

Grace Lutheran Church
110 Third Avenue East
Ada, MN 56510

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Staff:

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 8:30am – 4:30pm, Fri 8:30 am – 12:00 pm # 218-784-4010
Pastor: John “Jack” Carlson
Christian Ed: Brenda Wagner
Office Manager: Wanda Rosenberger
Financial Secretary: Liz Vaughn
Custodian: Dale Andersen

Worship:

Sunday Worship at **9:00 am**
Education Hour **Sept. thru May at 10:05 am**
Coffee & Conversation **before worship and at 10:00 am**
Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays

Worship Broadcasts:

Channel 14 – Tuesdays at 10:00 am

Streaming Live on Facebook or YouTube on Sunday’s.
Can watch services anytime. Go to glcada.org and click on ‘click here to watch the latest service or livestream.’
Or login to Facebook and go to the Grace Facebook page.

KRJB 106.5 FM

9:00 am on Sunday

Website: glcada.org

Find us on Facebook: [glcada](https://www.facebook.com/glcada)

e-mail: graceada@loretel.net

Grace Lutheran Church Calendar of Events (tear and save) **APRIL 2024**

SR – Social Rm
YR – Youth Rm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
	1 Church and offices are closed	2 7:00 am Men's Bible Study-Grace @ ARC 9:00 – 1:00 pm Food Shelf 10:00 am Women's Bible Study – SR 5:30 pm Evangelism meeting 7:00 pm Pleasant View Cemetery Assn. meeting	3 2:30 pm Comm at Summerfield 3:15-4:30 pm Youth Choir NO Confirmation class	4 1:30 pm Comm at BLC with Pr. Al Brooks	5	6
7 9:00 am Worship Service with Comm. 10:00 am Coffee/Fellowship 10:30 am Education Hour	8 1:00 pm Quilting in SR 6:00 pm Bell Choir	9 7:00 am Men's Bible Study-Grace @ ARC 9:00 – 1:00 pm Food Shelf 10:00 am Women's Bible Study – SR 5:30 pm Cub Scouts in SR	10 3:15-4:30 pm Youth Choir 6:30 pm Confirmation Class	11	12	13
14 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee/Fellowship 10:00 am Education Hour	15 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Worship/Music Board meeting	16 7:00 am Men's Bible Study-Grace @ ARC 9:00 – 1:00 pm Food Shelf 10:00 am Women's Bible Study – SR 5:00 pm Executive Committee meeting	17 9:30 am Ruth Circle 3:15-4:30 pm Youth Choir 4:00 pm Mary Circle 6:30 pm Confirmation Class	18 2:00 pm Communion at Valley View Manor	19	20
21 9:00 am Worship Service with Comm. 10:00 am Coffee/Fellowship 10:00 am Education Hour	22 1:00 pm Quilting in SR 6:00 pm Bell Choir 6:00 pm Christian Ed Board meeting 7:00 pm Church Council meeting	23 7:00 am Men's Bible Study-Grace @ ARC 9:00 – 1:00 pm Food Shelf 10:00 am Women's Bible Study - SR 5:30 pm Cub Scouts in SR	24 3:15-4:30 pm Youth Choir 6:30 pm Confirmation Class	25 8:30am – 1:30pm Social Services Staff training in SR	26	27
28 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee/Fellowship 10:00 am Education Hour 2:00-5:00pm Piano Recital	29 1:00 pm Quilting in SR 6:00 pm Bell Choir	30 7:00 am Men's Bible Study-Grace @ ARC 9:00 – 1:00 pm Food Shelf 10:00 am Women's Bible Study – SR				

Grace Notes

April 2024

Grace Lutheran Church
110 3rd Ave E. Ada, MN
218-784-4010

graceada@loretel.net

glcada.org



SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 am

Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

Education Hour at 10:05 am

(September thru May)

**Coffee and Fellowship before worship
in the library or after worship
in the Social room.**

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* **Radio Broadcast** will be live at 9:00 am on KRJB 106.5 Sunday mornings.

* **Live Streaming** Sundays at 9:00 am on Youtube or Facebook. If you'd like to view live or past worship services, please go glcada.org scroll down and click on watch live on either youtube or facebook links.

Pleasant View Cemetery Assn Annual meeting will be held April 2 at Grace Lutheran Church in the Social room.

