

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

Notes of Grace

Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA), Brownton, Minnesota

January 2023

January Servants

Acolyte

- 1 Makenzie Mealey
- 8 Dalen Loncorich
- 15 Makenzie Mealey
- 22 Leyton Yerks
- 29 Ty Winterfeldt

Communion Assistant

Nancy Deppe

Altar Guild

Shirley Lindeman &
Jeanette Tongen

Ushers

- 1 Church Council
- 8 Jeff & Tammy Kosek
- 15 Diana Lindeman, Blair Hansch, & Shannon Hahn
- 22 Doug Karg, Lowell & Sherry Rickheim, Rich & Kerry Ward
- 29 Chris & Kristen Hansch, Jeff Wendlandt

Readers

- 1 Volunteer
- 8 Jeff Kosek
- 15 Diana Lindeman
- 22 Doug Karg
- 29 Joyce Peterson

Greeters

- 1 David & Sharon Carrigan
- 8 Joyce Peterson & Yerks Boys
- 15 Jim Todd
- 22 Ben Schuft
- 29 Dave Wendlandt



The Annual meeting is schedule for after service on January 22.

Please try to attend.

This is when we will discuss of the happenings/financials over last year and plans for moving forward into the new year.

Ballot will be posted 1/8/23.



Pastor Angela's Farewell

POTLUCK GATHERING
January 15, 2023 11am

Pastor Angela's last day at Grace is on January 15. There will be a potluck for Pastor Angela, Ben, and the boys to bid them farewell and thank Pastor Angela for her three years of pastoral service to us at Grace.

Bring a dish to share!
Church will furnish the plates, silverware, and beverages for the potluck.
Plan is to eat after Sunday School.



Sunday School Project -Looking for Donations



The Sunday School will be making "Little boxes of Sunshine" to send to our college students on 1/22. If you'd like to contribute, we are looking for treats/snacks with yellow packaging (juicy fruit, lemonade packets, velveeta mac and cheese cups etc). More ideas and a collection box can be found in the narthex. We would need 15 of each item and would like to the church by January 15. Thanks!

Pastor's Message

Dear People of Grace,

It's hard to believe that this will be my final newsletter to all of you. For many months now, in the final week of each preceding month, I have taken time and space to write to you about life at Grace and our shared faith walk together.

I am thinking about the long months early in COVID, when we saw activities wiped from all of our calendars; and then I'm also thinking about the very-busy seasons of Lent, Easter, and Christmastime. The joy each fall as we begin again a year of Christian education and celebrate confirmations.

I am thinking about the baptisms we got to share together, and how much I've loved seeing those little babies grow up to be faithful preschoolers who feel so at home at Grace.

Thank you for making me and my family feel so at home at Grace as well.

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Church Council Meeting Minutes

December 14th, 2022

Members Present: Pres. Joyce Peterson, Treas. Nancy Deppe, Brad Trettin, Scott Katzenmeyer, Gary Alsleben, Pastor Angela, Mary Bullert

Meeting called to order by Pres. Joyce Peterson, Pastor Angela led devotion, shared a short video "every man is a cemetery".

Secretary Report: no issues or changes, Motion and second to approve notes, Gary/Scott

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report for November was presented and reviewed. Balance as of November 30th 2022, for the general fund savings and checking was \$26,322.18. Total income for November was \$13,548.86. Total expenses for November were \$8,959.86. There was a motion and second to approve treasurer's report. Brad/Mary.

Correspondence: Letter from Marco, Green Lake Bible camp annual report

Pastor's report: Angela shared the news of her resignation, effective January 15th (last day)

Old Business:

Speakers fixed; cost was \$100 more than estimate.

New Business:

1. Envelopes cost \$216 per year to print
2. Need all furnaces checked in the church, it's been several years. (4 units to check)
3. Copier needs checking, contract is close to renewal
4. Sunday School bags need to be put together. Help requested to fill bags.
5. January 1st. Need help with food for after service.

Meeting closed by motions from Gary/Scott

Next Meeting: January 11th, 6:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Brad Trettin

Pastor's Message (continued from Page 1)

I remember many years ago, in 2011, when I had just gotten married to Ben and moved to Las Vegas to begin my pastoral internship. My first-ever sermon there was to be preached only to the Sunday evening service, which featured the Honky Tonk Angels, a country-western Gospel band made up of musicians who had performed in many casinos and stages on the Las Vegas Strip.

The topic of my sermon was to be Grace. And up to that point, it had been a word we said a lot in church but too rarely defined. We said "grace" before meals, though I learned that the regular Lutheran table blessing often varied based on where and in what congregation you had grown up.

Eleven years later, when I think about Grace - I will think too about you. Simply defined, Grace is unmerited blessing. It is a gift you receive without paying for it or earning it. In practice, Grace is assuming the best about another person, and accepting them as they are.

I think in the past three years, God gave all of us so many chances to practice Grace together. Grace in the face of a global pandemic, political polarization, and personal grief, loss, injury, and emergency within our own congregation and community. Through it all, and underneath it all, I believe God enabled you and me to meet one another with Grace.

Because of that Grace, we did great work as a congregation. We continued to grow and see great worship attendance even in a time when many churches struggled to get people to come back to church. Our kids programs and music continued to flourish under the leadership and direction of Terri and Vicki. Whenever we experienced abundance, we worked to give back: to churches in Kentucky, to social services programs in McLeod County, and all the way to our brothers and sisters in the Lutheran Church in Ethiopia. Grace has done great things!

I will miss you all dearly, even as I pray for Grace's future and for the pastoral leadership I know God is at work preparing right now. I know the Spirit will find ways for the Grace we've nurtured in one another to continue.

In Jesus' love,
Pastor Angela

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45am Worship/Communion	2	3	4 2:30pm Bible Study 4pm Confirmation	5	6	7
8 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School	9	10	11 2:30pm Bible Study 4pm Confirmation 6:30pm Council Meeting	12	13	14
16 Pastor Angela's Last Day at Grace 8:45am Worship w/Communion 10am Sunday School 11am Potluck	16	17	18 2:30pm Bible Study 4pm Confirmation	19	20	21
22 Annual Meeting 8:45am Worship 9:45am Annual Meeting 10am Sunday School Project	23	24	25 2:30pm Bible Study 4pm Confirmation *Deadline for the February Newsletter	26	27	28
29 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School	30	31				