

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 2

Grace Lutheran Church

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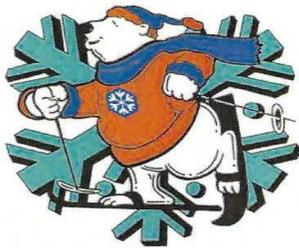
Sunday Worship @ 9:30 A.M.

Sunday School @ 10:00 A.M.

Sept. through May

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Quilters.....Thursdays.....9:30 A.M.
Lenten Services.....Wednesday....6:30 P.M.
Grace Café.....Wednesday.....11:00-1:00
Confirmation.....Wednesdays...6:30 P.M.
Church Council.....2nd Sunday...10:25 A.M



Polar Fest February 6-22, 2026

Hotdish/Dessert Challenge
Sunday, February 15, 2026
Grace Lutheran Church

Whether you like to cook or you like to eat, this event is for you! Participants can submit their entries to the competition to try to win best hot dish or dessert bar. For those just interested in sampling the entries, it's a free will donation.

Sponsored by The great Minne"Soda" Hotdish Challenge will feature the best-of-the-best hotdish recipes. Back by popular demand, the best-of-the-best dessert bar recipes!

Free will donation to benefit Grace Lutheran Church and their charity of choice.

Hotdish, dinner roll, dessert bar and soda provided (while supplies last)

Get here early and enjoy a traditional Lutheran church social!

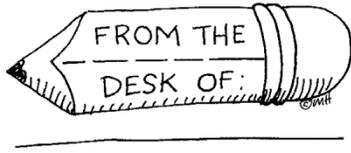
Submit Entries: 4 PM - 4:30 PM

Judging: 4:35 PM - 5 PM

Dinner: 5:00 P.M.-6:30 P.M.

For more info, contact Jim Brogren at loloisland@gmail.com or (218) 841-2968.





Synod Authorized Minister(SAM)

Brent Seewald-Marquardt

Brr...it's cold outside. This time of year always makes me think about the slow shift from winter's darkness toward the light and renewal of spring. Ash Wednesday is approaching quickly, inviting us into that same kind of spiritual transition of a season of reflection, repentance, and returning to God that we call Lent.

"Return to me with all your heart...Rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love." (Joel 2:12-13)

What is Lent, and why do we begin with Ash Wednesday?

The word *Lent* has a surprisingly earthy, everyday origin. It comes from the Old English word *lencten*, meaning "springtime," rooted in an older Germanic term for "the lengthening of days." It described the season when the world slowly brightens, when daylight stretches a little further, and when the earth begins to wake from winter's rest.

As time went on, English-speaking Christians began using this seasonal term to refer to the 40-day period leading up to Easter, which was originally called Quadragesima ("fortieth") in Latin. I think this change in language suits the tradition beautifully. Lent is a season of lengthening light, slow growth, emerging hope, and spiritual renewal. Just as the earth stretches toward the sun, Lent invites us to stretch toward the growing light of Christ.

Ash Wednesday marks the doorway into this season. At its heart, Ash Wednesday helps us tell the truth about our humanity. When we hear the words, "**Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return,**" we are not being shamed, we are being grounded. We are reminded that we are mortal, fragile, dependent on God, and deeply loved.

Ash Wednesday also sets the tone for the journey ahead. It invites us into reflection, repentance, renewal, and returning to God. It's the spiritual equivalent of taking a deep breath before beginning a long journey.

The ashes we receive are not only a reminder of death; they are a sign of turning. In Scripture, ashes symbolize repentance not guilt, but reorientation. (Joel 2: 12-13) They invite us to ask: What needs healing in me? What needs letting go? What needs to be restored? Where is God calling me to grow?

And the ashes are shaped into a cross this is the sign of Christ's love. Even as we acknowledge our mortality, we also remember our identity: we belong to Christ, we are loved, and we are never alone. The cross transforms the ashes from a symbol of despair into a symbol of our baptismal hope.

Ash Wednesday is, at its core, a chance to begin again. A reminder that God is not finished with us. A promise that grace is still unfolding.

As we step into Lent together, may we lean toward the light that is already growing among us.

With many thanks for you and the love of Christ,

Minister Brent

Greetings Grace Family,

The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18, and concludes on Easter Sunday, April 5. This is a meaningful time to focus on prayer, reflection, and spiritual growth. We have several volunteer opportunities available for this holy season. Please see Glennis to sign up for a task. Additionally, the Grace Cafe will again be preparing our Wednesday evening meals throughout Lent.

As we enter this season, please remember that the Grace Cafe and Food Pantry are entirely funded by donations. These contributions support our pantry operations and Wednesday lunches, as well as the continued work of the church. Together we are stronger, and through our faith in God, we remain a beacon for our community.

Grace Cafe January 2026 Statistics:

- January 7: 93 attendees | \$172.75 donated | Turkey & Rice Soup, Ham on a Bun, and Dessert
- January 14: 82 attendees | \$248.00 donated | Crispy Chicken on a Bun, Garden Salad, and Dessert
- January 21: 62 attendees | \$175.86 donated | Pancakes, Sausage Links, Fruit, and Dessert
- January 28: 78 attendees | \$246.00 donated | Au Gratin Potatoes w/ Ham, Buttered Corn, Dinner Roll, and Dessert

Thank you to all our volunteers for the generosity of your time and talent. As always, the church council is available to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Best regards,

Jim Brogren

Jim Brogren, Jr



- * Thanks to all who contributed towards the Christmas Giving Tree.
- * Thanks to those who helped take down and put away the Christmas decorations.

