

# The Scroll

Grace Lutheran  
Church

December 2025



The north wind begins to blow and with it a change of season. So it is in the life of the church. It's Advent

when we look to the new life ahead of us at with the anticipation of Jesus return to earth, his 2<sup>nd</sup> coming. First, Jesus who is God, came down to earth and lived as one of us, a babe born in Bethlehem. When he ascended into heaven after he'd completed his task of redemption, he said he would return. This has been foretold in the Bible as an event to bring in the fullness of time and the entry into the final glory of Jesus Christ. Advent draws us; It is a call to get serious about our Lord and Savior, to learn and to grow in the love and knowledge of God.

Advent begins a new church year. It is fitting to begin our yearly journey looking to the end, reading the last page of the great story so that we can truly appreciate all the rest. Our annual cycle of events in the church year is a joyful way to learn the life of Christ and how to walk in a manner worthy of being called one of His own. As Lutherans we join with many other Christian groups who have a 3-year cycle of scripture readings for our Sunday worship. During this time most of the Bible is covered. This year we are in year A which settles heavily into the gospel of Matthew. This is a time to get to know this disciple of Jesus as he shares his words on the life of Christ. Let us commit to regularly reading Matthew's gospel.

Christmastime brings joy and hope into our lives even as we miss the memories of Christmases past. Through it all, we give thanks to God our Father who still give us life and hope and who is with us now and in the life to come.

May your Advent and your Christmas be full of joy and full of life.

In ministry together,

Pastor Pam



*Father God,*

*When you sent us your precious Son as a tiny baby, born in a stable in Bethlehem, in poverty and simplicity, you changed our world. As we imagine those surroundings, we join with the shepherds and the wise men in wonder and praise. Lord, we thank you for our material lives, praise you for our spiritual lives, and trust in you for our eternal life. Amen.*

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**CHURCH  
COUNCIL**

The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday December 10th at 7:00PM at the church. A reminder that all Council meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise specified.



**November 2nd:**

Attendance~ 88  
Offering~\$4,280.00

**November 9th:**

Attendance~ 59  
Offering~\$3,255.00

**November 16th:**

Attendance~ 61  
Offering~\$3,155.00

**November 23rd:**

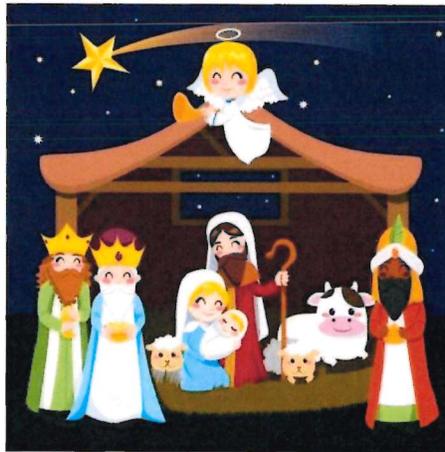
Attendance~82  
Offering~ \$2,365.10



**The Grace WNALC will meet December 11th at 7:00PM. See page 5 of the Scroll for more details.**

**Hope Circle:** December 3rd at 9:00AM at the church

**Rebecca Circle:** December 18th at 6:30PM at the church.



**Sunday School  
Christmas Program**

**December 14th at 10:30AM  
(during worship service)**

**In case of bad weather, the  
program will be held on  
Wednesday December 17th  
at 7:00PM**



Shirley Salverson

Liz Jenson

Sherry Hoas

Don Lundin

Judy Tadman

Linda Jorgenson

Judi Hoeft

Jon Clementson

Pastor Pam Thorson

Ogden Farder, Jr.

Verra Smeby

Maci Smeby

Allen Jenson

Steve & Linda Evenson

Louise LaBrecque

Bev Greaver

Zach Haugen and daughters

Amy Carpenter

Gloria Bixby

David Ward

Jesse Hickman

Greg Kaster

Jolene Bradley

Mark Wild

Amy Carpenter

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](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 –



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 \(contribute.co\)](http://ThriventActionTeamsHub.contribute.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.

