

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

# Notes of Grace

Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA), Brownton, Minnesota

September 2017

## September Servants

### Acolyte

- 3 Teagan Hansch
- 10 Tison Werner
- 17 Aaron Ward
- 24 Allie Gronlund

### Communion

Oather Martin Jr

### Altar Guild

Deb Messner & Lori Lindeman

### Ushers

- 3 Ron & Monica Lindeman
- 10 Ron & Mary Bullert,  
Dean Katzenmeyer
- 17 Youth Group
- 24 Joyce Peterson, Yerks,  
& Kottlke

### Readers

- 3 Diana Lindeman
- 10 Vicki Herrmann
- 17 Brandon/Sarah Yerks
- 24 Kathy Engelsmeier

## Church E-Mail Contacts

**Church:**  
gracebrownton@embarqmail.com

**Pastor Andrew:**  
pastor@gracebrownton.org

**Secretary/Sarah:**  
gracebrowntonsecretary@embarqmail.com

**Treasurer/Brandon:**  
gracebrowntontreasurer@embarqmail.com

## Fall Festival Gives Thanks to God on September 10th!

For centuries, cultures have had fall events to give thanks for the harvest. Our rural location keeps our Fall Festival connected to the land, harvest, and the God who cares for us. On September 10, let us join together for worship and meal with thanksgiving in our hearts and hospitality for those who come to visit. Worship will be at 8:45am and the festival will be from 10:30am-12:30pm when the pork chop dinner, country store, and raffle will take place.

As we join together to make this a good day, here is what we need our members to know...

\*Raffle tickets have been distributed in boxes to be sold for the WELCA baskets, if want/need more tickets please let Ardis know.

\*Meal tickets have been put in boxes. Remember each family is requested to try to sell 5 tickets. If you will need more, please see Joyce.

\*Sign up for Items needed for the Fall Festival is on the Bulletin.

\*Sign up for Volunteers need for the also on the Bulletin Board.

\*Each family is asked to bring a pie or dessert on September 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> for the dessert table.

\*Please consider bring donations to help fill our Country Store - baked items, crafts, canned goods, garden produce and such.

All these items help to make our Fall Festival successful!

## Rally Sunday on September 17

As the summer ends, we have some things starting up again which we will celebrate on our Rally Sunday. Please note the start-up of the following:

**\*Sept. 5:** Bible study begins – Weekly on Tuesdays at 9am.

**\*Sept. 6:** Choir practice – Meets most Wednesdays at 7pm & the occasional Sunday. Check calendar.

**\*Sept. 13:** Confirmation class begins – Weekly on Wednesdays at 4pm

**\*Sept. 17:** Sunday school begins – Weekly on Sundays at 10am

More information about these things is found in this newsletter.

## Sympathies

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Cyrus Loncorich. He passed away on August 24 and his funeral was on August 26.

## Celebrations

Betty Katzenmeyer's Birthday is September 16th.

Nigel & Jamie (Katzenmeyer) Erickson were united in marriage on August 5.

## **Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Highlights**

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### **August 9, 2017 Meeting**

**Secretary's Report:** M.S.C. to approve the minutes of the June 2017 meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** June and July

**June Report:** General Fund: June ending balance \$-66.50. Total income for June \$8,891.17; Total expenditures for June \$9,238.76. /// Memorial Fund balance: \$40,011.25; /// Line of Credit: \$2,000

**July Report:** General Fund: July ending balance \$-12.88. Total income for July \$8,068.38, total expenditures for July \$10,015.76. /// Line of Credit \$5,000

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

**Correspondence:**

1. A letter from the State of MN showing the annual analysis of our well water indicated that the water is within acceptable limits.
2. A thank you was received for our recent ELCA Good Gifts Donation.

**Pastor's Report:**

1. On June 25, a Brunch was held after worship in honor of ordained ministry (as it was the pastor's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination). With the help of a Thrivent action team, \$290 was raised and donated to our synod's Ministerial Excellence Fund, which helps pastors in our synod.
2. Pastor Andy reported that his week of continuing education was at Mount Carmel Family camp and the topic of study was the book of Psalms. He enjoyed the week.
3. The pastor is beginning to work on fall planning for the things starting up in September.
4. A request from Diana Lindeman was received to use the parking lot on Sept 30 for an annual auto gathering in memory of her son, Brandon. MSC to allow this to happen with the usual member donation as outlined in our policy manual.

**Calendar:**

August 13 – Outdoor worship with potluck

August 17-20 – Pastor on vacation, Sunday worship lead by Joyce Peterson.

September 10 – Fall Festival

September 13 – First class of 7 & 8 grade confirmation

September 17 – Sunday School starts

September 30 – Parking lot use / Diana Lindeman contact person

October 22 – Confirmation Sunday

October 29 – 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation

**Old Business/Updates:**

1. Congregational directory is still being worked on. The pastor hopes to get it sent in soon.
2. Building updates: 2 used printers purchased as both pastors and secretary's printers went down; a new table was made for pastor's office Jeff Messner; 2 ext. door locks were fixed; three exterior doors were sanded and repainted by Jeff Messner; bell tower has been repaired by Tim Olson and Jeff Messner; parking lot was seal coated Aug. 2; a new computer for pastor is being shopped for; and new blue paraments have been ordered.
3. Plans for the Outdoor worship and potluck were reviewed.
4. VBS – MSC to send \$150 to Immanuel to help with the VBS expenses.

