

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

Notes of Grace

Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA), Brownton, Minnesota

November 2018

November Servants

Acolyte

- 4 Ross Jerabek
- 11 Braxton Streich
- 18 Grace Lipke
- 21 Hunter Gens
- 26 Sydney Harpel

Communion

Keith Tongen

Altar Guild

Cheryl Schwarze

Ushers

- 4 Jeff & Shannon Streich,
Oather Jr & Sandy Martin
- 11 Diana Lindeman &
Sherry Husske
- 18 Brad & Karla Trettin
- 21 Youth Group
- 26 Keith & Jane Tongen,
Sarah & Louise

Readers

- 4 Keith Tongen
- 11 Doug Karg
- 18 Open
- 21 Paula Katzenmeyer
- 26 Jeff Kosek

Greeters

- 4 Joyce Peterson & Grandkids
- 11 Norm & Cheryl Schwarze
- 18 Ben & Gloria Schuft
- 21 Darrell & Michelle Gens
- 26 Larry & Jeanette Tongen

“Blankets to Warm Souls” - Sunday School Service Project

The Sunday School did a Service Project of making Fleece Blankets for families in need on October 28th. The Youth Group assisted, as well as others from congregation.



Their next Service Project is set for November 18th, when they will be going to the Shade Tree.

Confirmation Sunday was October 28

We had 3 confirmands this year, they were: Brent Lipke, Aaron Ward, and Tison Werner.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

We will once again have our Thanksgiving worship on Thanksgiving Eve at 7pm.

Grace Lutheran Youth Group

Upcoming Youth Group Activities:

- **Nov 4th:** Trip to the Escape Room in Mankato--sign up sheet will be posted soon on the bulletin board and information will be sent out
- **Dec 2nd:** Christmas party and shopping trip for the McLeod County Giving Tree

Women of the ELCA

Our next General meeting will be November 11.

Guest Day will be December 1 here at Grace. The theme is “Hats of to... “. Group 1 will serve this year.

Thank Offering will be November 18.

We are also looking for ladies whom may be interested in being a board member. Please see a current board member if interested.

Service Helpers for 2019

As 2018 dwindles down, those who do the helper lists have started to work on the 2019 lists for ushers, greeters, altar guild, and readers. If you would like to continue, discontinue, or be added to those lists please let us know. Those who do lists are: Joyce Peterson—Ushers & Greeters, Cheryl Schwarze—Altar Guild, and Sarah Tongen—Readers. Any questions please ask!

Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Highlights

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

Attending: Karla Trettin, Jan Messner, Nancy Deppe, Dave Wendlandt, Oather Martin, Brandon Yerks, Tim Olson and Pastor Hummel. **Absent:** Jake Wendolek, Keith Tongen, Michele Gens

President Jan Messner called the meeting to order.

Devotions/Bible Study & Prayer

Pastor Hummel led devotions and prayer.

Secretary's Report:

M.S.C.: to approve the minutes of the September 2018 meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

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

General Fund: September ending balance \$9387.31

Memorial Fund: September balance \$24,073.98

Building Fund: September balance \$9,055.77

Total income for September \$7,568.32 total expenditures \$1,192.20

Line of Credit: \$0.00

Correspondence:

1. Living Lutheran
2. Heifer International
3. United Way

Pastor's Report:

1. Thank you for the welcome luncheon
2. Calendar of Activities
3. Vision and Mission Committee Report
4. Coverage for education leave: Nov. 15-20; Sunday Service Nov. 18th, has scheduled a sub for that Sunday
5. Request for LEAD Assessment – M.S.C. to move forward with the next assessment done by a professional company, the cost to Grace will be \$75.00
6. Report on conversation with Interim Pastor at Immanuel Lutheran
7. Suggestions for service activities at Church for Confirmation Students Day at church:
8. Thursday, October 18, possible activities: 1. Cleaning Grave Yard 2. Cleaning and Oiling Pews 3. Shampooing chairs in dining room

Calendar:

1. Oct 28 Confirmation Sunday (9th graders)

Old Business:

1. Stained glass window maintenance – 2nd coat needed
2. Church credit card – in Jan Messner's name and Grace's name, will link to the church's checking acct.
3. Fall Festival – will keep a file on the church computer with job lists, recipes, donation lists and schedules
4. Building supervisory duties will be added to weekly Usher duties

New Business:

1. Purchasing Stoles for Worship – Jan will bring prices to the next meeting
2. Memorial Fund money and Building Fund money. The Council voted to move \$10,000 from the Building Fund and \$20,000 from the Memorial Fund into CD's. There is a 2.35% interest rate on the 15 month CD's at Security Bank
3. The council is talking about planning a "Raise the Roof" fundraiser – pancake/egg breakfast fundraiser.....to start building funds for the roof/shingle repair/replacement

Next Meeting: November 14th, 7:00 pm

M.S.C. to adjourn the meeting.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Secretary Karla Trettin

Word from the Pastor

In the conclusion to my note in last month's newsletter, I wrote:

As cooler weather has commenced, and shorter days have come upon us, I look forward to working with you, the People of Grace Church, to pray and plan for the future of this blessed congregation. I believe that the fire of the Holy Spirit and many years of fruitful ministry await Grace Church.