**October 2025 Financial Summary**

Regular Offerings to the General Operating Fund - \$18,014.10  
 Anonymous Donations to the General Op Fund - \$ 3,356.51  
 Misc giving used for the General Operating Fund - \$ 1,968.75  
 Undesignated Memorials - \$ 140.00  
 Thrivent Choice Program - \$ 54.00  
 Interest Earned - \$ 66.65  
**Total Income - \$23,600.01**

Expenses:

Administrative - \$ 7,663.72  
 Education - \$ 133.33  
 Mission Outreach - \$ 2,300.00  
 Pastoral - \$ 7,777.07  
 Worship - \$ 598.18  
**Total Expenses - \$18,472.30**  
**Net Income - \$5,127.71**



**GROCERY RECEIPTS**

Just a reminder that Groceries Plus in Erskine and Jered's Grocery in McIntosh continue to contribute 1% of the balance of your grocery receipts to the Grace Youth Group. However, you need to now bring those receipts to the church as Groceries Plus no longer automatically collects them for our youth group. There is an ice cream bucket down in the hallway across from the coat rack where you can place them. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jim Ferden or Tina Farrell.

**GRACE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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



**December 24th**  
**Christmas Carol Sing a-long**  
**at 4:00PM**  
**Candlelight Worship Service**  
**begins at 4:30 PM.**

**LECTIONARY READINGS  
FOR DECEMBER****Second Sunday of Advent  
December 7, 2025**

First Reading - Isaiah 11:1-10  
 Psalm - Psalm 72:1-7  
 Second Reading - Romans 15:4-13  
 Gospel - Matthew 3:1-12

**Third Sunday of Advent  
December 14, 2025**

First Reading - Isaiah 35:1-10  
 Psalm - Psalm 146:1-10  
 Second Reading - James 5:7-11  
 Gospel - Matthew 11:2-15

**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 21, 2025**

First Reading - Isaiah 7:10-17  
 Psalm - Psalm 24:1-10  
 Second Reading - Romans 1:1-7  
 Gospel - Matthew 1:18-25

**Nativity of Our Lord  
December 24, 2025 • Christmas Eve**

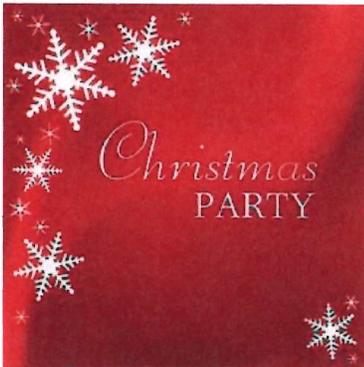
First Reading - Isaiah 7:10-14  
 Psalm - Psalm 110:1-4  
 Second Reading - 1 John 4:7-16  
 Gospel - Matthew 1:18-25

**Nativity of Our Lord  
December 25, 2025 • Christmas Day**

First Reading - Isaiah 52:7-10  
 Psalm - Psalm 2:1-12  
 Second Reading - Hebrews 1:1-6, 7-12  
 Gospel - John 1:1-14, 15-18

**First Sunday after Christmas  
December 28, 2025**

First Reading - Isaiah 63:7-14  
 Psalm - Psalm 111:1-10  
 Second Reading - Galatians 4:4-7  
 Gospel - Matthew 2:13-23



### COME CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS !

*All Women of Grace are invited to a birthday party for our Savior! Come celebrate Jesus as we ready our hearts for Christmas. December 11th at 7:00 is the time. Grace fellowship hall is the place. We'll sing some Christmas songs. Share some Christmas memories. Hear the Christmas story. And share some Christmas goodies. Everyone is asked to bring a sweet or savory to share for our dessert time. And instead of gifts to share with each other, we'll pack Kitchen Kits to send to our mission- Disaster relief. A list follows of items needed for a kit. Pick one or a few... whatever you would like.*



### Kitchen Kits

(Pack kits in a 2-gallon plastic storage bag or drawstring backpack)

- can opener
- cookbook
- dish cloths
- dish towel
- hot pad
- spatula (turner)
- measuring cups
- measuring spoons
- another helpful kitchen item of your choice (i.e., mini cutting board, peeler, tongs, etc.)
- storage container (2-cup w/ lid)
- garbage bags (a few, mixed sizes)



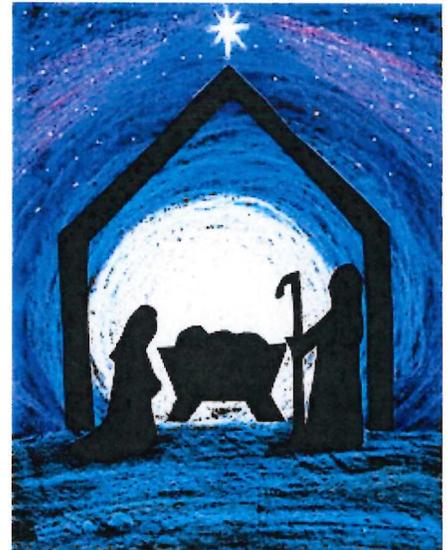
### WINDBLOWN

On December 7th, *Windblown* will accompany the worship service with a variety of Christmas Music.

