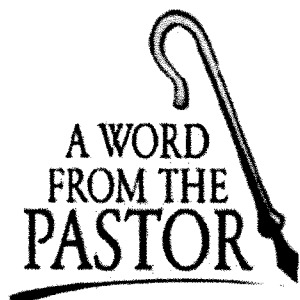


The Scroll

Grace Lutheran
Church

May 2025



Spring Time

Ah, the warmer weather. It's nice to come out of our winter dens. Soon we can put the heavy coats and blankets away. I don't know about you, but with spring comes a time to clean. Yes, spring cleaning. I well remember my mom handing out rags and buckets. Winter's dirt was washed from the windows which we had to do just so, in order to be streak free. Away went the shovels relegated to the basement. Scrubbing and sweeping. It was work and I didn't see the value of it, but mother sure did! Now I know how good it is to have a clean home.

Is it time to do some personal scrubbing? I don't mean the yearly bath of yesterday, but is it time for the Spic and Span of to be applied to the closets of our hearts? What have we stored in there that just clutters up the works? old hurts. regrets. today's fads that will fade. What about the things that get in the way of our walk with God?

Throw out the crud. Start fresh. Walk unhindered with Jesus. In this passage we have responsibility. God provides the ways and means.

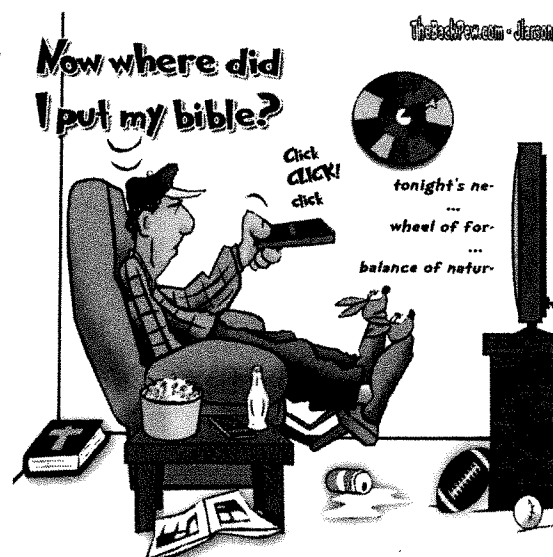
Colossians 1:9b-14. be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

In joyful ministry together,
Pastor Pam

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SPIRITUAL CLUTTER - anything (sports, leisure, tv, work, social media) that keeps us from time with God



The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday May 14th at 7:00PM at the church. A reminder that all Council meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise specified.



Congratulations to the Graduates from Grace Lutheran Church.

They are:

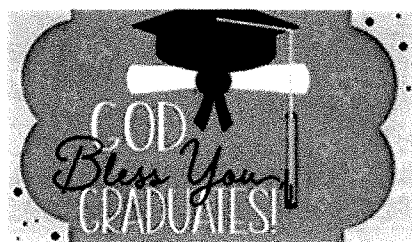
Josie Fortman

Presley Haugen

Calvin Hill

Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plan will succeed.

~Proverbs 16:3



The Grace WNALC will meet on **June 12th at 7:00 p.m.** at Grace Church.

Hope Circle: May 28th at 10:00AM at the church.

Rebecca Circle: May 22nd at 6:30PM at the church.



March 30th:

Attendance~ 130
Offering~\$2,508.00

April 6th:

Attendance~ 78
Offering~\$2,835.00

April 13th:

Attendance~ 92
Offering~\$4,325.00

April 20th:

Attendance~ 169
Offering~ \$3,172.00



Don Lundin

Shirley Kraft

Judy Tadman

Linda Jorgenson

Judi Hoeft

Paula LaBrecque

Paul Stennes

Jon Clementson

Pastor Pam Thorson

Ogden Farder, Jr.

Carr Smeby

Verra Smeby

Maci Smeby

Allen Jenson

Steve & Linda Evenson

Louise LaBrecque

Dianne Hamre

Gloria Bixby

David Ward

Jesse Hickman

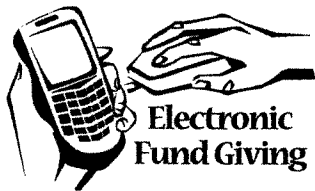
Greg Kaster

Jolene Bradley

Ron Juve

Mark Wild

Shut-ins and Nursing Home members



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.