CONTACT US

Sr. Pastor – Pr. Jack Carlson
#701-212-2367

OFFICE #218-784-4010
graceada@loretel.net

Office Manager – Wanda Rosenberger
Christian Education – Brenda Wagner
Financials – Liz Vaughn
Custodian – Dale Andersen

CHURCH COUNCIL

President – Dawn Ganje
Vice President – Heath Stene
Secretary – Cassie Visser
Treasurer – Warren Goltz
Property/Finance – David Solseng
Stewardship – Andrew Tritz
Evangelism – Julie Borge
Christian Education – Kim Myers
Fellowship – Abby Korte
Children/Youth/Family – Genise Solseng
Worship/Music – Stephanie Knutson
Memorials – Craig Larson

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A DONATION QR Code
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Lutheran Church!

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PASTOR'S NOTES

In a newsletter Bible study, former Bishop (NWMN Synod) Larry Wohlrabe recalled the story of King David and his extra-marital affair with Bathsheba. What David thought would be a one-night-stand where no one would be any wiser, turned into an adulterous, murderous, moral and spiritual mess. Nathan was called to confront David with David's actions. After David's deeds were exposed, the king realizes how harmful his actions were.

Bishop Wohlrabe writes, But then—astonishingly—the prophet Nathan pronounced God's surprising verdict: "The Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die."

David would survive, but the child conceived in his fatal attraction to Bathsheba would not. Moreover, the violence David unleashed in arranging the murder of Uriah would plague his family forever. "You have smitten Uriah with the sword," God declared. "Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me."

Forgiveness restores us to the good graces of God, but it doesn't wipe out all the earthly consequences of our transgression. Such consequences will be borne by someone—if not by us, then by another, perhaps some innocent bystander, maybe even a child.

If that part of this story troubles you, please remember that God is no blood-thirsty revenge-seeker capriciously taking out his frustrations on babies and defenseless children. Rather, how often we see how sins carry within themselves their own penalties. Every day in all sorts of ways, children suffer for their parents' foolishness and wickedness.

God's forgiveness is a reprieve that frees us for the future, even though that future may involve living with the lingering effects of the wrong turns we've taken and the mistakes we've made. That is actually one of God's gift to us—one of the ways we're shaped into new creatures who actually start to hate sin and love the neighbor.

God's forgiveness untangled David's web of deceit and unbound David's sin-soaked heart. Nevertheless David still endured not just the death of the child he conceived with Bathsheba, but the deaths of three other sons as well. Two of them

were slain by their own brothers, and the third was killed in a rebellion he led against David.

The heartache of such grief punched holes in David's overinflated ego, even as it taught him something of the compassion that was absent when he first laid eyes on Bathsheba. All of that was God's paradoxical gift to David, designed to refashion him from a self-centered conniver into a humble believer who could pray: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." (Psalm 51)

As we journeyed with Jesus again this past Lenten season, as we've been confronted with our sinfulness once again, along with most importantly God's forgiveness, the rest of the story is we live in the light and love of Christ's resurrection! Our God creates clean hearts with us and puts new and right spirits within us. May we all continue to live in the promises made to us by our loving and gracious God through our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He is risen! Risen indeed! Alleluia!!

Pr. Jack

WHY WE KEEP GOING TO CHURCH

(RNS) — Every fall, our family returns to church. We don't intentionally walk away during the summer months, but between vacations and camp drop-offs and lazy mornings and opportunities to see family and friends, we tend to tie our church attendance to the school calendar.

Come September, we have to remind ourselves why it's worth it to nudge our teenagers out of bed on a day when they could sleep in. Why get dressed and head out the door to listen to a choir and hear some prayers and sit through a sermon when we could be hiking in the woods?

We keep going to church for all sorts of reasons. There's the community. We love the intergenerational relationships that don't come anywhere else. Eating chicken salad and grapes around plastic tables in the basement gives me a sense of connection to all sorts of people I wouldn't know otherwise. I want our congregation to pray for us when we are in crisis. I want to have a reason to serve at our local soup kitchen. I look forward to seeing whatever child dons the star costume in the annual Christmas pageant.

There's also the spirituality. I want our kids to be immersed in a tradition that goes back thousands of years. I want to step away from the to-do list of my life and enter a literal sanctuary at least one time each week. I want access to the things that psychologists say bring healing to our bodies, minds and souls — singing together, caring for one another, receiving forgiveness.

