

Grace's Mountain View

THE MOUNTAIN VIEW is published monthly. The purpose of the NEWSLETTER is to inform the congregation about upcoming events and activities in the life of the Church. Articles for the Newsletter should be submitted by the 20th of the month.

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Mission Statement---Grace by Grace, Seeking to be God's Faithful

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Grace Lutheran Church

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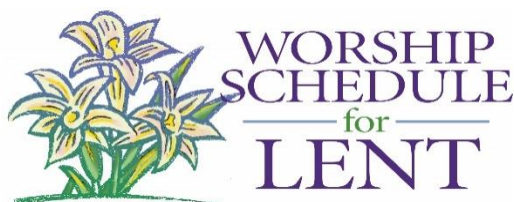
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REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Quilters.....Thursdays...9:30 A.M.
 Grace Café.....Wednesdays...11-1
 Confirmation.....Wednesdays...6:30 P.M.
 Church Council.....2nd Sunday...10:30 A.M

March 5, 2025	Ash Wednesday	5:30 P.M. meal (group 1 serving meal) 6:30 P.M. worship
March 12, 2025	Lenten Worship	5:30 P.M. meal (group 2 serving meal) 6:30 P.M. worship
March 19, 2025	Lenten Worship	5:30 P.M. meal (group 3 serving meal) 6:30 P.M. worship
March 26, 2025	Lenten Worship	5:30 P.M. meal (group 1 serving meal) 6:30 P.M. worship
April 2, 2025	Lenten Worship	5:30 P.M. meal (group 2 serving meal) 6:30 P.M. worship
April 9, 2025	Lenten Worship	5:30 P.M. meal (group 3 serving meal)
April 13, 2025	Palm Sunday	9:30 A.M. Pancake Breakfast following worship
April 17, 2025	Maundy Thursday	6:30 P.M.
April 18, 2025	Good Friday	6:30 P.M.
April 20, 2025	Easter Sunday	9:30 A.M. Rolls following worship



March 2025

Is it really important for us to be able to think theologically? In a word – YES!! It's vitally important for us to think theologically if we profess to be children of God! Often, I'll hear people sarcastically say, "What do you think I am – a theologian?" I haven't been bold enough, as yet, to reply, "I would hope so!" The Random House Dictionary which sits by my computer defines "theology" as "the study of God and His relations to the universe." Thus, a theologian is one who studies God and how He relates to our everyday life!

Much of our theological thinking comes from the hymns we sing, the influence of others, but, most especially, from our upbringing in the faith! I cringe when I hear parents say they want their child to be a "free thinker" and so they don't want to "push" a lot of religion on them. Rather, when they're older, the child can make his or her own decision. This line of reasoning is full of problems.

This brings to mind a moment from my past. A long time ago, in a land not so far away, I was enjoying dreams of slipping gracefully across the surface of the water. I had seen some amazing demonstrations of water skiing by my uncle and also a couple of friends. They made it look so easy and effortless it seemed anyone could do it! It seemed as though the biggest problem was simply hanging onto the tow rope. One afternoon, my friends asked if I wanted to try skiing. It was the long-awaited opportunity to realize my dream – after all, I was out of Junior High. I could handle anything! Excitement ran high as I slipped on the skis and gripped the tow rope. My friends were giving me instructions as to how to pull myself up when the boat started to speed away. "Once you're up," they said, "the rest is easy." After a couple of attempts, I made it up! **I WAS SKIING!!** I was stiff and unsteady, to be sure, but I was skiing! Things went quite well until we had to turn. This was evidently one of those "easy" parts no one bothered to tell me about. Or maybe I just didn't listen. I thought when the boat turned, I would follow being I was still clutching the tow rope for dear life. I didn't even think I had to turn the skis. I can remember feeling a terrible stretching in my arms as the boat was heading in one direction and I was speeding off in another. Then, I lost my grip and began to tumble across the surface of the water for what seemed to be a mile. When my body finally slowed and settled into the water, I remember a sense of relief that my body wasn't shattered, but my dream was! I did get up on the skis and skied home. I remember my friends were concerned I was O.K. and tried to give me additional pointers. And, on another day, I did try skiing again. However, I didn't venture very far and we moved very slowly. After that, I gave up on ever realizing my dream. Perhaps I could have learned to ski had I continued to try. Still, the fear of another embarrassing failure or another spectacular display of my ignorance was sufficient to keep me from pursuing my dream.

I'm sorry to say I've seen too many similar situations in the church. A person, young or old, who has had little to no exposure to Christian education seeks to become involved in Bible study or committee work or some other aspect of church life only to fail or be embarrassed by something they do. This is all that's necessary to convince them they don't really have a place in the life of the church. Christian education is vitally important to the life of a Christian *and* the life of the church as a whole! The purpose of Christian education is to help the student to think theologically – that is, to be able to see and explain how God relates to the world in which we live.

