

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

# Notes of Grace

Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA), Brownton, Minnesota

December 2022

## December Servants

### Acolyte

- 4 Leyton Yerks
- 11 Ty Winterfeldt
- 18 Dalen Loncorich
- 24 (Christ Eve) Makenzie Mealey
- 25 Leyton Yerks

### Communion Assistant

Joyce Peterson

### Altar Guild

Vonnie Schuett & Karla Trettin

### Ushers

- 4 Michele Barley,  
Mike & Stacey Waletzko
- 11 Lowell & Sherry Rickheim,  
Rich & Kerry Ward,  
Doug Karg
- 18 Jim & Shirley Lindeman,  
Klark & Paula Katzenmeyer,  
Jaden Katzenmeyer
- 24 (Christ Eve)
- 25 Vicki Herrmann,  
Ben & Gloria Schuff

### Readers

- 4 Jeff Kosek
- 11 Doug Karg
- 18 Paula Katzenmeyer
- 24 (Christ Eve)
- 25 Vicki Herrmann

### Greeters

- 4 Kevin & Nancy Deppe
- 11 Larry & Jeanette Tongen
- 18 Oather Martin Jr
- 24 (Christ Eve) Jim & Shirley  
Lindeman
- 25 Keith & Jane Tongen

## Sunday School Program & Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday School Christmas Program will be during Church Service on Sunday, Dec 18 at 8:45am.

Practice Rehearsal on Sat, Dec 17 at 9am

Other practices are Sundays Dec 4 & 11 during the Sunday School Hour following worship.



Grace will be having Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship with Communion on Saturday, December 24 at 5pm.

\*Reminder: Bring your change for donation to the Birthday Bank in honor of Jesus' Birthday

Christmas Service will be held on Sunday, December 25 at 8:45am. This will be a music service and Pastor Angela will be gone.

## McLeod County Holiday Project

### Grace Giving Tree 2022

This project will be ran very similar to last year at Grace.

Grace has requested to get a Family with multiple children and also additional children.

It is once again through United Community Action Partnership (UCAP) in Hutchinson. Everything you give will stay in McLeod County.

Cash, checks, and Unwrapped gifts will once again be accepted through December 11th.



As receive more information, the congregation will be informed in bulletins, newsletter, and on the Grace Lutheran Church Facebook page.

Keith & Jane Tongen will once again be chairing this project.

## Thank You!

Thank you! The Council & Grace members would like to Thank the family of Ron Lindeman for the memorial gift of a gliding bench. We appreciate you think of the church.



Thank you! It is very much appreciated for the work done on the approach into the parking lot. This was a huge savings to the church. A Thank you goes out to Keith Tongen, Jim Todd, Jeff Messner, Tim Olson, and Jeff Kosek. From Pres Joyce and all the council members.



# Church Council Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2022

**Members present:** Pres. Joyce Peterson, Sec. Lori Lindeman, Treas. Nancy Deppe, Brad Trettin, Scott Katzenmeyer, Keith Tongen, Gary Alsleben, Pastor Angela, Mary Bullert, and Sharon Carrigan.

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Joyce Peterson. Pastor Angela led devotion from 2 Thessalonians, "do not be weary in doing what is right."

**Secretary Report:** Minutes from the October Council meeting were reviewed. There were no additions or corrections. There was a motion and second to approve the October minutes. Keith / Scott

**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer's report for October was presented and reviewed. Balance as of October 31, 2022, for the General Fund Savings and Checking was \$20,696.61. Total income for October was \$9,220.82. Total expenses for October were \$8,217.55. There was a motion and second to approve treasurer's report. Sharon / Brad

**Correspondence:** None

## Pastor's Report:

### 1. Calendar of Activities:

- a. Conference Meeting for Zumbro River Conference, 10:30 a.m. Nov. 8
- b. Preaching at River of Hope (for Hans, after Grace worship) Nov. 13
- c. Luther Seminary Chapel Preaching SWMN in St. Paul on Nov. 15, 10 a.m.
- d. Confirmation Winter Warm-Up Event Nov. 16, 6:30 p.m., Christ the King in Mankato. Pastor Angela is speaking.
- e. Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7 p.m., Nov. 23

### 2. Month in Review:

- a. Confirmation: going well
- b. Update on education, Wednesday's, Special Services

## Church Calendar of events:

1. Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7 p.m., Nov. 23
2. Sunday School Christmas program Sunday, December 18, during church service
3. Annual Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in January/ January 22, 2023, following the church service

