

The Scroll

Grace Lutheran
Church

February 2025



PASTOR'S CORNER

Hello all members and friends,

As a Mission District of the NALC, we gather together yearly for our Convocation of all the churches and ministries.

For the last few years we have partnered

with Eastern South Dakota to host these events. This year we will travel to Watertown, SD April 4-5.

Bishop Dan Selbo of the North American Lutheran Church B will be with us along with Dr. Leon Miles – Vice President of Advancement - Institute of Lutheran Theology.

We'll have a Disaster Response truck to fill with items to be taken to our Disaster Response warehouse for emergencies. In addition to gift cards, you can bring items and kits as shown on the attachment.

There are local hotels.

We look forward to having a great turnout. It's always a nice time.

May the Lord Jesus bless you all,

Pastor Pam

Joint Convocation - ESD & Minkota Mission Districts (NALC)

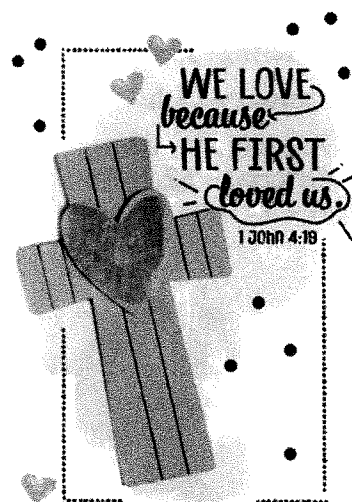
4-5 April, 2025

Watertown, South Dakota

Registration forms may be picked up in the church office. Please remit this form and \$25 per person Registration Fee (checks payable to ESD MD) by March 17th to:

Mr. Chris Berg (ESD Treasurer)
c/o First English Lutheran Church
PO Box 562
Lennox, SD 57039

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The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday February 12th at 7:00PM at the church. A reminder that All Council meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise specified.



January 5th:
Attendance~ 58
Offering~\$3,275.00

January 12th:
Attendance~ 59
Offering~\$2,820.00

January 19th:
Attendance~58
Offering~\$2,047.00

January 26th:
Attendance~ 88
Offering~ \$2,187.00



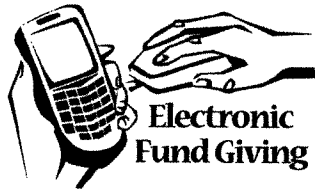
The Grace WNALC will not be meeting during the winter months. See you in March.

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

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



- Judy Tadman
- Linda Jorgenson
- Judi Hoeft
- Paula LaBrecque
- Paul Stennes
- Jon Clementson
- Pastor Pam Thorson
- Annette Farder
- Ogden Farder, Jr.
- Carr Smeby
- Wendy Smeby
- Maci Smeby
- Allen Jenson
- Steve & Linda Evenson
- Becki Haugen
- Dianne Hamre
- Gloria Bixby
- David Ward
- Jesse Hickman
- Greg Kaster
- Jolene Bradley
- Torrey Erickson
- Ron Juve
- Mark Wild
- Mike Johnson
- Steve Sutter
- 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) 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 –



thrivent

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

December 2024 Financial Summary

Regular Offerings to the General Operating Fund - \$16,909.25

Other Giving used for the General Operating Fund - \$ 5,010.00

Interest Earned - \$ 174.46

Total Income - \$22,093.71

Expenses:

Administrative - \$ 9,122.56

Education - \$ 541.19

Mission Outreach - \$ 3,763.00

Pastoral - \$10,384.95

Worship - \$ 3,273.83

Total Expenses - \$27,085.53

Net Income (\$4,991.82)





GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL MEETING

January 8, 2025

7:00 P.M.

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

Present: President John Carlson, Pastor Pam, Yvonne Halvorson, Gene Haugom, Gary Walter, Carla Ferden, Steve Jacobson, Tina Farrell, Lori Hole, Andrew Hanson, Hollie Stewart

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

Devotions: John lead us in devotions. "Helping Those In Need"—If we help others the Lord will guide us continually. God has always called his people to help others. Closed with prayer.

