

“Abiding in Christ through grace, we are gathered to grow and sent to serve.”

Notes of Grace

Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA), Brownton, Minnesota

April 2017

April Servants

Acolyte

- 2 Cade Herrmann
- 9 Brent Lipke
- 16 Teagan Hansch & Tison Werner
- 23 Aaron Ward
- 30 Keely Wendlandt

Communion

Joyce Peterson

Altar Guild

Kathy Todd & Diana Lindeman

Ushers

- 2 Tim & Julie Olson, Justin Olson
- 9 Lori Copler & Shalon Werner
- 13 (M. Thurs) Alan Jerabek & Darwin Frauendienst
- 16 (Easter) Jim & Jan Plath
- 23 Tim & Shannon Hahn
- 30 Steffie Gronlund, Tyler & Terri Helland

Readers

- 2 Akan Jerabek
- 9 Doug Karg
- 13 (M. Thurs) Steffie Gronlund
- 14 (Gd Fri) Keith Tongen
- 16 (Easter) 6:30 Joyce Peterson
8:45 Roxanne Wendlandt
- 23 Sharon Weber
- 30 Rosine Hermodson-Olsen

Easter Celebration

The highest celebration of the year is upon us in April. God breaks the finality of death and overcomes the sin of the world by raising Jesus to life. Jesus brings hope because we see that God is for us. As spring brings a renewed landscape, so may the Gospel renew our souls to experience new life. Easter Sunday leads us into the Easter season when we hear again of what new life looks like as God works in our lives.

Photo Directory to be Made

We want to have an updated directory with photos, addresses, and phone numbers to reflect our current membership. Our last directory was five years ago. We would like everyone to participate! You can sign up for a photo session or submit a photo. The photo sessions will be on May 15-16. You can sign up on Sunday mornings (paper schedule) or sign-up on the online schedule. The online schedule can be accessed with the link on our webpage or on our Facebook page. Look for more info to come out. If you have questions, please direct them to Pastor Andy. Photo sessions will be possible from 2-9pm. Please sign up for afternoon sessions if you are able, so our evening session may be kept for those who work during the day.

Holy Week Schedule

- April 9 @ 8:45am Palm Sunday Worship
- April 13 @ 7pm Maundy Thursday Worship
- April 14 @ 7pm Good Friday Worship
- April 16 @ 6:30am Sunrise Worship
7:30am Breakfast
8:45am Celebration Worship

Celebrations

We celebrate with our First Communion members and their families! Baylee Hahn, Max Hansch, Olivia Loncorich, Ava Waller, Kaden Wendlandt, Grace Lipke, Braxton Streich, and Riley Yerks

Greeters

- 2 Keith & Jane Tongen
- 9 Norman & Cheryl Schwarze
- 13 (M. Thurs) Oather Martin Jr
- 16 (Easter) 6:30 Ben & Gloria Schuft
8:45 Joyce Peterson, Riley & Leyton
- 23 Darrell & Michelle Gens
- 30 Larry & Jeanette Tongen

Birthdays!

A couple of our shut-ins are celebrating birthdays this month!

- *Della Schulz— April 17th
&
- *Jerome Penk—April 25th

Council Meeting Highlights

Highlights of the March Council Meeting

March 8, 2017 Meeting

Treasurer's Report:

General Fund: Beginning balance \$1812.95 and the ending balance was \$981.69.

Total income for February was \$7,655.44 and total expenditures were \$12,577.77.

Memorial Fund \$11,386.35 Line of Credit: \$4000

M.S.C.: to approve the Treasurer's Report

Pastor's Report:

1. Equipping Congregations Day – February 25
2. Conference Assembly – February 19 at New Auburn
3. Vision and Goal Setting for our Congregation
4. First Communion Class – 8 students, First Communion Sunday is March 26

Old Business/Updates:

1. Memorial Fund: Organ Lamp - will continue to look for prices
2. Food for Kidz Packing event – funding – ask for donations over the next couple of Sundays
3. Banner for Fall Festival – Oather will discuss with vendor

New Business:

1. Committee Meetings
2. Seal Coating of Parking Lot and re-roof estimate and fixing rusted door. Received estimates, will discuss with congregation.
3. Congregational directory – picture directory
4. Birthday bank and Souper Bowl offerings....will plan to purchase a goat and donate to the Backpack program

Next Meeting: April 12th at 7pm

Highlights of the Green Lake Lutheran Ministries (GLLM) Annual Meeting

The meeting was called to order and devotions were given by Loren Teig, Executive Director. Adoption of Agenda, new staff members were introduced, and minutes of 2016 annual meeting was approved.

Loren Teig gave a report. He announced that he is resigning his position after the 2017 camp year. He reported that 3 people from China, 2 from South Africa, and 1 Ethiopian will be coming to GLLM to learn how to run a Bible camp in their native countries. Hopefully 20 campers from China will be here in July or August. GLLM is planning to have around 10 Ministry Associates work in area churches promoting GLLM camps.

