

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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Issue 1

Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor

Pastor Mike Schendel
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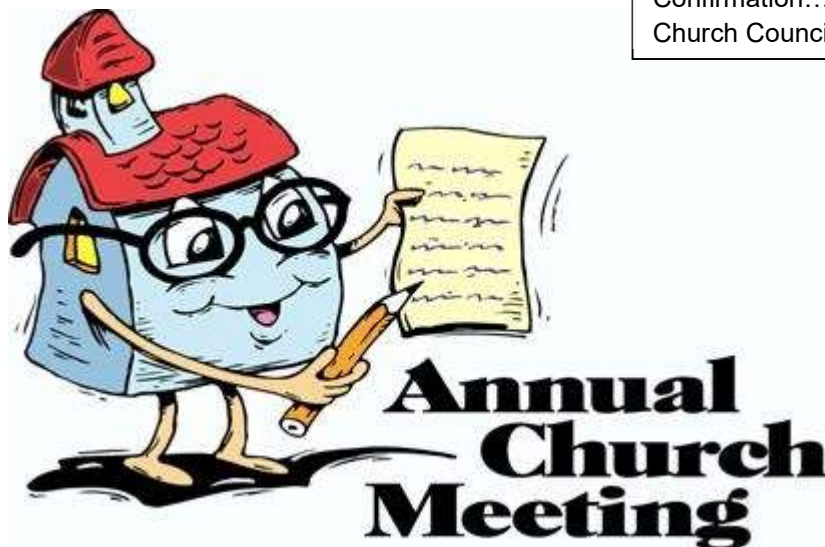
Office Manager

Glennis Olson
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REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Quilters.....Thursdays...9:30 A.M.
Fellowship/Game Day...Wednesdays...1:00 A.M.
Confirmation.....Wednesdays...6:30 P.M.
Church Council.....3rd Tuesday...6:30 P.M



WHEN: Sunday, January 28, 2024
Following the worship service

Come one, come all, and be a part of the decisions that guide
Grace Lutheran Church!



January 2024

It's a rare occasion when one will spend much time marveling over a street light. Still, it has to be a very under-rated addition to our lives. We rely upon them for security around our homes. We expect them to light our way as we take an evening walk. We depend upon them to make our town look friendly and inviting. We simply trust they will be there doing their job every time we need some extra light.

Most of today's street lights are equipped with a photo-electric cell. This senses when it's becoming dark (even if it's a storm in the middle of the day) and turns on the light. Thus, there is light when we need it.

Many years ago, I noticed some boys one summer evening taking delight in shining their flashlights at the photo-electric cells of the street lights and causing them to turn off. They figured their little flashlights were more powerful than those street lights. True,..... their flashlights did **SEEM** more powerful. Still, their flashlights couldn't offer the security nor the lighting one street light provided. Their flashlights were no match for the brightness and warmth of the street light.

John, in the first chapter of the gospel which bears his name, describes Jesus as the light which was coming into the world. He was the "true light which enlightens everyone". Then, John goes on to say the world didn't know or even recognize Jesus. He even went to those who should have known him – the places and people familiar to him – and they still didn't know him! In other words, they shut him out of their lives. They didn't allow his light and life to enlighten them. They figured what **they had** and what **they knew** would be enough to get them by! They didn't need Jesus to do anything for them!

Unfortunately, we're very much like the people about whom John writes. We, too, feel the "light" **we** bring to the world outshines the light which Jesus brings. We puff ourselves up and prance about only to realize the light we have to offer is like shining a flashlight at a street light. It looks strong for a moment from our point of view, but doesn't offer the broad and lasting light which Jesus brings into our lives!

Christmas is a time we celebrate this light of Christ coming into the world. It's a good and joyous time. Still, the season of the church year which follows Christmas is also important and necessary. It's the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is the time when the readings focus on how Christ has been revealed. In our own lives, it can be an opportunity to recognize the times and places and people through whom Christ and his love is made known to us today!

With this in mind, may we be caught up in the joy and excitement of recognizing the many ways in which Christ makes himself known to us each day!

May this season of discovery truly be a blessing for you!

Pastor Mike Schendel

Happy New Year Grace Family,

As I reflect on 2023, I smile with gratitude and love for all we accomplished together as a church family.

Under the spiritual guidance of Pastor Mike, we experienced a rejuvenation.

The Grace Cafe and Food Pantry became a passion project that helps feed the hunger challenged in our community.

Church pews were fuller, the congregation sang louder, and our youth program flourished.

To everyone who donates time, talent and treasure... you are appreciated more than you know. You are the reason we are here.

As we navigate the year ahead together, let's cherish all we have accomplished.

I predict our beacon on the hill will shine bright in 2024.

Church Council president

Jim Brogren Jr.





As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient it's important to remember why church attendance for you and your family matters so much. You can't serve from your sofa, you can't have community of faith on your sofa, you can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together on your sofa. Christians aren't consumers. We are

contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We Sacrifice. We encourage. We pray by laying hands on the hurting. We do life together. The Church needs you and you need the church! (Taken from First Lutheran newsletter)



THANK YOU to all who contributed to the Angel Tree. You helped to make it a Merry Christmas for many local residents. Thanks to Gale LaFerriere who delivered the gifts to Mahube for distribution.