And yet, our kids have birthday parties and soccer games on Sundays. And I would love to get some sleep and take a nice long run or read the paper or drink a cup of tea without any rush. I understand why people walk away when they encounter abuse or hypocrisy within the church. I resonate with Perry Bacon's where he writes about his discomfort with the social conservatism he found in some churches. I understand why people would wonder if there is a place for their doubt and disbelief amidst creeds and prayers and praise songs. I understand why we might substitute church with community service and support for social justice. Sometimes church is boring. Sometimes it feels superficial. Sometimes it seems irrelevant. But every September, when we walk back in those doors, I remember why we are there. I don't return because it makes me a better person. I don't return because I always believe. I return to church every September because church reminds us of who we are in relation to Jesus.

Christianity rests upon God coming to us in the person of Jesus, to let us know that we are loved and cared for and healed and saved and invited to participate in all the goodness and beauty and grace and joy and love and peace of who God is. Forever. In and through the life and death and resurrection of Jesus.

Theoretically, that connection to Jesus could happen in the comfort of my own home or with access to a sermon podcast or a live streamed service. Except Jesus said we find him where two or three of us are gathered together (Mt. 18:20). He said he is present in and among the people I am least likely to encounter in my everyday life (Mt. 25:34-36), and I often encounter those people at church. At church, I am both taught about Jesus and given an opportunity to live as he lived: to slow down and listen to people who are oppressed; to upend social structures; to reject power and position; to move toward the ones in need without judgment; even, sometimes, to love my enemies.

The intergenerational community and spirituality I find at church is intimately connected to an

encounter with Jesus himself. I encounter Jesus in the woman with an intellectual disability who is reading Ezekiel and teaches me about glory. I glimpse the risen Christ in the couple who have been fighting lately and who take the bread and the wine with shoulders slumped in grief. I remember the one who rules this upside-down kingdom of God when a child interrupts the sermon from the back pew and when an elderly widow has a panic attack and needs us to gather around her to pray. The Apostle Paul wrote that Christians are the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27), in which each individual member plays a crucial and connected part. We encounter Jesus more fully when we gather together.

It is well-documented that thousands upon thousands of Americans are leaving church. I suspect the reason has to do with some combination of busyness and disbelief and hypocrisy and politics. But I also wonder whether those of us who are entrusted with the life of Jesus have forgotten or neglected to carry him with us when we walk out the doors of the sanctuary. Alan Kreider writes about what he calls the "Patient Ferment of the Early Church." He explains that the early Christians didn't try to tell people about their beliefs. But they did live those beliefs through hospitality, generosity, miraculous healings and sacrificial love. Those early Christians went to church because of Jesus. And then they lived out the life of Jesus in and among their neighbors. Their patient love changed the world.

At the end of the day, I go to church because it is only there that I publicly remember, reenact and celebrate the life and death and resurrection of Jesus, the one who showed us what it is like for God to be alive. For God to be one of us. Every Sunday morning, I am invited yet again into the life that is really life. And then I am sent back out in love as one small but significant member of the Body of Christ.

(Amy Julia Becker is the author of four books including her most recent, "[To Be Made Well: An Invitation to Wholeness, Healing, and Hope](#)." She hosts the "Love Is Stronger than Fear" podcast. The views expressed in this commentary do not necessarily reflect those of Religion News Service.)

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QUILTING –April 8, 22 & 29 at 1:00 pm. We invite anyone interested to come and join us. If you would like to sew at home or cut blocks come and pick up fabric/quilt squares. **QUILT SUNDAY is May 5th.**



EVANGELISM NEWS

We met on March 5th. We are continuing to promote Sharing Grace Ministry. More interest has been shown this past month. New member Sunday will be scheduled for November. May Day gift cards will be given to community members at Mission Court, Valley View Manor and Summerfield Place. Residents of the Living Center will receive flowers. Welcome bags for the community was discussed and we will contribute a magnet with our church information and a wooden cross attached.

Julie Borge, Director



Happy Easter from the Christian Ed Board:

As we have finished up with the Lenten season and Holy Week, I hope that we have reflected on what Jesus has done for each of us with dying on the cross. Some of us are only Easter people but like I tell the children, “You can’t read a book and only read the 1st chapter and then skip to the last page to find out what how it ends.” We all need the middle part too, in order to learn the whole story. The same goes for Easter – we travel with Jesus for 40 days during Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday. We learn different lessons in those 40 days, we learn of Palm Sunday with the shouts of “Hosanna” as Jesus rides into Jerusalem but we need to learn about Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and then come on

Easter morning to find the stone had been rolled away and He has risen. We need the whole story and in order to learn that we need to look in our Bibles for these lessons. So with that I hope that you have been a part of this whole story for these 40 days, Holy Week and celebrate with the resurrection of Jesus along with thousands of Christians throughout the world. The King is alive! This is the story of Easter. God so loved the world that He sent His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. This story is for anyone who is willing to hear it.

