

Grace Notes

Volume 73, Number 11

November 2021



**The Lord has done
great things for us,
and we rejoiced.**

Psalm 126:3

The Pastor's Pen



Pastor Shane Koepke
Lead Pastor
pastorshane@gracealbertlea.org

Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." Luke 17.17-19

Jesus healed 10 people who were outcast from their towns. They were lepers. They had contagious skin diseases that we can now treat and know that aren't contagious. Everything from Psoriasis to actual leprosy. But in Jesus time their understanding was that anything different must be bad and so these men were outcast.

But in their outcast status they have banded together to create a new community. They rely on one another for everything for successful living. They find shelter together, food together, they beg for scraps as a team. And here they are being healed together. The difference is that their in their healing they have become what they longed for: part of the old community. Being healed meant that they could

go home, they could get jobs, be a part of the family again. It's relatable for sure, and for the most part, no one can blame them for doing what Jesus told them to do, which was to go and show themselves to the town and prove that they are clean.

It's the one that returns, however, that is the emphasis of the story. This one, who doesn't belong to a religious community in the same way as Jesus, has no where else to go, and so he returns to Jesus to thank him. And in doing so we hear that part of the expectation of Jesus is to see him as God-with-us, and that his authority is something to pay attention to in this world.

Jesus finds favor in the foreigner, the outcast of the outcasts. AH! There is the real connecting point. Jesus works time and time again to include those the world rejects. And in this case, it's an outcast with disease and an outcast from his society. These, too, belong in the kingdom of God.

This November, as we stop to give thanks, listen to Jesus, pay attention to the outcast, the ones you think don't belong. Take a second look and you will see that Jesus is at work in their lives too! And for that we can say: Thanks be to God!

GRACE CHARTER MEMBERS 2021

From Left to right:
Robert Jacobson, Elaine (Rusley) Long, Pendra (Rusley) Nelsen, Bev (Johnson) Evans, Mary Gilbertson, LuVerne Godtland.

Back row are Pastor Dean Smith, Bishop Hassanally, Pastor Shane Koepke.



The Associate Pastor's Corner



Pastor Dean Smith
Associate Interim Pastor
pastordean@gracealbertlea.org

Giving Thanks for New Ways to Share Old Truths!

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe;" – Hebrews 12:28

Last month, we celebrated (and, this month, we continue to celebrate) 75 years of Grace Lutheran Church. What an amazing testimony to the ministry of Christ's church in this community! It's fun to look at pictures from those early years and compare them to what people remember through the years. Some things look the same. Other things look quite different. BUT...God's Kingdom cannot be shaken. Programs come and go, but the grace and love of Christ remain. We just find new ways of presenting those gifts with each generation. That is the joy and the challenge of being the church: we share eternal truths in constantly changing times. Here is a glimpse of some of the "New Old" ministries that are ongoing at Grace.

Faith Explorations is right after worship every first and third Sunday of the month. Instead of a traditional, grade-separated Sunday School, Grace offers a family-based time for faith conversation and reminders of Jesus's promises to us all—no matter how old or young we are. Families of all kinds are invited to come and grow! It has been such a gift to see and hear families having faith-based conversations!

Confirmation conversations occur every Wednesday evening for our 7th and 8th grade students. So far, this fall, we've been reflecting on the Apostles Creed—what it means, what we question, where it shows up in the Bible, how we're all heretics. (Actually, not that last one. I was just checking to

see how closely you were reading.) Our focus has been on how we are uniquely made to ask questions of our faith and then to claim our beliefs with boldness and certainty. The rest of the year will include time to reflect on what it means to use the gifts to answer the prayer "thy Kingdom come." Exciting stuff! I'm so thankful for the creative young people who have been so enthusiastic about thinking through their faith!

