



# GRACE GLEANINGS

## Grace Lutheran Newsletter

202 2nd St SE ~ Watertown, SD 57201

Phone: (605) 886-5737 ~ E-mail: [gracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:gracelc@midconetwork.com)

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m Monday—Thursday

Website: [www.glcwtn.org](http://www.glcwtn.org)

~ Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, Pastor ~

Email: [cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com) Cell: 605-237-1501

*December 2022*

## Annual Community Christmas Lunch Christmas Day

This year, for the first time since the COVID 19 pandemic, the Christmas meal will once again be served inside at Grace Lutheran. The meal moved up over the noon hour during the pandemic and will be served at noon on Christmas Day. This makes it much easier for drivers to make deliveries and for those who come out to serve the meal.

There will also be deliveries for those who are not able to drive beginning at 11 am. To sign up for delivery, phone 605-303-4103, not the church. You can also text that number or leave a voicemail BUT be sure your full name, phone number, number of meals and complete address with the color of your house to easily find it is given.

Volunteers are needed for cooking, drivers to give rides and deliver meals, to serve the food, and clean

up afterwards. Those who start cooking early in the morning appreciate fresh help to clean up after the hours of getting the meals out.

If you are unable to help with these activities, you can donate to the Christmas dinner as supplies are needed. A separate list for sign up is on page 12 of this newsletter.

This is a wonderful Christmas tradition put on by Grace Lutheran each year and a special service to those who are alone at Christmas, have no family, or can no longer cook a traditional meal. It truly shows how grace is experienced here daily through the Mission and Ministry of Grace Lutheran.

Worship service is at 10 am and deliveries begin at 11 am. Sit down begins at 12. Please consider giving this gift of your time to this very important work.

### **In Mission together:** *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations - Matthew 28:19*

The Missions Team has designed as the **MISSION OF THE MONTH IS~ Grace Lutheran Christmas Dinner**  
Please consider giving generously of your time and resources.

## We Thank God for Our Volunteers!



Some members of the Youth Group at Grace Lutheran were on hand to assist with serving at Nordefest Plus in October and the Craft/Vendor Fair in November.

Pictured at left is Aspen Brown and right is Kaydence DeHaan. We are so thankful for all our volunteers and especially our youth. We LOVE to see you at these events and hope to see you for many more years to come.

Youth Group meets every Wednesday night at 7:30 in the Youth Room. All youth from 7th through 12th are welcome to come and join the fun and fellowship with their Youth Director Becky Sprouse.



## “God's Gift to Us” is Theme of Children's Christmas Program

The children from Wednesday and Sunday school will hold their Christmas program on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. Children will practice on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 am for one hour to prepare for the program. All are welcome to attend this special worship service as the children tell the story of “God's Gift to Us.”



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I write this, it is “National Giving Tuesday,” the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Until a few years ago you probably had not heard of it as it first began in 2012 with the rise of the hashtag (#), a symbol used in social media to group topics and categorize messages.

Giving Tuesday comes right after Black Friday and Cyber Monday, to urge shoppers to consider donating to charity and nonprofits as a way for people to give back. The concept has grown over the years, as you see many organizations asking you to remember them on Giving Tuesday with a donation.

This year I put it on the church calendar. I’m not sure if there will be a response or not but giving is very important to the church and especially here at Grace Lutheran. But it’s not new. God has always asked us to trust in Him and share what we have been blessed with.

He challenges us and gives a promise in Malachi 3:10 saying: *“<sup>1</sup>Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.”*

Proverbs 18 tells us that when we let go of our faith in money, we draw closer to God as we trust in Him, *“<sup>16</sup>A gift opens doors; it gives access to the great.”*

The story of Job describes how trusting in God above all material things provides a return in multitude as Jesus tells you in Luke 6: 38, *“give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”*

Giving Tuesday has become a great marketing tool. For some it catches you when you are in a festive spirit of giving where one more dollar will not really be noticed. For other organizations, it touches your sense of guilt where you feel you need to make up for not giving during the year. In reality, it is a way to remind people to focus on a need by a charity or non-profit by touching on an emotion.

Giving is something God has commanded His people to do since creation as found throughout scriptures. Jesus taught the importance of sharing and giving in several gospel lessons.

The fact is, it has and will become more important for Grace in the future as the trends clearly point to, according to Sam Rainier III writing on the “5 Giving Trends in Today’s Church,” for *Visionroom: Clearly Thinking Ahead* at [www.visionroom.com](http://www.visionroom.com).