**New Business:**

1. Fall Festival plans were reviewed. Adjustments were made to the ticket price for children. Assigned duties were gone over.
2. Parking lot will have the lines painted on it next week at a cost of about \$700.
3. Discussed ideas regarding the use of the Gehrke bequest. Our gift policy for undesignated gifts says that \$8,000 will be given to missions outside the congregation, \$6,000 goes to the building fund, and the rest is to be used for non-budgetary items. MSC to use the non-designated funds to pay for the remaining costs of the parking lot (this is in addition to the \$6,000 that is designated to the building fund per the gift reception policy). Other items discussed were getting new office computers and other priorities the council has identified. More discussion will take place in future meetings along with the discussion of where to send the mission dollars.

### **Grace Women of the ELCA**

The ladies have been busy planning for the Fall Festival. Raffle Tickets have been distributed. We ask ladies try and sell as least 1 booklet. If you need more see Ardis.

Volunteers are being sought to help the day of the Fall Festival for serving desserts. Donations & Volunteers for The Country Store will also be needed.

### **Martin Luther Movie on PBS**

PBS premieres *Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World* nationwide on Sept. 12 at 7:00pm. The 2-hour film brings to life Luther's 16th century quest to reform the church, a journey that would profoundly reshape western civilization. For most people, the movie will air on channel 2.

<http://newluthermovie.com/pbs.html>

### **Benefit for Jennifer Trettin on Sept 9**

A benefit for Jennifer Trettin will be held on Saturday, Sept 9 from 4-8pm @ the Hutchinson VFW Post 906. There will be a silent auction, bake sale, and piano entertainment provided by Doug Stuedemann. Walking tacos for supper. \$10 admission fee, 12 yrs and under free and a family maximum fee of \$40.

### **Benefit Barn Dance on Sept 10**

You are welcome to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Barn Dance on Sunday, Sept 10 from 1-5:30pm. It happens at the Wilbert Hahn farm – 15122 20<sup>th</sup> St., Brownton. There are three beneficiaries for the money raised. Music will be by George's Concertina Band. Silent Auction, food and beverages provided, outdoor games for kids.

### **Interested in Becoming a Foster Parent**

McLeod County Social Services is hosting a Foster Parent Orientation for families interested in becoming foster parents on Saturday, Sept. 9 from 9am-3pm in Hutchinson. Please see the poster on the church bulletin board for more information.

### **Needs of the Church**

There is a yellow poster in the narthex showing the needs we have at Grace to fix or replace things. Like our homes, things wear out and need to be fixed. If you are able to give a little extra money your help would be appreciated. On your ENVELOPE for offering, please check the "other" area and if you would like to be specific where the money goes write that on the envelope also. If no specific area for your money is listed in the "other" category the money will go into the Building Fund.

Thank you for your help with these needs at Grace.  
President Peterson and Council

### **Oktoberfest in September**

The Brownton Lions will be sponsoring there annual Oktoberfest in September event on Wednesday, September 13 at the Brownton Coummunity Center. Food serverd at 5:30pm. Music from 6-8pm. Dessert will be sold by Brownton Women's Club.

### **500th Anniversary Protestant Reformation**

To commemorate the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, a half day conference entitled "Here We Stand: Reforming Anew" will be held on Saturday, Sept 9, 8:30am–1:00pm at Gorecki Conference Center @ the College of St. Benedict in St. Cloud. Catholics, Lutherans and other interested people will gather to address the challenges of reforming today. For us today, "here we stand" can both affirm Catholic and Lutheran traditions, beliefs and practices, and pose a series of questions.

### **The Next Marriage Encounter Experience**

A Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend allows married couples to celebrate their special relationship and provides them with unique insights and tools to improve their communication for the long haul. It's a whole weekend away to celebrate their love, learn a new method of communication and reap joyful rewards. The next LME weekend is Oct 13-15 at the Holiday Inn in St. Cloud. Apply at GodLovesMarriage.org or contact Peter & Phyllis McMahon at mcmahonp@comcast.net or by calling 763-561-1575. Pastor Linda and Dave Pedersen will serve as a presenting couple and can answer questions. Call them at 320-328-9911.

### **Sponsoring a Child in Guatemala**

We sponsor Marcos as a congregation through the ministry of Common Hope. Did you know that many children are sponsored by individuals or families? If you are interested in sponsoring a child, please talk to Pastor Andy or call Teresa Hermodson-Olsen at Common Hope (651-917-0917). Half a sponsorship is \$360/year and a full sponsorship is \$720/year. With sponsorship you will receive updates and communication on the child and you will be able to write letters to them also. If you know you only wish to sponsor for a year or two, they have children close to graduation that you can help finish that milestone which then ends the need for sponsorship.