*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

* No Sunday School on Sunday, February 15th due to President's Day.

CONFIRMATION

- * NO CONFIRMATION on Wednesday, February 18th as it is Ash Wednesday
- * Remember to sign up to usher, lector or greet. Also, be working on your memory work.



CHURCH MEETINGS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 8th following the worship service.

Steve Swanson has devotions and helping with communion.

CHRISTIAN ED. COMMITTEE

Christian Education will meet Wednesday, February 25th at 5:30 P.M.

LENTEN SEASON SCHEDULE

ASH WEDNESDAY (February 18, 2026) Worship service at 6:30 P.M.

LENTEN SERVICES--- February 25, March 4, March 11, March 18, March 25
Lenten meal beginning at 5:30 P.M. and worship service at 6:30 P.M.

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP on Sunday, March 29th @ 9:30 A.M.

Sunday School children will be singing. A breakfast will be served by the Confirmation students following the worship service.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE Thurs, April 2 @ 6:30 P.M.

First Communion for the current 5th graders.

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE on Friday, April 3 @ 6:30 P.M.

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE on Sunday, April 5 @ 9:30 A.M.

Rolls will be served prior to and following worship service.

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

DATE	GREETERS	USHERS	LECTOR
February 1, 2026	Sonia Anderson	Bob & Michelle Pary	Michelle Pary
February 8, 2026	Jerry & Cathy Schwoboda	Scott Olds & Kim	Sonia Anderson
February 15, 2026		Sheila Longfors Sonia Anderson	Sonia Anderson
February 22, 2026	Sonia Anderson	Tom & Kathy Lormis	Tom Lormis

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JANUARY

DATE	PSALM	LESSONS	GOSPEL
February 1, 2026	Psalm 15	Micah 6:1-8 1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Matthew 5:1-12
February 8, 2026	Psalm 112:1-10	Isaiah 58:1-12 1 Corinthians 2:1-16	Matthew 5:132-20
February 15, 2026	Psalm 2	Exodus 24:12-18 2 Peter 1:16-21	Matthew 17:1-9
February 22, 2026	Psalm	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11

NURSING HOME MINISTRY:

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

Oak Crossing #115 1040 Lincoln Ave

Clarice Anderson

Oak Crossing 1040 Lincoln Ave

Jeri Ann McDermond

IT'S A GRACE THING!



PLEASE, PLEASE, sign up to help with serving coffee fellowship on Sundays. If we don't fill the slots, there will not be any coffee/fellowship time. We don't want this to happen!! Thank you for your help

FEBRUARY	<u>Coffee/Fellowship</u>
February 1	Annual Meeting
February 8	Tom & Kathy Lormis Sonia Anderson
February 15	
February 22	

VOLUNTEERS TO HELP PROVIDE DESSERTS FOR GRACE CAFÉ!

There will be a sign-up sheet being passed around during the annual meeting to sign up. There will be a change to accommodate the larger numbers being served on Wednesdays. We will need **2 people** to provide the desserts each Wednesday. This will help alleviate having 1 person having to provide the desserts. Please consider signing up or even volunteer to help out in whatever way you can. Thanks!

GRACE CAFÉ	DESSERT PROVIDERS
February 4	Kelly Carrier
February 11	Lois Flatau Glennis Olson
February 18	
February 25	

**PLEASE BRING
ENOUGH DESSERT FOR
ABOUT 80 PEOPLE.**



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 1

Kelly Westrum

February 2

Elijah Ritchie

February 5

Greg Schwoboda

February 7

Zachary Schumann

February 10

McKenna Krengel
Kim Renner
James Zick

February 23

Terry Bowers
Brad Endersbe

February 26

Jim Brogren Jr.

February 28

Jerry Nygard
Heather Peterson

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

February 22

Chad & Maggie Schmidt

God Bless You
On your
Anniversary

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.

For God

so loved the world,
that he gave his
only
begotten
Son,
that whosoever
believeth
in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.



John 3:16



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

February 2026

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

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- February 1, 2026 9:30 A.M. Worship Service with Holy Communion
 10:00 A.M. Sunday School
 10:15 A.M. Coffee/Fellowship
- February 4, 2026 11:00-1:00 Grace Café
 6:30 P.M. Confirmation
- February 8, 2023 9:30 A.M. Worship Service with Holy Communion & Noisy Offering
 10:00 A.M. Sunday School
 10:15 A.M. Coffee/Fellowship
 10:30 A.M. Church Council meeting
- February 11, 2026 11:00-1:00 Grace Café
 6:30 P.M. Confirmation
- February 15, 2026 9:30 A.M. Worship Service with Holy Communion
 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
 10:15 A.M. Coffee/Fellowship
 4:00 P.M. Hotdish/Dessert Polar Fest Challenge
- February 16, 2026 OFFICE CLOSED –PRESIDENTS’ DAY
- February 18, 2026 6:30 A.M. Ash Wednesday Worship Service
 NO CONFIRMATION
- February 22, 2026 9:30 A.M. Worship Service with Holy Communion & Noisy Offering
 10:00 A.M. Sunday School
 10:15 A.M. Coffee/Fellowship
- February 25, 2026 11:00-1:00 Grace Café
 6:30 P.M. Lenten Worship Service
 NO CONFIRMATION

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