1. Millennials will have less giving potential than their parents.
2. Giving will be more concentrated at the largest churches.
3. Independent funding mechanisms will increase in popularity. (the ability to connect globally with great charities)
4. Giving patterns in churches are becoming less consistent.
5. Digital giving is the future.

And according to Jason Firth of *NP Source* at <https://nonprofitsource.com/online-giving-statistics/church-giving/>, an organization to educate nonprofits on how to improve their digital marketing effectively with the communities they serve:

- 49% of all church giving transactions are made with a card.
- Tithers make up only 10-25% of a normal congregation.
- Churches that accept tithing online increase overall donations by 32%
- Only 3-5% of Americans who give to their local church do so through regular tithing.
- Crowdfunding campaigns get 126% more donations when owners update supporters
- Campaigns that are shared fewer than 2 times have a 97% chance of failure.
- Over half of people who receive an email about a crowdfunding campaign made a donation.

With these statistics in mind, you can understand giving is a big deal, especially for the future of Grace Lutheran. In November, the proposed budget for 2023 was considered and as the council goes forward, revisions are being made with estimates for the New Year which will be voted on at the January annual meeting.

As you read this, “Giving Tuesday” will have passed, but the need remains for your support of the church in many ways. To volunteer to serve as fund raisers during the year, providing time to serve in maintaining the church, worship, or work of the mission and ministry of Grace, and/or to give generously to provide needed funds to meet the budget.

The Apostle Paul writes to the Corinthians the importance of giving comes from the heart saying, *“<sup>7</sup>Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.”* (2Co 9)

We don’t have to have a hashtag day to remember “God so loved the world that He gave.” He gave so much, everything you see when you look around you. Every talent and ability you have to achieve what you have. Everything... including the one thing we most need, His Son as our Savior.

Hebrews 13 tells us, *“<sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”*

Today, not just Giving Tuesday, is a good day to remember, God is a giver. And wants us to be as well.

*Gratefully Rejoicing in Christ for You! ~ Pastor Cheryl*

## Minutes of the Grace Lutheran Council meeting on Thursday, November 10, 2022

The Grace Lutheran Church Council meeting was held on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. with Rick Brownell presiding. Also present was Mark Briley, LeRoy Bullis, Kelly Evjen, Ted Frost, Paul Henrichs, Rhonda Lorenz, Kayla Mohling, Geri Mohror, Marian Raml, guest Pam Seefeldt, Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett and Cindy Vander Leest. Absent were Rebecca Anderson-Brasel, Sherry Jongeling, Steve Schlenner, Gena Urevig, Adam Wientjes

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Rhonda Lorenz and seconded by Geri Mohror. Motion carried. A motion to approve the minutes for the October 13, 2022 meeting was made by Paul Henrichs and second by Marian Raml. Motion carried.

### Items:

- 1. Financial Report-** Cindy Vander Leest reported the monthly income to the general fund was \$19,632 the weekly average giving was \$3,926 and the weekly worship attendance was 128. A motion to accept the financial report and pay the bills was made by LeRoy Bullis and second by Kayla Mohling. Motion carried.
- 2. Pastor's Report-** Pastor Cheryl reminded everyone the Committee Descriptions need to be reviewed, updated if needed and turned in to the office by the end of December. She reported there are 2 confirmation students doing extra lessons and projects to complete the 2 year program in one year. They will help plan and put on the Las Posadas Celebration in December as part of their service project with the help of Darlene Bresson and herself.

### Old Business:

- 1. Ukraine Refugee Sponsorship-** Pastor Cheryl shared more Refugee Sponsorship information and paperwork. Pastor would like Grace Council to approve opening a separate account fund for donations and a letter of support for a Ukraine refugee. After discussion the Council decided to table the approval until next meeting.
- 2. 140<sup>th</sup> Celebration (Sept 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> 2023)** – Geri Mohror and Kayla Mohling said the committee will be discussing the 140<sup>th</sup> soon.
- 3. Business Admin job update** – Cindy reported the Business Admin job has been posted and we have applications coming in. The Council decided Pastor could interview first and then the Executive Board would sit in on the second interview.

