

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

213 Roosevelt Avenue

Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

218-847-4568

Email: gracelutheran@arvig.net

Website: www.gracedetroitlakes.org



Pastor

Pastor Mike Schendel

Cell: 218-478-4472

Office Manager

Glennis Olson

Cell: 218-234-5547

Organist: Audrey Savig

Home: 218-439-6534

Cell: 218-234-5547



MAY 11, 2025 will be a special day at Grace Lutheran Church! The Sunday School children will honor the Mothers by singing a song in their honor.

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

It also is the last day of Sunday School for the children until Fall. Enjoy the summer vacation!!



We will also be celebrating Traci Mace's "retirement" from being the Sunday School teacher, S.S. Superintend, Christmas Program planner, and Council Education representative. We will truly miss Traci as she has been very instrumental in our Christian Education program in her various capacities!!!

If anyone is interested in taking Traci's place or working with someone to become co-Sunday School teachers, please contact Traci or Glennis. *It may be hard to replace Traci, but there is someone out there who will be willing to try!!!*

Another exciting event is also planned for that day! We will be having a guest SAM (Synod Authorized Minister) leading our worship service. His name is Brent Seewald-Marquardt. We are looking forward to having here at Grace Lutheran Church.



May 2025

Why?

I was talking with a youngster the other day. This was the question they seemed to keep asking. We've all known a child who has asked such questions. Now, I'm sure the child hasn't spent long hours contemplating their place in the scheme of life! And yet, in a sense, they have! Their questions are an attempt to figure out how things work and what their place is in all this! Interestingly enough, adults often become a bit annoyed with these constant "why" questions. We finally cut off the whole conversation.

As we grow older, we seem to ask the "why" questions a bit less often. We figure we'll just "go with the flow" of things. We won't question the reason we do what we do. This happens in our homes, at work, at school and also at the church... including our faith life! Many feel it would sound a bit too childish if they had to ask "why" something is done in a certain way.

Part of our Confirmation program deals with developing a student's statement of faith. I encourage the students to approach this task by imagining they are in a conversation with a person who doesn't believe in Jesus. Their task is to explain *what* they believe and *why* they believe to this imaginary non-believer. Many find such a task difficult. I know I did when I was asked to do such a thing many years ago. It was then, however, I realized how much I needed to continue to ask the "why" questions throughout my life. My faith could not simply rest on doing things because that's the way they had always been done! Sometimes, in asking the "Why" question, I realized there was a very rich and meaningful reason for doing things in a certain way. I was richer for having asked the question. I have also asked the question "why" only to find there is no real good reason as to why something is done in a certain way.

As we read the Bible, we find again and again where Jesus challenged the status quo – that is, the way things had always been done. He wasn't satisfied with doing things simply because they had always been done that way. I believe we need to rediscover "why" isn't such a bad question to ask! In fact, as we see in the children around us, this is the way we truly begin to grow and recognize the important and unique place we have in the mission God has given His people!

Blessings to you as you seek your place in God's mission and live out the tasks He has given you to do!

Pastor Mike

Thank You! Thank you so very much for the Birthday Celebrations you had for me this past month! I truly enjoyed them! Thank you also for the cards, gifts and well wishes! You made my birthday very special.

Greetings Grace Family,

Spring is a time for new beginnings and as we move forward with our search for a new worship leader, let me share with you the latest update. The call committee has been actively meeting with a candidate who is currently in seminary school and has years of leadership experience, including teaching Sunday school and confirmation. His strong faith and ambition to move our church forward make him the perfect leader for Grace Lutheran Church. Our congregation voted at the annual meeting to move forward with a half time worship leader and approved the call committee to do so. We are currently working with the synod office to draw up a SAM contract for a July 1, 2025 start date. I am grateful to say that Pastor Mike has agreed to be his mentor and work with him for the coming year.

Now for the not so fun part of the conversation, as per that annual meeting, we all agreed to move forward and pledged to up our monthly offerings. I am being very frank and honest with you, currently our church finances are not meeting our monthly expenses. What do you all suggest for turning this around? This is OUR church and we are all responsible for it. Our next council meeting is Sunday, May 4, 2025 following worship if you would like to present your ideas to the council. I know this is a speed bump and together we can get over this hump.

I challenge you all to invite one guest to worship with us in May and together let's show them what our beautiful church and wonderful church family have to offer.

Together we are stronger and with our faith in God we can be the beacon on the hill for our community. Grace by Grace, seeking to be God's faithful people.

The Grace Cafe March stats:

DATE	ATTENDANCE	DONATIONS	MEAL SERVED
3/5/2025	57	\$148.39	BBQ'S, BEANS, COLESLAW, CHIPS AND COOKIES
3/12/2025	57	\$196.50	TURKEY ON A BUN, CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP, SALAD AND DESSERT
3/19/2025	67	\$199.00	CHICKEN HASHBROWN CASSEROLE, GREEN BEANS, GARLIC BREAD AND DESSERT
3/26/2025	54	\$193.00	TUNA NOODLE HOTDISH, AU GRATINS, SALAD, BREAD AND DESSERT

If you are interested in helping with our community garden this summer, please reach out to the church office. We will start mid-May with planning and preparation.

Blessings to all who volunteer time, talent and treasure. You are gifts from God.

Jim Brogren Jr.

Council President

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 2

Gerry Anderson

May 4

Ruby Kiihn

May 10

Mary Ann Brogren

May 11

Tom Lormis
Elvie Zitzow

May 12

Ava Esser

May 16

Linda Leitheiser

May 22

Bev Berg

May 24

Clarice Zick

May 26

Bill Hill

May 30

Mason Carrier
Susan Rasmussen

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

God Bless You
On your
Anniversary

May 19

Dale & Rita Hendrickson

May 24

Matt & Kelly Carrier

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 Vice-President, Dan Alley
- † Devotions given by Maggie Schmit
- † Correspondence was read. None
- † Secretary report approved as read.
- † **Finance report** approved as printed.