We have had a busy month. I want to thank all that assisted with Camp Sunday from those that lead the singing, the youth choir, the Pre-school – 2nd graders, the readers, the ushers, communion assistants, Kale Johnson from Pathways; it was a great service with the youth being such a vital part of the service.

We had several youth choir kids sing in small groups for our Wednesday Lenten services which I am grateful for. Kendall & Chloe Wagner, Hazel Rockstad and Claire Myers were our first group. Maya Liska, Nora Rockstad, Makenzie Tritz and Kora Bitker were our 2nd group that sang and the whole youth choir sang 2 times during Lent. sang more than usual with many great comments by parishioners how well these youth do and they love to hear them sing. It’s not often that you have kids ask to come to sing for the Sunrise Easter service but they asked me and I said sure and they chose the song to sing. The youth choir along with the 3rd-6th graders who are not in choir will be putting on an Easter Musical called, “*Raise a Hallelujah*”. Please come and listen to them and hear the story of Easter through their songs and recitations. We will do this program on **Sunday, April 14th** during the 9:00 am worship service.

We held our **First Communion Retreat** for 5th graders wishing to take their First Communion on Maundy Thursday. Please keep in your prayers these youth: Arya Bitker, Brylee Bredman, Kysa Jensen, Dane Kappes, Carson Prothero, Mia Sundblad, Kiera Traut, Jaxson Tritz and Bennett Visser. Thank you to Connie Renshaw for assisting, Buffy Rockstad for helping with the chalices, Pastor Jack and Brenda.

I want to thank all that came each week to our weekly Lenten Soup Suppers. Our numbers are down from the past but we appreciate all that do come to support our different projects that we do. This year we had a meal for the Valley Food Shelf,

the Jr. High youth activities (youth gatherings, etc.) and the last one was for help with supporting our youth to go to Bible Camp.

I am getting ready for our annual **Pre-school VBS** here at Grace. This year's theme is "**Jesus Loves Me**" with the stories of The Good Samaritan, The Lost Sheep, The Prodigal Son and Feeding the 5000. As usual I will be looking for teachers, room helpers, room decorators so if you are available May 28th –May 31st please let me know. Mark your calendars now so we will be ready for our 45-50 little Christians who come from the community to learn about Jesus and other stories.

Here is our schedule for the month of April:

April 3rd: 3:30 pm – Youth choir

No Confirmation classes this night

April 7th: 10:00 am – Education hour

April 10th: 3:30 pm – Youth choir

6:30 pm – Confirmation class

April 14th: 9:00 am – Worship services

Easter Musical "Raise a Hallelujah" done by the Youth choir and 3rd-6th graders.

10:00 am – Education hour

April 17th: 3:30 pm – Youth choir

6:30 pm – Confirmation class

April 21st: 10:00 am – Education hour

April 24th: 3:30 pm – Youth choir

6:30 pm – Confirmation class

April 28th: 10:00 am – Education hour

Things have slowed down a bit but there may still be some changes to this schedule so please keep watch for any e-mails that may come, post cards or watch Facebook.

Have a Blessed Easter with family and friends and remember that Jesus died for each one of us, He loves us all.

Peace,

Brenda

I GIVE ONLINE!! electronic giving!

Grace Lutheran Church is pleased to announce that we now offer electronic giving. To set up a recurring giving schedule you visit us online at www.glcada.org and locate the Online Giving message (below the main picture). Or give by Text \$ amount 218-585-0045 this takes you to register.

ATTENTION MEMBERS! If you use either kitchen please clean up afterwards. Wipe counters, sweep, take home and wash any dishcloths and towels and return. If dishwasher is used please put doors up, drain, and turn off. There is a vacuum in the closet across from the food shelf to vacuum carpet. Please be mindful of our space and help keep it clean!