### New Business:

- 1. Pam Seefeldt Rep. from Prairie Coteau Conf. on Synod Council** – Pam joined the council meeting by Zoom and asked questions and shared information about our Synod.
- 2. Bass guitar** – Rhonda Lorenz's bass guitar was in the sanctuary and is missing and can not be found anywhere. Cindy reported our insurance deductible is \$2,500 in this case. We are asking everyone to take their valuable belongings home with them to prevent future mishaps. A motion to give Rhonda Lorenz \$1,500 to replace her bass guitar was made by Marian Raml and seconded by Kelly Evjen. Motion carried.
- 3. Annual Committee Reports are due December 21<sup>st</sup>** – Cindy asked for the Annual Committee reports to be turned into the office by December 21<sup>st</sup>.
- 4. Draft/Proposed 2023 Mission Plan** – The Financial Committee proposed a budget for 2023. They proposed to remove the calling of a Deacon and raising our budget in areas such as part-time Office Assistant, Choir Director, Accompanist, Sound System Operator and Single/Family Activities Director. The Council will continue to review next month.
- 5. Annual Meeting Sunday, January 29, 2023 time and place** – The Annual meeting will follow the one service @ 10:00 in the sanctuary on Sunday, January 29, 2023.
- 6. Audit GLC Financial Accounts** – A motion to have Darlene Bresson, Bev Morrison and Geri Mohror audit the GLC 2022 financial accounts was made by Rhonda Lorenz and seconded by Paul Henrichs. Motion carried.
- 7. New Year's Day Service** – Pastor Cheryl shared there would be 1 service @ 10:00 am on Christmas Day and New Year's Day
- 8. Hope for Life Community Church-** Pastor Cheryl reported the Hope for Life Community Church is in the process of selling their building and are looking for a place to hold worship. They have a small congregation and are asking about holding one morning Sunday service in our chapel by making a donation to

(continued on page 5)

## Financial Report

Income	Budget	YTD		Debts:	Original amt	Balance
Offerings		\$ 188,465.97		Term Debt	\$ -	\$ -
Designated Gifts		\$ 1,486.00		Line of Credit	\$ -	\$ -
		\$ -				
Scrip Proceeds		\$ -				
Transfer Sp Sav Organ Repair		\$ 4,984.80				
Donation for Sidewalk & LED sign		\$ 14,722.15				
Brown FH tables		\$ 60.00				
Foundation Grants		\$ 27,379.11				
Thrivent Choice \$\$		\$ 2,183.00				
Missions		\$ 280.00				
Misc.		\$ 3,283.32				
Roof repair funds transfer		\$ 61,434.85				
Designated donations		\$ 4,005.54				
<b>Total Income for General Fund</b>		<b>\$ 308,284.74</b>				
<b>Expenses</b>						
ELCA & SD Synod Projects	\$ 2,735.88	\$ 2,029.90				
<b>Staff</b>						
Senior Pastor - Salary & Benefits	\$ 93,302.71	\$ 77,755.90				
Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -				
Intern (Word & Service)	\$ 84,231.14	\$ 6,000.00				
Youth & Family Director	\$ 14,257.67	\$ 12,329.40				
Business Adm Salary & Benefits	\$ 47,923.28	\$ 39,936.00				
Parish Education Assistant	\$ -	\$ -				
Office Asst & Custodians	\$ 50,597.95	\$ 19,716.37				
Payroll taxes	\$ 9,270.00	\$ 6,698.87				
Pastoral Materials	\$ 200.00	\$ -				
<b>Total Staff</b>	<b>\$ 303,782.75</b>	<b>\$ 162,436.54</b>				
<b>Program Expenses</b>				<b>Other Outlays</b>		
Office Expenses	\$ 21,600.00	\$ 9,447.96		Designated Gifts		\$ 1,486.00
Worship & Music	\$ 21,950.00	\$ 7,893.40				
Altar Guild	\$ 950.00	\$ 463.61		Roof Fund Ed Jones		\$ -
Youth Ministry	\$ 150.00	\$ 131.60		Roof repair expenses		\$ 61,459.85
Fellowship	\$ 100.00	\$ -		Missions		\$ 280.00
Mission	\$ 325.00	\$ -		Menards FH tables		\$ 3,230.33
Outreach & Care Ministry	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 1,463.18		FoundationWhol TV		\$ -
Stewardship Ministry	\$ 800.00	\$ 654.54		Foundation Grant exp		\$ 7,717.73
Debt Service	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -		Donation for sidewalk		\$ 14,722.15
Insurance	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 12,209.00		Designated Donations		\$ 5,256.04
Utilities	\$ 29,000.00	\$ 22,569.60		<b>Total Other Outlays</b>		<b>\$ 94,152.10</b>
Synod Assembly Expense	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 300.00				
PC Conference Dues	\$ 300.00	\$ 281.80		<b>Total Expenses &amp; Outlays</b>		<b>\$ 321,048.99</b>
	\$ -					
Contingency	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,161.76		<b>General Fund - 1/1/2022</b>		<b>\$ 69,763.96</b>
Property Ministry	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 5,854.00		Plus Income		\$ 308,284.74
<b>Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 125,075.00</b>	<b>\$ 62,430.45</b>		Less Expenses & Outlays		<b>\$ 321,048.99</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 431,593.63</b>	<b>\$ 226,896.89</b>		Loan Advances		\$ -
				<b>General Fund -10/31/22</b>		<b>\$ 56,999.71</b>