March 2025 Financial Summary

Regular Offerings to the General Operating Fund - \$17,493.76

Other Giving used for the General Operating Fund - \$ 1,138.26

Anonymous Gift - \$ 1,827.77

Interest Earned - \$ 140.80

Total Income - \$20,600.59

Expenses:

Administrative - \$ 7,066.15

Education - \$ 484.85

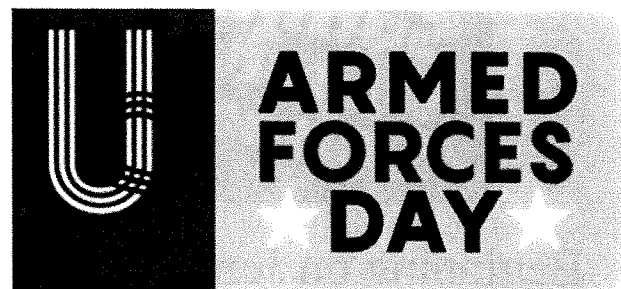
Mission Outreach - \$ 1,237.00

Pastoral - \$ 8,208.22

Worship - \$ 1,176.55

Total Expenses - \$18,172.77

Net Income - \$2,427.82



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	



Beginning on June 1st, our worship time will be held at 9:00 AM. This will continue through the month of August.

**LECTIONARY READINGS
FOR MAY****Third Sunday of Easter
May 4, 2025**

First Reading - Acts 9:1-22
 Psalm - Psalm 30:1-12
 Second Reading - Revelation 5:1-7, 8-14
 Gospel - John 21:1-14, 15-19

**Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11, 2025**

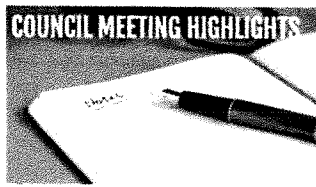
First Reading - Acts 20:17-35
 Psalm - Psalm 23:1-6
 Second Reading - Revelation 7:9-17
 Gospel - John 10:22-30

**Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 18, 2025**

First Reading - Acts 11:1-18
 Psalm - Psalm 148:1-14
 Second Reading - Revelation 21:1-7
 Gospel - John 16:12-22

**Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 25, 2025**

First Reading - Acts 16:9-15
 Psalm - Psalm 67:1-7
 Second Reading - Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27
 Gospel - John 16:23-33



**Grace April Council Meeting Condensed. A full report may be picked up in office.
Grace Financial Secretary Report for Offering – March 2025**

Total General Offering - \$17,493.76
Total Other Offering- \$1,992.07
Total Outreach Offering \$659.00
Total Building Fund Offering - \$1,805.00
Total Monthly Deposit - \$21,949.83

Treasurer's Report:

The monthly budget goal is \$22,077.10.

Undesignated funds available to be used for March's General Fund expenses totaled \$20,600.59. This total is comprised of the regular offering, interest, an anonymous gift, and various other giving. The total of undesignated funds given were nicely above the month's General Fund expenses totaling \$18,172.77.

Budget Report

Overall, we ended the month at approximately 4.6% or \$11,900 under budget. All of the major budgeted expense categories ended under budget for the month.

History of Regular Giving to the General Fund Report

Giving in March was less than February, but still good. This is the best giving for a March since I started tracking giving in 2011. Well ahead of last year's to date giving. Best to date giving ever!

History of the General Operating Fund Balance

Due to regular giving in March being good and extra other giving during the month, the negative ending balance for the General Fund decreased approximately \$2,800 since February. To date financial summary of roof project:

Original Loan Amount Approved - \$175,000.00
Loan Funds Advanced - \$50,000.00
Principal & Interest Paid - \$21,432.75
Loan Balance - \$31,064.48
Donations – \$84,436.00
Labor & Material Costs – \$98,833.58
Other Costs - \$785.37
Roof Project Fund Balance (as of 3/31/25) - \$13,384.30

Pastor's Report:

Pastoral Care~ Annette Farder and Jr. Holy Communion with family before passing. Fair Meadow residents – Communion service and visits on other days. Some home visits, Hospital/Facility visits in Fargo and Detroit Lakes beside local. Minkota Mission District - Convocation April 4-5 Watertown, SD. I participated in worship and gave a morning devotional as well as leading the Minkota business meeting. Grace participation is terrific. Gary brought most of our Disaster Response items to the Convocation. Lent~ Lenten services with weekly dramatic presentations from various members. Excellent. Maundy Thursday at 7 PM. Good Friday Services Noon and 7 PM with Tenebrae (Service of Darkness).

