

The Scroll

Grace Lutheran
Church

June 2025

D-DAY

June 6, 1944



Remember & Honor

On D-Day, June 6, 1944, Allied forces launched the Normandy landings, the largest amphibious invasion in history, to begin the liberation of Europe from Nazi control. Over 156,000 troops, supported by a massive naval and air armada, landed on the beaches of Normandy, France. The operation, codenamed Operation Overlord, involved paratroopers dropping behind enemy lines, followed by ground troops storming the beaches under the cover of a naval bombardment.

The Normandy landings, also known as D-Day, were a major turning point in World War II, ultimately leading to the Allied victory on the Western Front and contributing significantly to the defeat of Germany. While the immediate objectives of securing beachheads and pushing into the interior of France were challenging and costly, the overall outcome was a decisive success.

The Allies chose the Normandy beaches for D-Day, Operation Overlord, because they offered several strategic advantages, including being within range of air cover, less heavily defended than other potential locations like Calais, and possessing good access to inland routes. The planned landings were also strategically positioned to threaten key ports and facilitate an advance inland.

The landings were scheduled to start at 06:30, "H-Hour", on a flooding tide, preceded by a 40-minute naval and 30-minute aerial bombardment of the beach defenses, with the DD tanks arriving five minutes before H-Hour.

As of 2023, across the world, there are estimated to be a few thousand D-Day veterans still alive today. There are estimated to be only a small number of British D-Day veterans alive in 2024, potentially less than 100, according to the latest numbers of British D-Day veterans heading to Normandy this year.

The Normandy landings, also known as D-Day, lasted for 24 hours. The initial assault on June 6, 1944, involved the landing of paratroopers behind enemy lines and the amphibious assault on the beaches. While the initial landing was a 24-hour event, the broader Normandy Campaign, including the establishment of a beachhead and subsequent battles to advance inland, lasted for approximately three months, concluding in late July or early August 1944.

The Allies took approximately 10,250 casualties on D-Day. This total includes killed, wounded, and missing servicemen, as well as those casualties from the airborne assault under Operation Tonga. Of the 10,250 casualties, around 4,440 were killed.

**Information found on Wikipedia*

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HAPPY
Father's
Day
June
15th



The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday June 11th at 7:00PM at the church.

A reminder that all Council meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise specified.



Join us for worship at the Erskine City Park on June 8th at 9:00 AM. **Bring your own chair or blanket to sit on.**



The Grace WNALC will meet on **June 12th at 7:00 p.m.** at Grace Church. Guest speaker will be Alice Johnson.

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

Rebecca Circle: No meeting through the summer months



April 27th:

Attendance~ 130
Offering~\$2,202.00

May 4th:

Attendance~ 58
Offering~\$2,915.00

May 11th:

Attendance~62
Offering~\$2,665.00

May 18th:

Attendance~ 50
Offering~ \$2,287.00

May 25th:

Attendance~ 54
Offering~ \$2,340.00



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.

April 2025 Financial Summary

Regular Offerings to the General Operating Fund - \$17,655.25

Other Giving used for the General Operating Fund - \$ 511.00

Thrivent Choice Program - \$ 535.00

Interest Earned - \$ 111.31

Total Income - \$18,812.56

Expenses:

Administrative - \$ 8,022.93

Education - \$ 323.35

Mission Outreach - \$ 870.00

Pastoral - \$ 7,794.97

Worship - \$ 1,355.95

Total Expenses - \$18,367.20

Net Income - \$445.36



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 JUNE****Seventh Sunday of Easter
June 1, 2025**

First Reading - Acts 1:12-26
 Psalm - Psalm 133:1-3
 Second Reading - Revelation 22:1-6, 7-11, 12-20
 Gospel - John 17:20-26

**Day of Pentecost
June 8, 2025**

First Reading - Genesis 11:1-9
 Psalm - Psalm 143:1-12
 Second Reading - Acts 2:1-21
 Gospel - John 14:23-31

**The Holy Trinity
June 15, 2025**

First Reading - Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
 Psalm - Psalm 8:1-9
 Second Reading - Acts 2:14a, 22-36
 Gospel - John 8:48-59

**Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 22, 2025**

First Reading - Isaiah 65:1-9
 Psalm - Psalm 3:1-8
 Second Reading - Galatians 3:23-4:7
 Gospel - Luke 8:26-39

**Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 29, 2025**

First Reading - 1 Kings 19:9b-21
 Psalm - Psalm 16:1-11
 Second Reading - Galatians 5:1, 13-25
 Gospel - Luke 9:51-62



Grace May Council Meeting Condensed. A full report may be picked up in the church office.