This past month, we celebrated the culmination of 3 highly unusual years of Confirmation instruction with our 9th graders. They have shown high levels of perseverance, grit, and commitment, and I am thankful for them. This fall, we met every Wednesday night to do a modified version of Peer Ministry Training which has given them some tools to live their baptismal promises in everyday circumstances. We are all about equipping young people to be ministers wherever they are! They are a thoughtful, insightful group of young people, and I appreciate them a great deal.

Those are just some of the exciting ministries that have been happening this fall. In the coming months, you'll hear more about a mid-winter retreat for our 7th and 8th graders, a summer service trip opportunity, and some other opportunities for growth in faith. What an amazing gift to explore God's unshakeable Kingdom in new ways! Thanks be to God!

PASTORAL ACTS FOR OCTOBER

BAPTISM

Lucy Hatland
(Daughter of Matthew & Jessica Hatland)

FUNERALS

Arlyne Newgard
Ross Moyer
Jim Zabel
Myron Hoffman

Musings



Deacon Robert Tewes,
Director of Worship and Music
music@gracealbertlea.org

O give thanks unto the Lord, for
God is good,

And God's mercy endures forever.

While growing up, our family would pray this prayer
together after every meal.

It became a very familiar ritual. When all had finished
eating, before we were allowed to leave the table, we
would pause and pray this prayer of thanksgiving. We
even did it when we were eating out at a restaurant.

Looking back on that routine I am reminded of the
value engaging in faith activities as a family are.

The daily repetition of this prayer made it a very
normal practice. And, with adult eyes and ears, I
am reminded of how we were offering thanks to
God for providing the daily meal for us, and
acknowledging, out loud, that God shows us mercy.

As you celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday this year,
may you be reminded of all the blessings that God
has provided for you this year. As we reflect on the
month-long celebration of our 75th Anniversary as a
church family, may we remember the countless
ways God has showed mercy—Grace—to this
community over the years. And above all, may you
remember to thank God for being so good to us.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Deacon Robert Tewes



*All Saints'
Sunday*

November 7, 2021

Funerals

Shannon Wadding
Maurine McGill
Robert Miller
Carolyn Schmitz
Gloria Ugland
Patricia Linnes
Robert Moreau
Cheryl Page
Marvin Gulbrandson
John Schreiber
James Madson
Thelma Zajicek

Dorothy Schoonover
Lucille Gripenrog
Kathy Diaz
Wanda Hoiseth
Marjorie Dann
Orvis Rake
Solveig Peterson
Irene Johnson
Arlyne Newgard
Edwin Zabel
Ross Moyer
Myron Hoffman

Baptisms

Jade Sisouanh
Eliana Lopez
Garrison Nelson
Danica Whelan

Holden Whelan
Kale Prouty
Liv Prouty
Lucy Hatland

Grace Children, Youth and Family Ministry



Ashley Kuhlman,
Youth Director
youth@gracealbertlea.org
1-651-280-9502

October has been a busy month for us – high schoolers attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in 2022 have started their first fundraiser, our 9th graders have been preparing for their Affirmation of Baptism on **October 30th**, and we have also been preparing for our community wide Trunk or Treat event with other churches in Albert Lea. Thank you to everyone that participated and donated candy for our Trunk or Treat Event!

On **October 31st** we have fifteen 9th graders who will be affirming their baptism at the Confirmation Worship. Congratulations to these young people and God bless them as they take such a large step in their Faith Journey!

Upcoming Events Schedule

(schedule is subject to change):

Wednesdays: Chew n Chat & Confirmation

Nov 7: Faith Explorations;
Youth Service Project

Nov 14: Heggie Pizza Pick Up,
Youth Gathering Meeting

Nov 21: Faith Exploration

Nov 24: No Chew n Chat or Confirmation

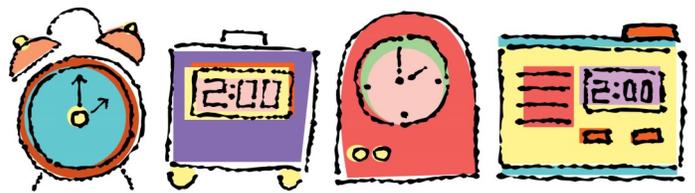
Faith Explorations: People of all ages are welcome to join other families for Faith Exploration! This is an interactive time of learning for families of faith. Following worship on the **1st and 3rd Sundays** of the month, families (of all shapes and sizes) are invited to the Fellowship Hall for scripture, conversation, crafts, prayer, and fun!

