



# GRACE GLEANINGS

Grace Lutheran Church Newsletter

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~ Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, Pastor ~

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February 2023

## Farewell for Cindy Vander Leest Held Sunday along with Potluck meal



On Sunday January 29th, we said farewell to Cindy Vander Leest after nine years as the Grace Lutheran Business Administrator.

Cindy plans to spend more time with family and take time to vacation in Florida, where she'll soak up some warmth and sunshine for a few weeks before returning to Watertown.

Several were on hand to offer her lovely expressions of well wishes.

***Blessings on your well earned retirement Cindy from everyone at Grace Lutheran.***

## Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday begins our forty-day journey towards Easter on Wednesday, February 22, 2023. Services will be held at Grace Lutheran at Noon and once again at 7 pm in the evening with a Spanish Speaking service at 8 pm. All services will include Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes.

Our Ash Wednesday text from Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21 provides a lesson on the practice of faith, as Jesus emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show but through a right relationship with God.

Lenten services continue our journey at 7 pm each Wednesday evening until Holy Week. The theme for this year's Lenten serves is "At the Name of Jesus" based on Philippians 2: 5-11.

The text will point the congregation toward our annual celebration beginning on Passion/Palm Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Each week we will reflect on the text for a deeper, richer understanding of the passion of Christ, enlightening your awareness as Jesus enters the holy city and you hear the shouts of "Hosanna!" on the first day of Holy Week, then just days later hear the cries of "Crucify!"

The significance of this emotional week and the theological themes presented during the weeks leading up to it, provides a powerful backdrop for the coming celebration of the Three Days and Easter.

Weekly themes beginning March 1st include Christ emptied and humbled himself; Christ became obedient; At the name of Jesus all knees shall bow; Every tongue confesses Jesus; and Let the same mind be in you.

Lenten services will be held at Grace Lutheran at 7 pm during the five Wednesday evening of March.

*All are welcome to attend and reflect.*

## We Thank God for Our Volunteers!



We never run out of thanking our Volunteers at Grace Lutheran as we have some of the very best and faithful members who step up to keep things running smoothly.

**Pictured at left is Paul Henrichs, a member of the Tech Team here at Grace Lutheran.**

Paul has been one of our main "go-to" technology people to help us out when we need answers... and we often do.

Paul was live-streaming the worship Sunday as we held service during our regularly scheduled broadcast. He also set up the ZOOM link for any voting

members who could not be in attendance to insure we had a quorum for voting. Thank you Paul for all you do for the Grace Lutheran family.



January 31, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> was certainly a big day at Grace Lutheran as we conducted our annual meeting, elected council members, held a potluck, and said farewell to Cindy Vander Leest upon her retirement. I was so proud of everyone who made the effort to come even though the weather was intensely cold, and those who attended by ZOOM due to distance and illness. Your efforts were very much appreciated.

The events of the day were not unusual, but demonstrated the changes taking place at Grace Lutheran, as in churches across the country. Change is coming and necessary.

Change is hard for people as it pushes you out of a comfortable way of life that is simple and easy to maneuver. Change is a constant in life, for only Jesus does not change, *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever,"* (Heb 13:8) which we can be thankful for.

Isaiah 43 tells us change can be a positive thing, *"<sup>18</sup>Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. <sup>19</sup>I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."*

Right now you may feel we are in the wilderness with so many good and faithful people who have retired from the office and new faces on the council. It's hard to perceive how it can be different or a new thing because we dwell on what it has been. But God promises you a new thing.

According to Amber Rose Monaco writing a blog online for Huffpost, new things help us grow as we learn from new opportunities and experiences. We will learn who we are as Grace Lutheran, not the Grace Lutheran that was 140 years ago, or 50 years ago, or even 10 years ago. We will learn who we are today, which can be exciting and valuable.

This can be seen in our new council. We have some faithful council members who have come back, some long time members who have never served before, and some members who just became members of Grace Lutheran. It will be exciting to hear their hopes for this family of faith and what it means to them to look for a future here.

Monaco states, change makes you more flexible and adaptable. Wow, did we ever find that out two months after I arrived at Grace and COVID shut us down. We had to be flexible and adapt to a very different way of proclaiming the gospel and do it fast. It was challenging but we never missed a service and thrived with online attendance higher than we had seen for some time.

She also states, change allows new opportunities and experiences which helps us see and develop new possibilities. We did this by holding dance class and a jamboree to bring new people into our space. Now we have the Watertown Fruit by Grace, a useful program for those who are in need of fresh fruit at a wholesale price as well as a revenue source for the church. I've written before how the offering plate will not be the main source of income for the church of the future and this program shows how we can adjust to that change in a way that supports community and the budget.

The purpose statement of Grace Lutheran is: "This congregation... is a people created by God in Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, called and sent to bear witness to God's creative, redeeming and sanctifying activity in the world."