In memory of Audrey Thomas

Undesignated Fund – Luanne Visser, Lorraine Kummer, Bev Duval, Lowell & Borgie Gunderson, Jerry & Coleen

Broadcast Fund – Perry & Kitty Ellingson, Joe & Karen Kroshus, Charlene Brandt

Building Imp. Fund – Chris & Karen Odden

General Fund – Gordon & Ellen Ramsad, Harriet Brueshoff, Lowell Thompson

Quilters – Judy Thomas, Lorie Kitchell

Worship/Music Fund – Renae Kappes

Special Project (Elev) – Tom & Marcie Hanson

In memory of Audrey Thomas & Wm Wilkens

Broadcast Fund – Carol Petry

In memory of Lenore Haug

Undesignated Fund - Lowell & Borgie Gunderson, Bev Duval, Tammy Erickson

Broadcast Fund – Esther Austinson, Marilyn Gunderson

Worship & Music – Lowell Thompson, Pauline Nokleberg

General Fund – Gordon & Ellen Ramstad

Video Fund – Pat Benesh, Marsha Johnson, Gary & Renee Hedman

CYF Ministry – Kay Marcussen

GLC Camperships - Marie Fingalson

In memory of Lenore Haug & George Gilbertson

Undesignated Fund – Jean Josephson, Sharon Knutson

Broadcast Fund - Carol Petry

Building Imp. Fund – Curt & Kathy Jacobson

In memory of George Gilbertson

Undesignated Fund – Lowell Thompson, Paul Johnson

Broadcast Fund – Marilyn Gunderson

Worship/Music Fund – David & Genise Solseng

In memory of Wm Wilkens, Audrey Thomas, Glen Anderson, Wyman Holland, Cal Bredman, Luverne Petry, David Volkerding, Lorna Rockstad, Farlene Rund, Marvin Benesh, Shirley Thronson

Undesignated Fund – Dottie Heitman

In memory of Audrey Thomas, Lenore Haug & George Gilbertson

Broadcast Fund – Mike & Becky Sipe

Building Imp Fund – David & Lorie Kitchell

In memory of Richard Baker

Broadcast Fund – Ruth Carlson, Dottie Heitman

In honor of Duane & Carol Stordahl's 60th Wedding Anniv. (June 2 sponsorship)

Broadcast Fund – Diane, Debra & Denise & families

In memory of Jo Onstad, Lorna Rockstad, Lynda Lohmeyer, Gail Hann, David Volkerding, Mary Hughes, Wm Wilkens, Cal Bredman, Tom Hughes, Audrey Thomas, Lenore Haug

Building Imp. Fund – Bud & Jorgine Hanson

In memory of George Gilbertson, Curt Parsons, Lenore Haug

General Fund – Betty Wilkens

In memory of Gail Zimprich, George Gilbertson, Lenore Haug

Building Imp Fund – Christ & Karen Odden

In memory of George Gilbertson & Audrey Thomas

Video Fund – Marsha Johnson

In memory of Erling Anderson & Audrey Thomas

Organ Fund – Nancy Merkens

Donation to Hospitality Group

Barb Spilde



FAMILY PRAYER LIST

Grace Lutheran members will be prayed for each week during worship. The intent here is to pray for every family/individual in the congregation within a year period.

April 2

Aaron & Nicole Ambuehl, Jay Baker

Rod & Deb Syverson, Mark & Sue Brownlee,

Lois DuChene, Dan Eklund

Dave & Linda Roesch, Brittany, Bobby, Tony, Billy

April 9

Brian & Julie Borge, Linda Stach

Warren & Colleen Goltz, Lowell & Borgie

Gunderson, Bud & Jorgine Hanson, John Hintz

Julie Austinson, Matt & Melissa Larson, Ava & Eric

April 16

Brooke & Braiden Bueng, James, Evan & Hadley

Treu, Neil Hultin, Claudia Larson, John & Shelly

Kappes, Alex & Katy, Larry & Dorella Lelm, Nancy

Merkens, Duane & Virginia Nelson & family

Jerry & Coleen Bitker

April 23

Trevor & Mindy Nitschke, Bryce & Madisyn

Joey & Missy Olson, Dustin, Kim & Kevin Peters

Nicholas Prothero, & Carson, Ron & Shirley

Rasmusson, Mike & Julie Roesch, Alex & Lindsey

Dan & Lisa Ruebke, Taylor Wilkie

April 30

Geraldine Strom, Jason & Latonya Bitker, Arya &

Korra, Hannah Werpy, Marty & Tammy Kappes

Hugh & June Bergh, Dustin & Allison Thompson,

Dax & Ivy





Below is a listing of those scheduled for the month to help with the various areas of worship. **If you are unable to be there for the Sunday you are scheduled, please call someone** from your list to take your place. Then let the church office know of the change.