Youth Service Event: On **November 7th** from 7:00 – 8:00 pm those in 7th – 12th grade are invited to help with making Care Packages for our Young Adults! We will gather for a devotion, then create the packages this evening. We will meet in Fellowship Hall.

College & Young Adults Information: We are collecting addresses and updates on our young adults in our congregation! We will be sending letters and care packages to our young adults who are in college or who graduated high school recently. Please e-mail or text Ashley these addresses by **November 3rd**.

Care Packages Donations: We are looking for donations to send to our college & young adults in our congregation! This could be some candy, food, a note, gift cards, something that is Albert Lea related, etc. If you would like to donate anything, please drop that off in the office by **November 5th**.

Family Worship Assistants: The last few years we have had different families help with our Christmas Eve & Day services. Families can be who you live with, your loved ones or even a good group of friends – whatever you consider family. Families are invited to assist with different elements of worship. This year we are looking for families to help with leading Sunday morning worship at 9:00 am during Advent (Nov 28, Dec 5, Dec 12 & Dec 19) and with Christmas Services (times tbd). If you're already planning on attending worship one of those Sundays, consider helping! You can sign up in the narthex or talk to Ashley for more information.



DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME ENDS

NOVEMBER 7, 2021

Parish Nurse Notes



Lori Tuchtenhagen,
Parish Nurse
parishnurse@gracealbertlea.org

Dear Friends of Grace Lutheran,

November is National Alzheimer's Disease Month. Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia in older people. Dementia is a medical condition that disrupts the way the brain works. It affects the parts of the brain that control thought, memory, and language. The disease usually begins after age 65 and the risk of Alzheimer's disease goes up with age. Alzheimer's disease begins slowly. At first, the only symptom may be mild forgetfulness. People with Alzheimer's may have trouble remembering recent events, activities, or names of familiar people or things. Simple math problems may become hard for these people to solve. As the disease progresses, people with Alzheimer's may forget how to do simple tasks like brushing their teeth or combing their hair. They can no longer think clearly, and begin to have problems speaking, understanding, reading, or writing. Later, people with this disease may become anxious, aggressive, or wander away from home. Eventually, patients may need total care. The course of the disease varies from person to person, some people may have

the disease only 5 years, while others may have it for as many as 20 years. No treatment can stop the disease, but there are medications that are used to slow the progression.

November is also National Caregivers Month! Caregivers are often forgotten and neglected yet their responsibilities remain heavy and require much time and resources. When caring for another becomes a significant part of how you spend your days, caring for yourself becomes equally important. Begin by becoming aware of your personal needs, just as you are aware of the needs of the one you're caring for. Find ways to get rest daily by setting aside time each day just for yourself. Open yourself to the healing influences all around you - prayer, meditation, nature, art, music etc. Allow yourself opportunities for fun.

Remember: only by caring for yourself can you adequately care for another.

Psalm 71:20-21

Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again; from the depths of the earth and you will again bring me up. You will increase my honor and comfort me once again.

May God Bless and Keep you,
Lori Tuchtenhagen, Parish Nurse.



FOOD FOR BACKPACK UPDATE

This past year has been a year like no other. Now that schools are back to in person learning, full time, the number of food insecure students receiving weekend food packets has increased. We support Hawthorne Elementary. Together with Zion Lutheran, we are serving 127 students. The total number of students served K-7 is 492. Costs for food packets have increased as have shipping costs.

During the seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas please consider a donation to this much needed program. Any amount is very much appreciated and know that 100% of all donations goes for the purchase of backpack food packets. If you are interested in volunteering to help with deliveries, we are always looking for more helping hands.