The activities of the world have changed, God has not. He still empowers us by the Holy Spirit, calls and sends us to bear witness... to God's creative, redeeming and sanctifying activity in the world. Not only inside the church. Not without innovation and creativity.

We are called... sent... to be witness to His creative ways... To me that means seeing what God is up to and joining in and hearing God to be about His work in new and changing ways.

For Grace Lutheran, this is an exciting time for, *"<sup>9</sup>Even though we speak in this way, beloved, we are confident of better things in your case, things that belong to salvation. <sup>10</sup>For God is not unjust; he will not overlook your work and the love that you showed for his sake in serving the saints, as you still do."* (Heb 6)

As we go forward together, I pray you will continue to hold Grace Lutheran in your prayers and look for new and creative opportunities "Where God's Grace is Experienced Daily."

Together, we can handle the changes God has planned for us as He tells us, *"<sup>11</sup>For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. <sup>12</sup>Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you."* (Jer 29)

Let's look forward to all that the Lord has planned for us.

Gratefully Rejoicing in Christ for You! ~ Pastor Cheryl

# **Minutes of the Grace Lutheran Council meeting on Thursday, January 12, 2023**

Minutes of the Grace Lutheran Council Meeting on Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Grace Lutheran Church Council meeting was held on Thursday January 12, 2023 at 6pm with Rick Brownell Presiding. Also present was LeRoy Bullis, Rebecca Anderson-Brasel, Sherry Jongeling Kayla Mohling, Marian Raml, Ted Frost, Gena Urevig, Mark Briley, Kelly Evjen, Ronda Lorenz, Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, Cindy Vander Leest and Kat Anderson. Absent were Paul Henrichs, Geri Mohror, Adam Wientjes, and Steve Schlenner. Guests were Linda Williams and Darlene Bressen.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Rhonda Lorenz and seconded by Sherry Jongeling. Motion carried. A motion to approve the minutes for the December 18, 2022 meeting was made by Gena Urevig and seconded by Kayla Mohling. Motion carried.

## **Items:**

1. Financial Report – Cindy Vander Leest reported the monthly income to the general fund was \$24,0831, the weekly average giving was \$5,891, and the weekly worship attendance was 102 for the month of December. A motion to accept the financial report and pay the bills was made by Mark Briley and seconded by Marian Raml. Motion carried.
2. Pastor's Report – Pastor Cheryl performed one baptism and one wedding in December, along with Los Posadas, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day services. Pastor reminded everyone that our church ministry belongs to all of us as a congregation family and we should be inviting people to come to church with us to learn about Jesus' love for us. She also noted the Prairie Coteau Youth Gathering was cancelled due to lack of participation from other churches. The annual meeting will be Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup> following a 10am worship service where the children are singing. Following the meeting there will be a potluck to honor Cindy Vander Leest as she is retiring and Kat Anderson is taking over the business administration position. The FCC is created a ruling that would make it harder for religious organizations to broadcast on the radio. She signed a petition on the church's behalf to send it to court. The Jamboree will be April 16, 2023 and we will host the Community Lent Services this year. All services are in March on Wednesdays at Noon.

## **Old Business:**

1. Ukraine Refugee Sponsorship – Pastor Cheryl reported on the Watertown Ukrainian Refugee Effort meeting that she attended in Watertown on January 3, 2023. It was a sponsor training and education event. Watertown is planning on 1,000 refugees in the city. Translators are ready and the schools are preparing. Darlene Bressen and Linda Williams were also present to share. Darlene shared that they refugees can work and drive as soon as they come to us and other assistance will be available through Lutheran Social Services, Freedoms Haven for New Americans Workforce, and other government programs. She shared that they will most likely need clothing, housing, furnishings, food, and help filling out applications to send their children to school, apply for jobs, etc. Linda Williams voiced her concern for the refugees. Most speak English. Women and children were the first to flee. Local businesses are willing to employ refugees. Pastor Cheryl stated that there have been over \$17,000 in donations to the church designated towards Ukraine efforts. Gina Urevig motioned to open a bank account designated to Ukraine Refugee Efforts and a letter of support to be written. Sherry Jongeling seconded. Motion passed. A committee on Refugee Sponsorship will be formed at a later date.
2. 140<sup>th</sup> Celebration (Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> 2023) - Sherry Jongeling shared that a man in Minnesota is making crosses by hand and showed one to the council. She asked to get a quote from the man for gifts for the 140<sup>th</sup>.
3. Annual Committee Reports are Due Now – as of Thursday all reports have been turned in to the office.
4. Draft/Proposed Mission Plan – Cindy Vander Leest presented changes. Mark Briley motioned to approve submitting to congregation at annual meeting. Sherry Jongeling seconded. Motion approved.
5. Committee reports and revised descriptions – The Call Committee will need to contact the Synod and let

(Continued on pg 5)