April 7

Reader: Kelsey Zieske
Greeter: Bruce & Mary Power
Ushers: Tim & Barb Spilde
Comm. Dist: Pr. Jack, Scott & Mary Stevenson, Colleen Goltz
Children's Sermon: Pr. Jack
Acolytes: Gavin Johnson. Blake Teal
Song Leader: choir
Coffee/Fellowship: Lorie Kitchell

April 14

Reader: Gordon Ramstad
Greeter: Linda Visser
Ushers: Neil & Elizabeth Rockstad family
Children's Sermon:
Acolytes: Emersyn Borgen, Ellidi Dahl
Song Leader: Duane Nelson
Coffee hour – Jay & Ann Merkens

April 21

Reader: Doris Simonson
Greeter: Harriet Brueshoff, Carol Petry
Comm. Dist: Pr. Jack, Tammy Erickson, Janna Engel, Renae Kappes
Ushers: Dan Ruebke, Gary Rosenau
Children's Sermon: Margaret Liebl
Acolytes: Sadie Hoekstra, Lacey Scherfenberg
Song Leader: Duane Nelson
Coffee Fellowship Server: Kim Peters

April 28

Reader: Jorgine Hanson
Greeter: Ann Merkens, Monica Carlson
Ushers: Curt & Kathy Jacobson
Children's Sermon: Karen DeVos
Acolytes: Sophia McCraven, Drae Hanson
Song Leader: Stephanie Knutson
Coffee Fellowship Server: Gordon & Ellen Ramstad

****A note for Comm. Servers:** Please come back to the sacristy after the Prayers of Intercession to wash and sanitize hands. Come out right after the Lord's Prayer.

ALTER GUILD

Chair:

Ann Merkens (784-3580)
 Lexi Merkens (218-415-0984)
 Lynn Petry (218-784-3571)
 Kitty Ellingson (218-474-1105)
 Betty Wilkens (218-784-4679)

RADIO & FLOWERS - If you wish to sponsor a radio broadcast (**Radio Broadcasts are \$70.00**) or flowers for the altar (**Bouquets run \$30 to \$35 for both vases**) please call the church office at 784-4010 for available dates.

March Radio Broadcast

March 17 – In memory of Gladys Ramstad from Gordon & Glenn Ramstad families
March 24 – In memory of Wm Wilkens from Betty Wilkens & family
March 31 – In celebration of our risen Lord from Tom & Marcie Hanson.

March Altar Flowers

March 10 - In memory of Anna Woltjer and Marie Merkins' birthdays from the Albert Merkins Family Memorial Fund.
March 17 – In memory of the death of Lily Rolczynski from the Rolczynski/Storslee Altar Flower Fund.
March 31 – In memory of Lily Rolczynski, Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Storslee, Mr. & Mrs. Ole Storslee, Throvald Storslee, Elmer Rusten, Doris Rusten Rolczynski from the Rolczynski/Storslee Altar Flower Fund.

Open dates in April for radio or flowers

Radio Broadcast – April 7, 14, 28
 Altar Flowers – April 7, 28

Grace Lutheran Church Financial Report

Summary of finances
January 1, 2024 thru February 29, 2024

What came in last month? \$28,254.24
What went out last month? \$29,242.98
 Net Surplus or (Deficit) Spending for the month (**\$1,142.74**)
What came in since the beginning of the year? \$44,693.78
What went out since the beginning of the year? \$71,874.47
 2024 Budget is \$403,854.00
 Net Surplus or (Deficit) Spending for the year (**\$27,399.69**)

Attendance and Stewardship

Date attendance offering

February Electronic Giving: \$4531.50		
2/25		\$4492.00
3/3	145	\$4930.00
3/10	89	\$2719.00
3/17	123	\$2196.00

Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Date: 2/26/24



Call to Order: Meeting called to order by President Dawn Ganje at 7:03pm.

Attending: Pastor Jack Carlson, Dawn Ganje-*President*, Heath Stene- *Vice President*, Cassie Visser-*Secretary*, Kim Myers-*Christian Education*, GG Solseng-*Children, Youth & Family*, Dave Solseng- *Property & Finance*, Craig Larson-*Memorial*, Julie Borge- *Evangelism*, Stephanie Knutson- *Worship & Music*, Abby Korte-*Fellowship*

Absent: Warren Goltz-*Treasurer*, Andrew Tritz-*Stewardship*

Devotions: Pastor Jack led devotions.