Again, we are so grateful for your generosity supporting these students. Thank you, thank you!

Church Council Minutes

October 11, 2021, 6:30 pm

1. Call to Order and Roll

The meeting was called to order by President Tims at 6:28 pm.

2. Opening Devotion

McKibbin led the council with a reflection about fall as a metaphor for letting go of hurt or angry feelings.

3. Open Forum

Opportunity for visitors to address the Council. The Council's intent for this open forum is to provide a time of listening. Each person addressing the Council is asked to be respectful of others wishing also to address the council. Council reserves the right to manage the time allotted for this time of listening.

4. Approval of Today's Agenda

Motion by Drommerhausen and second by Vogt to approve the agenda for the meeting. The motion was approved.

5. Financial Report

Drommerhausen provided an overview of financial report. Income/giving was down in September which is not typical. The water bill is higher than expected, will check into that. Gifting policy on hold until next month. Motion by Palmer and second by Vogt to accept the financial report as submitted. The motion was approved.

6. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Drommerhausen and second by Schindler to accept the minutes of the September meeting. The motion was approved.

7. Reports

• Lead Pastor Report: Pastor Koepke

Pastor Shane has been working on gifting policy, has had four funerals in the

past month, but none at Grace. Families are choosing different settings such as the funeral home or the cemetery. He will be out of town MEA weekend. Kandy will be having surgery November and December so council members please keep your eyes open for a member that might be able to help in the office 3-4 days per week as this is the first choice before hiring from a temporary agency.

• Interim Associate Pastor Report: Pastor Dean

Confirmation is underway, 7th and 8th Grade format is large group opening and small group rotations. Two classes each of 7th grade and 8th grade (~35 total students). Weekly assignments for students, 10 service hours per student, no acolyte requirement. 9th Grade - Modified Peer Ministry curriculum, how to have compassionate conversations, Baptismal promises. Faith Explorations are on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, the first week had 5 families, second week had 2 families. Building momentum might take a while. 3rd Grader Bibles - Met with 2 families on 9/26 to talk about their new bibles. Also performed committal service for Irene Johnson. Assisted Ashley and Shane with reviewing Child Safety Policy. Upcoming - Confirmation Service on October 31 at 11:00AM, Confirmation Fair, Confirmands will be in the Fellowship Hall with their projects between services. Come and see! Confirmation parents will make the stoles for their kids this year and present them at a breakfast on October 30. Academics- First term ends this week. I'll have a week or so off before the second 7-week term begins.

Continued on page 8

Church Council Minutes

- **Deacon's Report and Technology:
Deacon Bob Tewes**

Absent from council due to involvement in ALHS Fall Choir Concert, provided written report: Kickoff of Fall Music Ministry going well. Ensembles starting to appear in worship services. Singing masks purchased for the adult choir using choir robe fund. Will be attending Fall Theological Conference in La Crosse in November. Will help lead worship at the Tuesday morning worship service at the event. Has enjoyed being involved in the 75th Anniversary services.

- **Commission & Committee Report
Highlights**

President Tims and Pastor Shane presented a handout clarifying the reorganization of commissions and Committees. Asked council members to sign up for a committee next month.

8. Old Business

- **Constitution** (Tabled)
- **75th Celebration: October 10, 2021**
- Discussion about how the events of the previous week went.

9. New/Other Business

- **Child Protection Policy**

Reviewed and discussed draft policy. Motion by McKibbin and second by Vogt to adopt the policy. The motion was approved

- **COVID: Mandatory vs Recommended Masks**

Pastor Shane asked the council for input to share with staff and covid committee members. Grace is the only church in town that requires masks, the other churches recommend it.

- **Other**

Grace's sign on Bridge Street was removed during road construction. Will have a new sign made and put up.

10. Prayer Intercessions

Pastor Shane entertained prayer requests and led the council in final prayers.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by President Tims.

