

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

Notes of Grace

Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA), Brownton, Minnesota

October 2017

October Servants

Acolyte

- 1 Keely Wendlandt
- 8 Cade Herrmann
- 15 Brent Lipke
- 22 Tison Werner
- 29 Aaron Ward

Communion

Dave Wendlandt

Altar Guild

Vicky, Shelby, & Courtney Schlenner

Ushers

- 1 Doug & Jody Genz
- 8 Jake & Amber Wendolek,
Doug Karg
- 15 Dave & Nancy Lauseng
- 22 David & Sharon Carrigan
- 29 Vicky Schlenner

Readers

- 1 Open
- 8 Paula Katzenmeyer
- 15 Kerry Ward
- 22 Alan Jerabek
- 29 Doug Karg

Greeters

- 1 Alan & Sandy Jerabek
- 8 Jim & Shirley Lindeman
- 15 Joyce Peterson & Grandkids
- 22 Keith & Jane Tongen
- 29 Norm & Cheryl Schwarze

Confirmation Sunday on October 22

It will be a joyous day for us as a congregation when we confirm the faith of four of our members. This will happen during our regular worship service on October 22. Come and be a part of this congregational event. The four people affirming their baptism are: Cade Herrmann, Keely Wendlandt, Allie Gronlund, and Teagan Hansch. They have completed the two year program we have here at Grace and this fall they have each written a faith statement.

Fall Festival

Thanks for all your good work on our fall festival! We had a good turnout, serving over 300 people. Again there was a growing number of carryouts so our dining room was never completely filled. The Thrivent Action team gave us some financial support for the purchasing of products and the Lions Club again let us use their roasters. The fire department loaned us the grills.

Raffle Basket Winners: 1 "Couples Night Out" - Ilene Penk
2 - Jewelry Box - Jody Genz
3 - Happy Kitchen - Roxanne Wendlandt
4 - Warm & Comfort - Darwin Frauendienst
5 - Crockpot & supplies - Danielle Hill
6 - Thirty One Bags - Brenda Miller
7 - Gift Card Bouquet - Allie Gronlund
8 - Framed "Family ABC's" Needle point - Elaine Dahlke

Sunday school and Confirmation

Our Sunday school has started with their new curriculum. The children were excited to receive new Bibles and the permission to write and highlight in them. [This month we will continue with our lessons but also do a service project on October 15 of tying fleece blankets. A Thrivent Action team is being put together to help the Sunday school with this. If you wish to donate money or your time to this project, please come on October 15. They could also use some good quality sewing scissors for cutting the fleece.](#)

Confirmation has begun meeting and we started looking at the Bible. Pastor Andy desires they hear new Bible stories, but also re-hear familiar Bible stories in new ways. A confirmation class trip is also planned this month when the class will go to the Twin Cities to visit some special places. Pray that it will be an impactful trip for the class.

Sympathies

Our sympathy to the family of Betty Katzenmeyer who passed on September 20. Her funeral was held on September 25.

Council Meeting Highlights

September 13, 2017

Secretary's Report: M.S.C.: to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2017 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: General Fund: August ending balance \$984.79. Total income for August \$4,447.44, total expenditures for August \$16,449.77. Line of Credit: \$5,000. M.S.C. to approve the Treasurer's Report

Correspondence:

1. Thank you from the Bishop for donation to the Ministerial Excellence Fund.

Pastor's Report:

1. Pastor and Rosine attended Reformation commemoration events at the College of St. Benedict
2. Confirmation and Sunday School classes are beginning. Terri is taking over music for Sunday School.

Calendar:

1. Sept. 24-26 - Synod's Fall Theological Conference
2. Oct. 22 – Confirmation Sunday
3. Oct. 29 – 500th Anniversary of Reformation

Old Business/Updates:

1. Congregational directory update – it still needs to be worked on.
2. 2 new computers purchased – a laptop for the pastor and a desktop for the secretary. The software that they need to do their work is updated also. This was paid for by the Gehrke estate.
3. The Cemetery Bylaws were discussed concerning how many remains are allowed to be buried in each lot of our cemetery. It was recommended that we allow one casket and one urn or two urns to be buried in each lot. This recommendation was to be brought before the congregation at the next annual meeting so it could be added to the cemetery bylaws.
4. A review of the Fall Festival's numbers and the work was done.
5. Sunday School curriculum is for this year by action of the education committee. The cost of the change was paid for by the Gehrke estate.
6. AED (Defibrillator) – after reviewing the prices, it was decided to not purchase one for the building.

New Business:

1. Discussion on the Gehrke bequest – ideas were shared by the pastor for giving the benevolence portion. No action taken at this time.
2. 2018 Health Plan for the pastor was presented and will be finalized at the October meeting.
3. Sanctuary arrangement – voted to keep the pews in the current arrangement.
4. Cemetery Account – discussed moving the money from CD's to mutual funds. The Cemetery board has the authority to decide on the proper investments according to the bylaws.

