



The Scroll



Pastor's Corner

We are in the midst of celebrating our 250th year as a nation. This is a good time to reflect and remember those principles upon which the United States of America was found-

ed, the land that we love.

The Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4th 1776. These words declare the founding principles and intent of our nation. *"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."*

As a nation we have not achieved all of this in practice, but this statement gives us guidance and hope. We would all like this nation to be healed from the angst, violence, and all the evil that besets our world.

Church, as the people of God we have authority and duty to pray, to intercede for God's help and blessing. But there are conditions: *...If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.* 2 Chronicles 7:14

While in this verse, God is speaking directly to King Solomon at the dedication of the first Temple in Jerusalem, there is truth for all peoples here. God explains how His people can find restoration and healing after periods of hardship, drought, or judgment. We can do these things for ourselves and on behalf of the sins of our nation.

This is what we must do:

1. **Humble ourselves:** Acknowledging the need for God and letting go of pride.
 2. **Pray:** Communicating directly and earnestly with God.
 3. **Seek the face of the One God Almighty – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit :** Desiring God's presence and relationship above all else.
- Turn from wicked ways:** True repentance, which means changing direction and behavior.

God promises three responses:

1. **"I will hear from heaven"** (Divine attention)
 2. **"I will forgive their sin"** (Divine mercy)
- "I will heal their land"** (Divine restoration)

In gratitude for God's provision and in ministry together,
Pastor Pam

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| WNALC Meeting | 2 |
| Circle Meetings | 2 |
| Council Meeting | 2 |
| Prayer Concerns | 2 |
| Attendance & Offerings | 2 |
| Women's Bible Study | 2 |
| Men's Bible Study | 2 |
| Financial News | 3 |
| Grace Council Members | 4 |
| July Readings | 4 |
| Summer Worship Schedule | 4 |
| Grace Quilters News | 5 |
| VBS News | 5 |
| Stewardship News | 5 |
| 2026 Prayer for the US of A | 6 |
| July Calendar | 7 |



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!



The Grace Lutheran Church Council will not meet in July.



The Grace WNALC will not meet in July.

Hope Circle: July 22nd 9:00 AM at the church.

Rebecca Circle: Does not meet during the summer months.



- Joanne Sannes
- Helen Lee
- Janet Hamre
- Del Hemmingsen, Jr.
- Pr. Tim Lundeen
- Shirley Salverson
- Don Lundin
- Judy Tadman
- Linda Jorgenson
- Judi Hoelt
- Jon Clementson
- Pastor Pam Thorson
- Ogden Farder, Jr.
- Maci Smeby
- Allen Jenson
- Steve Evenson
- Louise LaBrecque
- Bev Greaver
- Amy Carpenter
- Jesse Hickman
- Greg Kaster
- Jolene Bradley
- Mark Wild
- Amy Carpenter
- Jason Schneider
- Our Military
- Shut-ins and Nursing Home members



May 31st:

Attendance~ 61
Offering~\$1,880.00

June 7th:

Attendance~ 80
Offering~\$1,605.00

June 14th:

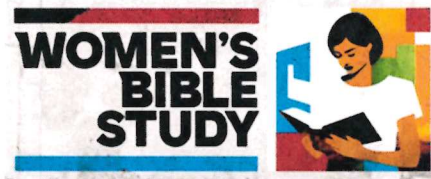
Attendance~ 58
Offering~\$7,612.00

June 21st:

Attendance~ 52
Offering~ \$1,485.00

June 28th:

Attendance~
Offering~ \$



Women's Bible Study is held Monday mornings beginning at 9:30AM in the Fellowship Hall at Grace. This is open to all women who wish to join the group.



Men's Bible Study meets on Tuesday mornings at 7:00AM at Ness Café. This is open to any men who would like to be a part of the group.



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 –



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.