Respectfully submitted, Laura McKibben
Grace Lutheran Church Council Secretary



CREATION CARE CORNER

Buy less, buy better quality, buy products made under good working conditions. These are *not* values that "fast fashion" follows.

According to a Reuters article last year, demand for clothing has doubled in the last 15 years, and cheap overseas production has led to mountains of additional landfill--about 12 million tons annually coming from just the US--made of sedimentary layers of barely worn clothing with little or no value on the secondhand market. Furthermore, the fashion industry is the 2nd largest user of water and is responsible for nearly 10% of global carbon emissions. It is a huge source of pollution. Despite the ease of buying far more clothing items than we could possibly need, we can consciously reduce our contribution to this stream of pollution. (And not let it fill up our closet either!). Make careful decisions about clothing and avoid impulse buys. Cheap clothes have a very high true cost.

"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these." Matthew 6:28-29

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 1:30p SAIL 5:15p Mary Circle 6:00p Hardanger Group 6:30p Altar Guild	2 10:00a Tuesday Morning Bible Study 10:30a Staff Meeting 3:30p Aging Mastery Workshop	3 9:00a Sewing Day 4:00p Missions Team 4:30p Cherub & Chancel Choirs 6:30p Bells of Praise 6:30p Confirmation 7:30p Adult Choir	4 7:00a Early Bible Study 1:30p SAIL 3:30p Aging Mastery Workshop	5 Office Closed	6
7 All Saints Sunday 9:00a Worship Service In person and online 10:05a Faith Exploration 7:00p Youth Service Opportunity Daylight Savings Time Ends Turn Your Clocks Back!	8 7:00a School District 241 Special Election 1:30p SAIL 6:00p Hardanger Group 6:00p Ministry Teams 6:30p Council Meeting	9 10:00a Tuesday Morning Bible Study	10 4:30p Cherub & Chancel Choirs 6:30p Bells of Praise 6:30p Confirmation 7:30p Adult Choir	11 7:00a Early Bible Study 1:30p SAIL	12 Office Closed	13
THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE						
14 Thankoffering 9:00a Worship Service In person and online 7:00p Youth Gathering 	15 Newsletter Deadline 1:30p SAIL 6:00p Hardanger Group 	16 10:00a Tuesday Morning Bible Study 10:30a Staff Meeting	17 9:00a Sewing Day 2:00p Grace Seniors 4:30p Cherub & Chancel Choirs 6:30p Bells of Praise 6:30p Confirmation 7:30p Adult Choir	18 7:00a Early Bible Study 1:30p SAIL	19 Office Closed	20
21 Christ The King Sunday 9:00a Worship Service In person and online 10:05a Faith Exploration 	22 1:30p SAIL 6:00p Hardanger Group	23 9:30a Lois Circle 10:00a Tuesday Morning Bible Study 10:30a Staff Meeting	24 Thanksgiving Eve 9:15a NO Marth Circle 5:30p Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service	25 Thanksgiving Day Building & Office Closed 	26 Building & Office Closed 10:00a Grace Notes Mail Prep for Mailing	27 9:00a Advent/Christmas Decorating of the Church 
28 1st Sunday of Advent 9:00a Worship Service In person and online	29 1:30p SAIL 6:00p Hardanger Group	30 10:00a Tuesday Morning Bible Study 10:30a Staff Meeting				

Grace Prays

Prayers of Healing

Jackson Schrock

(Grandson of Vince & Corrine Tims)

David McKibbin

(Brother of Laura McKibbin)

Chuck Van Wey

Dick Haug

Kayla Citsay

(Daughter of Renee Citsay)

Elinor Stotts

Bill Groskurth

SýDontay Williams

(Grandson of Cheri Wehrenberg)

Pat Johnson

Mary Lou Jacobson

Gwen Baas

Prayers for those Grieving

Family and friends of **Myron Hoffman**

Family and friends of **Ross Moyer**

Family and friends of **Jim Zabel**

Prayers of Joy

Baptism of **Lucy Hatland**

(daughter of Matthew & Jessica Hatland)