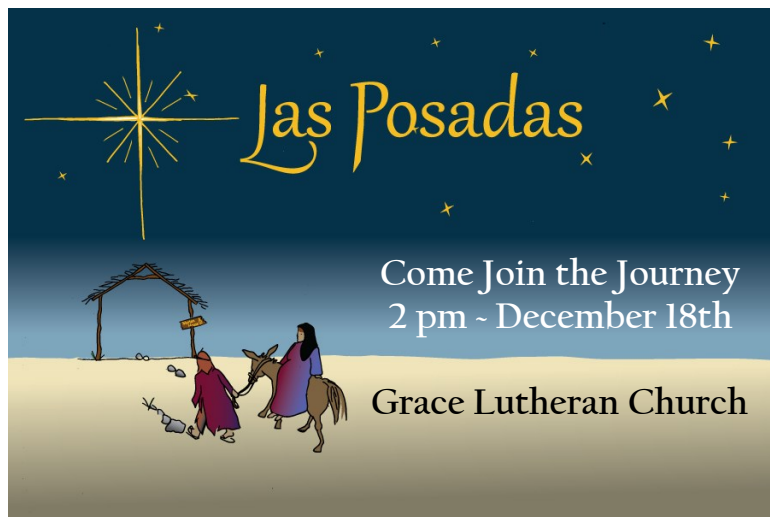
The next  
Grace Lutheran Church Council  
meeting will be at  
6 pm THURSDAY, December 8



Your financial support is important to  
continue the Mission and Ministry of  
Grace Lutheran Church. Please consider  
increasing your tithing as our expenses  
have increased.

You are always welcome to come in to  
the office or call to review or discuss our  
church budget.  
Thank you, Cindy 605-886-5737





## Come on a Christmas Journey December 18th as we Celebrate with our Latin America friends & neighbors

A special Christmas celebration will be held Sunday, December 18 with a Posadas, the Christmas journey of Mary and Joseph, at Grace Lutheran Church beginning at 2 pm. Clarrisa and Kimberly Raidoza, two of our confirmation students, will lead this Central American tradition of singing and walking from house to house to reenact the journey of Mary and Joseph.

This is a family event during which all will be singing, walking from place to place throughout the church to knock on doors following our own Mary and Joseph who are searching for a place

in the inn. The event will finish with a piñata, traditional foods, hot chocolate, games, and treats.

We are thankful to bring this tradition to share at Grace as we learn to be a welcoming church of the future.

We hope you will invite your friends and family to come to Grace to experience a beautiful tradition and welcome our neighbors from Latin America.



## Blue Christmas Service Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>

A special "Longest Day" or what is called Blue Christmas service will be held at 6 pm on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. If you are grieving someone you shared past Christmases with which causes intense feelings of loss, loneliness and sadness, you are encouraged to come. This time of year can be very painful for those who suffer due to death, divorce, health issues, unemployment, business loss, broken relationship, life altering opera-

tions, family trauma or any type of loss, even more traumatic as COVID-19, RSV, and influenzas complicates our lives.

A Blue Christmas service creates a safe place for those who struggle with loss or mourn a loved one. It is a time to join together with others burdened by grief for emotional encouragement and receive spiritual support.

Any who have suffered this past year or continue to suffer from years gone by are welcome to come to this nondenominational service and hear God's word of hope and healing shine through the darkness calling you forward to the bright shining light of spring when new life returns.

### (COUNCIL Continued from page 3)

Grace. The Council will discuss again at the December meeting.

### Committee Reports:

Education, Youth & Family – will hold a meeting Tuesday, November 15, 2022 @ 6:00

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Vander Leest

### CHOIR PRACTICE

All are invited and encourage to join the choir. They will be practicing on Monday evenings at 6 pm for the Christmas Eve services. If you are a singer, please consider helping with your talents for these special services.

**Please NOTE: Since New Years Day is on a Sunday this year, only one worship service will be held at 10 am.**

### DECEMBER CRAFT CLASS HAS BEEN CANCELLED

A Christmas centerpiece craft for the December 6th craft class has been cancelled.