# Financial Report

Income	Budget	YTD		Debts:	Original amt	Balance
Offerings		\$ 227,466.35		Term Debt	\$ -	\$ -
Designated Gifts		\$ 1,810.00		Line of Credit	\$ -	\$ -
Fundraising		\$ 3,561.40				
Scrip Proceeds		\$ 2,000.00				
Transfer Sp Sav Organ Repair		\$ 4,984.80				
Donation for Sidewalk & LED sign		\$ 14,722.15				
Brown FH tables		\$ 60.00				
Foundation Grants		\$ 27,429.11				
Thrivent Choice \$\$		\$ 2,183.00				
Missions		\$ 280.00				
Misc.		\$ 4,116.32				
Roof repair funds transfer		\$ 137,120.19				
Designated donations		\$ 4,005.54				
<b>Total Income for General Fund</b>		<b>\$ 429,738.86</b>				
<b>Expenses</b>						
ELCA & SD Synod Projects	\$ 2,735.88	\$ 2,735.88				
<b>Staff</b>						
Senior Pastor - Salary & Benefits	\$ 93,302.71	\$ 93,307.06				
Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -				
Intern (Word & Service)	\$ 84,231.14	\$ 6,000.00				
Youth & Family Director	\$ 14,257.67	\$ 14,257.67				
Business Adm Salary & Benefits	\$ 47,923.28	\$ 51,039.94				
Parish Education Assistant	\$ -	\$ -				
Office Asst & Custodians	\$ 50,597.95	\$ 26,082.36				
Payroll taxes	\$ 9,270.00	\$ 7,395.38				
Pastoral Materials	\$ 200.00	\$ -				
<b>Total Staff</b>	<b>\$ 303,782.75</b>	<b>\$ 198,082.41</b>				
<b>Program Expenses</b>				<b>Other Outlays</b>		
Office Expenses	\$ 21,600.00	\$ 12,277.92		Designated Gifts		\$ 1,960.00
Worship & Music	\$ 21,950.00	\$ 10,873.26		Christmas Services		\$ 150.00
Altar Guild	\$ 950.00	\$ 523.21		Misc. Pension Fees		\$ 18.82
Youth Ministry	\$ 150.00	\$ 131.60		Roof repair expenses		\$ 157,145.19
Fellowship	\$ 100.00	\$ -		Missions		\$ 280.00
Mission	\$ 325.00	\$ -		Menards FH tables		\$ 3,230.33
Outreach & Care Ministry	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 1,504.18		FoundationWhol TV		
Stewardship Ministry	\$ 800.00	\$ 654.54		Foundation Grant exp		\$ 8,350.73
Debt Service	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -		Donation for sidewalk		\$ 14,822.15
Insurance	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 12,209.00		Designated Donations		\$ 5,256.04
Utilities	\$ 29,000.00	\$ 26,575.95		<b>Total Other Outlays</b>		<b>\$ 191,213.26</b>
Synod Assembly Expense	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 300.00				
PC Conference Dues	\$ 300.00	\$ 281.80		<b>Total Expenses &amp; Outlays</b>		<b>\$ 465,221.27</b>
	\$ -					
Contingency	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,622.52		<b>General Fund - 1/1/2022</b>		<b>\$ 69,763.96</b>
Property Ministry	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 6,235.74		Plus Income		\$ 429,738.86
<b>Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 125,075.00</b>	<b>\$ 73,189.72</b>		Less Expenses & Outlays		\$ 465,221.27
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 431,593.63</b>	<b>\$ 274,008.01</b>		Loan Advances		\$ -
				<b>General Fund -11/30/22</b>		<b>\$ 34,281.55</b>

The next  
Grace Lutheran Church Council  
meeting will be at  
6 pm THURSDAY, February 9



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, Kat 605-886-5737



# Watertown Fruit Program by Grace



**Geri Mohror was at the table for the Watertown Fruit by Grace displaying a large variety of dried fruits, nuts, grains and cardies. These items are on sale whenever the office open.**

Our program has had a wonderful start – thanks to the support from the Grace congregation! Besides selling the dried fruit and nuts a couple times between services, I've also participated in a vendor fair and we've had good support from groups that use our building. As of the end of December, our sales were \$1,771! With those sales, I've had to re-stock several items, which I'm happy to do!

I'm currently researching the possibility of adding some candy to our product offerings – hopefully within the next month. Watch for some great Valentine specials!!

I had hoped to offer the opportunity to order strawberries in February, but the broker is requiring me to order 3 pallets – or 300 flats of strawberries – because of the cost of freight. I don't think we would be able to sell that many, although fresh strawberries in February sounds really good!

I should be hearing soon about another fresh fruit opportunity – citrus fruits, pears, apples, pineapples, and meat snacks. Those orders will be taken in February, with delivery in March. I don't have any more details than that at this time.