Martin Luther and the Reformation

Affirmation of Baptism

Mason Attig Benjamin Schulz

Mavrick Attig Samuel Stay

Liam Ball Liley Steven

Mika Cichosz Carter Tappe

Brendan Earl Andrew Westeng

Reece Jeffrey Danica Whelan

Bryant Johnston Tyler Youlden

Brecken Koepke

If you know anyone needing prayers of our congregation, please let us know so we can include them on our list. Requests for the Prayer Chain can be arranged by calling the church office.

November

(The list below is to remind us to pray for our Grace family members on the following dates.)

1. Nicole Oakland, Justice, Katelyn, Liley
2. Lorelei Stevens, Isaiah
3. Jesse & Tara Stirling, Nora, Nolan
4. Elinor Stotts
5. Mark & Andrea Stotts
6. Rex & Lois Stotts
7. Tony & Tina Strom, Joci, Hailey, Logan
8. Troy & Gabrielle Studier, Cashton, Ledger, Kinley
9. Daryl & Judith Swee
10. Jennifer Swenson, Laynee
11. Robert & Tiffany Syverson, Adam, Alex, Marty
12. Marissa Talamantes, Jaeger, Jaxon, Jarek
13. Tim & Angela Tappe, Dakota, Carter
14. Marlene Tasker
15. Shelby Tetzloff, Shelby, Aurora
16. Robert & Patty Tewes, Camille, Emma
17. Greg Thomas, Grace
18. Cole & Nicole Thompson, Norah
19. Gary & Sandra Thompson
20. Judean & Carol Thompson
21. Steve & Julie Thompson, Griffin, Malana
22. Renee Thorson, Ace
23. Helen Thorstad
24. Larry & Lanae Thorstad
25. Truman & Barbara Thron
26. Vincent & Corrine Tims
27. Paul & Julie Tlamka
28. Jameson & Amanda Toft
29. Robert Toft
30. Randy & Lori Tuchtenhagen



NOVEMBER

Caring and Sharing

- Sue & Bill Barber
- Mary Beese
- Marlene & Gary Bergeson
- LaJean & Roger Bjorklund
- Jessica & Nick Bremer
- Jane & Bill Buege
- Mary Carlson
- Adrienne Clark
- Jan & John Delle
- Dolores Gavle
- Natasha Grove
- Judy Hall
- Tammy Hamberg
- Joyce & Ross Hansen
- Penny & Larry Harmdierk
- Mildred Jensen
- Riki & Matt Johnson
- Angie & Alex Johnston
- Ann & Todd Kriewall
- Joyce & Raymond Langerud
- Kimberly & David Moen
- Stacie & Philip Neal
- LeAnn Olson
- Doreen Pontow
- Sally Pratt
- Lisa & Shawn Pihoda
- Vonda & Dick Rocklin
- Diane & Lester Shaunce
- Patty & Robert Tewes
- Kelley & Nick Turnmire
- Jessica Waters

STUDY OPPORTUNITIES for Adults at Grace

We invite you to join any of our regular Bible study groups at Grace Lutheran.

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible 10:00-11:00 am *(In person)*

This study for women offers fellowship and great discussion.

Thursday Morning Bible Study 7:00-8:00 am *(In person)*

Consider joining this group where there is an opportunity for good discussion and good fellowship.

Grace WELCA Women's Circles

Mary Circle (Meets 1st Monday, 6:30 pm)

Lois Circle (Meets 4th Tuesday, 9:30 am)

Martha Circle (Meets 4th Wednesday, 9:00 am)

New members are always welcome! Call the church office, 373-6496, for more information.