## Nordefest Plus Wrap-Up for 2022

<b>INCOME</b>	
LEFSE	\$2,534.00
LEFSE ON SITE	\$374.50
DONUTS	\$175.00
ETHNIC DELICACIES	\$872.00
BAKERY	\$848.75
GIFT SHOP	\$1,438.35
JEWELRY ANEW	\$898.20
GRANDMA'S ATTIC	\$1,079.15
COFFEE BAR	\$884.50
LUNCH	\$1,234.50
COOK BOOKS	\$45.00
DONATIONS/MEMORIALS	\$280.00
THRIVENT ACTION TEAM CARD	\$250.00

**TOTAL INCOME** **\$10,913.95**

<b>EXPENSES</b>	
COUNTY FAIR	\$289.82
COLE PAPERS	\$274.06
HYVEE	\$444.55
KRIS DEWITT	\$67.69
SHARON GOBLE	\$178.88
DARLENE BRESSON	\$54.49
ADVERTISING	\$100.00
RICH DUNN/DANNY BREKKE	\$100.00
JOYCE RUESINK (music)	\$150.00
THRIVENT ACTION TEAM CARD	\$250.00

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$1,909.49**

**NET PROFIT** **\$9,004.46**

***Thank you, again, for a successful  
Nordefest Plus!***



Confirmation Students were on hand to help serve at the annual Nordefest Plus October 29th. Pictured at top l to r are Bryn Koistinen, Ashlynn Andrews, and Adriene Schulz.

Above l to r are Tigh Koistinen, Brom Koistinen, and Jensen Wientjes.

Below l to r are Kimberly Raidoza, Clarrisa Raidoza, Soren Bisgard, Jensen Wientjes, Allison Henrichs, Olivia Anderson and Melody Schulz.







Over 30 booths made shopping fun at the Craft Fair



## 2022 Fall Craft/Vendor Fair is Huge Success at Grace Lutheran

November 5th	
9:00 to 3:00	
Booths	\$ 1,130.00
Grandma's Attic	\$ 215.25
Craft Room	\$ 662.50
Carmel rolls and lunch stand	\$ 1,425.00
Less beginning cash	\$ (200.00)
less expenses ????	
Thrivent card	\$ 250.00
less Thrivent card expenses	\$ (250.00)
Total as of 11/7/2022	\$ 3,232.75

The Spring Craft and Vendor Fair is set for Saturday, March 11th. Be sure to mark it on your calendars and plan to attend.

### Remembering

*Kenny Wyman*

*November 5, 2022*

*Shirley Jacobson*

*November 30, 2022*



### Memorials and Gifts

**To the Foundation:** from Wendy Lohr; a memorial for Rev. Gary Westgard from Wendy Lohr.

**To Preschool:** From Fran Schaefer as memorial for Elsie Young, Joanne Smith, Dennis Schmig; Stanley Schmitt. Ashley Wiekamp, Mary Stricherz, Twyla Gjerde, Terry Price, Blance Anderson, Allen Richter, Jennifer Kittelson, Troy Stickle; from Fran Schaefer as memorial for Virgil Plunkett, Eleandre Cryn, Mike Rye, Shirley Jacobson, Harv Wollum, Jolene Stolp, Pastor Gary Westgard, & Dr. John Stransky.

**To General** from John Sangl,

**To the Quilters** A memorial for Jennifer Kittelson from Joan Kittelson

**To Undesignated,** a memorial for Jennifer Kittelson from Richard & JoAnn Deberg

**To the Flower Fund:** from Ann & Doug Murfield in loving memory of the granddaughter Kennedy Tomska who passed away in a car accident 5 years ago; from Darcy Raethz & Denise Biller in loving memory of Dad's (Dave Johnson) birthday; from Will Morlock in memory of his wife Pat who passed away 5 years ago at Thanksgiving.

**To the Radio Fund:** from Leland Bachman, a memorial for a former avid listener and brother of Karyl Somers; from LaVerne McPeck in thanks to everyone for all the prayers and the Lord for a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance at life; from Karen Kasperson in loving memory of her parents, Marvin and Emily Goebel.



### QUILTERS ARE WANTED!

The Dorcas quilters invite you to join them in making quilts and fellowship on Monday afternoon from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Quilt are given to Lutheran World Relief and for local needs. If you don't sew, there are a variety of things to help with from tying to cutting to just time together. Please feel free to join in this important ministry of Grace Lutheran.

(They have delicious snacks too.)

**Quilting—Where Grace is experienced daily.**

## Grace Lutheran Church Foundation Board Meeting, Monday, November 7, 2022

The Grace Lutheran Church Foundation Board of Directors met on November 7, 2022, 5:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church.