The fresh fruit program will get a good start in the summer. From Hope for Life records, these are the timeframes and the fruits available:

June – cherries (Bing & Rainier), apricots, and blueberries

July – peaches, nectarines, and blueberries

August – peaches, nectarines, blueberries, apples, pears, prunes, and plums

Generally, 200+ boxes of fruit are sold each time, so I will need help unloading the fruit and then selling and loading when customers pick up their orders. This first year of selling the dried fruit and nuts and the fresh fruit will be a learning experience, but if we can net \$10,000 in profit, it will be worth it.



I will try to have the dried fruit and nuts available at least once a month between services, but Cindy & Kat have graciously agreed to help you during the week. Thank you again for your support, and if anyone has any questions, they're welcome to contact me.

Darlene Bresson [order online at [Myfruitsale.com](http://Myfruitsale.com) Code: NAGD 1128]

Proceeds for Watertown Fruit by Grace go to the General Fund of Grace. Lutheran]

*Fruit this month will be delivered to Grace on March 4th and pickup will be available on Sunday, March 5th. Volunteers are needed and welcome to help Darlene.*



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## COUNCIL MINUTES (continued from pg 3)

them know that we are no longer searching for a Deacon. The council acknowledged that this is Rick Brownell's last meeting and thanked him for his service.

### New Business

1. Nominating committee nominees - The committee had reported that at the time of the meeting they had 1 name for sure and were still waiting to hear back from others.
2. Items to put on the Annual Meeting Agenda – Ukraine information
3. CACHE Homeschool Group – The homeschool group is going to resume using the classrooms this Spring for 6 weeks. They collect a donation from the families who join as a thank you for using the space.

### Committee reports:

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Anderson

To See the picture of this newsletter in color, Go to [glcwn.org](http://glcwn.org) and look for the Gleanings under Resources or on our Facebook page.

## **Grace Lutheran Church Foundation Board Meeting, Monday, January 9, 2023**

The Grace Lutheran Church Foundation Board of Directors met on January 9 2023, 5:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church.

Present: Bonnie Oletzke, Joy Nelson, Larry Picht, Rich Dunn, Will Morlock, Gena Urvig, and Geri Mohror. Also present was Peggy Hulscher, Cindy Vanderleest and Katherine Anderson.

Will Morlock called the meeting to order.

Approve Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from the December 5 2022 meeting, made by Joy Nelson, seconded by Geri Mohror, motion passed.

Peggy Hulscher reported the financial summary for month ending November 30, 2022 and year ending in December 31, 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 insurance was paid.

A motion was made by Bonnie Oletzke, seconded by Joy Nelson to suspend the 20% of the monthly rent received to the capital improvement fund because the balance as been met.

Grant Requests: Will reported that we have received one grant application.

Annual Meeting is January 29, 2023. Members of the Grace Lutheran Church Foundation that are up for a three-year term is Will Morlock and Becky Knadle. They both agreed to run again. Motion made by Joy Nelson, seconded by Rich Dunn, motion passed to accept the nomination of Will Morlock and Becky Knadle.

Report from church staff and council: It was reported that all is going well.

### **Other Items:**

Will Morloch set up a committee of three members, Bonnie Oletzke, Gena Urvig and Larry Picht to research and report back to the board to set scholarship for members who plan to and are attending higher education.

Joy Nelson report that the transfer of Grace Lutheran Foundation investments from First Interstate Bank to American Bank and Trust in the next few weeks.

Our next meetings will be February 6, 2023, 5:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church.

A motion to adjourn was made by Rich Dunn and seconded by Geri Mohror, seconded, motion passed.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

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

**To sign up for**

text announcements for:

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**

## Looking Ahead at our NEEDS ~April 16<sup>th</sup> is Country Gospel Jamboree!

The silent auction has generated a good amount for Grace - \$2800 in 2021 and \$2300 in 2022. So we'd like to have another one this year with the Jamboree and meal. We wanted to give the congregation, and especially the crafters, a "heads up" so you can think about donations for it. These are some things that went well in previous years:

- Baskets of various types – Bath & Body, Baby items, kitchen items, garden, camping, wine & cheese, etc.
- Embroidered dishtowels
- John Deere items
- Floral arrangements – silk or dried
- Wood crafts
- Needle work – table runners, pot- holders, hanging towels, etc.
- Travel/cosmetic bags
- Baby quilts
- Gift cards, especially for meals

You can contact Darlene Bresson, 605-421-1258, with any questions.

### Order Fresh Fruit

#### from Watertown Fruit by Grace

January 29th through February 15th

Boxes available: grapefruit, oranges, pears, & 2 varieties of apples or order a variety box. Also available meat and cheese snacks.

See **page 13** or go to: Myfruitsale.com

**use the code NAGD-1128**

Fruit delivered to Grace March 4th with pickup March 5th.