Financial Secretary's Report:

Total General Fund Offering - \$17,655.25

Total Other Offering - \$198.00

Total Outreach Offering - \$353.00

Total Building Fund Offering - \$1,956.00

Total Monthly Deposit - \$20,162.25

Treasurer's Report: Jim reported

Cash Flow Report

Regular Offering to the General Operating Fund was \$17,655.25. Giving was basically the same as last month.

The monthly budget goal is \$22,077.10.

Undesignated funds available to be used for April's General Fund expenses totaled \$18,812.56.

This total is comprised of the regular offering, interest, a Thrivent Choice program gift, and various other giving.

The total of undesignated funds given were slightly above the month's General Fund expenses totaling \$18,367.20.

Noteworthy Other Giving - A gift of \$535.00 through the Thrivent Choice Program.

Some of the noteworthy expenses this month included:

Administration: Church & Parsonage Fuel - Two propane fills during April.

Church Cleaning - No cleaning

expense this month due to timing of billing.

Copier Lease - Two lease payments due to timing of paying the bills.

Education: Miscellaneous - Expense is mostly for food items to celebrate last day of SS and RT. Also for a gift for Nancy Jenson.

Mission Outreach: Miscellaneous - Pass through donations.

Pastoral: None

Worship: Organist Salary - Compensation is higher due to Lenten season.

Worship Aids - Items for Communion, palm branches, and candles for baptism and Good Friday.

Budget Report

Overall, we ended the month at approximately 6.3% or \$16,700 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 April matches up closely with giving in March.

This is the 4th best giving for an April since I started tracking giving in 2011.

Ahead of last year to date giving by \$5,700.

Best year to date giving ever!

History of the General Operating Fund Balance

Due to strong giving again in April, and the extra other giving during the month, the negative ending balance for the General Fund decreased another \$445.00. We have decreased the negative balance since the beginning of the year by approximately \$2,800.

Account Balances Report

Building Fund - Reflects donations of \$30.00. It also reflects

expenses related to the separate elevator phone line (\$39.48), the purchase of a computer monitor for the office (\$130.00), and repairs to the boiler made in September 2024 (\$4,343.72).

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.

Oil Fund - Missions reflects a portion of this month's oil/gas revenue.

Organ & Piano Repair Fund - Reflects a donation of \$5.00 and expenses for tuning the basement and sanctuary pianos (\$440.00).

Roof Project Fund - Reflects donations of \$1,926.00 and the loan payment (principal & interest) of \$5,000.

Scholarship Fund - Reflects a donation of \$10.00.

SS Equipment Fund - Reflects donations of \$5.00.

SS Outreach Fund - Reflects donations of \$53.00 and the expense of \$43.00 to

Compassion International for the regular monthly gift.

VBS Fund - Reflects a donation of \$10.00.

Brovold Investment Valuation Report -

Balance decreased slightly from last month.

Gunderson Investment Valuation Report

Balance decreased approximately \$1,200.00 from last month.

Other Information

To date financial summary of roof project:

Original Loan Amount

Approved - \$175,000.00

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GRACE COUNCIL, continued
Other Information To date financial summary of roof project:

Original Loan Amount Approved - \$175,000.00

Loan Funds Advanced - \$50,000.00

Principal & Interest Paid - \$26,432.75

Loan Balance - \$26,242.57

Donations - \$86,462.00

Labor & Material Costs - \$98,833.58

Other Costs - \$785.37

Roof Project Fund Balance (as of 4/30/25) - \$10,410.30

I am waiting for the expense of installing the rain gutters. Once those have been installed, I will apply the remaining balance in the Roof Repair Fund to the balance of the loan.

Since the last Council meeting, the audit of the church records for 2024 has been completed! Please see a separate letter for the findings.

Report received for filing.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Pam reported

Miles spreadsheets with details to Treasurer

Visits - Nursing homes, Essentia Fosston, a few: Tadman, Noyes, Smeby, Moteborg, Farder.

Numerous softball and baseball games.

Baccalaureate - planning, service.

Bible study and worship services at Fair Meadow, Poplar Meadow, Mc Sr. Living.

Vacation May 19-31. Texas for grandsons' graduation and to visit 2 sons.

I will take a weekend at the end of August for a celebration of life in Louisville, KY.