Present: Bonnie Oletzke, Joy Nelson, Larry Picht, Rich Dunn, Will Morlock, Krisma Dewitt, Gena Urevig, Becky Knadle, and Geri Mohror. Also present was Peggy Hulscher and Cindy Vanderleest.

Will Morlock called the meeting to order.

Approve Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from the October 3 2022 meeting, made by Joy Nelson, seconded by Geri Mohror, motion passed.

Peggy Hulscher reported that she gave us the information concerning month ending September 30, 2022. A motion to approve the treasure report was made by Rich Dunn, seconded by Larry Picht, motion passed.

### Rental Property:

Larry reported that all is going good with one vacancy located at 525 2 St SE, upper unit. Larry also reported that the soffit has not been repaired on 214/216 2 Ave SE.

Report from church staff and council: The Nordfest Plus and vendor fair were successful. The roof is completed. The sign/message board has been ordered and will be completed sometime in March, 2023. The message has been paid for by members of the congregation.

Foundation Sunday: November 13, 2022 will be Foundation Sunday. The foundation will provide cookies and coffee between services.

Other items: Joy Nelson and Bonnie Oletzke are going to contact banks in Watertown that have a trust department. We will invite them to come and meet with our Foundation Board to see if we want to move our account from First Interstate Bank.

Our next meetings will be December 5th, 2022, 5:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church.

A motion to adjourn was made by Joy Nelson, seconded by Rich Dunn, motion passed.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

**NOTICE: Beginning in December—Items for the Gleanings should be emailed to both Breanna, our Communications Specialist, and Pastor Cheryl**

**Brianna's email is:  
breannagrancelc@midconetwork.com**

### THANK YOU!

#### Vendor Fair

**Thank you** – to all who helped make the **Vendor Fair** a huge success! Thank you to those who worked the *second* Saturday – Ann & Karen in the kitchen; Aspen and the confirmation students who were again such a help & blessing; Rebekah, Sherry, Tony, Abby, and Becky who helped with the concessions; Bonnie & Lavina in the Gift Shop; Rhonda & Carol in Grandma's Attic; Ps Cheryl who promoted us on social media, and Rich and Danny who helped set up and then cleaned up. To all the above and those we've forgotten, we could not have done it without you! God Bless! Bobbi & Darlene

#### Nordefest Gift Shop

Heartfelt thanks to those who faithfully created and/or donated items for the **Nordefest Gift Shop**. We had a **beautiful selection of gifts**, and we had a very successful year! "Thanks to Sherry and Lavina for helping to set up and to Bonnie, Lavina, and Lorraine for helping during Nordefest!! You're the best!!"

Thank you!! Darlene Bresson

## ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Grace Lutheran uses a cell phone **"remind"** app for school reminders!

**To sign up for**

text announcements:

Wednesday school reminders:

**@gracewed to 81010 ~**

Sunday school reminders:

**@9aeb84 to 81010 ~**

Confirmation class reminders:

**@289928 to 81010**

**Youth Group** reminders:

**@34c2a7 to 81010**

You will receive an acceptance after to sign up.

**To unsubscribe Text @LEAVE**





**Confirmation Students served the Wauertown Banquet on Monday night, November 21st., along with some parental help. This is an annual service project for the Monday prior to Thanksgiving each year for the confirmation class. The youth served approximately 100 people. Following the Banquet several stayed to help with Christmas decorating**

**Pictured from left to right are: Soren Bisgard, Brom Koistinen, Colin Sauer, Trista Sauer, Adriene Schulz, Jensen Wientjes, Olivia Anderson, Bryn Koistinen, Allison Henrichs, Melody Schulz, Adam Wientjes, Clarrisa Raidoza, Scott Bassett, Kimberly Raidoza and Pastor Cheryl. The group received a Thrivent grant for the service project.**

## **Seven youngsters celebrated their First Communion November 6th at Grace**



**Those completing their First Communion classes are pictured above left are l to r: Jonah, Olivia, Genesis and Vanessa Anderson, children of Arne and Patty Anderson; at right are l to r: Braylee Schulz, daughter of Travis & Chelsea Schulz, Brynnli Brown, daughter of Tim & Shanna Brown, and Cade Volkart, son of Josh and Lindsey Volkart.**

Children 2<sup>nd</sup> grade on up are welcome to take First Communion Classes at Grace Lutheran. Classes are taught in the fall and during Lent for any who have not taken them. Contact pastor for more information.