Contact us: Facebook: Watertown Fruit by Grace

Email: gracefruit22@gmail.com Call or Text: 605-421-1258

### "Attention crafters, needleworkers, woodworkers, etc.

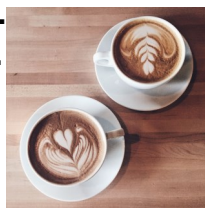
**We will be having a silent auction on April 16th, so we'll need items for sale. If you would like to make something for the auction, we would very much appreciate it! Items should be brought to the church by Thursday, April 12th. Thanks!"**

## Sunday Coffee Fellowship

**The family of Grace Lutheran invites everyone to join us for Coffee Fellowship each Sunday morning beginning at 9:30 am**

**In Fellowship Hall.**

*Come get to know each other!*



### Memorials and Gifts

**To General:** A memorial for Sally Ann Rondeau from Dee Haugan; A gift from John Sangl;

**To Preschool:** A gift from GLCW

**To Grace Parking Lot Resurfacing:** A Gift from GLCW; From Fred & Gwen Peschman in loving memory of Darlene Olson and Matthew Kultner; From Fran Schaefer in memory of Norma Johnson, John Namken, Jeanette Singrey, Tuffy Gisselbeck, Don Egert, Heather Opdahl, & Bobby Gasper.

**To LED Sign:** From Will Morlock

**To the Flower Fund:** A gift from Liz and Rich Dunn in loving memory of Liz's dad, Keith Miller; A gift from Donna Johnson in loving memory of her husband Lynn on their 40th Wedding Anniversary.

**To the Radio Fund:** Given as a memorial for Leland Bachman's 1st heavenly birthday on January 19, a former avid listener and brother of Karyl Somers; From the Schmeling Radio Fund in loving memory of Roy & Doris Schmeling"

**To the Ukraine Sponsor Fund:** From John Sangl

**To Grace Foundation:** From Karen Kasperson

### THANK YOU!

**Thank you** to all who contributed making the 2022 Christmas Meal at Grace Lutheran Church a wonderful success. There are many things that make it all come together, starting with the pre-planning, donations, set-up, cooking, delivering, serving, clean-up and fellowship in making Christmas very special and memorable for anyone involved. Without all the many volunteers, we could not have made this happen; you are a wonderful gift to GLC. We were blessed to be able to serve 500+ meals this year.

Again, thank you to all. God Bless.

Christmas Meal Committee:

Darcy, Denise, Gena, Becky and Julie





## Community Ecumenical Lenten services at Grace Lutheran

The Watertown Ministerial Association has once again organized the noon Community Ecumenical Lenten service which will begin March 1<sup>st</sup> with the theme *United in Christ* based on Psalm 133: 1 *"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"* Grace Lutheran will be the host each week this year for the 12:05 worship services and luncheon during Lent.

Offerings from the service will be donated to the One Roof Program, a fund established at the Salvation Army and used to help in financial crisis or for individuals in need. Due to the extremely harsh weather in December, their Red Kettle offerings were less than usual and this will provide assistance for their local programs.

All churches and individuals can send money to Red Roof fund at any time. Many local churches regularly give to the fund and direct individuals to the Salvation Army who then provides assistance based on rules and the fraud alerts they have in place.

A luncheon follows the short worship service at 12:30 with a soup and bread or sandwich meal including bars, cookies or cake for a treat. The cost of the meal is \$5.00. The service and meal conclude at 1 pm.

Grace Lutheran will hold the first service and prepare the luncheon for the March 1<sup>st</sup> Community service and meal. A sign-up sheet is available to meet the needs of the luncheon. Twelve members are asked to donate a gallon of chili, cookies or bars, and/or volunteer their time to set up tables, serve the meal and clean up afterwards. Please take time to sign up and offer what you can.



**Children from Wednesday and Sunday school sang Apple Red Happiness and Only a Boy Named David during worship Sunday, January 29th.**

## Country Gospel Jamboree planned for April 16<sup>th</sup> Terry Foster and The Classic are the featured band

The 2019 South Dakota Country Music Hall of Fame Inductee Terry Foster and the Classic's will be the featured band for the third annual Country Gospel Jamboree set for April 16, 2023.

The Sunday afternoon jamboree venue invites local and area musicians, whether vocalist or instrumentalist, to share their musical talents on a gospel song or two with the featured group during the 2 to 4 pm program. Cost of the jamboree is \$10.

Prior to the jamboree, a meal will

be serving chef salad, OR hamburger or brat with mac salad, baked beans and chips for \$10. From noon to 1:30 pm and silent auction from noon to 3:30 pm.

Tickets to win "Dinner for Two" will be available to purchase for \$5.00 at the jamboree as well as prior to as soon as tickets are prepared. The winner will receive a dinner for two for each month for a year, a value of \$720.

All proceeds of the Country Gospel Jamboree, meal, silent auction and 'Dinner for Two' chances go to Grace Lutheran Church, 202 2<sup>nd</sup> St SE, Watertown, SD.