FIRESIDE ROOM CHRISTMAS DECORATING

COME JOIN US for a Potluck Supper, WELCA meeting (very short) and Christmas decorating of the Fireside Room on **December 2**. Festivities will begin at 5:30 pm with an enjoyable potluck dinner prepared by each of you as the attendees, a short meeting will be held to decide on our gift giving for the Christmas Season, and election of officers. So bring your favorite dish to pass and creative energies to help make the Fireside Room "glow" for the Christmas Season. Please contact Jane Smith, 715-347-4036 for questions or if you'd like to be an officer. All offices are open, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Gifts of Love

BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAMS

In Memory Of:

DeWalden Bendtsen (brother-in-law) given by Barbara Tullberg

Dennis Sellner given by Ross & Joyce Hansen

Larry Fredrickson (brother) given by Robert & Marion Bergeman

Meredith Fredrickson (brother) given by Robert & Marion Bergeman

Virginia Barber (Bill Barber's mother) given by Larry & Lanee Thorstad

Gifts Given By:

Dale & Dorothy Baldwin, Martha Circle, Albert Lea Lions Club, Albert Lea Public Education Foundation Inc., Crossroads Church, Carroll & Mavis Hanson

BATHROOM RENOVATION/BOILER/BUILDING/ROOF/FURNACE FUND

In Memory Of:

Ross Moyer given by Barbara Tullberg

Julie Jaspersen given by Kent Jaspersen

Solveig Peterson given by The Peterson Family

Gifts Given By:

Roger Johnson, Carroll & Mavis Hanson

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Gift Given By:

Carroll & Mavis Hanson

DON GROSS SCHOLARSHIP

In Memory Of:

Julie Jaspersen given by Kent Jaspersen

FOOD SHELF

In memory of:

Lucy Squires given by Ross & Shelly Peterson

Gifts Given By:

Carroll & Mavis Hanson, Dale & Dorothy Baldwin

GODTLAND SCHOLARSHIP

In Memory Of:

Jerry Johnson given by Karen & Darrel Wolff

LOVE OFFERING

In honor of:

Grace Lutheran Church's 75th Anniversary given by Gerhard & Irmi Kleih, Ernest & Gretchen Tweet

In memory of:

Solveig Peterson given by Dell & June Claussen

Cecilia Winjum given by Dell & June Claussen

Gift Given By:

LaVerne Seberson

MARTIN LUTHER FUND

In Memory Of:

Edwin Zabel given by Dorothy & Dale Baldwin

Mel Stoa given by Hazel Spiering

Gift Given By:

Larry & Sandra Petersen

MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory Of:

Solveig Peterson given by Bernice Moreau

MUSIC MINISTRY

In Memory Of:

Ilo Long given by Jeff & Carol Olson

PARISH NURSE FUND

Gifts Given By:

Irene Johnson, Glen & Carolyn Klaver

PRAYER GARDEN

In Memory Of:

Majorie Dann given by Mikal & Kimberly Gooden, Dennis Bergstrom, Family & Friends

Julie Jaspersen given by Kent Jaspersen

Glen Hagen given by the Jaspersen Family

Donald Clayton given by Lester Perschbacher

Grandma Gladys Gulbrandson's Birthday given by Eric Gulbrandson & Michelle Thompson

Son, Lenny Hultgren's October 22 Birthday given by Delores Nasby

Evie Read (mother of Sarah Stay) given by Dexter & Janet Henschel

YOUTH MINISTRY/NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

In memory of:

Karen Gimberline given by Bill & Sue Barber

Virginia Barber (Bill Barber's mother) given by Dale & Dorothy Baldwin, Terry & Carolyn Gilbertson, Mick & Becky Hanson, Bob & Muriel Hoeg



PLEASE NOTE that any additional "Gifts of Love" recorded by the church office after October 24, 2021 will appear in the next issue. If you have given a gift and your name has not been recorded, please call the church office so the correction can be made. Thank you.

Grace Meetings and Activities

WELCA

WELCA is an organization of ALL women of Grace – not just the retired, we need everyone's help to keep the organization vital. There will be a Christmas Potluck to be held **December 2**, at 5:30 pm to vote on Christmas donations, election of officers and enjoy each other's company to bring the joy of Christmas to the Fireside Room with beautiful Christmas decorations.