## **Prairie Coteau Youth Mini-Gathering to be held at Grace**

Youth in grades 7 thru 12 and Youth Directors throughout the Prairie Coteau have been invited to a Prairie Coteau Youth Mini-Gathering on January 6th, 2023 here at Grace Lutheran.

Beth Koch St Martin of Milbank, SD will be the speaker. Her talk is called Ryan's Story and tells the story of a family dealing with the addiction of a child and the pain and grief in the loss of a loved one. The goal of Ryan's Story is trying to erase some of the stigma around drug addiction and to get people to understand it can happen to anyone. St Martin tells the story from the non-addict view and then talks about grief, coping with grief, and what she does to cope with grief.

The Youth gathering will be held from 7 pm to midnight. Registration is due by December 16th, to plan food and supplies ready for activities. Email [bsprouse@iw.net](mailto:bsprouse@iw.net) with any questions you may have.

St Martin will speak at 8 pm in the sanctuary. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend the speaker presentation but not required to register.

## Noisy Offering / Music / Communion

February 3<sup>rd</sup> 6pm-9pm

Please Attend

Decmeber 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm

**NO Sunday School December 25<sup>th</sup> & January 1st**

contact Becky @ [beckygracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:beckygracelc@midconetwork.com) / [bsprouse@iw.net](mailto:bsprouse@iw.net) / 605-881-5733



**7:30-9:00 pm**

Friends are always welcome!!

**NO Youth Group December 21st & 28th**

**Speaker / Worship / Games / Prizes / Snacks**

## Focusing on Prayer, Sin, Mission, Bible, & Salvation

Becky Sprouse / 605-881-5733 / [beckygracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:beckygracelc@midconetwork.com) / [bsprouse@iw.net](mailto:bsprouse@iw.net)



# Tidbits from Grace Preschool

## DECEMBER GLEANING

Parents + Preschoolers – HAPPY DECEMBER – it's the most wonderful (and busy) time of the year. Here's a few reminders for you!

**Christmas Sign FUNDRAISER:** THANK YOU!!! We had an amazing turn out – we sold 85 signs together! We could not do this without all your help, you are all so incredible.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Before we head off on break, we are going to celebrate! We will be having another PAJAMA PARTY – Christmas style!! (Christmas Pajamas are NOT required – regular pjs are perfect!!) Santa hats, elf ears, and any Christmas apparel can be worn too! We will spend the day watching a quick Christmas Movie, frosting (and eating) cookies, playing games and having the best day!!

The kids will be doing a gift exchange! More information to come

3-Year-Old Morning: Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup>

3-Year-Old Afternoon: Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

4-Year-Old: Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>



**CHRISTMAS BREAK:** There will be NO SCHOOL December 22<sup>nd</sup> – January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The children will come back on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

\*Class will resume on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>

Thank you, all for everything you have done for our classroom this school year. I am so thankful for each of you and I wish you all a Happy and Healthy Christmas!!

-Miss Danni





# Grace Lutheran Church's Annual Community Christmas Lunch

on Christmas Day - delivery starts at 11:00 a.m. and sit down serving starts at 12:00



We are anticipating serving 500-600 meals this year between in church serving, shut-ins, pickups, and the volunteers. We need your wonderful donations of food and **WORKERS** to make this a successful event.

## **Below is what we still need.**

(Please fill in the quantity you will provide)

\_\_\_\_\_ Pies (75 needed)

\_\_\_\_\_ Coffee (6 large containers)

\_\_\_\_\_ Cool Whip (10 - 16oz.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Apple Cider (4 gallons)

\_\_\_\_\_ Money donations (are needed and appreciated)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Give a ride to the church and back home

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Work Christmas day (Please see times below) I will be here to help \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Deliver meals - I can be here for delivery at \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