First Communion –6 received First Communion. Thank you to

First Communion –6 received First Communion. Thank you to Cassie Senn for the cake and to all those who served refreshments afterward.

We have a wonderful congregation who have a deep faith in our Lord Jesus. I am grateful to serve with all of you.

President's Report:

Went to Convocation in Watertown, SD. Was elected to the Minkota council Communicating with Nick on Video Ministry Maintenance list, people are stepping up. Greatly appreciated

Committee Reports:

Youth Group plans:

26 kids were at the movie "The Forge" along with parents and other adults

April 12th - "Feed My Starving Children"

May - Ditch cleaning and bonfire.

June - Canoe trip

July - Camping trip to Maple Lake

Education Committee: Andrew reported

Singing in Church: We sang "I am a C" in church on March 30th (the last Sunday of Sunday School). We plan to have cake and coffee in the basement.

Easter Egg Hunt: Easter Egg Hunt Easter Sunday morning. Instead of filling the eggs with candy, we plan to put little ducks in each egg. At the end of the egg hunt, the kids can come down to the basement and exchange their ducks for whatever they'd like (including candy, toys, etc.), or they can just keep the cute little ducks.

Continued on Page 6

GRACE COUNCIL, continued

This way, all children can participate, including those with allergy restrictions. Email with any questions: education@gracechurcherskine.org

WNALC:

Meeting Thursday at McIntosh Senior Living.

Hope Circle is meeting April 23rd at the church

Rebecca Circle is meeting April 24th at the church

June's WNALC meeting will be at the church in the evening

Trustees:

Lights in the whole building other than possibly the woman's bathroom should all be updated. Light installed in the belltower

Will be contacting Lance to get the gutters on

Deacons -Wendy

Applied and got \$250.00 card from Thrivent for groceries for Easter Sunday Breakfast. An offering will be taken at the Easter breakfast for the Roof fund.

Video Ministry: Nick preparing process documents for broadcasting. And will train and be available for questions. Looking for a director to head Video Ministry and ideally have 6 people on a video ministry committee to rotate.

Food Shelf: March 2025 Report

The food shelf is getting closer to our highest households of 50 in the year 2024. We had a total of 48 this month so far. 28 on the first shopping day and 20 on the second day.

Old Business:

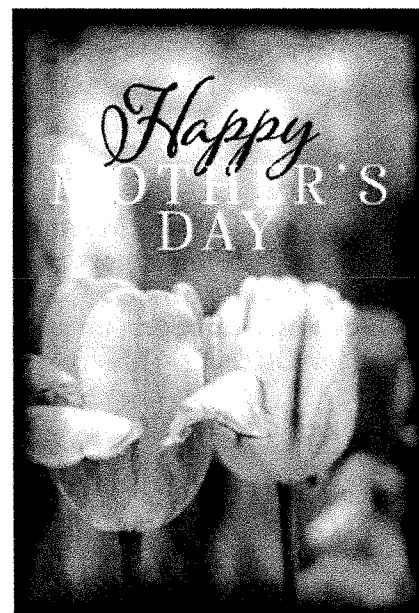
Summer Worship / Picnic / VBS Kickoff - Summer Worship at 9:00 for the summer made by Tyler, second by Steve. Picnic/VBS Kickoff will be Sunday Aug 3rd. Worship will be later that Sunday to accommodate picnic. VBS will be the 3-7th of August.

Holy Week Schedule -Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday 7 PM, Good Friday worship Noon and 7 PM, Easter Sunday, 9 AM Breakfast, 9:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt and 10:30 Worship w/ Holy Communion.

2026 NALC Youth Event - Fundraising - pending a meeting to get more information

Mission Opportunities: Girls School Malawi (Winnipeg) / LMVFM / Grace to Ukraine - Pastor Pam will talk more about the Girls School Malawi (Winnipeg)

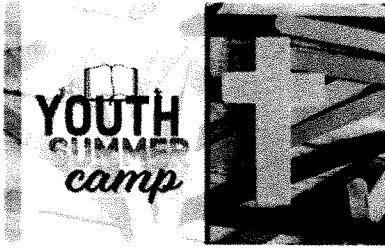
Other - John will post pictures of the unused alter rails. He will make an announcement to the congregation when there is an interested party before giving them away. Would like to see them go somewhere that they would be utilized.