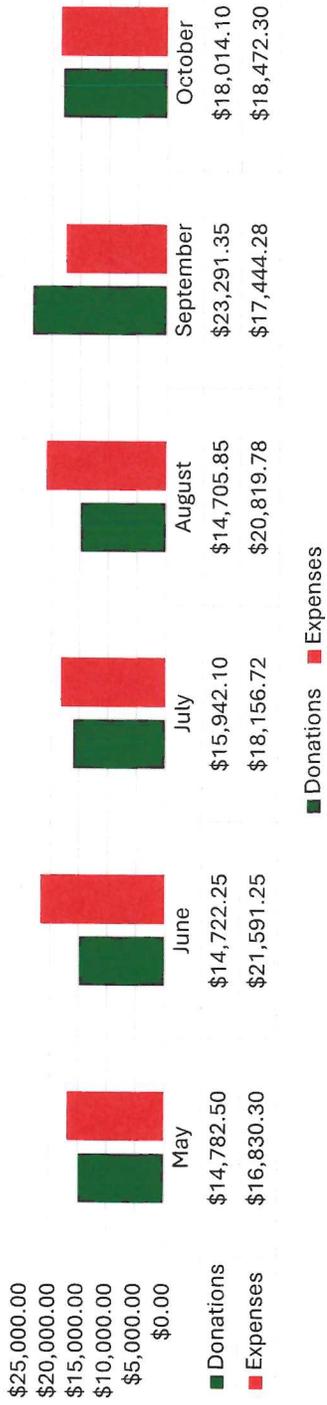
Since 2018, *Windblown* has treated audiences across northwest Minnesota to their unique brand of musical entertainment.

*Windblown* has developed a distinctive presence and enjoys an engaging rapport with audiences.

People from every background find inspiration in *Windblown's* diverse repertoire – classical, jazz, sacred and Broadway.

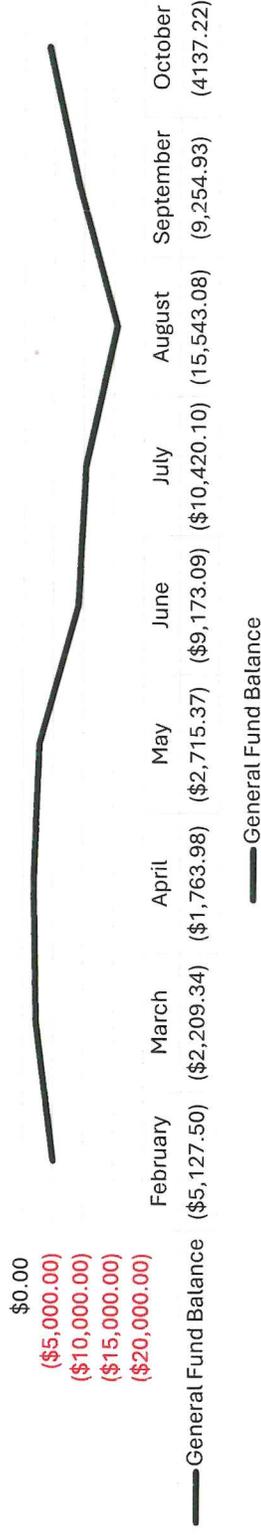


## Donations vs Expenses



While donations have been good in 2025, this graph indicates that the monthly giving has not been enough to cover the monthly expenses during 2025 except for September.

## General Fund Balance



The General Fund is used to pay all the church's regular expenses. This graph indicates that the General Fund has had a negative balance during all of 2025. Because of the negative balance, money from other funds have been used to cover the monthly expenses.

We are grateful for all donations given to the church. However, as indicated in the graphs, donations need to increase. Please consider increasing your offering to the church. If you would like to start giving your offering electronically, please see information elsewhere in the Scroll.

# Grace Prayer Chain

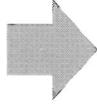
\*\* UPDATED: 11/18/25

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.