## Old Business

1. Parking Lot Approach: repair has been completed by Tim Olson, Jeff Messner, and Jim Todd. Jeff and Tammy Kosek donated materials and Keith Tongen donated use of his Bobcat.
2. Speaker System of the Fellowship Hall/Sunday School area: Joyce received a bid of \$977.00 from Scheitel's Music in Mankato to replace the amplifier unit and the system will function as designed. A motion was made and second to use Undesignated Memorial Fund money to pay for the repair. Keith / Nancy
3. Cemetery Sign: the cemetery sign project will be completed in the spring.
4. Sports equipment: there is a request for a swing set and basketball hoop.
5. The memorial bench from the Ron Lindeman family is here

## New Business

1. Christmas Eve worship 5:00 p.m. with Communion / candlelight service
2. Christmas Day worship plans / music service, Pastor Angela gone
3. New Year's Day worship plans
4. ELCA offering: a motion was made and second to send offering to ELCA Word Hunger Keith / Scott
5. Snow blower: the church is in need of a new snow blower. Jeff Messner got some prices / options. A motion was made and second, to authorize the Property and Management committee to spend up to \$1,000.00 to purchase a snow blower using funds from the Undesignated Memorial Fund. Mary / Scott
6. The church budget will be added to the Sunday bulletin until the end of the year so that church members are aware of the end of the year budget needs.

**Next Meeting: December 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.**

Motion / second to adjourn the meeting. Sharon / Gary

Closed with The Lord's Prayer

Council Secretary, Lori Lindeman

## Pastor's Message

Dear People of Grace,

Happy Church New Year!

Did you know our church year starts over again each Advent season? I am sure our Altar Guild members know that, at least, as well as our musicians, Terri and Vicki, and Sarah, our secretary.

By the way, if you'd like to learn more about the liturgical year, here's my official pitch and invitation to join the Altar Guild. Grace really has beautiful paraments for each season of the church year, and in Altar Guild, you get to participate in some of the most sacred rites of the church, by preparing for Holy Communion and also by changing the look of the altar and sanctuary according to the Sunday of the church year. So please let me - or let Cheryl Schwarze/Jane Tongen know if you might be interested!

I am feeling, as I guess many of you are, a mix of tiredness after a busy fall season - and also a mix of excitement as we get into the final stretch before Christmas. While I will never forget our frigid 2020 outdoor Christmas Eve together, I am grateful again to celebrate a candlelight Christmas inside the warmth of Grace's sanctuary as we sing Silent Night together.

I'm also looking forward to another Grace kids Christmas pageant (seriously, we have the best and most talented kids at our church!) to listening to special music, and to revisiting the sacred songs and texts of this season.

My prayer for all of us this year is simple: for healing, for hope, for peace, for joy, and for LOVE. And the part is, we don't have to earn it or prove that we deserve it. Instead, God is coming to us - God's son is born to us - and we only have to make room in our hearts to receive the true gift of the season, the remembrance of Jesus' birth - and a God who so loved the world.

Merry Christmas and Happy Advent Month,  
Pastor Angela

### Grace Prayer Chain

Our prayer ministry is committed to praying for various needs, personal or within our congregation and beyond. Prayer chain requests are (respectfully) kept private.



To activate prayer from "Grace Prayer Chain" contact:

[pastor@gracebrownton.org](mailto:pastor@gracebrownton.org),  
320-328-5533 at the church,  
please leave message.

Or Jane M T: pink-farm@embarqmail.com or You also may contact any Church Council Member.

### Grace Annual Meeting is January 22 - Annual Report Submissions Due by January 4th

Those submitting reports for the Annual Report, please email to Sarah Tongen as soon as you can after the Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. (Will also accept before if can be completed.) It is greatly appreciated if when submit they can be in a **Word or Excel format**. If any questions, please contact Sarah.

**Deadline for submissions is Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>**, but the earlier can submit is greatly appreciated. All needs to be printed early so the council assembles the Annual Reports at the Council Meeting on January 11th.

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

Ballots will be posted by January 8, so if you would like to be on the Ballot please let Sarah or a Council know. Nomination Committee is meeting Dec 8th.

**\*We realize this does not give people a lot of time for submissions, that is why posting this reminder now to meet all deadlines.**

## **2023 Ushers List**

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO USHER THE SUNDAY YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN, PLEASE  
MAKE A CHANGE WITH ANOTHER MEMBER. THANK YOU!

### **January**

- 1 Norman and Cheryl Schwarze
- 8 Jeff and Tammy Kosek
- 15 Diana Lindeman, Blair Hansch,  
Shannon Hahn
- 22 D .Karg, L-S Rickheim, R-K Ward
- 29 Chris and Kristen Hansch, Jeff W.