### 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

### Grace Lutheran Foundation Grant Applications

are due at the office on February 15th. A form is on page 12 of this newsletter, or pick one up at the office or email a request to have one sent to you.





## Outreach Committee Mission of the Month for February is HOPE IN GOD

### A Ministry of Divine Providence of South Dakota

A small group of women establish a Christian-based network of women survivors of child sexual abuse in June 2016 to provide spiritual and emotional support and increase community awareness of the prevalence and adverse life-long effects of child sexual abuse. In 2017, Hope In God became one-of-four ministries of Divine Providence of South Dakota, existing to lead all people, especially those wounded by child sexual abuse and sexual assault into a relationship with Jesus Christ and strengthen churches in Northeast South Dakota.

Based on Acts 1:6-8, their cause is to help victims become survivors and thrivers, going from wounded to wounded warrior, from victim to witness, and martyr for a cause larger than self.

In Act, Jesus responds to their question “Lord will you at this time restore the Kingdom to Israel?” by saying no one knows the day or the hour, “But YOU will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and YOU will be my WITNESSES in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to ends of the earth.” In other words, Jesus is telling the disciples they will be the ones to restore the Kingdom; receiving power to continue his work and become witnesses—his hands, his feet, his voice not only in Jerusalem, but everywhere. Jesus was not only speaking to his disciples then but he is also speaking to us, now.

We learn to change, we allow the Lord to transform us into the people he created us to be and it all begins when we step out from the shadows and trust God. We “Hope In God.”



## Ukrainian Refugee Sponsorship account available

The Grace Council approved an independent account and letter of support as a Sponsor for a Ukrainian Refugee. Your donations can now be made to this Refugee fund at Grace Lutheran Church, 202 2<sup>nd</sup> St SE, Watertown, SD. Letters of support have been requested to accompany the application as work continues on the application process.

Volunteers to assist in this endeavor upon their arrival are also required. Sponsors create the support systems that ensure newcomers can thrive. Members of Grace Lutheran, other churches, members of the community, and neighbors from this and surrounding communities can assist as people start on a long, difficult, and exciting journey in a new environment.

Ukrainian's coming to the U.S. must have a sponsor. Lutheran Social Service and Codington County Social Services will provide many programs of assistance. Aid is also available for food, housing, and education as well as Federal Refugee Resettlement benefits and Refugee Medical Assistance.

Volunteers will help beneficiaries

(Ukraine refugees) apply for critical documents for life in the U.S. including Social Security cards, State IDs, and U.S. Drivers' License. Beneficiaries are allowed to work as soon as they arrive, and their Ukrainian driver's license will be valid. Help with job applications is another area volunteers can assist in; open up a new bank account and assist in applying for Employment Authorization - all critical steps to establishing a stable foothold in their new home.

Newcomers may need help applying for public benefits and services available to them in Codington County, including schools for children, educational opportunities, and career training.

Beneficiaries will need financial help when they first arrive as they work to rebuild their lives. Donated items of furniture, household supplies, clothing and even transportation can assist in resettlement.

While the Declaration of Financial Support provided in the application is not legally binding and there are no specific required amount sponsors must dedicate, sponsor should do what's right and plan to

raise at least \$3,000 for each person sponsored. This money will help the family get settled in the first 90 days after their arrival in the United States.

The statewide "Freedom's Haven for New Americans Workforce" has set a goal of 1,000 Ukrainians for Watertown, SD. With approximately 7 million refugees are already in Poland, Germany, and other European countries the need is great as they are running out of places to turn to.

Your monetary and volunteer assistance is needed for the initial response to resettle Ukrainian beneficiaries. For more information contact Pastor Cheryl or go to <https://ukraine.welcome.us/connect>

### **Direct your THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS**

Each year Grace Lutheran Church receives deposit given to the General Fund from members through their Thrivent Choice Dollars. If you have a Thrivent life insurance account you can director your Choice Dollars to Grace Lutheran before the end of March. Ask your agent for more information.

# Tidbits from Grace Preschool

Hello from Grace Classroom!  
Happy February! This month we are celebrating God's Love for us! We have so many fun plans to share God's love to those around us! We have continued to work on all our Kindergarten readiness

skills! We are more than halfway through our ABC unit and we are starting to really dive into the lower case letter after figuring out the uppercase! Kindergarten is right around the corner, and they are all doing so well!

## Important Dates:

**3's Valentine Party: February 14th**

**4's Valentine Party: February 13<sup>th</sup>**





## Preschool – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Sunday School - 9:45 am - 10:45 am / Wednesday School – 6pm – 7:30 pm

Join us for Family Worship on Wednesday Nights at 7:00 pm

Noisy Offering / Music / Communion



### Upcoming Event

3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade Gathering

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

GAMES / SNACKS / CRAFT

Interested in helping with Sun/Wed school.