**Contact Dorothy and Patti  
Dorothy and Patti** will  
start the Prayer Chain

**Dorothy Sandberg**  
218-687-3575 Call



Mavis Haugom  
218-277-0738 Text or Call

TEXT GROUP  
GRACE PRAYER CHAIN A

Hollie Stewart  
218-358-0996

Mary & Doug Bratrud  
218-521-0793

Wendy Lee  
218-686-6297

Yvonne & Daryl Halvorson  
218-779-9442

Jim Ferden  
218-280-3760

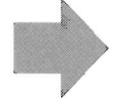
Judy Hoeft  
218-280-1470

Pr. Pam  
270-872-8269

Renee Howe  
218-280-8375

Sherry Hoas  
218-230-8811

Joann Sannes  
218-280-1355



Lila Lucken  
218-938-4476 Call



Joyce Voxland  
218-687-5115 Call



TEXT GROUP  
GRACE PRAYER CHAIN B

Marilyn Branstner  
218-280-8156

Barb Gaalswyk  
218-280-1784 Cell

Ginnie Farrell  
218-929-9563

Nancy Jenson  
218-280-3858

Julie Clementson  
218-230-3984

Marie Hamre  
218-766-6074

Maxine Walter  
218-431-4142

Ann Brekken  
218-280-8580

**Dorothy** will contact  
Mavis and Lila Lucken

**Mavis** has a text group  
already set up that  
includes the 10 people  
listed below her name.  
She will pass on the  
request to her text group  
Everyone will get  
the same information  
at the same time.

There is no need to pass  
this information on to  
the next person.

**Lila Lucken** will call  
Joyce about the request  
that she received from  
Dorothy

**Patti** has a text group  
set up that includes the  
8 people below her name.  
She will pass on the  
request to her text group  
Everyone will get  
the same information  
at the same time.  
There is no need to pass  
this information on to  
the next person.

If you want to join this list  
contact Mavis Haugom @  
218-277-0738

**Copy** of this list is in hallway  
near Kim's and Pr's office.

# DECEMBER

# Grace Lutheran Church

\*CIRCLES\*  
 Hope  
 Rebecca

at the church  
 at the church

**Ushers:**

Gene Haugom  
 Jon Clementson

**Communion Assistants:**

Mavis Haugom and Betty Lundin

**Altar Flowers:**

Hope Circle

**Altar Guild:**

Lesly Tradewell and Cindy Nelson

**R= Reader**

**A=Acolyte**

**P=Power Point**

**DECEMBER 7th:**

**R**~ Jeff Normes

**A**~ Addyson Morgenroth and Elyse Morgenroth

**P**~ Karl Jax and Dawson Gunufson

**DECEMBER 14th:**

**R**~ Charley Carlson

**A**~ Shelby Shimpa and Hannah Shimpa

**P**~ Jorgen Johnson and Wyatt Lee

**DECEMBER 21st:**

**R**~ Cassie Senn

**A**~ Taytum Smeby and Serenity Lundin

**P**~ Carson Fortman and Bridger Huschle

**DECEMBER 28th:**

**R**~ Kim Mahlen

**A**~ Jon Hill and Faith Omundson

**P**~ Scott Omundson and Hope Omundson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	2 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 2p-BSF 8p-AA mtg.	3 9a-Hope Circle 1:55p-RT Class 6p-Confirmation Class 6:30p-Rebroadcast	4	5	6 9a- Rebroadcast
7 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a-Worship w/ Holy Communion	8 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	9 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 2p-BSF 8p-AA mtg.	10 1:55p-RT Class 6p-Confirmation Class 6:30p-Rebroadcast	11 2-6p-Food Shelf is open	12	13 9a- Rebroadcast
14 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a-Worship w/ Holy Communion & Sunday School Program	15 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	16 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg.	17 1:55p-RT Class 6p-Confirmation Class 6:30p-Rebroadcast 7p-Council Mtg.	18 10a-2p-Food Shelf is open 6:30p-Rebecca Cir- cle	19 <b>SCROLL ARTI- CLES DUE</b>	20 9a- Rebroadcast
21 9a-ABS 9:15a-Sunday School 10:30a-Worship	22 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	23 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg.	24 4p-Christmas Eve Candlelight Wor- ship	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26	27 9a- Rebroadcast
28 9a-ABS 10:30a-Worship	29 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast	30 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg.	31 6:30p-Rebroadcast			
				<b>Greeters: 7th: David &amp; Jean Halvorson 14th: Wayne &amp; Marie Hamre</b>	<b>21st: Jenny Haugen 28th: Gene &amp; Ma- vis Haugom</b>	