The board reported 7,383 campers were at GLLM camps last year for a total of 21,040 camper days. Summer campers were up but retreat days were down. A review of last year's expenses was gone over and expenditures were approved.

There were two resolutions acted on. Resolution #1 was to allow the Board of Directors permission to take out a loan of \$200,000 to payoff an existing line of credit. Real estate collateral will be used to secure the loan. MSP. Resolution #2 was granting Grace Lutheran Church of Mankato permission to withdraw from GLLM corporation. MSP. New Board Members were voted in, 2017 Budget was approved, and the Board is looking into Strategic Direction and Vision Program.

Closing prayer was given and meet was adjourned.

David Mielke, Grace Representative

Grace Women of the ELCA

The Women's Group recently had a meeting on March 26th.

The 2017 Spring Gathering will be held at Bernadotte Lutheran Church on April 18th. Registration at 5:30pm and Meeting at 6:30pm. Please RSVP by April 5th if you plan to attend.

Grace Youth Group

The Youth Group and their families have been busy serving our Lenten meals on Wednesday nights.

Last Supper Portrayal

A Community Portrayal of the Last Supper entitled "Lord, Is It I?" will take place on April 9 at 7pm at Zion Lutheran Church in Arlington. Food shelf or cash donations are welcome as admission.

Good Friday Passion Journey

You are invited to an experiential walk through theater taking you through the events leading up to the cross. On April 14, come between 3:30-8:00 to go through the walk at Zion United Methodist Church in Buffalo Lake.

Support Groups

We do not need to go through tough times alone. Support groups can be wonderful ways that we learn and get through different things that are happening in our lives. There are two groups that were just made known to us and we wish to pass on the information.

The first is "12 Steps for Christian Living" Support Group. There is a book that it is based on called 12 Steps for Christian Living. This group meets on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday. The second group is the Anger Management Group. It meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday. The meeting place is at the Gaylord Library.

Church E-Mail Contacts

Church: gracebrownton@embarqmail.com

Pastor Andrew: pastor@gracebrownton.org

Secretary/Sarah: gracebrowntonsecretary@embarqmail.com

Treasurer/Brandon: gracebrowntontreasurer@embarqmail.com

Confirmation

Confirmation finishes up this month. We have been learning about prayer and practicing different kinds of prayer as we read Luther's teaching about the Lord's Prayer. We are also watch a segment of the Luther movie each week to learn about the issues of the Reformation and the man who wrote the Small Catechism.

Looking for Delegates for Sunod Assembly

The SW MN Synod Assembly will take place on June 9-10 (Friday-Saturday). Grace has been an ongoing participant in the assembly each year by sending a male and a female voting member. If we cannot find a male and female, we can ask permission to send two males or two female voting members. If you would like to attend as a member of Grace, we would like to hear from you. Please contact Pastor Andy or Joyce Peterson.

Clothing Drive for S. Africa Partnership

We wanted to give you advance notice there will again be a clothing drive in May to benefit our Minnesota Valley conference's partnership with the Vryheid Circuit in South Africa. We have used the money raised from these drives to purchase meals (much like those we packaged in here on March 26). So please keep this in mind as you do your spring cleaning. We will take all conditions of clothes, plus purses, shoes, belts, hats and cloth bags. Please put in kitchen-sized plastic bags with drawstrings.

Learning Opportunity about South Africa

We will have a great opportunity to foster relationships and learn more about South Africa when the Health and Wellness Coordinator of the SW Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa comes to be with us in early June. There will be a meeting with her and another travel companion on June 8 at First Lutheran Church, St. Peter. Watch for more information and plan on coming to experience that fun of partnership in the faith.

Our church website is: www.gracebrownton.org

*We also have a **Facebook page!**

Like us so we can reach you with updates!

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:45am Worship/Communion 10am Sunday School	3 6pm Local Broadcast	4 10am Bible Study	5 4pm Confirmation 5:30pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Council Meeting	6	7	8
9 <u>Palm Sunday</u> 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School	10 6pm Local Broadcast	11 10am Bible Study	12 4pm Confirmation 7pm Council Meeting	13 <u>Maundy Thursday</u> 7pm Worship 8pm Choir Practice	14 <u>Good Friday</u> 7pm Worship	15
16 <u>Easter</u> 6:30am Sunrise Service/Communion 7:30am Easter Breakfast 8:45am Worship/Communion	17 6pm Local Broadcast	18 10am Bible Study	19 4pm Confirmation 7pm Choir Practice	20	21	22
23 8:45am Worship/Communion 10am Sunday School	24 6pm Local Broadcast <u>Newsletter</u> <u>Deadline</u>	25 10am Bible Study	26 7pm Choir Practice	27	28	29
30 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School						