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

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## Grades 7-12

7:30-9:00 pm

Join us for Bible study,  
activities, games and social time.

Friends are always welcome!!



**t.b.d.**

**think. believe. do.**

Bible study we will be using this fall  
Focusing on Prayer, Sin, Mission, Bible, & Salvation

Parent Volunteers are always needed.

**Join Youth Group Remind by texting 34c2a7 to 81010.**

Announcements will be coming out through this as needed.

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



**GRACE LUTHERAN FOUNDATION**

Grace Lutheran Church  
202 2d ST. SE  
Watertown, SD 57201  
Phone: 886-5737

**REQUEST FOR FUNDING**

Requests for funding due February 15, 2023

Mail to: Will Morlock at 905 W. Kemp

or leave at the church office or scan to [gracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:gracelc@midconetwork.com) (both sides if written on)

1. Person(s) making request:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

2. Funds requested for the following project or organizations: you may write on the back of this form  
(Please be brief but with enough detail so the request is understood.)

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3. Amount requested: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

4. Total cost of project: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

5. When will funds be needed: \_\_\_\_\_

6. The funds should be sent to Name: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Have funds for this project or organization been requested from the Grace Lutheran Foundation  
in recent years? If so.....

Year requested \_\_\_\_\_

Amount funded \_\_\_\_\_

8. Are you requesting funding from another organization for this project this year?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, which organization and amount funded:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# WATERTOWN FRUIT PROGRAM BY GRACE



**Order deadline  
is Feb. 15th**



**Order arrives early  
March**

## Mixed Fruit Boxes

1. 16 oranges, 9 Fuji apples, 9 Cosmic apples ..... \$32 (med)
2. 12 oranges, 6 Fuji, 6 Cosmic, 10 pears .....\$32 (med)
3. 8 grapefruit, 13 oranges, 5 Fuji, 5 Cosmic .....\$32 (med)
4. 6 grapefruit, 12 oranges, 4 Fuji, 4 Cosmic, 6 pears .....\$32 (med)
5. 11 grapefruit, 18 oranges .....\$32 (me)
11. 6 grapefruit, 10 oranges, 10 Honeycrisp, 6 pears .....\$37 (med)
12. 8 oranges, 2 Sumo apples, 6 Honeycrisp, 4 pears .....\$28 (small)
13. 12 oranges, 12 Honeycrisp, 10 pears .....\$37 (med)

## Citrus

23. 20-24 grapefruit .....\$28 (1/2 ctn)
24. 40-48 grapefruit .....\$46 (full ctn)
31. 36-44 California oranges .....\$27 (1/2 ctn)
32. 88 California oranges .....\$44 (full ctn)

## Apples & Pears

41. 24 Cosmic Crisp.....\$29 (small)
46. 24 Honeycrisp.....\$34 (small)
49. 6 Fuji, 6 Honeycrisp, 6 Granny Smith, 6 Cosmic .....\$29 (small)
73. 24 pears .....\$25 (small)

## Snacks

- F. Premium Cut Beef Jerky .....\$17 (6 oz)
- G. Beef Sticks (30-35 sticks).....\$29 (40 oz)
- H. Smokey Snack Sticks (11-12 sticks).....\$16 (16 oz)
- M. String cheese (24 individually wrapped)..... \$15 (24 oz)

## Ways to order:

- Online at [myfruitsale.com](http://myfruitsale.com) (use code **NAGD-1128**)  
requires credit/debit cards
- Email Darlene [gracefruit22@gmail.com](mailto:gracefruit22@gmail.com)
- Call Darlene 605-421-1258
- Cash or check when you pick up fruit

# Country Gospel Jamboree

**Sunday – April 16 - 2 to 4 pm**

**Grace Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall**



~ Featuring ~

***Terry Foster and the Classic***



With special Guest singer Jan Sandbakken

Area musicians and singers are encouraged to come join with the band and share your musical talents on a country gospel song or two.

To sign up, contact Pastor Cheryl at 605-237-1501.

**Jamboree Cost - \$10**

**202 2<sup>nd</sup> St SE, Watertown, SD**

***NOON Meal***

**Noon to 1:30 pm**

**Chef salad OR**

**Hamburger or Brat with  
mac salad, baked beans  
and chips \$10.00**

**Eat in or take out meal.**

***In the Fellowship Hall***

**Silent Auction  
from Noon to  
3:30 pm**

Purchase a chance to win 'Dinner for Two' and receive dinner for two for every month for a year – Tickets are \$5.00 each.

