

GRACE NOTES

FEBRUARY 2012

“Special Ways to Give at this Special Time”

This is an exciting time in the life of Grace Lutheran Church. Much planning and lots of hard work have brought us to the point to celebrate our mission at Grace by beginning the *A Strong Heritage for a Stronger Tomorrow* program. Soon we will begin our projects of renovation to enhance the ministry of Grace Lutheran in a variety of ways. This special effort will allow the ministries of Grace to grow with new energy. To make this happen it is vital that Grace Lutheran Church combines the gifts of many members and friends so that ample funds are available to do the ministry God is calling us to do!

Faced with this opportunity, members of Grace Lutheran are asking, “How can I give as much as possible?” “How can I make a special gift to this project?” To do this will challenge all to reordering one’s spending habits so that a step up in giving may be possible. Possibly one can try “first fruits” giving so that the gift for God’s ministry happens. Giving can be fulfilling when done regularly and from a grateful heart.

Giving to *A Strong Heritage for a Stronger Tomorrow* will take special planning. The following provides some possible answers. One important way to give is out of regular income. Most people give to the ongoing ministry of the congregation out of regular income. That is, a portion of household income is given to the congregation on a weekly or monthly basis. Over the next three years, many members of Grace will make generous weekly or monthly gifts to *A Strong Heritage for a Stronger Tomorrow* out of their regular income in addition to their normal support of the congregation’s ongoing ministry.

There are other ways to make even larger gifts.

- Many people will make a gift from their savings, recognizing that this is an opportunity for Grace Lutheran that must be accomplished.
- Some people will give stock, mutual funds or other securities.
- Still others will give all or part of the cash value of an insurance policy.
- Some people may have opportunity, after careful planning, to give through special gifts from assets such as appreciated property.
- For some retired persons a gift of qualified retirement assets may be possible.

Combining these gifts with giving from regular income can produce a level of generosity that might not otherwise be possible.

The *A Strong Heritage for a Stronger Tomorrow* program presents members of Grace Lutheran Church with an incredible opportunity. This opportunity calls for each member to take steps to be as generous as possible so that the ministry of Grace Lutheran Church can be expanded and enhanced today and far into the future. Each gift is precious and unique to the giver and Christ invites all to be cheerful in our giving.

Together in Christ,

Pastor Ron Nichols

Pastor Josh Enderson

Highlights from January Ministry Meetings

Stewardship Ministry

Plans are underway for a new Grace Lutheran pictorial directory to be completed in the next couple of months. Information on the new directory is found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Worship and Music Ministry

The new acolyte albs have been well received. The Grace Lutheran carillon is serving as a musical outreach and a call to worship for our congregation and community. It currently plays one or two hymns each day at noon and 6:00pm. On Sundays, it is currently playing before and after the first worship service and before the second worship. Please let us know what you think!

Property Ministry

There is a leak in the heating system in the Sanctuary floor. Work is underway to find the location of the leak and determine options for repairing the problem. In order to limit the water leaking into the Fellowship Hall ceiling, the floor heating system is currently turned off during the week when the Sanctuary is not in use with only radiation heat being used until the weekend.

Evangelism Ministry

The next New Member Sunday will be February 12th. The pastors have begun classes with the prospective new members. Evangelism will organize a lunch and program for that Sunday.

Parish Care Ministry

It was decided not to have church mailboxes for each family at this time. Instead, efforts continue to be made to gather email addresses for Grace families and use email as much as possible.

Grace Lutheran Parish Planning Council

Rhonda Olson, President
Jason Berghorst, President-Elect
Don Dinger, Vice-President
Sherri Thompson, Treasurer
Cary Radisewitz, Secretary

Greg Spath, Evangelism Ministry
Paula Lammert, Finance Ministry
Kenny Scheidt, Property Ministry
Jodi Rops, Learning Ministry
Marv Fuerstenberg, Parish Care Ministry
Kim Schmidt, Worship & Music Ministry
Curt Thorson, Stewardship Ministry
Leah Radisewitz, Young Peoples Ministry

Pastor Ron Nichols and Pastor Josh Enderson

Next Generation/Young Peoples Ministry

Youth attending the National Youth Gathering will be taking orders for Super Bowl sub sandwiches until February 1st. Confirmation age youth will serve many of the Lenten Suppers again this year. A "manathon" event specifically planned for our young men in grades 9-12 will be held in February. A similar special event for young women will be scheduled later. Voucher sales continue to go well.

Learning Ministry

Sunday School and WINGS are back in session after the Christmas break. An all-church family Game Day was held on a wintery Sunday in January. Amie is working on plans for Lent and Easter learning opportunities.

Finance Ministry

Finance Ministry members are working with the capital campaign leadership team on the current program. Members are also helping with the counting of the offering until new Monday morning counters are found.