Next Month's Devotions: Andrew Tritz

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve by Dawn, motion second by Kim, all in favor.

Addition made by Dawn, continuing resolutions and members.

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve by Craig, motion second by Gigi, all in favor. January report approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Discussion held: January looked like a pretty good month, e-giving has increased. Gigi inquired what happens when we receive a returned check. Will have Liz look into the fee and adopt a policy for this situation in the future. Motion to approve by Dave, motion second by Craig, all in favor. January's treasurer's report approved as written.

Correspondence: Thank you received from Pathways for the donation.

Old Business:

- 1) Annual Meeting Minutes: are now complete for the council to review.
- 2) Eastvold Gifts: Gifts will be disbursed in March.
- 3) Succession Committee: have 22 names that have been brought forward. Council serves as the nominating committee for the succession/call committee. Plan to have 10 members with 2 alternates. Plan to have a committee formed by May/June.
- 4) Video Streaming Updates: with you-tube we have a bottleneck issue, causing issues with our streaming. Discussed pushing through facebook and then post you-tube at a different time. Another option is box-cast which costs \$109/month.
- 5) Church Logo: Table
- 6) Confirmation/Bible Camp Discussion: Christian Ed is having further discussion as a board in April/May and will bring recommendations to the council in July so changes can be effective as of August prior to confirmation starting.
- 7) Continuing Resolutions and Board Members: Dawn would like Board Chairs to walk through the continuing resolutions with committee members and bring any committee member updates back for final review for the March council meeting.

New Business:

1. Welcome to new council members: Welcome to Abby Korte and Julie Borge.
2. Staff Review Process: Staff will complete self-evaluations by March 15th, and committees will review by March 29th, executive committee will meet at April meeting to review evaluations.

3. Elect Executive Committee: currently consists of Pastor Jack, Dawn Ganje, and Heath Stene, we need 2 additional members. Abby Korte and Steph Knutson have accepted to join the executive committee.

Board Reports

Children Youth & Family-GG Solseng:

Grace Lutheran Church - Children, Youth, & Family Board Meeting Agenda

Sunday, February 11th, 2024

Members Present:Lori Prodzinski, GG Solseng & Amy Traut

1. Coffee Hour March 10th (Camp Sunday), April 14th, May 12th (Mother's Day) Youth trip members will be serving.
2. League Event in January. Sr. League - HOV golf simulator 10 students Jr. League – SuperBowl-athon had 9 youth participate
3. Family Bingo event in February. Youth trip members will serve a taco-in-a-bag meal. Free will offering will include meal & Bingo
4. New board members: Mike Nelson has agreed to join, and have a few other potentials.
5. Easter Service- GiGi will be gone, so other board members will be assisted with the youth.
6. Senior Recognition-May 19th. Serving coffee & cake after church and serving the seniors a meal from 11:00-12:00. Discussed gift ideas and meal planning.
7. Future Fundraising
 - a. Lenten Soup Suppers-March 6th
 - b. Palm Sunday & Silent Auction March 24th anyone with a Thrivent card?
Next meeting is March 10th

Christian Ed-Kim Myers:

We met on 2/26/24 with Brenda Wagner, Kim Myers, Katie Tritz, Tera Johnson, Loni Tufton, and Ashley Kappes present.

Discussion

1. We welcomed a new member, Tera Johnson to our Board.
2. Camp Sunday is set for Sunday, March 2. Senior High youth are going to assist with the service and the youth choir is planning to sing. Emily Ranz is going to do a temple talk. Pathways staff will be doing activities with the Sunday School youth as well.
3. We briefly discussed the Bible Camp attendance requirement. We will plan to bring a recommendation to the Church Council in July with potential revisions to the current policy.

Items we are looking at include but not limited to, Confirmation youth assisting with Pathways Day Camp, VBS, teaching Sunday School, helping with programs, etc. These could potentially be done instead of attending a week-long bible camp. These are items that will be discussed. The current bible camp attendance policy will remain as is through August 2024. No changes/exceptions will be made.

4. Lenten Suppers - the 7th grade served around 70 people on 2/21, 8th graders serve on 2/28, and 6th graders will serve on 3/13.
5. The First Communion Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, 3/23 from 9-4:00 for the 5th graders. Around nine youth should be attending. No make up session will be an option. First Communion will take place on 3/28, Maundy Thursday at 7:00 PM. Youth choir will sing at this service.
6. Palm Sunday is 3/24. Sunday School youth will process in with Palm Branches. At this time, Brenda is unsure if the 3-6th graders will have a program on 3/24 or 4/7, after Easter. She will make a decision in the next few weeks.