7:00 a.m. Meal Prep

11:00 a.m. Deliveries will start

12:00 p.m. Start Serving Sit-down

1:00 p.m. Cleanup



**ANY QUESTIONS about donations or working???**  
**Please call Darcy Raethz 605-881-2592**

**The phone number to order a meal for delivery is: 605-303-4103.**

# Grace Lutheran Church

Fasten Valley, (WV) 261-1501  
Office Phone: (605) 886-5737

## December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Pastor Cheryl Office Hours at Grace</b> By 10 am Tuesday thru Thursday - Work from Home Monday You are welcome to Contact Pastor <b>directly</b> anytime! 605-237-1501 or E-mail: <a href="mailto:cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com">cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com</a>						
<b>4</b> 8:30 am Worship 9:30 AM – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday school 11 am Worship 1:00 pm Service at Edgewood	<b>5</b> 1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm BANQUET 5:30 Foundation Meeting 6 pm Chorus Practice	<b>6</b> 4:30 Tops/Choir Room <del>6 pm Craft Glass Canteen</del>	<b>7</b> 10:30 am Service at Avantara 11:00 TOPS/Choir Room 6 pm Wednesday school 6 pm Confirmation Class 6 pm Prophets Bible Study 7 pm Family Worship Service 7:30 pm Youth Group Meets	<b>8</b> 10:30 am Service at Stonebrook 6 pm Grace Council meets	<b>9</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>10</b> 9 – 10 am Children practice for Christmas Program
<b>11</b> 8:30 am Worship / Holy Communion 9:30 AM – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am- Sunday school 11 am Worship / Holy Communion <b>2 pm Children's Christmas Program</b>	<b>12</b> 1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm BANQUET 6 pm Chorus Practice	<b>13</b> Noon – Watertown Ministerial Association Meets at Hy-Vee 4:30 Tops/Choir Room 6 pm Outreach & Fellowship Committee meets	<b>14</b> 10:00 – Service at Hi-Rise 11:00 TOPS/Choir Room 6 pm Wednesday school 6 pm Confirmation Class 6 pm Prophets Bible Study <b>7 pm Family Worship Service With Holy Communion</b> 7:30 pm Youth Group Meets	<b>15</b> 9:30 am Elizabeth Circle 1:30 pm Mission Committee <b>GLEANINGS ITEMS DUE</b>	<b>16</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 8:30 am Worship 9:30 AM – Coffee Fellowship NO Sunday school 11 am Worship <b>2 pm Las Posadas Celebration</b>	<b>19</b> 1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm BANQUET 6 pm Chorus Practice	<b>20</b> 11 am Prairie Coteau Conference Pastors text Study at Grace 1 pm Prairie Coteau Conference Pastors meet at Grace 4:30 Tops/Choir Room	<b>21</b> 10 am Service at Town View 10:30 am Service at Jenkins 11:00 TOPS/Choir Room <b>6 pm Blue Christmas Service</b> NO Wednesday school NO Confirmation Class NO Family Worship Service NO Youth Group Meets	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas Eve w/ Holy Communion</b> 4 pm Service 6 pm Service
<b>25 Christmas Day</b> 10:00 am Worship / Holy Communion <b>Annual Christmas Lunch</b> 11 am deliver of meals starts Noon sit-down Christmas Dinner	<b>26</b> OFFICE CLOSED NO BANQUET	<b>27</b> <b>BLOOD DRIVE</b> 11 am to 7:30 pm 4:30 Tops/Choir Room	<b>28</b> 11:00 TOPS/Choir Room 2 pm Clara Ingrid Mofling Baptism NO Wednesday school NO Confirmation Class NO Family Worship Service NO Youth Group Meets	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> OFFICE CLOSED <b>Pastor is Off</b>	<b>31</b> <b>New Years Eve</b>

Grace Lutheran Church  
202 2nd St. SE  
Watertown, SD 57201-4308

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*December*

**Christmas Eve Services are at 4 and 6 pm December 24th. Christmas Day service is at 10 am.**

### **Important Upcoming Dates**

December 11th—Children's Christmas Program at 2 pm  
December 18th – Las Posadas Celebration- at 2 pm  
December 21st – Blue Christmas Service – at 6 pm  
December 24th – Christmas Eve Service – at 4 and 6 pm  
December 25th – Christmas Day Service – at 10 am.

- Annual Christmas Meal

Delivered meals begins at 11 am.

Sit down inside meal begins at Noon

January 1st—Sunday Service at 10 am.

January 6<sup>th</sup> – Prairie Coteau Youth Gathering – 7 pm to Midnight

January 29 – Grace Lutheran Annual Meeting

**To see the pictures of the newsletter in color—  
go the our website: [glcwn.org](http://glcwn.org) OR Facebook pages.**

**NOTICE:** Beginning in December—  
Items for the Gleanings should be  
emailed to both Breanna, our Commu-  
nications Specialist, & Pastor Cheryl  
Brianna's email is:  
[breannagrancelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:breannagrancelc@midconetwork.com)



### **For a Christmas Meal Delivery**

To sign up for delivery, phone **605-303-4103**. Do not call the church. You MUST provide your name, phone number, and a complete address along with the number of meals you are requesting. Please include the color of your house or the name of your apartment building so your house can easily be identified for those who are delivering. You can also text that number or leave a voicemail BUT be SURE you provide the needed information.

***Grace Lutheran Church: God's Grace Experienced Daily***