As most adults draw back from all this talk of thinking and speaking theologically, I'm constantly impressed by our most outspoken theologians – our children! May times, we'll hear them say, "God doesn't want us to do this." Or they will remind us of something they learned in Sunday School. They're giving a strong witness to how their faith affects their young lives! We could stand to learn from them. Unfortunately, they often learn from *us*! They learn to keep quiet about their faith. They learn being excited about church and church school isn't something which is valued or even mentioned. And, most regrettably, they learn from us adults that Christian education is "just for kids" and regular attendance (and involvement) at worship is optional at best and is often considered unimportant. How sad it is our young people who are excited about Jesus and "telling the story" are so convincingly, though perhaps unintentionally, taught by adults that thinking and speaking about Christ – that is, being a theologian – need not be a significant part of their life!

The Lenten season begins on March 5th. Traditionally, this is a season of repentance. It's a season to identify those areas of our lives where we have made some mistakes, confess those mistakes, and seek to change our ways. Might I suggest we take a good look at our lives in order to recognize what it is we're really teaching and professing by the way we live. And, where we find conflict between what we **say** we believe and what we **practice**, may we seek God's forgiveness and His help to change the way we live. For the way we live is the clearest picture of our theology – the way we see God's influence in our lives!

God bless you as you live your life as a reflection of God's will for you and His people!

Pastor Mike

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- * Sunday School classes held every Sunday beginning at 10:00 A.M.
- * Thanks to Traci Mace who is the Sunday School teacher. Your dedication is much appreciated.
- * **MARDI GRAS PARTY** will be held on Sunday, March 2nd following worship. Come and enjoy pancake breakfast prepared by the Christina Education Committee. Then have fun playing games!!

CONFIRMATION

- * Classes are held Wednesdays at 6:30 P.M.
- * Confirmation students should be attending Lenten Services as well as helping during the Lenten Worship Services.
- * Christian Education committee will be serving a **Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast** on Sunday, March 2nd. Proceeds will go towards Christian Education Fund.

Please consider being a mentor for current and future Confirmation students at Grace. A final requirement of students before getting confirmed is to meet with a mentor for 3-4 times to discuss faith and Lutheran living. There are mentor booklets available in the office. Please see Glennis or Becky to sign up with questions.



**Thoughts
from the desk of
Our President...**

March 2025

Greetings Grace Family,

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” These words from Matthew 25:35 resonate the true meaning of our mission with the GRACE CAFE and FOOD PANTRY.

Each week we are welcoming the emotional, physical and spiritually hungry into our church. The outreach provided to our community is widely recognized and greatly appreciated. The past few weeks the stories shared to me by attendees are both heartwarming and heartbreaking. We as a church should be proud of our journey in providing for those less fortunate. This mission is a huge undertaking and couldn't be accomplished without the volunteers who stock the food pantry, prepare the meals, serve the lunches, and wash the dishes. I am eternally grateful for each of you who help further our mission of GRACE BY GRACE, seeking to be God's Faithful People.

Many have inquired as to how this outreach program is funded. The cafe and food pantry are completely funded by donations. We have community supporters, church members both past and present, and lunch attendees who donate. These funds pay for the pantry and Wednesday lunches. Each month I will provide you with a breakdown of the previous months GRACE CAFE attendance, income from the donation bucket and cost of meals.

DATE	ATTENDANCE	DONATIONS	EXPENSES	MEAL SERVED
1/15/2025	40	\$87.00	DONATED	CHILI WITH GARLIC TOAST
1/22/2025	43	\$130.35	\$48.12	HAMBURGER GRAVY AND MASHED POTATOES
1/29/2025	48	\$146.00	\$25.19	CHICKEN WILD RICE SOUP AND BISCUIT

Again, to those who volunteer, THANK YOU.

To those who may be interested in helping on Wednesdays, please reach out. We would love to have you join us.

Your newly elected church council has so many exciting opportunities to volunteer in the coming months, please consider donating your time and talent to Grace Lutheran Church.

We look forward to worshipping with you this Easter Season.

Jim Brogren Jr.

Council President

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 2

Dennis Forsell

March 6

Kraig Erickson

March 7

Joyce Hanson

March 16

Kacee Brogren Jr.

March 25

Dan Lane

March 26

Robert Bennett

March 30

Pastor Mike Schendel

March 31

Geri Ann McDermond

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

God Bless You
On your
Anniversary

NO ANNIVERSARIES

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed here, PLEASE let us know so that we can add your birthdays and/or anniversaries into our computer. Thank you.

IT'S A GRACE THING!

NURSING HOME MINISTRY:

Don't forget our members in Nursing Homes and Care Facilities

Oak Crossing #115 1040 Lincoln Ave

Clarice Anderson

(UNAPPROVED) COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS February 11, 2024)

- † Meeting was called to order by President Jim Brogren Jr.
- † Devotions given by Kelly Carrier
- † Correspondence was read. None
- † Secretary report approved as read.
- † **Finance report** approved as printed.