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda by Gary. Seconded by Steve. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Lori moved to approve December 2024 minutes. Seconded by Hollie. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report: Tina reported. Report was received for filing. (Report on file)

Treasurer's Report: Carla reported for Jim

Cash Flow Report

Regular Offering to the General Operating Fund was \$16,909.25 (down from last month). The monthly budget goal is \$21,363.85.

Undesignated funds available to be used for December's

General Fund expenses totaled \$20,323.37. This total is comprised of the regular offering, interest, and other giving.

The total of undesignated funds given was below the month's General Fund expenses totaling \$27,085.53

Interest – Scholarship CDs were renewed with \$1,029.63 interest. Other interest consisted of the month's interest earned of \$174.12.

Noteworthy Other Giving:
Anonymous Donation - \$6,000.00
Christmas Offering - \$1,770.00
Some of the noteworthy expenses this month included:

Administration:
Church & Parsonage Maintenance – Items for the bathrooms comprised the bulk of this cost.

Financial Secretary – Quarterly compensation.

Miscellaneous – Hunter's Supper expenses.

Education:
Education Director – Salary payment.

Mission Outreach:
Miscellaneous – Pass through donations.

Pastoral: Continued Education – NC trip. Professional Expenses & Book Allowance – Various expenses for the year. SS/MC – Due to a previous calculation error, needed to catch up at end of year.

Worship: Tuning & Repairs – Various expenses for the year not covered by donations to the Organ Fund. Worship Technology Supervisor – Annual compensation.

Report received for filing. Complete report is on file in the church office.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Pam reported

Visitations to Fargo and Poplar Meadows

Will be doing worship services at both Poplar Meadows and Fair Meadow.

NALC meeting on Saturday at Grace. (Pastor will need a Zoom account)

Pastor's Retreat in Texas

Pastor will be gone two weeks in February for medical. Jason Carlson will be filling in. Communion will be later in the month.

March for Life—January 22 in Fosston.

President's Report: John reported

Worked on the annual meeting plans with Pastor Pam

Reminder: Reports need to get to Kim—Friday, Jan 10 is the deadline

Working on completing the usher list

Continuing to recruit members for the building duties.

Subbing for Released Time

Committee Reports:

Youth Ministry: Pres. John reported. Sunday meeting for fun, fellowship and teaching. Pastor Pam and Pastor Renae will teach. Youth Group plans: Feb

1: Youth going to Buena Vista in Bemidji for snow activities. April "Feed My Starving Children".

Future: March is a pending movie at Fosston. May 18 Michael W. Smith concert. May ditch cleaning and bonfire.

Stewardship: Lori reported. Annual report has been completed and Lori will send to Kim.

Education: Andrew reported. Sunday School Attendance: Our highest attendance so for this year has been December 15th, the day of our Christmas Program.

Continued on Page 8

GRACE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pr. Pam Thorson	Pastor	270-872-8269
John Carlson	President	
	Vice President	
Carla Ferden	Secretary	563-2377
Tina Farrell	Financial Secretary	
Jim Ferden	Treasurer	563-2377
Wendy Lee	Deacon	
Gene Haugom	Trustee	563-3292
Ray LaBrecque	Trustee	
Steve Jacobson	Trustee	
Andrew & Becky Hanson	Education Directors	
Sarah Strom	Education	687-3488
Cassie Senn	Education	
Jason Carlson	Education	
Hollie Stewart Pres.	WNALC	687-3730
Paula LaBrecque	Stewardship	
Tyler Brekken	Stewardship	687-2205
Becky Lindseth	Stewardship	

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
February 2, 2025**

First Reading - Jeremiah 1:4-10, 17-19
 Psalm - Psalm 71:1-6, 7-11
 Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13
 Gospel - Luke 4:31-44