Minkota Mission District - Council meeting held at Grace in May. I am working with several churches who are without pastors. 1 is a new NALC congregation in Stanley ND.

With the early service, I will be preaching at other venues from time to time.

President's Report: John reported

Spent most of effort this last month working on the video ministry making sure that it will continue smoothly.

Youth Planning meeting.

Communion rails can be stored in John's pole barn. No inquiries on the posting on Facebook marketplace.

Committee Reports:

Youth Ministry: Pres. John reported. Youth Group plans:

June 1st - Ditch cleaning and afterwards a gathering with food

End of June or beginning of July - Canoeing, date will be set after the summer sports practice schedule is posted

First week in August - Camping at Maple Lake. The week will depend on what week that the athletes can't have contact with coaches

September 14th - Ditch cleaning and kickoff for the new 7th grade students watching the movie "I Can Only Imagine"

October 18th - Mercy Me concert

Possible city worship event again

NALC Youth Gathering in 2026

Stewardship: Tyler reported No report. Hoping to meet with

committee members this month to come up with a plan

Education Committee: Andrew emailed

Singing in Church: We sang two songs for the last Sunday of Sunday School: "Made for This" and "Won't Worry 'Bout a Thing" (a special request from the 6th graders). We had muffins, cupcakes, coffee, and lemonade in the basement to celebrate the last day. Leftover Easter candy was also given to all the Sunday School students in attendance, which was quite a few that Sunday! I believe it was 37 - best attendance all year!

Vacation Bible School:

Reminders (with links to register) were given to all the students with their bags of candy. Links to sign up to volunteer were also given to the JH kids. These flyers have also been posted around the church. We hope for a good turnout!

Easter Egg Hunt: We thought the Easter Egg hunt went well! We'll have to tweak a few things for next year, but we learned something interesting from letting the kids choose: believe it or not, kids would rather have trinkets, toys, or books than candy! Email with any questions:

education@gracechurcherskine.org

WNALC: Hollie reported

Allie Johnson will be talking at the NALC meeting on June 12th at 7:00 pm. "Intimacy with Jesus". Free will offering for meal. Planning a possible Mission District woman's

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What is the Meaning Behind the 13 Folds of the U.S. Flag?

The flag-folding ceremony represents the same religious principles on which the United States was originally founded.

1. The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.
2. The second fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.
3. The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks, and who gave a portion of his or her life for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.
4. The fourth fold represents our weaker nature; as American citizens trusting in God, it is Him we turn to in times of peace, as well as in times of war, for His divine guidance.
5. The fifth fold is a tribute to our country. In the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but it is still our country, right or wrong."
6. The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
7. The seventh fold is a tribute to our armed forces, for it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

8. The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor our mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

9. The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood. It has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that has molded the character of the men and women who have made this country great.

10. The 10th fold is a tribute to father, who has also given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first born.

11. The 11th fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

12. The 12th fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies God the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost.

13. The 13th and last fold, when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God We Trust."



June 14th



**WNALC Executive Meeting
5-14-2025**

PRESENT: Pres. Hollie, VP-Mavis, Treasurer-Barb, Pastor Pam

BUSINESS: •Discussion and plan for

June 12.2025 WNALC meeting at 7:00pm

- Speaker Alice Johnson
- High school age and up
- All from community invited



Letter from our Compassion Child, Ran

Shalom. Peace be with you in Jesus Christ. I am thankful to Jesus for still giving good health for me, my mother, father and my younger sibling. I have done my mid semester exams but I do not have the result yet. However, I believe that I will get good result from my teacher. Are you and your family in good health there? How is the weather there? The weather here is bad recently. Some places get landslides and flood. I pray for you and your family to always be protected by God. This is all my letter for now. Jesus bless you. Shalom. Love, Ran

GRACE COUNCIL, continued
WNALC: Hollie reported

Allie Johnson will be talking at the NALC meeting on June 12th at 7:00 pm. "Intimacy with Jesus". Free will offering for meal.

Planning a possible Mission District woman's retreat at Fosston or Detroit Lakes. Shelby Shimpa will teach Hollie how to take care of the piano for humidity.

Trustees: Gene reported

Sent text to Lance, gutters should be on in May. Normal maintenance.

Deacons - Wendy reported
 No report

Video Ministry: John reported
 The schedule for the rest of the year is set. Kevin Thorson, Tyler Brekken, Jason Carlson and John Carlson will be on a rotating schedule. Still looking for a person to lead this. Goal is to learn everything so well they can teach it. Long range goal is to get the youth involved who are interested.