**"M - O - T - H - E - R"**

by Howard Johnson

*"M" is for the million things she gave me,
 "O" means only that she's growing old,
 "T" is for the tears she shed to save me,
 "H" is for her heart of purest gold,
 "E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining,
 "R" means right, and right she'll always be,
 Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"
 A word that means the world to me.*





Let's Think About Summer!

Registration for Pathways Bible Camp is now open! Parents, if you are looking for a fun activity that will grow your child's faith, please consider sending him or her to Camp Emmaus, near Park Rapids, MN. Please note the following information.

- Half of the cost of camp will be paid for all campers through confirmation who are members of Grace.
- Please register and submit payment for your child. Then contact Jim Ferden to be reimbursed for expenses.
- To register, see the schedule, or ask questions, contact www.pathwaysbiblecamp.org
- You can also contact Nancy Jenson (218-280-3858) with questions.

Please take advantage of this generous opportunity from Grace. This is a mission that our church is proud to support!



With Gratitude and Honor

Gracious God, on this Memorial Day weekend, we remember and give thanks for those who have given their lives in the service of our country. When the need was greatest, they stepped forward and did their duty to defend the freedoms that we enjoy, and to win the same for others.

O God, you yourself have taught us that no love is greater than that which gives itself for another. These honored dead gave the most precious gift they had, life itself, for loved ones and neighbors, for comrades and country - and for us.

Help us to honor their memory by caring for the family members they have left behind, by ensuring that their wounded comrades are properly cared for, by being watchful caretakers of the freedoms for which they gave their lives, and by demanding that no other young men and women follow them to a soldier's grave unless the reason is worthy and

the cause is just.

Holy One, help us to remember that freedom is not free. There are times when its cost is, indeed, dear. Never let us forget those who paid so terrible a price to ensure that freedom would be our legacy.

Though their names may fade with the passing of generations, may we never forget what they have done. Help us to be worthy of their sacrifice,

O God, help us to be worthy.

- J. Veltri, S.J.



God Bless America,
Land that I love.
Stand beside her, and guide
her
Thru the night with a light
from above.
From the mountains, to the
prairies,
To the oceans, white with
foam
God bless America, My
home sweet home.

MAY

Grace Lutheran Church

CIRCLES
Hope
Rebecca

at the church
at the church

Ushers :

Jason Juve
John Carlson

Communion Assistants:

Altar Flowers:
Hope Circle

Altar Guild:

Hollie Stewart and Mavis Haugom

R= Reader

A=Acolyte

P=Power Point

MAY 4th:

R~~ Del Hemmingsen, Jr.

A~~Gracey Gunderson and Shelby Shimpa

P~~ Brecken Gunderson and Hannah Shimpa

MAY 11th:

R~~ Ann Brekken

A~~ Bella Senn and Rodney Stephen

P~~ Logan Johnson and Karl Jax

MAY 18th:

R~~ Liz Jensen

A~~ Wyatt Lee and Jorgen Johnson

P~~ George Juve and Owen Strom

MAY 25th:

R~~ Nancy Jensen

A~~ Carson Fortman and Karl Jax

P~~ Malaina Jax and Bella Senn

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 National Day of Prayer	2	3 9a- Rebroadcast
4 9a-ABS 10:30a- Worship w/Holy Comm.	5 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	6 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg.	7 6p-Confirmation Class 6:30p-Rebroadcast	8 2-6p-Food Shelf is open	9	10 9a- Rebroadcast
11 Mother's Day 9a-ABS 10:30a- Worship w/Holy Comm.	12 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	13 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg.	14 6:30p-Rebroadcast 7:00p-Council Mtg.	15 10a-2p-Food Shelf is open	16 SCROLL ARTI- CLES DUE	17 9a- Rebroadcast Armed Forces Day
18 9a-ABS 10:30a- Worship	19 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	20 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg.	21 6:30p-Rebroadcast	22 6:30p-Rebecca Cir- cle	23	24 9a- Rebroadcast Win-E-Mac Graduation
25 9a-ABS 10:30a- Worship	26 Memorial Day 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	27 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg.	28 10a-Hope Circle 6:30p-Rebroadcast	29	30	31
				Greeters: 4th: Keith & Jo- anne Sannes 11th: Tyler & Jes- sica Sannes	18th: David & Cas- sie Senn 25th: Brad & Hol- lie Stewart	