Election of officers will consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you are interested in any of these positions please contact Jane Smith, 715-437-4036.

Prepare your favorite snack, dessert or main course and join us for an evening of fellowship.

GRACE SENIORS

The next meeting of Grace Seniors is Wednesday **November 17th** at 2:00 PM in the Fireside Room. Rescheduled from September, will be Milt Ost speaking on his third book "TUMBLEWEEDS REMEMBERED", which shares the life and service of the fifth-generation of the Oster family, Pastor Ed and his wife, Denise, as they weave their footprints across five continents and return to their loved ones in Bergen, Minnesota. The book will be for sale and Milt will sign copies. Grace Seniors is coordinated by Gary and Jeanne Schindler. Contact them to suggest speakers.

EFFA IS BACK FOR ADVENT!

The Enough Food For All effort will be a 'reverse Advent Calendar'. Instead of opening a gift or eating a piece of chocolate to mark the days of Advent that lead up to Christmas, put aside one food item of your choice into a box that you will bring to the church at Christmas time. The food will be delivered to the food shelves to be shared with those in need in our community. Thank you in advance for being God's hands and feet by sharing what you have been given with others.

2021 ELCA THANK OFFERING

Thankofferings are a long-standing custom among Lutheran women. We give in thanksgiving for blessings received—and we do receive so many blessings, don't we? And we are so grateful. That's why we give Thankofferings.

Your generous Thankofferings help support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization, communications ministries, justice and advocacy work, and so much more. It's been shown time and again that gratitude is good for us – spiritually, mentally, and even physically. Making a Thankoffering is gratitude in action. Women of the ELCA are grateful to you for taking that action. Thank you.



Envelopes will be available at service on November 14th. Your donation maybe brought to service on November 21st and placed in the collection baskets during service or you may send you generous donation to the Church Office at any time before December 1. Please designate that the donation is for the Thank Offering.





QUARTERS FOR WORLD HUNGER

More than 800 million people in our world today are undernourished. As Christians, we are called to respond. ELCA World Hunger works with our neighbors in the United States and in more than 60 countries around the world to help break the cycle of hunger and poverty. They help provide everything from water wells to health clinics! Please consider a special gift to ELCA World Hunger today. Thank you!



NO FAIR TRADE COFFEE
Until further notice



Remember your coins for Sunday's Noisy Offering!

Shane Koepke
Lead Pastor

pastorshane@gracealbertlea.org

Dean Smith
Associate

Interim Pastor

pastordean@gracealbertlea.org

Office Hours

9:00 am—5:00 pm

Monday—Friday

507-373-6496

Worship Services

Sunday Worship

9:00 am in person and online

Faith Explorations

following worship on the

1st and 3rd Sunday's of each month.

Family-based, ALL are welcome.

GRACE NOTES

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Albert Lea, MN 56007

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GENEROSITY AT GRACE



Thanks for your attendance In Person or Online as we continue to be the church apart and together.

The Finance Ministry Team and Church Council appreciate your generous support. Your faithful Stewardship is essential for us to continue to support our ministries at Grace Lutheran.

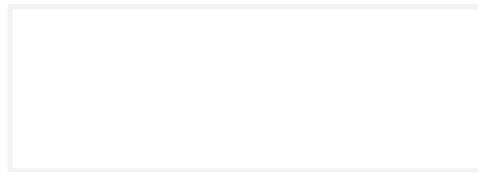


Grace Lutheran Church
918 Garfield Avenue
Albert Lea, MN 56007

Telephone: 507-373-6496
Email: office@gracealbertlea.org

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Worship Service Schedule

Sunday Worship Service at 9:00

*Wednesday, November 24th,
Thanksgiving Eve Worship at 5:30*

Join your Grace family each week in worship, study and fellowship!