Food Shelf: Gene reported
 (Mavis Haugom, Coordinator submitted report) Was nice to have Win-E-Mac Senior, Hank, helping and learning about the food shelf.

Great News: We did finally get our \$5000 grant. That will help! 39 Total Households served

Old Business:

Water Carnival worship – 9:00 worship. Will need help in setting up and taking down.

Summer Worship / Picnic / VBS Kickoff – Food – Aug 3rd
 Need someone in charge of

Need someone in charge of food

2026 NALC Youth Event – Fundraising, Mission District wide – will need someone to head up the fundraising for Grace Youth Group going to Roanoke, VA

Road signs – they are in the proof stage which they should be able to send shortly. \$950 + shipping. County will install and there will be an additional charge for installation

Parsonage Discussion: Sell house to be moved. Approximate amount to fill in basement would be \$16,000. Moving cost is \$30,000 to \$35,000. Buyer would pay the moving cost. Inquire with congregation regarding options on what to do, without selling the lot. Use house as an Airbnb. Building Committee to discuss further.

New Business:

Gift to Walks – Consistent with others given

Clean can shed – now that cans are out will clean out the shed of unused items sometime in June

Vice-President appointment vote – Tyler Brekken has offered to be Vice President. Motion to appoint Tyler Brekken as Vice President by Gene. Second by Hollie

NALC delegate appointment vote – Gene is going to go in place of John. Motion to appoint Gene as delegate to the NALC convocation by Hollie. Second by Wendy

Release Time – Need to find a replacement for Nancy Jenson and more teachers. Notices to congregations regarding help with teachers and/or cost.

Possible stipend for individuals who fill in for Pastor for Sunday worship who are lay persons. Pastor Pam will contact other churches as to what they do.

Calendar:

Summer worship – June through August, at 9:00 am

Pastor on vacation May 19-30

Water Carnival worship outside – June 8th and it is Pentecost Sunday

VBS August 3-7

Announcements

Next month's meeting date is June 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Adjourn

The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
 Carla Ferden



Spend time with God this summer

JUNE

Grace Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9a-Worship w/ Holy Comm.	2 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	3 7a-MBS @ Ness Café	4 6:30p-Rebroadcast	5	6	7 9a- Rebroadcast
8 9a-Worship in the park	9 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	10 7a-MBS @ Ness Café	11 6:30p-Rebroadcast 7:00p-Council Mtg.	12 2-6p-Food Shelf is open 7p-WNALC Mtg.	13	14 Flag Day 9a- Rebroadcast
15 Father's Day 9a-Worship w/ Holy Comm.	16 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	17 7a-MBS @ Ness Café	18 6:30p-Rebroadcast	19 10a-2p-Food Shelf is open	20 SCROLL ARTI- CLES DUE	21 9a- Rebroadcast
22 9a-Worship	23 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	24 7a-MBS @ Ness Café	25 10a-Hope Circle 6:30p-Rebroadcast	26	27	28 9a- Rebroadcast
29 9a-Worship	30 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast					
				Greeters: 1st: Matt & Sarah Strom 8th: Brian & Lisa Stuhaug	15th: Keith & Lin- da Stuhaug 22nd: Tony & Hei- di Stuhaug	29th: Jason & Shan- non Svalen

CIRCLES
Hope at the church
Rebecca no meeting

Ushers:

Gary & Maxine Walter
Jason Carlson family

Communion Assistants:
Kim Mahlen

Altar Flowers:
Rebecca Circle

Altar Guild:
Hollie Stewart and Mavis Haugom

R= Reader
A=Acolyte
P=Power Point

JUNE 1st:
R~~ Jeff Nornes
A~~ Bridger Huschle and Addyson
Morgenroth
P~~ Rodney Stephen and Charley
Carlson
JUNE 8th:
R~~ Cassie Senn
A~~ Hope Omundson and Faith
Omundson
P~~ Scott Omundson and Logan
Johnson
JUNE 15th:
R~~ Gary Walter
A~~ Taytum Smeby and Wyatt Lee
P~~ Kale Smeby and George Juve
JUNE 22nd:
R~~ Kris Nornes
A~~ Brecken Gunderson and
Hannah Shimpa
P~~ Gracey Gunderson and Shelby
Shimpa
JUNE 29th:
R~~ Becky Lindseth
A~~ Jon Hill and Jorgen Johnson
P~~ Bridger Huschle and Owen
Strom