**Grace Lutheran Church ~ 202 2<sup>nd</sup> St SE ~ Watertown, SD**

**See page 8 for Jamboree Story and more information**



# Grace Lutheran Church

Pastor Cheryl: (605) 237-1501  
Office Phone: (605) 886-5737

## January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5 8:30 am Worship w/Council Installation &amp; Mission of the Month presentation 9:30 AM – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am- Sunday school 11 am Worship w/Council Installation &amp; Mission of the Month presentation</p>	<p>6 1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm BANQUET 5:30 Foundation Meeting</p>	<p>7 4:30 Tops/Choir Room 4:30 am BeFriendsers meet</p>	<p>8 10:00 – Service at Hi-Rise 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</p>	<p>9 10:30 am Service at Stonebrook 5pm Finance and Stewardship committee 6 pm Grace Council meets</p>	<p>3 OFFICE CLOSED Elementary Lock-in for grade 3-6: 6 to 9 pm</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>12 8:30 am Worship / Holy Communion 9:30 AM – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am- Sunday school 11 am Worship / Holy Communion</p>	<p>13 1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm BANQUET</p>	<p>14 Noon – Watertown Ministerial Association Meets at Hy-Vee 4:30 Tops/Choir Room 6 pm Outreach &amp; Fellowship Committee meets</p>	<p>15 10 am Service at Town View 10:30 am Service at Jenkins 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</p>	<p>16 9:30 am Elizabeth Circle 1:30 pm Mission Committee</p>	<p>17 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 8:30 am Worship 9:30 AM – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am- Sunday school 11 am Worship</p>	<p>20 <b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b> OFFICE CLOSED 5:30 pm BANQUET</p>	<p>21 Prairie Coteau Conference Pastors text Study &amp; meeting 4:30 Tops/Choir Room</p>	<p>22. <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 11:00 TOPS/Choir Room Noon Ash Wednesday Service 6 pm Wednesday school 7 pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm Youth Group Meets 8 pm Spanish Speaking Ash Wednesday Service</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 BLOOD DRIVE 10 AM TO 3 PM OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 8:30 am Worship / Holy Communion 9:30 AM – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am- Sunday school 11 am Worship / Holy Communion</p>	<p>27 1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm BANQUET</p>	<p>28 4:30 Tops/Choir Room</p>	<p>Pastor Cheryl Vacation ~ Feb 16-21</p>	<p>Pastor Cheryl Vacation ~ Feb 16-21</p>	<p>Pastor Cheryl Vacation ~ Feb 16-21</p>	<p>Pastor Cheryl Vacation ~ Feb 16-21</p>

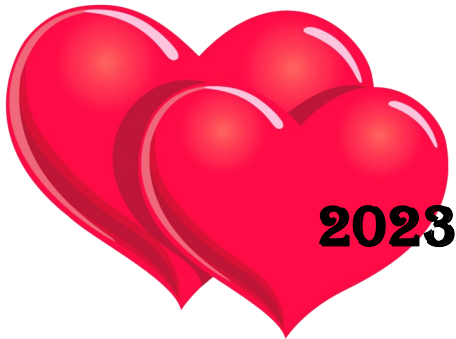
**Pastor Cheryl Office Hours at Grace**  
By 10 am Tuesday thru Thursday - Work from Home Monday  
You are welcome to Contact Pastor **directly** anytime!  
605-237-1501  
or E-mail: [cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:cherylgracelc@midconetwork.com)

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

Please Expedite - Time Dated Material

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Organization  
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PERMIT NO. 537



*Happy Valentines Day!*

**Ash Wednesday Service February 22nd ~ Community Ecumenical Lenten services March 1**

**Important Upcoming Dates**

February 3 – 6 pm to 9 pm Elementary Lock-in 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> gr  
February 5 – Grace Lutheran Council installation during both services  
February 16 thru 21 – Pastor Cheryl on Vacation  
February 20 – Ash Wednesday & Lent begins  
Services at Noon & 7 pm.  
Spanish speaking service at 8 pm  
March 1—Community Lenten service at NOON followed by soup Luncheon in Fellowship Hall  
March 4—Fruit delivered to Grace (pickup March 5)  
March 11 Spring Craft Vendor Fair 9 am to 3 m  
April 9 – Easter Sunday  
April 11-13: SD Synod Spring Theological in Watertown (April 11<sup>th</sup> at Grace; 12-13th at LCOOR)  
April 16<sup>th</sup> – Country Gospel Jamboree 2 to 4 pm  
Noon Meal & Silent Auction; Dinner for 2 drawing.  
April 30 – Confirmation Day

**First Communion Classes**

Registration for First Communion are being taken at this time. Classes are planned for Wednesday's to be held at 4 pm beginning on March 8<sup>th</sup> with First Communion at Maundy Thursday service April 6. If this time does not work for you but you would like your children to participate, please contact pastor for other arrangements to be made.

If your child is in the second grade or older and has not completed First Communion class and you would like them to participate, contact Pastor Cheryl to get them signed up. To register, you can email Pastor at [cheryl-gracelc@midconetwork.com](mailto:cheryl-gracelc@midconetwork.com) or text 605 -237-1501 with the child's name, parents name, your email address and cell number.

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