THANK YOU to the following who rang the bell for the Salvation Army Bell Ringer campaign: Jerry & Cathy Schwoboda, Gary & Dona Rosell, Sara & Ruby Nelson, Sheri Blaney, Robbie, Liam and Casey and thank you to Dennis & Traci Mace, Sydney and Garrett Mace. Thanks for volunteering!!!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- * Congratulations, Sunday School students, for doing such a terrific job on the Sunday School Christmas Program!
- * Classes will resume Sunday, January 7, 2024. We encourage all children to attend Sunday School.
- * Thanks to Traci Mace who is the Sunday School teacher. Your dedication is much appreciated.

CONFIRMATION

- * Classes resume Jan. 10, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.
- * Lenten Season begins on February 14th, Ash Wednesday. Confirmation students should be attending Lenten Services as well as help out during the Lenten Worship Services.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



January 7
Mary Ritchie

January 15
Tucker McDermond

January 24
Joann Eliassen

January 26
Sara Nelson

January 31
Tyler Leitheiser

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES



None this month

God Bless You
On your
Anniversary

IT'S A GRACE THING!

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.

(UNAPPROVED) COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS December 17, 2023)

- † Meeting was called to order by President Jim Brogren Jr.
- † Devotions given by Jim Brogren Jr.
- † Correspondence was read and it was decided to support our Grace Café & Food Pantry.
- † Secretary report approved as read.
- † **Finance report** approved as printed.

December Total Income	\$12,906.37
December Total Expenses	\$14,742.11
Checkbook Balance 12/30/2022	\$8,292.50
Rainy Day Fund	\$8,386.67
Savings Balance	\$10,840.08
Mortgage Balance	\$110,687.93

2023 Yearly Budget was presented. Much discussion followed.

† **PROPERTY**---New insurance company is Church Mutual. New battery charger for floor scrubber will be gotten.

† **EDUCATION/YOUTH**---Advent store went well. Christmas Program was held December 10th and well received. Thanks to Barb Herzog who donated big Christmas bags to put our angel treed gifts in.

† **STEWARDSHIP/BENEVOLENCE**---Gifts will be delivered to Mahube on Monday by Gale.

EVANGELISM/OUTREACH---Grace Café and Food Pantry are doing well. 60 people were served a Thanksgiving meal on November 22nd. Grace Café will be closed on December 27th. A coat was donated to the Food Pantry,

† **WORSHIP**---Thanks to Keey Carrier who put the star on top of the Christmas Tree in the sanctuary. Communion will be held by forming 2 lines and coming down the center aisle where the Pastor will give wafer and 2 people will be handing out the communion cups. This will be done until the poinsettias are removed from the altar rail. Ash Wednesday is on February 14th Lenten service time is 6:30 P.M. There will be a meal served at 5:30 P.M. No Confirmation classes held during the Lenten season but the class is strongly encouraged to attend the Lenten services. Rolls will be served following the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services. Thanks to Ranae Sexton and Glennis Olson for prepare the treats.

† **TOLD BUSINESS**---Rental policy tabled until February.

† **NEW BUSINESS**---2024 budget needs to be prepared. Blace, Glennis, Jim, Ranae, and Pastor will work on this. Kim Renner and Dona Rosell will be doing the audit of the financial books. Annual meeting will be held following worship service on January 28, 2024. Council members are needed. Please contact Jim or a council member if you are interested in being on the Church Council.

Minutes continued in box to the right→→→→

CHURCH MEETINGS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2024 following the worship service. Glennis Olson has devotions and treats.

CHRISTIAN ED. COMMITTEE

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024.



JANUARY 28, 2024

The meeting will be held following the worship service. Coffee & cookies will be served in the sanctuary.

YOUR ATTENDANCE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!

Thank you to Julie who is selling her little Christmas trees she has made. She is giving the funds to Grace Lutheran Church. Funds will be placed in the Bazaar totals.

Respectfully submitted,

Glennis Olson

Council Secretary

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JANUARY

DATE	PSALM	LESSONS	GOSPEL
January 7, 2024	Psalm 29	Genesis 1:1-5 Acts 19:1-7	Mark 1:4-11
January 14, 2024	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	1 Samuel 3:1-20 1 Corinthians 6:12-20	John 1:43-51
January 21, 2024	Psalm 62:5-12	Jonah 3:1-5, 10 1 Corinthians 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20
January 28, 2024 ANNUAL MEETING	Psalm 111	Deuteronomy 18:15-20 1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28

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

DATE	GREETERS	USHERS	LECTOR
January 7, 2024	Sonia Anderson	Lois Flatau & Sonia Anderson	Lois Flatau
January 14, 2024	Irene Carnegie	Tom & Kathy Lormis	Tom Lormis
January 21, 2024	Dan & Kari Lane	Machelle & Dan Krengel	Dan Krengel
January 28, 2024 ANNUAL MEETING	Ava Esser	Gary & Dona Rosell	Rebecca Esser

NURSING HOME MINISTRY:

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

Oak Crossing #110 1040 Lincoln Ave.

Audrey Ronning

Oak Crossing #115 1040 Lincoln Ave

Clarice Anderson



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

January 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



Sunday, January 28, 2024
Following the worship service

It is important that we have
church members attend this
vital meeting!

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