May 2026 Financial Summary

Regular Offerings to the General Operating Fund - \$13,933.85
 Misc giving used for the General Operating Fund - \$804.40
 Thrivent Choice Program - \$403.00
 Interest Earned - \$ 264.83
Total Income **\$15,406.08**

Expenses:

Administrative - \$ 8,723.18
 Education - \$ 207.90
 Mission Outreach - \$ 1,223.00
 Pastoral - \$ 7,422.40
 Worship - \$ 938.45

Total Expenses

Net Income

\$18,514.93
(\$2,668.90)



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 |
| John Carlson | President |
| Tyler Brekken | Vice President |
| Carla Ferden | Secretary |
| Tina Farrell | Financial Secretary |
| Jim Ferden | Treasurer |
| Wendy Lee | Deacon |
| Dearmina Gustafson | Deacon |
| Gene Haugom | Trustee |
| Ray LaBrecque | Trustee |
| Steve Jacobson | Trustee |
| Andrew & Becky Hanson | Education Directors |
| Sarah Strom | Education |
| Kristen Morgenroth | Education |
| Jason Carlson | Education |
| Hollie Stewart Pres. | WNALC |
| Paula LaBrecque | Stewardship |
| Becky Lindseth | Stewardship |
| Marie Hamre | Stewardship |

**LECTIONARY READINGS
FOR JULY****Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 5, 2026**

First Reading - Zechariah 9:9-12
 Psalm - Psalm 145:1-14
 Second Reading - Romans 7:14-25a
 Gospel - Matthew 11:25-30

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026**

First Reading - Isaiah 55:10-13
 Psalm - Psalm 65:1-8, 9-13
 Second Reading - Romans 8:12-17
 Gospel - Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2026**

First Reading - Isaiah 44:6-8
 Psalm - Psalm 119:57-64
 Second Reading - Romans 8:18-27
 Gospel - Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2026**

First Reading - Deuteronomy 7:6-9
 Psalm - Psalm 125:1-5
 Second Reading - Romans 8:28-39
 Gospel - Matthew 13:44-52



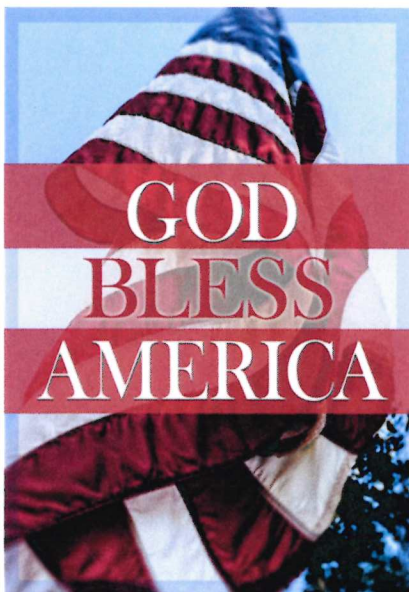
**Summer
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**
9:30 AM Worship
**June through
August**



August 2nd-6th
6-8PM



Reach out to Andrew
or Becky Hanson and
let them know you
want to help.



Grace Quilters Update

This past winter while it was cold outside, on Thursdays the church basement was warm and full of activity while approximately 10 church and community members got together to assemble quilts. 50 beautiful quilts were assembled for distribution to disaster relief, Northlands Rescue Mission, The Salvation Army, a mission to Alaska, a women's shelter, 1 went to each of our graduating seniors and 2 to the Win E Mac after prom party. All church and community members are invited to the NALCW fall sale for a chance to bid one of the beautiful quilts donated to the sale. Please watch for date and time of the sale and also for our next quilting get together. We would love to have anyone who is interested join us for fun, fellowship, and a very heartwarming cause.



Time Stewardship

*Seek first the kingdom of God
and his righteousness...*
(Matthew 6:33)

Stewardship of time means living intentionally. Ideas for living a more intentional steward of time.

***Start each day by offering your schedule to God.** Look for ways to avoid unnecessary distractions, especially those that take you away from God or bring unneeded stress.

***Pause before making major commitments.** Reflect on whether the offer, no matter how appealing, is the highest and best use of your precious resource of time.