Grace Lutheran Youth Group

Four of our youth group members will be participating in the Act2Day4Tomorrow Hunger Event at Christ Lutheran Church, Glencoe. They each need to raise support for their participation which will go to pack food for Feed My Starving Children and for the Food Shelf. Please help sponsor them for this event. (There is table in the narthex)

Reminder—Anyone available and willing to help run games at the Brownton Lions Kids Halloween party-it's a fun and easy, only a few hours and they appreciate our help!! More details to come!

Celebrate Reformation

A Reformation Festival at Luther Seminary is happening on October 27-28 with features speakers, workshops and music. The festival culminates in a Reformation Celebration Worship service at the beautiful Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis on October 28 at 4pm. The inspirational worship commemorates 500 years of the Reformation and will feature the National Lutheran Choir, local church choirs, and ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, preaching.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

There is still room at the next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend is October 13-15. It's a weekend away to celebrate their love, learn a new method of communication and reap joyful rewards. The next LME weekend is at the Holiday Inn in St. Cloud. Apply at GodLovesMarriage.org or contact Peter & Phyllis McMahon 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.

South Africa Partnership Clothing Drive

A Clothing Drive for our South African Partnership is taking place this month. Bring clothing, purses, belts, or fabric in a kitchen sized garbage bag to the church by the end of the month. In the past, we have been able to sell the clothing and use the cash to provide nutritious meals for the Lutheran churches in the Vryheid circuit to distribute.

The next S. Africa Partnership meeting is October 19 from 6-8pm at Immanuel Lutheran, New Auburn.

Church E-Mail Contacts

Church: gracebrownton@embarqmail.com
Pastor Andrew: pastor@gracebrownton.org
Secretary/Sarah: gracebrowntonsecretary@embarqmail.com
Treasurer/Brandon: gracebrowntontreasurer@embarqmail.com

**Our church website is: www.gracebrownton.org
 We also have a Facebook page! Like us!**

Grace Women of the ELCA

The Executive Board is planning to meet to work on an update of events for the remainder of the year (Guest Day, etc). A General Meeting will be held in November, but the date has not been set—Watch Bulletin!

Thank offering service will be November 19. Anyone wishing to take part in, please talk with Pastor.

Living Lutheran Magazine

The Lutheran magazine has been revamped and is now called Living Lutheran. You can subscribe to it by going to its website: livinglutheran.org/subscribe. There is also a free Living Lutheran e-digest that you can sign-up for. It comes to you email inbox with select articles. With the e-digest, you can select how often you'd like to receive the emails and you can choose from six content categories to select what kinds of stories you'd like to receive. Go to the same subscriber website to sign up for the e-digest.

Different ways to Help our Neighbor

Our local Habitat for Humanity is putting out a call for volunteers. There is an urgent need because weather and contractor problems have put them behind schedule for the year. Please consider scheduling a day or more to help, now through mid-December. They hope to have the family in by Christmas.

Lutheran Social Services offers a program of AmeriCorps volunteers which pays a small stipend. They recruit people to provide respite care for our caregivers in McLeod County in order to build the volunteer base in our county. The need is large. See the flyer on our bulletin board that gives the details of what the responsibilities are of the volunteers and also the monetary benefit to becoming an AmeriCorps volunteer!

Common Cup Ministry for McLeod County is in need of volunteers that can assist in a variety of ways. Information available upon request. Common needs are (1) "Thrift Store" volunteers, (2) on-call volunteers, and (3) food program volunteers. Call Bev at 320-234-8344

Hospice Volunteers are needed in McLeod County. Patients and their families could use your support and companionship. All volunteers are provided with free training and a flexible schedule. Talk to Pastor Andy to find out more.

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 the web address: smile.amazon.com. It operates the same as Amazon. You will need to choose which charity will be assigned to your account. Guess what, Grace Lutheran is an option! So is the ELCA!

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45am Worship/Communion 10am Sunday School 6:30pm 9th grade Confirmation	2 6pm Local Broadcast	3 9am Bible Study	4 4pm Confirmation 7pm Choir Practice	5	6	7
8 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School	9 6pm Local Broadcast	10 9am Bible Study	11 4pm Confirmation 7pm Council Meeting	12	13	14
15 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School 6:30pm 9th grade Confirmation w/ Parents & Pictures	16 6pm Local Broadcast	17 9am Bible Study	18 7am Confirmation Class Trip	19 6pm S. Africa Partner- ship Meeting	20	21
22 Confirmation Sunday 8:45am Worship/Communion 10am Sunday School	23 6pm Local Broadcast	24 9am Bible Study	25 4pm Confirmation 7pm Choir Practice	26	27	28
29 Reformation Sunday 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School	30 6pm Local Broadcast	31 9am Bible Study				