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 9, 2025**

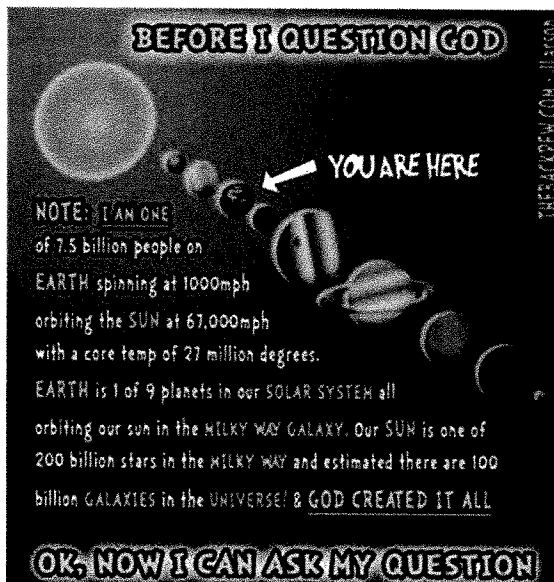
First Reading - Isaiah 6:1-8, 9-13
 Psalm - Psalm 138:1-8
 Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 14:12b-20
 Gospel - Luke 5:1-11

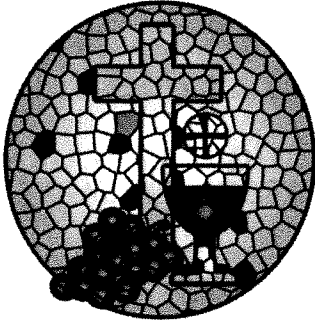
**Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 2025**

First Reading - Jeremiah 17:5-8
 Psalm - Psalm 1:1-6
 Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, 12-20
 Gospel - Luke 6:17-26

**Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 23, 2025**

First Reading - Genesis 45:3-15
 Psalm - Psalm 103:1-13
 Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42
 Gospel - Luke 6:27-38





Holy Communion Study

1st Communion Instruction

Jesus gave us this meal on the night before he was crucified. It is important to understand why we celebrate Holy Communion.

- What is the meaning and purpose of the Sacrament of Holy Communion?
- In what way do we receive God's grace?

Study begins for youth and adults who are preparing to receive Holy Communion.

March 2nd – 30th on Sundays during the Education Hour – 9:15.

Age of First Communion varies within our Lutheran tradition. In general, we do Communion recognition and awareness at about age 9 or 10 which is about 4th or 5th grade. How do we know that someone is ready? Generally, we ask that children express an interest in receiving the sacrament and that they are able to sit through and participate in the worship service before receiving Communion for the first time.

Pastor Pam will lead a 5-week course for **children** who are considering preparation to receive Holy Communion. Materials are available.

Adults who desire to know more about Holy Communion may see Pastor Pam and we'll set up a regular time to study. Materials are available.

If you are interested in first communion classes, please fill out and return so Pastor can prepare.