***Prioritize presence over distraction.** There's nothing wrong with mindless diversions when it's time to decompress, but don't miss alternatives that could bring you closer to family, friends, and God.

***Take time to be quiet.** Jesus led a hectic life teaching and preaching, but he also made time to pray and spend time alone with his disciples.

(Laura Newbury)



2026 Prayer for the United States of America

Almighty and everlasting God. You are to be exalted above all. We give You thanks for this good land and for those who have kept it for many generations in the past. Thank You Sovereign Lord, for the blessings you have bestowed upon this nation.

Almighty God, King of Glory, we confess our sins and repent of our pride that has sought our own glory and comfort, allowing evil to take root instead of Your fruit in our hearts, homes, culture, and country. Forgive us for injustice, prejudice, lack of respect for others, and for allowing wickedness to continue.

We seek to humble ourselves, pray, and seek Your face, turning from our wicked ways, that You would heal our lives and our land. Purify and renew our hearts with holy attributes, affections, attitudes, and actions-to love You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

We give You glory as we repent and recommit our lives and our nation to You. Restore the vision and purpose that you designed from the beginning of time. Help us, Lord to be a beacon of hope and light to our world.

May Your Kingdom come, and Your will be done in our lives, our Families, the Church, Education, Business, Military, Government, Arts, Entertainment and Media, and in all things, as it is in heaven.

In Jesus' name, Amen!

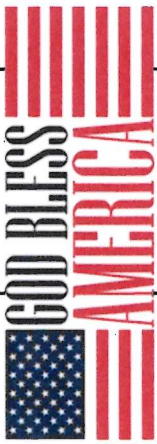




Grace Lutheran Church

CIRCLES

Hope at the church
Rebecca no meeting

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | 1 6:30p-Rebroadcast | 2 | 3 | 4 Happy 250th Birthday America! 9a- Rebroadcast |
| 5 9:30a-Worship w/ Holy Communion | 6 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast | 7 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg. | 8 6:30p-Rebroadcast | 9 2-6p-Food Shelf is open | 10 | 11 9a- Rebroadcast |
| 12 9:30a-Worship w/ Holy Communion | 13 9:30a-LBS 10a- Rebroadcast | 14 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg. | 15 6:30p-Rebroadcast | 16 10a-2p-Food Shelf is open | 17 SCROLL ARTI- CLES DUE | 18 9a- Rebroadcast |
| 19 9:30a-Worship | 20 9:30a-LBS 10a-Rebroadcast | 21 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg. | 22 9:00a- Hope Circle 6:30p-Rebroadcast | 23 | 24 10a-Pr. at Fair Meadow Nursing Home | 25 9a- Rebroadcast |
| 26 9:30a-Worship | 27 9:30a-LBS 10a-Rebroadcast | 28 7a-MBS @ Ness Café 8p-AA mtg. | 29 6:30p-Rebroadcast | 30 | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Greeters: 5th: Scott Sandberg 12th: Keith & Joanne Sannes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">19th: Tyler & Jessica Sannes 26th: David & Cassie Senn</p> | | | | | | |

Ushers:

Jim Ferden
Ray LaBrecque
Brady Lee

Communion Assistants:

Liz Jensen and Yvonne Halvorson

Altar Guild:

Becky Lindseth and Lesia Juve

R= Reader

A=Acolyte

P=Power Point

JULY 5th:

R~ Kale Smeby

A~ Serenity Lundin and Wyatt Lee

P~ Taytum Smeby and Ireland

Anderson

JULY 12th:

R~ Betty Lundin

A~ Bridger Huschle

P~ Jon Hill

JULY 19th:

R~ Yvonne Halvorson

A~ Dawson Gunufson and Jorgen

Johnson

P~ Carson Fortman and Brecken

Gunderson

JULY 26th:

R~ Jeff Nornes

A~ Hannah Shimpa and Shelby

Shimpa

P~ Addyson Morgenroth and Elyse

Morgenroth