Total Income	\$6,917.36
Total Expenses	\$9,562.46
Checkbook Balance 1/31/2025	\$1,297.64
Rainy Day Fund	\$8,753.42
Savings Balance	\$12,756.63
Mortgage Balance	\$79,447.36

† **PROPERTY**—Sensors need to be installed. Tom will install them. Floor scrubber batteries need to be replaced. Tom will check out cost. The garbage disposal in the kitchen small sink will be taken out as there is a leak around it. Bats are coming in the janitor’s room. Will be caulked to solve this. Thank you to Jerry Schwoboda for completing this task! After some discussion, it was decided that Grace will terminate the services of the 2 students from the DAC. Kelly Carrier and Gale LaFerriere have volunteered to help with the cleaning. Katie Carrier will also help and will be paid at \$11.13 per hour.

† **EDUCATION/YOUTH**---A donation of \$100 was given to Pathways Bible Camp on Giving Hearts Day.

† **STEWARDSHIP/BENEVOLENCE**---Noisy offerings for January, February, and March will go to the Becker County Food Pantry. Souper Bowl Sunday saw a large donation of good to the Grace Food Pantry which will be used to stock the shelves, which is one almost daily due to need. A huge thank you to all congregational members for the donations.

† **WORSHIP**-Discussion on ordering the Red Hymnals and putting label inside the cover signifying the hymnal was given in memory of or donated by. \$26.50 per hymnal.

† **EVANGELISM/OUTREACH**—An article about the Grace Quilters was featured in the DFL Tribune. 7 quilts were donated to the Sheriff’s Department. Next donation will be given to the Police Department.

† **OLD BUSINESS**- Dan will check on GEO-Thermal fluids twice weekly. Jim and Kelly will meet with Bell Bank to gather information on refinancing of mortgage.

† **NEW BUSINESS**- Election of council officers: President is Jim Brogren, Jr. Vice President is Dan Alley. Secretary is Gale LaFerriere. Treasurer is Glennis Olson. Installation of officers will be on March 2nd during the worship service.

Rite of Confirmation will be held on April 27, 2025. Council agree to the purchase of a 3-shelf cart and 2 beverage dispensers.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer. →

CHURCH MEETINGS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 9, 2025 following the worship service. Maggie Schmit has devotions.

CHRISTIAN ED. COMMITTEE

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 following Sunday School.

NEW HYMNALS—Would you like to give a hymnal in memory of a loved one or to honor someone? Now is your chance to do so as it has been approved to update the green hymnals which are out of date. We will be ordering more of the cranberry hymnal of which we have a few already. Ordering these will also allow us to order music which can be played in absence of a organist. We would like to be able to have these hymnals by Easter time. Your donations will be greatly appreciated!! You may leave your memorials/donations in the offering plate or give them to Glennis in the office. Thank you!!!

Next meeting will be March 9, 2025 following the worship service. Maggie Schmit has devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale LaFerriere
Council secretary

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MARCH

DATE	PSALM	LESSONS	GOSPEL
March 2, 2025	Psalm 99	Exodus 34:29-35 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-43a
March 9, 2025 ASH WEDNESDAY	Psalm 51:1-17	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
March 9, 2025	Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16	Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
March 12, 2025 Lenten Service			
March 16, 2025	Psalm 27	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35
March 19, 2025 Lenten Service			
March 23, 2025	Psalm 63:1-8	Isaiah 55:1-9 1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
March 26, 2025 Lenten Service			
March 30, 2025	Psalm 32	Joshua 5:9-12 2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

MARCH USHERS, GREETERS, GREETERS--9:30 A.M.

DATE	GREETERS	USHERS	LECTOR	COFFEE SERVERS
March 2, 2025				MARDI GRAS Sheila Longfors. Ardis Tollefson
March 5, 2025 ASH WEDNESDAY		Megan & Kenzie Schwoboda		Group 1
March 9, 2025		Megan & Kenzie Schwoboda		Steve Swanson Gale L
March 12, 2024 Lenten Service				Group 2
March 16, 2025	Sonia Anderson	Tom & Kathy Lormis	Tom Lormis	Rita Hen. Glennis Olson
March 19, 2025 Lenten Service				Group 3
March 23, 2025				T & K Lormis Dan Alley Sonia A.
March 26, 2025 Lenten Service				Group 1
March 30, 2025				Celebrate Pastor's Birthday



Grace Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America

213 Roosevelt Avenue

Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Church Worship Service 9:30 A.M.

Sunday School Sept - May 10:00 A.M.

Adult Ed. Opportunities Year-round

Office Hours 9:00 till Noon M – F

*“Come and join us in growing into God’s
amazing Grace.”*

EXPERIENCE GRACE AT GRACE

Grace Lutheran Church...a place to belong

Grace’s MOUNTAIN VIEW

March 2024

Vision Statement---Grace Lutheran Church seeks to be a serving and witnessing people of God, united to share the Gospel with all. Through the Holy Spirit, we respond by reaching out with concern and support to the varied needs of a diverse people.

Address Service Requested



Palm Sunday Service, Sunday, April 13, 2025

9:30 A.M.

(Confirmation Students serving pancake breakfast)

(Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School)

Maundy Thursday Service, Thursday, April 17, 2025

9:30 A.M.

Good Friday Service, Friday, April 18, 2025

9:30 A.M.

Easter Sunday Service, Sunday, April 20, 2025

9:30 A.M.

(Rolls & Coffee Fellowship following worship)

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:30 A.M....COME JOIN US... YOU ARE INVITED