First Communion Class

Name: _____

Grade/Age _____

Name: _____

Grade/Age _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Phone _____

Email _____

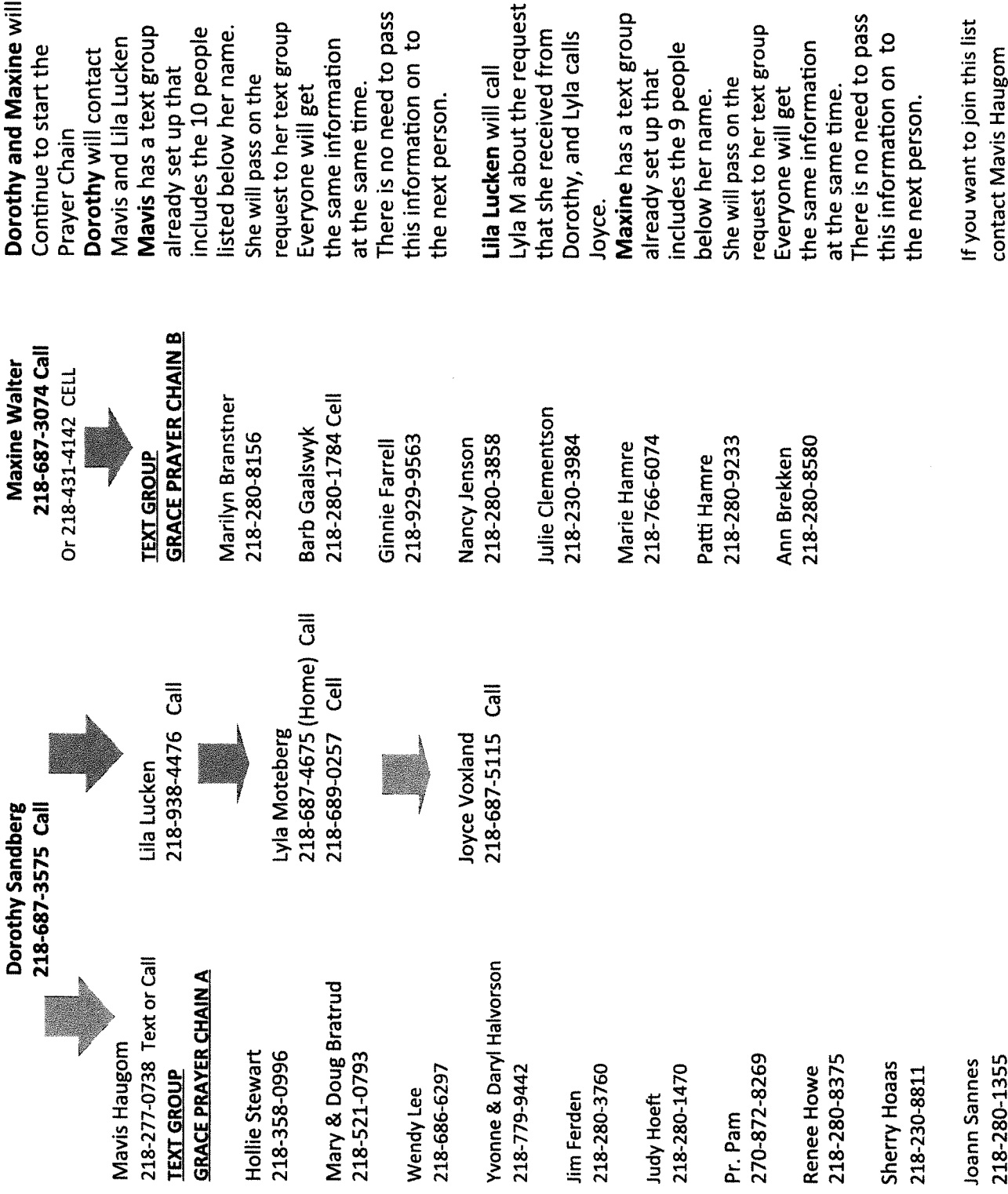
Grace Prayer Chain

** UPDATED: 1/21/2025

For a prayer request, Please contact the top two people below.

If you do not receive an answer or acknowledgement when you call,

Contact the next person on the list below.



GRACE COUNCIL, continued

We had 37 students that day. Sunday School sang in Church/Christmas. Our Christmas program went well, and many in the congregation had very kind things to say afterwards. This program marked the first time we used the new TV hanging on the balcony, which worked well to display the lyrics for the kids to read while singing. Sunday School sings in church January 26th. As it is during the season of Epiphany, we will be singing about light. Vacation Bible School~ Andrew and Becky have already been receiving flyers regarding VBS. The theme this year is "True North", which we are very excited about! We hope to meet as an education committee soon to discuss scheduling Vacation Bible School so families can mark their calendars. Release Time~ On Monday, January 6th, we received some sad news: Pastor Rene Mehlberg of the New Journey Lutheran Parish (which incorporates Our Savior's in McIntosh) submitted her resignation at a special parish council meeting, effective the end of February. As she was the sixth grade teacher for Release Time every other Wednesday, a replacement needed to be found. Pastor Pam will be replacing her for the rest of this year. Email with any questions: education@gracechurcherskine.org

WNALC: Hollie reported. Will be meeting to get the service book put together and sent out.

Trustees: Gene reported. Carpet is complete. Pump was replaced on the furnace. New lighting for the outside sign was completed. Light fixture in SS room—needs some electrical work completed in the 5th and 6th grade room.

Gene has the annual report completed and will get to Kim tomorrow.

Deacons: Carla reported that the communion list will be completed and in the bulletin. Gary reported that visitations and rides to medical appointments continue.

Video Ministry: Will visit with Nick about some sound issues, otherwise things are going well.

Food Shelf: Gene reported (Mavis Haugum, Coordinator submitted report). December 2024 Report Moved being open the second Thursday to the following Monday due to weather. This resulted in less participation. **Total served** 36 households (our highest was November with 50)

Total monetary donations in December. \$5330.88

Complete list can be found in the Council minutes that are on file in the church office.