Total Income	\$11,883.34
Total Expenses	\$14,395.36
Checkbook Balance 3/31/2025	\$1,401.68
Rainy Day Fund	\$6,766.24
Savings Balance	\$9,519.50
Mortgage Balance	\$77,053.00

† **PROPERTY**—East sink repaired. Floors will be scrubbed following Grace Café on April 16th. Air compressor system leaking. Tom will check into it.

† **EDUCATION/YOUTH**---April 13th Palm Sunday Pancake breakfast served by Confirmation students. Thank you to Curt & Ernie Anderson for donating homemade maple syrup for the breakfast. April 13th Sunday School students singing as well as Easter Egg hunt following class.

f † **STEWARDSHIP/BENEVOLENCE**---Noisy offering of \$100 from Jan.-March offerings sent to the Becker County Food Pantry. Noisy offerings for April-June will go towards Bible Camp Scholarships.

† **WORSHIP**--- April 17th—Maundy Day worship, April 18th—Good Friday worship, April 20th—Easter Service with rolls and coffee following the service. April 27th is Confirmation Sunday with cake reception following worship.

† **EVANGELISM/OUTREACH**—no report

† **OLD BUSINESS**---Dan Alley stated he will be stepping back from the call committee as he is moving forward with pursuing being a SAM. New ELCA hymnals have been ordered and will be dedicated on Easter Sunday.

† **NEW BUSINESS**--- Steve looking into having a Christian Band/Teen gathering this summer. May 9 from 4-7 P.M. and Saturday from 8:1 are the dates and times for the Rummage Sale. May 11th is the last day of Sunday. May 18th will be honoring our 2 graduates. Cake reception to follow. School. June 29th is Pastor Mike's last service. Dinner to follow the service.

Next meeting will be May 4, 2025 following the worship service. Glennis Olson has devotions.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale LaFerriere

CHURCH MEETINGS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 4th following the worship service. Glennis Olson has devotions.

CHRISTIAN ED. COMMITTEE

The Christian Education will be meeting in August before Sunday School begins. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE please contact Glennis.

MAY COFFEE SERVERS

May 4	Tom & Kathy Lormis, Dan Alley, Sonia Anderson
May 11	Bob & Michelle Pary, Glennis Olson Honoring Traci Mace
May 18	Church Council honoring graduates
May 25	

GRACE CAFÉ SERVERS for MAY

May 7	Sheila Longfors
May 14	Connie Skersick
May 21	Ranae Sexton
May 28	Anita Hill

Please bring enough for at least 60 people.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- * THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR!!!
- * Thanks to Traci Mace who is the Sunday School teacher. Your dedication is much appreciated. Sadly, Traci will no longer be teaching Sunday School this Fall. So, we are looking for another Sunday School teacher! Please, if you will be willing to teach Sunday School, contact Glennis in the office or Traci.
- * Last day of Sunday School will be on Sunday, May 11th, Mother's Day. The Sunday School children will be singing during the worship service.

Thanks to Our
Sunday School
Teachers!



CONFIRMATION

- * THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR!!!
- * The Rite of Confirmation will be held on April 27th during the Sunday Worship Service. Congratulations to our Confirmands: Katie Carrier, Liam Bennett, and Kenzie Schwoboda.

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.



PLEASE VOLUNTEER to be a lector, usher, or greeter during our worship services. Contact Sonia Anderson (218-847-8555) or Glennis in the office to help during our worship services. Your help would be much appreciated!!!

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

DATE	GREETERS	USHERS	LECTOR	COFFEE SERVERS
May 4, 2025	Ardis Tollefson	Bob & Michelle Pary	Michelle Pary	Tom & Kathy Lormis, Dan Alley, Sonia Anderson
May 11, 2025	Sonia Anderson	Tom & Kathy Lormis	Tom Lormis	Bob & Michelle Pary Glennis Olson
May 18, 2025	Lani Olson	Lois Flatau, Sonia Anderson	Sonia Anderson	Honor Graduates Cake reception
May 25, 2025		Sonia Anderson	Lois Flatau	

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MAY

DATE	PSALM	LESSONS	GOSPEL
May 4, 2025	Psalm 30	Acts 9:1-20 Revelation 5:11-14	John 21:1-19
May 11, 2025	Psalm 23	Acts 9:36-43 Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
May 18, 2025	Psalm 148	Acts 11:1-18 Revelation 21:1-6	John 13:31-35
May 25, 2025	Psalm 67	Acts 16:9-15 Revelations 21:10, 22-22:5	John 14:23-29

YOU STILL HAVE A CHANCE to donate a **ELCA cranberry hymnal** in memory of or in honor of a loved one. We dedicated 40 hymnals on Easter Sunday. However we did not have enough to fill all the pews. More hymnals have been ordered. So if you would like to donate towards a hymnal, the cost is \$26.50. Let Glennis know you would like one and she will make a sticker to place in the cover of the hymnal. As for the green hymnals, if you gave one of these hymnals in memory of a loved one, you may have that hymnal if you wish. Or if you would like one of the hymnals as a keepsake, you may also take one. The remaining hymnals will be donated to the Northwest Minnesota Synod. They distribute the hymnals to churches who need them or sister ELCA churches in other countries.



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

May 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

GRACE RUMMAGE SALE----May 9 & 10.

We need lots of volunteers to help.

Please sign up on sign-up sheets!!



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