-20  
 Gospel - Mark 9:38-50



# FALL AUCTION



Wednesday  
September 18



Baked goods, canned goods, arts, crafts, plants, and maybe a batch of lefse or two.

Bring your auction spirit and wallet!

## Letter to my sponsor

Tanggal (Date) 22/06/2024

June 22, 2024. Hello friends! How are you? Hope this letter finds you doing well and stay under God's protection. My family and I are doing well here. I just finished my semester test. I am grateful as I have been promoted to grade 11. I hope that I will be studying harder. My activities at compassion project are going well. I plan to join camp with my friends to spend my school break. We are in rainy season at the moment. How is the weather like for you?

I am so grateful as you still sponsor me through compassion project. I pray to God that you are always healthy and stay under God's protection. Please also pray we are well and stay under God's protection. That is my letter, will be continued next time. God bless you.

# RALLY DAY



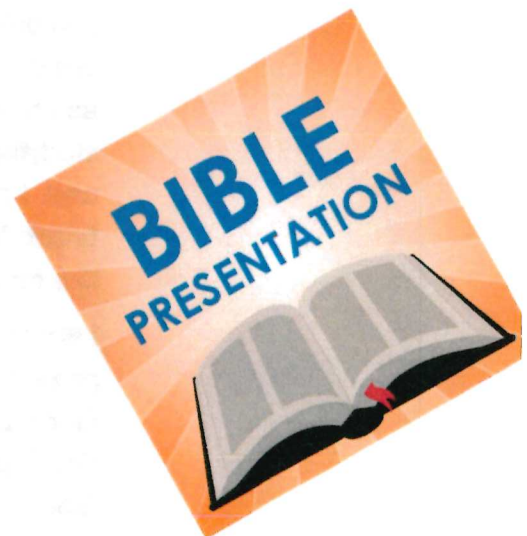
September  
8th



Adult	Sunday	Worship
Bible	School	10:30
Study	9:15	AM
9:00 AM	AM	

BLESS  
*teachers* 

We are building a strong body of Jesus Christ in this place as we are disciples of Jesus who make disciples all with the Love of our Lord.







SEPTEMBER 2nd



SEPTEMBER 8th



SEPTEMBER 11th



SEPTEMBER 22nd



It's time for a new year of confirmation. There are a few changes this year, as we move forward in our program. We're excited to learn together and grow in our faith in Jesus.

All youth grades 7-9 are invited to be part of the course. The class is cyclical so that after 3 years all will have completed the same course. Final year students will be confirmed on Reformation Sunday – the last Sunday of October.

Meeting times: This year we will meet twice in the week. Wednesdays and Sunday mornings. Sunday material will complement the Catechism. There will be a different team for both.

1. Wednesday evenings at 6 PM sharp to 7 PM and Sunday mornings during the Education Hour. We will begin September 18 in the Education Wing of the church.

2. Sunday mornings during the Education Hour 9:15 – 10:15.

**New youth should register. Forms are on the back table in the sanctuary.**

### What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is an educational ministry of the church that is designed to help baptized young people to identify with and grow into service in the life and the mission of the adult Christian community.

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”* **Matthew 28:19-20**

The Confirmation Program at Grace seeks to empower young men & women to grow in faith by deepening their relationships with God, the church family, and their peers through worship, education, outreach and fellowship. Confirmation is not a graduation from church. Instead, it is training for the rest of your life activated for ministry.

Confirmation is not a sacrament, but an Affirmation of our Baptism intended to give those who have received basic instruction in the truths of God's Word the opportunity publicly to confess their faith before the church.

In this day and age, it is imperative we know Jesus as Savior and Lord and know the basics of our Christian Faith.

# SEPTEMBER

# Grace Lutheran Church

\*CIRCLES\*

Hope at the church  
Rebecca at the church

Ushers :

Russell Johnson  
Lee & Lesly Tradewell  
Daryl & Yvonne Halvorson

Communion Assistants:  
Mark & Cindy Nelson

Altar Flowers:  
Hope Circle

Altar Guild:  
Patti Hamre and Kristi Plante

R= Reader  
A=Acolyte  
P=Power Point

SEPTEMBER 1st:

R~~ Andrew Hanson  
A~~ Bella Senn and Malaina Jax  
P~~ Brecken Gunderson and Karl Jax

SEPTEMBER 8th:

R~~ Tyler Brekken  
A~~ Tatum Smeby and Addyson Morgenroth

P~~ Kale Smeby and Owen Strom

SEPTEMBER 15th:

R~~ Becky Lindseth  
A~~ Hayden Johnson and Jayden Haugen

P~~ Jorgen Johnson and Scott Omundson

SEPTEMBER 22nd:

R~~ Sandy Bixby  
A~~ Carter Fortman and Rian Bergh

P~~ Carson Fortman and Logan Johnson

SEPTEMBER 29th:

R~~ Gary Walter  
A~~ Charley Carlson and George Juve  
P~~ Shelby Shimpa and Hannah Shimpa

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30a- Worship w/Holy Comm.	2 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	3 7a-MBS @ Ness Caf� 8p-AA mtg.	4 6:30p-Rebroadcast	5	6	7 9a- Rebroadcast
8 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a- Worship w/Holy Comm.	9 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	10 7a-MBS @ Ness Caf� 8p-AA mtg.	11 6:30p-Rebroadcast 7:00p-Council Meeting	12 2p-WNALC 2-6p-Food Shelf is open	13	14 9a- Rebroadcast
15 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a- Worship	16 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	17 7a-MBS @ Ness Caf� 8p-AA mtg.	18 6p-Confirmation Class 6:30p-Rebroadcast 6:30p-Pie Social 7p-Fall Auction	19 10a-2p-Food Shelf is open	20 SCROLL ARTICLES DUE	21 9a- Rebroadcast 9a-12pm-Food Shelf is open
22 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a- Worship	23 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	24 7a-MBS @ Ness Caf� 8p-AA mtg.	25 10a-Hope Circle 1:55p-Release Time 6p-Confirmation Class 6:30p-Rebroadcast	26 6:30p-Rebecca Circle	27	28 9a- Rebroadcast
29 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a- Worship	30 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast					
				Greeters: 1st: Scott & Jaci Hanson 8th: Jenny Haugen	15th: Gene & Malvis Haugom 22nd: Audrey Hemmingsen	29th: Del Hemmingsen, Jr.



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

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*332 Vance Avenue  
Post Office Box 204  
Erskine, MN 56535*

*Pastor Pam Thorson*

*Pastor Phone: 270-872-8269*

*Office Phone: 218-687-4035*

*Email: [gracelc@gvtel.com](mailto:gracelc@gvtel.com)*

*Pastor Email: [pastorglc@gvtel.com](mailto:pastorglc@gvtel.com)*

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