Evangelism-Julie Borge:

Welcome Bags: we have some magnets left, and have crosses we could order that run \$5-\$10, don't need more than 10-15 per item at a time.

New members: Marty Munter and Lynn Petry, plan to have new member Sunday in April

Fair Music: Planned for Friday, June 21st

May Gift Certificates will be sent to Mission Court, Valley View, and Summerfield tenants

Sharing Grace Ministry: would like to continue to promote this program both for volunteers and members in the community who may benefit from having a visit from a volunteer.

Fellowship-Abby Korte:

Met on February 6th, are down one committee member, so looking for one additional member.

We are working on adding a music concert on Mother's Day (May 12th). We will serve cheesecake afterward. More information to come.

Memorial-Craig Larson:

Met on February 5th @ 5:00 PM. No requests and with nothing else to report at this time.

Property & Finance-Dave Solseng:

Met tonight, 2/26. Looking at projects for upcoming year- have a leak by the bell tower that needs fixing,

some painting, lawn applications for the parsonage and church, looking at moving some offices around.

Stewardship-Andrew Tritz: Haiti eye mission will do coins for heavens sake March 10th and will have a small presentation during service again. Souper bowl was coins in Feb and didn't know total as of meeting. Talks of burger night for world hunger have started.

Worship & Music-Steph Knutson:

We had an Organ Concert by George French on Sunday, February 25th that was excellent and well attended. We collected a Free Will Offering that made it well worth his while to come and perform for us at Grace. Thank you to the Fellowship Board for serving coffee and bars following.

We looked at a new Lenten liturgy booklet similar to "The Holden Evening Prayer" and decided to wait a year on that one and use a more generic layout. GG will be playing for Lenten Services. We chose "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" as a hymn to be sung every Lenten service and closing with the Blessing song from Holden liturgy.

Senior Choir practice will begin March 13th following Lenten services. We are in need of members! All are Welcome!

We have special music scheduled for most of the Lenten services. Palm Sunday the grade choir, senior choir and possibly the bells will play. The Grade Choir will sing on Maundy Thursday service. On Good Friday the Senior Choir will sing and the Bells will play. Easter Services will be Sunrise at 7AM and one service at 9AM. The trumpets will be playing for the 9:00 service. We are looking for other special music for these services. Camp Sunday is March 3rd and GG will play.

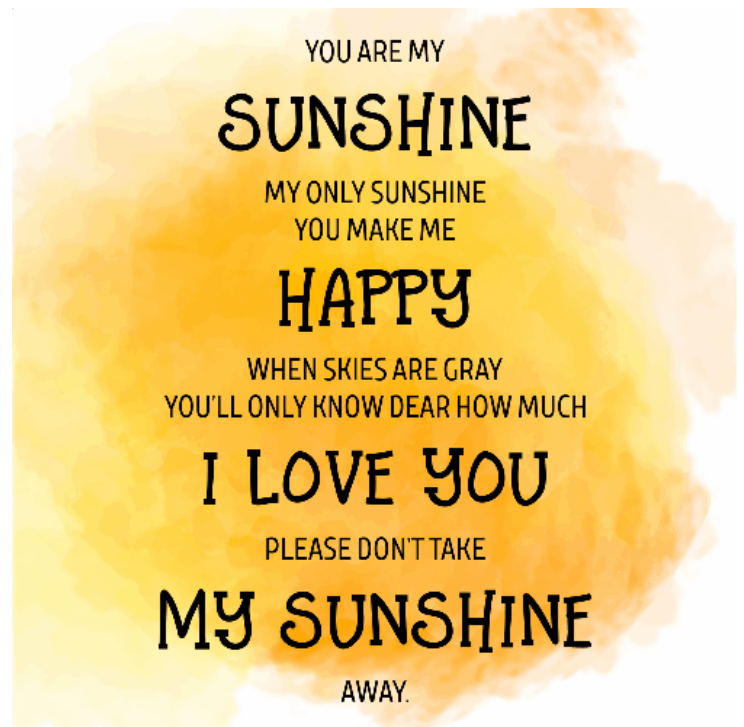
Pastor's Report-Pastor Jack:

Meeting Adjournment: Motion to adjourn, motion second by Dave, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: March 25th

Respectfully Submitted by, Cassie Visser-Secretary



Be the sunshine is someone's day!