

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 1st

ALTAR GUILD is meeting on **Monday, May 2nd** at 6:30 pm in the Conference Room.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: Grace Lutheran will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on **Tuesday, May 10th** from 12:00 to 6:00 pm. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Grace AL to schedule an appointment.

BACCALAUREATE: Please mark **May 15th** to celebrate our high school seniors. We will celebrate Baccalaureate during 9:00 am worship and have refreshments to follow in the Chapel.

GRACE SENIORS: The last Grace Seniors for this Spring will be "Stories of Love and Faith from Mayberry". Come join Gary Schindler as we have a Bible Study around the episode "Barney Fife - Realtor" from the Andy Griffith Show. We will explore issues of honesty and integrity. Grace Seniors meets in the Fireside Room **Wednesday, May 18th** at 2:00 pm. Coffee fellowship will follow the study.

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING – FUNDRAISER FOR UKRAINE: A community garage sale is being planned to benefit the people of Ukraine. Please gather your garage sale items (household goods tools, sporting goods, clothing in good condition, toys in good condition) and donate them to our community wide sale. It will be held on **Saturday, May 21st** at Grace Lutheran Church parking lot (918 Garfield Ave.). You can drop off your items that morning between 7:00 am and 9:00 am. The sale will begin at 9:00 am and run until 4:00 pm. No items will be priced. All offers will be accepted. We are asking that people consider all their purchases as a donation to help the people of Ukraine. We hope to raise a significant amount of money with every penny raised going to Doctors Without Borders – Ukraine and to Catholic Relief Services – Ukraine. We need items to sell, and we need shoppers to buy and contribute. Please consider adding to this effort by donating items to be sold and by purchasing items. Please spread the word about this community effort so that we can help our neighbors in Ukraine. Items that **will not be accepted:** electronics (such as TVs, computers, printers, etc.), mattresses, cribs, car seats. Thanks for your assistance in making this a successful event.

QUILTING GROUP: The Quilting Group meets on the 1st and 3rd of each month at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. New members are welcome.

GENEROSITY AT GRACE



Thanks for your attendance In Person or Live Streaming 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.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GOD'S SERVICE AT GRACE WITH THE ALTAR GUILD TEAM: Throughout the history of the Christian Church, there have always been those who have attended to making sure the place of worship is maintained and set up for the times and seasons of the church year. Here is your opportunity to be part of the Altar Guild. No experience necessary, only a willingness to be part of a team who prepares for Grace's worship services. Flexible scheduling. Partnered with an experienced team member. Weekly prep (done 1-2 days prior to next worship service) includes basic housekeeping tasks and as necessary ready candles, paraments and linens. On the worship service day, communion prep and follow-up are completed. For more detailed information, please contact Jane Madson at 507-377-3547 or the church office.

UKRAINE RESPONSE: UPDATE: As we proclaim the good news of Jesus this Easter season, we give thanks for the many ways that Grace is sharing the hope of Jesus. As war continues to rage in Ukraine — and the ripple effects are felt around the globe — we all need glimpses of that hope. Because of your love, **Lutheran World Relief has committed \$7 million to respond to the crisis in Ukraine**, and we expect to increase this amount as we receive additional support. With millions of individuals displaced in Ukraine and tens of thousands continuing to flee Ukraine each day, the needs grow daily.

- **In Ukraine, we are supporting health facilities** by providing supplies such as surgical and wound care kits, IV kits, defibrillators, and stretchers.
- **We are also providing ongoing support to six centers in Ukraine** that are being used to shelter internally displaced persons. Your love will provide nearly 60,000 nights of shelter for people who need a place to stay.
- **In Poland, we are distributing emergency cash and vouchers to more than 1,300 refugee families** for the next three months. We're also integrating a referral system at these sites to protect women and children from sexual exploitation and abuse.
- None of this would be possible without Grace's generous care and support.

Thank you for all the ways you are caring for God's people.

POSTAL CARRIER FOOD DRIVE: After not having a food drive for several years, the local Postal Carriers have a drive planned for Saturday, May 14, 2022. In the past their food drive generated many pounds of food to be divided between the Salvation Army and Ecumenical Food Pantry. Many, many volunteers will be needed that day—some at the Post Office to weigh and separate food, a driver to transport food items to First Presbyterian Church, and many volunteers to unload and sort items. Volunteers will be needed starting mid-morning on May 14th. For questions or to sign up to help you may call Orv and Dorothy Simonsen at 507-373-8351. We hope to hear from you.

IT'S TIME TO SWITCHOVER TO VANCO MOBILE! It's that time. Time to switchover from GivePlus Mobile to our Vanco Mobile app. GivePlus Mobile will be turned off on April 30th. You may be wondering, "what steps do I need to take after GivePlus Mobile has been shut off?" The answer is simple, nothing! Vanco will turn off your church within GivePlus Mobile. This means any funds you had activated within GivePlus Mobile will still be in the Service Center but will no longer be visible in the app.