For sure, the cooler weather that had commenced then is continuing now and even has increased. And every day, the days are getting shorter. This is most certainly true.

What is also true—and is apparent to me as your interim pastor—is that the blessings of God and years of important ministry await Grace Church. You, the people of Grace, are a people blessed with many gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. Other gifts of the Spirit that I've discerned among you are: faith, humor, feeling, intelligence and courage. I am convinced these gifts are serving you now and will serve you in your future.

I am also convinced that one way these gifts may serve you now is for you to use them in response to a questionnaire that soon will be distributed to all of you. This questionnaire comes from the LEAD organization, which defines its purpose as: "a Christian, nonprofit organization focused on empowering Christian leaders, transforming faith communities and influencing the world."

<https://waytolead.org/portfolio-item/leads-statement-of-theology/>

This questionnaire does not come free. Our church council has designated funds from the congregation to cover the costs of completing this questionnaire. In addition, funds have been given back to Grace Church from the Southwest Minnesota Synod to help cover the costs.

Below is a link to a short video explaining the purpose of this easy to complete (15-20 minute) questionnaire

<https://waytolead.org/lead-assessment-video-invitation-participate/>

The LEAD organization explains why it is helpful to complete this questionnaire

The LEAD Assessment provides information about your congregation's behavior . . . Typically congregations discover that they are stronger in one or more of the behaviors. By building on these strengths and working to develop new behaviors, congregations can grow as they join God in mission.

<https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/leadwebsite/Assessment+NON+Journey+resources/Introducing+the+LEAD+Assessment+5.24.17.pdf>

Please participate as you are able—and if you are not able, please let me know so that we may find a way for you to do so!

This is an important time in the life of Grace as you discern the best ways to move forward.

As you move forward, please remember: you are a congregation blessed with many gifts of the Holy Spirit. These gifts are yours. God has given them you to guide you toward God's future.

God's Blessings, Pastor Leonard Hummel

Area Happenings (see more info on bulletin board)

*Nov. 10 10am Make & Take Christmas Crafts at Brownton Congregation Church. Cost: \$20

*Nov. 11 9am-12:30pm Dad's Belgian Waffles at the Silver Lake American Legion. (GSL After Prom Fundraiser)

*Nov. 14 1-7pm Blood Drive at Glencoe City Center. Call for appt 864-3475 or Walk ins welcome

*Nov. 19 7pm Human Trafficking Awareness Presentation at Christ Lutheran Church in Glencoe.

*Dec. 16 7pm Christmas Carol Sing-Along at Brownton Congregation Church

McLeod County Giving Tree

As every other year, the tree will be put up with ornaments the middle to the end of November. The tree will be up until early December. Toys, clothes, and cash donations are accepted.

Watch the bulletin for more information as time approaches. Contact Jane Tongen for any information.

Common Cup Thrift Store Needs Help

Volunteers are really needed to work a minimum of 1- 3 hour shift per month. 10am – 1pm or 1 – 4pm on Tuesday – Friday and maybe an occasional Saturday. Please call Celine Swift at 320-296-9083 with names of potential volunteers.

November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 8:45am Worship/Communion 10am Sunday School	5	6	7 1pm Bible Study 4pm Confirmation 8pm Vision & Mission Meeting	8	9	10
11 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School 10am Choir Practice	12	13	14 4pm Confirmation 7pm Council Meeting	15	16	17
18 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School 10am Choir Practice	19	20	21 4pm Confirmation 7pm Choir Practice 7pm THANKSGIVING EVE Service	22	23	24
25 8:45am Worship/Communion 10am Service Project	26 December Newsletter Deadline	27	28 4pm Confirmation 7pm Choir Practice	29	30	

CHURCH CONTACTS:	CHURCH COUNCIL:
<p>Church: gracebrownton@embarqmail.com</p> <p>Pastor Hummel: pastor@gracebrownton.org</p> <p>Secretary/Sarah: gracebrowntonsecretary@embarqmail.com</p> <p>Treasurer/Brandon: gracebrowntontreasurer@embarqmail.com</p> <p>Church Website: http://www.gracebrownton.org *We are also on Facebook! Under Grace Lutheran Church*</p>	<p>Jan Messner, President</p> <p>Dave Wendlandt, Vice President</p> <p>Karla Trettin, Secretary</p> <p>Tim Olson Michelle Gens Oather Martin, Jr Nancy Deppe Keith Tongen Jake Wendolek</p>