### **February**

- 5 Jim-Kathy Todd, Sara Ulrich
- 12 Jim and Shirley Lindeman, Klark and Paula  
Katzenmeyer, Jamie Erickson
- 19 Kevin and Nancy Deppe
- 22 (Ash Wed.) R-M, Bullert, Jacquelyn, Thomas
- 26 Kevin-Sharon Weber, Tammy Maiers

### **March**

- 5 Neil and Melanie Winterfeldt
- 12 Keith-Jane Tongen, Sarah, Louise Tongen
- 19 Larry and Jeannette Tongen
- 26 Joyce Peterson, Yerks, Kottke Families

### **April**

- 2 (Palm Sun.) Jeff and Deb Messner,  
Mark-Scott Katzenmeyer
- 6 (Maundy Thurs.) Brad and Karla Trettin
- 7 (Good Fri) David and Sharon Carrigan
- 9 (Easter) Bob-Lori Lindeman, Bryce
- 16 Tim and Julie Olson, Justin
- 23 Jim and Jan Plath, Aaron
- 30 Youth Group

### **May**

- 7 Dave and Roxanne Wendlandt
- 14 Dean and Stephanie Loncorich  
Gary Alsleben and Kim Bacon
- 21 Todd and Lisa Lindeman
- 28 Rick and Vicky Schlenner

### **June**

- 4 Jan Messner, Jesse-Ashley Messner
- 11 Brad and Karla Trettin
- 18 Bullert Family and Dean Katzenmeyer
- 25 Michele Barley, Mike-Stacey Waletzko

### **July**

- 2 Todd and Faye Ahlbrecht
- 9 Steffie Gronlund, Tyler and Terri Helland
- 16 Jeff-Deb Messner, Jesse-Ashley Messner
- 23 Dave and Linda Pedersen
- 30 Neil and Melanie Winterfeldt

### **August**

- 6 Tom and Mary Lemke
- 13 Pat and Sarah Waller
- 20 Dave and Sarah Lipke
- 27 Bob and Lori Lindeman, Bryce Lindeman

### **September**

- 3 Rickheims, Wards, Doug Karg
- 10 Rick and Vicki Schlenner
- 17 Joyce Peterson, Yerks, Kottke Families
- 24 Tim Olsons' and Dean Loncorichs'

### **October**

- 1 Mark and Becky Streich and Lori Cople
- 8 David-Sharon Carrigan and Kevin-Nancy  
Deppe
- 15 Chris-Kristen Hansch, Dave-Roxanne  
Wendlandt, Jeff Wendlandt
- 22 Ben and Gloria Schuft and Girls Families'
- 29 Keith and Jane Tongen, Sarah and Louise

### **November**

- 5 Jeff and Shannon Streich, Oather-Sandra  
Martin
- 12 Diana Lindeman, Blair Hansch, Sherry  
Husske
- 19 Jan Messner ,Rory-Mae Hansch
- 22 (Thks. Eve.) Youth Group
- 26 Jim and Kathy Todd, Sara Ulrich

### **December**

- 3 Michele Barley, Mike-Stacey Waletzko
- 10 Jeff-Tammy Kosek, Pat-Sarah Waller
- 17 Jim Lindemans', Klark Katzenmeyers'  
Jaden Katzenmeyer
- 24 (Christmas Eve)
- 31 Vicki Hermann, Ben and Gloria Schuft

# December 2022

| Sunday   | Monday    | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday    | Saturday                                  |
|--|-----------|-----------|--|--|-----------|---|
|  |           |           |  | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b><br>10:30am Guest Day             |
| <b>4</b><br>8:45am Worship/Communion<br>(Bells perform)<br>10am SS Program Practice                        | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b><br>2:30pm Bible Study<br>4pm Confirmation   | <b>8</b><br>7pm Nominating<br>Committee<br>Meeting | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b>                                 |
| <b>11</b><br>8:45am Worship/Carol Service<br>10am SS Program Practice                                      | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b><br>2:30pm Bible Study<br>4pm Confirmation<br>6:30pm Bell Choir Practice<br>6:30pm Council Meeting<br>7:15pm Choir Practice | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b> | <b>17</b><br>9am SS Program<br>Practice   |
| <b>18</b> <b>Sunday School</b><br><b>Christmas Program</b><br>8:45am Worship/Program<br>10am Sunday School | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b><br>2:30pm Bible Study<br>4pm Confirmation<br>6:30pm Bell Choir Practice<br>7:15pm Choir Practice                           | <b>22</b>  | <b>23</b> | <b>24</b><br>5pm Christmas Eve<br>Worship |
| <b>25</b><br>8:45am Musical Worship<br><br><b>*Deadline for the<br/>January Newsletter</b>                 | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b>  | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b> | <b>31</b>                                 |