Old Business:

Building Committee Update—Nothing new to report.

Road signs—Signs are designed and we will move forward with ordering them.

New Business:

Designate Christmas Offering (\$ 1820.00) Tina made the motion to give \$1,000 to Care & Share Crookston and \$820 to Sola Publishing. Org. Seconded by Gary. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee Update-Tina reported. They will meet tomorrow finalize needs and the ballot.

Other (none)

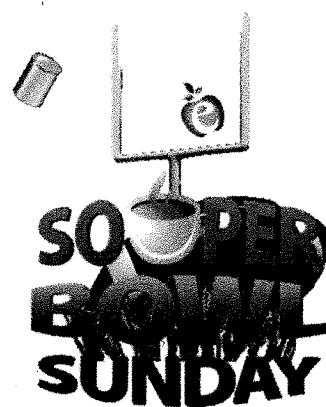
Announcements

Next month's meeting date is February 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjourn**The Lord's Prayer**

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Halverson



In recognition of Souper Bowl Sunday, which happens to be February 9th, the Grace Community Food Shelf is kicking off their game to tackle hunger in our community and surrounding area. They are ready to receive any kind of soup, now through March 9th. You can score points by dropping your donation in the tote in the narthex. Forget about the Chiefs and Eagles! Be on the winning team right here and feel free to do your victory dance by helping our Food Shelf.



FEBRUARY

Grace Lutheran Church

CIRCLES
 Hope at the church
 Rebecca at the church

Ushers :
 Del Hemmingsen, Jr.
 Mark Nelson

Communion Assistants:
 Dorothy Sandberg and Stacy
 Tadman

Altar Flowers:
 Rebecca Circle

Altar Guild:
 Sarah Strom and Shelly Juve

R= Reader
 A=Acolyte
 P=Power Point

FEBRUARY 2nd:

R~~ Jeff Nornes
 A~~ Scott Omundson and Logan
 Johnson
 P~~ Hope Omundson and Faith
 Omundson

FEBRUARY 9th:

R~~ Del Hemmingsen, Jr.
 A~~ Taytum Smeby and Addyson
 Morgenroth
 P~~ Kale Smeby and Charley
 Carlson

FEBRUARY 16th:

R~~ Betty Lundin
 A~~ Carson Fortman and Karl Jax
 P~~ Malaina Jax and Bella Senn

FEBRUARY 23rd:

R~~ Jason Carlson
 A~~ Wyatt Lee and Gracey
 Gunderson
 P~~ George Juve and Brekken
 Gunderson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9a- Rebroadcast
2 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a- Worship w/Holy Comm.	3 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	4 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 2p-BSF 8p-AA mtg.	5 1:55p-Release Time 6p-Confirmation Class 6:30p-Rebroadcast	6	7	8 9a- Rebroadcast
9 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a- Worship	10 9:30a -LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	11 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 2p-BSF 8p-AA mtg.	12 1:55p-Release Time 6p-Conf. Class 6:30p-Rebroadcast 7:00p-Council Mtg.	13 2-6p-Food Shelf is open	14 Happy Valentine's Day!	15 9a- Rebroadcast
16 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a- Worship	17 9:30a-LBS 10a-Rebroadcast	18 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 2p-BSF 8p-AA mtg.	19 1:55p-Release Time 6p-Confirmation Class 6:30p-Rebroadcast	20 10a-2p-Food Shelf is open	21 SCROLLARTI- CLES DUE	22 9a- Rebroadcast
23 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a- Worship	24 9:30a-LBS 10a-Rebroadcast	25 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 2p-BSF 8p-AA mtg.	26 10a-Hope Circle 1:55p-Release Time 6p-Confirmation Class 6:30p-Rebroadcast	27 6:30p-Rebecca Cir- cle	28	
				Greeters: 2nd: Kim Mahlen 9th: Mark & Cindy Nelson	16th: Jeff & Kris Nornes 23rd: Debbie Noyes	

*“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: Rev. Pam Thorson

Pastor Phone: 270-872-8269

Office Phone: 218-687-4035

Email: gracelc@gvtel.com

Pastor Email: pastorglc@gvtel.com



**Love one
another.**

1 JOHN 4:7