### **Amazon Gives**

Do you make purchases from Amazon.com? Then you should try out AmazonSmile. When you purchase at that site, Amazon will make a half a percent contribution to a charity of your choice. Sign in using this web address: smile.amazon.com. It operates the same as Amazon. You will need to choose which charity that will be assigned to your account. And guess what, Grace Lutheran is an option! So is the ELCA!

## Sunday school and Confirmation

### Sunday School News

The education committee has decided to try a new curriculum for this year! After eight years of doing rotation style Sunday School, we will return to a classroom style. The curriculum is from Augsburg Fortress and will provide teachers with resources and guides that will make it possible for many to teach. A new feature of this curriculum is to also buy Bibles that are linked to the curriculum and have in them helps and activities to use. It is believed a well used, written in Bible is better than one that is doesn't show any sign of use, so students will be encouraged to highlight and write in their Bible.

Sunday school begins on September 17! We will again meet at 10am. We will continue to encourage singing, learning Bible stories, memorizing key Bible verses, and showing love to others. Through it all, we wish to encourage a relationship with the God who made us and saved us through Jesus.

Please see Pastor Andy's column about our need to support Sunday school as a congregation.

### Confirmation News

Confirmation class is for anyone who seeks to be confirm their faith. Typically we have it for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in our faith community. An enrollment meeting on Sept. 10 at 7 p.m. will lay out to parents what the confirmation program involves for student and parents and give parents a chance to say "yes" or "no" to the program for their child. (We, of course, encourage it!) The class will begin on Sept. 13 when students will meet from 4:00 for an hour. This year the topic of study will be the Bible as we consider the larger story of God work and come to again know both God and ourselves through the Bible.

## Youth Group

The following announcements are from our three youth group leaders - Steffie Gronlund (320-234-7889), Vicki Herrmann (320-510-2726) or Karla Trettin (612-590-1457)

**Sept 10 / Fall Festival** - We are looking for all available youth to help serve at the Pork Chop Dinner on Sept 10. There are 2 shifts- 10:00-11:15 and 11:15-12:30. Please let Steffie, Vicki or Karla what shift you'd like to work.

**Sept 13 & 17 / The Youth Group will be ushering on Sept 17.** We will clean on the Wednesday before (13<sup>th</sup>) starting at 5:15pm. We are aware most practices are not done by then so please come whenever you can. We will feed you supper! On Sunday, please arrive at the church at 8:15am. If you are NOT able to make it to either Wednesday's cleaning or Sunday to help usher- please let Steffie, Vicki or Karla know.

**Sept 24 / Outdoor Movie Night!** On Sunday, September 24 at 7 pm will be having an outdoor movie night! Popcorn and toppings will be provided-please bring a beverage and a lawn chair and maybe a blanket depending on the temperature! If the weather does not cooperate, we will move inside and project the movie on the wall. The movie should be over by 9:30pm.

**Looking ahead:** Christ Lutheran Church in Glencoe has again invited us to partake in their Act2Day4Tomorrow Event. They have tentatively set the date for October 14-15. Stay tuned for more details on the event!

## Word from the Pastor

"Jesus said, 'Go ... make disciples of all nations...'" Matthew 28:19.

We not only want to people in all nations to learn about God, we want all generations. Teaching the youngest generation has become a standard work of the church in the last century. Aside from the home, where the most important education of faith takes place, we teach our children most often in Sunday school and confirmation class.

We fall into habits in what we do. In our congregation, the habit has been to have the "moms" of our current students teach Sunday school. I recently heard of a nearby congregation where no moms of the students teach, it is done by others. I encourage our congregation to move more in that direction. Moms and dads of our young children are busy (as we all claim to be) and it would be good if we would share the responsibility of this important ministry. It is, after all, a responsibility of our whole congregation to provide Sunday school.

It is a great witness when our young members see adults of all ages showing care for them, helping to teach. It is a great witness when our young members see men willing to help also. So, once again, I appeal to the congregation, men and women, to consider your gifts which God has given you and consider if you could help with Sunday school. We have curriculum to guide you and you need not commit for a three and half month time frame. Consider trying it for a month or even for a couple Sundays. We need our children to hear from more of you and we need to share this work with the moms who have willing done this for many years.

Who would you talk to with questions or to help? Stephanie Loncorich would be a good person to start with. 562-6380.

# September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 8:45am Worship/Communion	<b>4</b> 6pm Local Broadcast	<b>5</b> 9am Bible Study	<b>6</b> 7pm Choir Practice	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:30pm Set up Fall Festival	<b>9</b>
<b>10 Fall Festival</b> 8:45am Worship 10:30am Meal Begins 7pm Confirmation Enrollment For Parents	<b>11</b> 6pm Local Broadcast	<b>12</b> 9am Bible Study	<b>13</b> 4pm Confirmation 5:15pm Youth Group Cleaning Building 7pm Council Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17 Rally Sunday</b> 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School	<b>18</b> 6pm Local Broadcast	<b>19</b> 9am Bible Study	<b>20</b> 4pm Confirmation 7pm Choir Practice	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 8:45am Worship/Communion 10am Sunday School	<b>25</b> 6pm Local Broadcast	<b>26</b> 9am Bible Study	<b>27</b> 7pm Choir Practice	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

Pastor at Synod Conference