The next Ministry Night is February 14th
Parish Planning Council meets at 6:45pm
Ministries meet at 8:00pm

Capital Campaign Projects Update

As you know, in November the congregation approved a series of property improvement and renovation projects. These projects will enhance our worship life, improve the safety and security of our facility and grounds, increase the efficiency of our building to make us better stewards of our resources, and create an even more welcoming and attractive house of God as we reach out to our community.

The Executive Ministry, along with leaders of our Property, Worship/Music, Finance, and Stewardship Ministries, has been working to finalize project plans. Here is a brief update of some of the progress made on these plans and some information of what's to come! More info will be shared next month.

Pipe Organ Restoration and Enhancement

Our pipe organ restoration and enhancement project will be completed by the J.F. Nordlie Organ Company of Sioux Falls. Tentative plans are for the project to be completed this June or July. We expect to have the organ out of operation for about six weeks. The project will rebuild the organ's electrical system, the current console, and the existing swell motors. The existing organ pipes, windchests, reservoirs, and chambers will be cleaned and repaired as necessary. Enhancements and additions to the organ will include a new computer switching system using fiber optics, a new LCD screen on the console to monitor memory and console functions, two new windchests with oak casework, and 549 new exposed pipes, including six additional registers and nine more ranks.

Here is a summary of pipe totals:

Current:	31 speaking stops	13 registers	16 ranks	1,051 pipes
New:	5 speaking stops	6 registers	9 ranks	549 pipes
Total completed:	36 speaking stops	19 registers	25 ranks	1,600 pipes

Sanctuary Roof Replacement

The entire sanctuary roof will be replaced by Architectural Roofing and Sheetmetal, Inc, of Sioux Falls. The project's start date is dependent on the weather, but may begin in early spring. We will have full use of the sanctuary throughout the project. The pitched roof will be completed first followed by the flat roof sections. A steel roof will be used that will be similar in appearance to the roof at St. John's Lutheran. Updated and additional gutters and downspouts will also be a part of this project.

Window and Door Replacement

Approximately 60 original windows, not including the stained glass windows and those added during the 1998 addition, will be replaced. The west, southwest, and north doors will also be replaced. All windows and doors will now match those in the new addition. They will also be far more energy efficient than the current windows. Heartland Glass of Sioux Falls is the contractor and plans to take up to four weeks to complete the project this spring or summer.

Sanctuary Multimedia Enhancements

Plans continue to come together for the multimedia additions to the sanctuary. At this time, plans are to replace the current sound system, add projection screens, and add stationary digital cameras. More information on plans for these projects will be shared when finalized in the future.

Missions in Action Feb 2 and 16, 2012 8:30 to 12:30

We invite anyone who is interested in helping with our quilts and/or kits to come and join us.

What goes in the kits for Lutheran World Relief has changed for this year. Below is a list of everything that goes in the kits. If you are interested in purchasing items for the kits, we would welcome your contributions. But we ask that you watch for sales. If you don't want to buy the items for an entire kit, buy what you want and leave it in the Stewardship Room. We are happy to get whatever you feel like giving.

School Kits

4 – 70 sheet notebooks (wide or college ruled); 1 – 30 centimeter rule (can have inches on 1 side); 1 pencil sharpener; 1 blunt scissors; 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; 5 ballpoint pens (no gel ink); 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons; 1 eraser about 2 ½" long

Personal Care Kits (formerly health kits)

1 bath size towel (52x27 or smaller), dark color, light or medium weight; 2 bath size bars (4 to 5 oz) soap, any brand, in original wrapping; 1 adult-size toothbrush in original wrapping (toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business envelope – no plastic bags or wrap); 1 sturdy comb, remove wrapping; 1 metal nail clipper, remove wrapping.

Baby Care Kits (formerly layettes)

2 lightweight cotton t-shirts; 2 long or short sleeve gowns or sleepers (no feet); 2 receiving blankets, medium weight cotton or flannel, crocheted or knitted with light weight yarn, up to 52" square; 4 cloth diapers, flat fold preferred; 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with hood, or include a baby cap; 2 pairs of socks; 1 hand towel, dark color; 2 bath-size bars of gentle soap (4 to 5 oz.) in original wrapping, 2 diaper pins or large safety pins. (Note: We will make the diapers out of flannel)

HELP! The Esther Circle needs new members. We only have several active members and we need more. We are studying the book of Mark from the *Gather* magazine. If you are looking to join a circle, contact Alice Birkeland at 283-2928.

Thanks!

Send Birthday Greetings...Pastor Norm Olsen, former pastor at Grace, will celebrate his 80th birthday on February 15.

Pastor Norm Olsen
34705 190th St
Starbuck MN 56381

Our Church Family

Grace will be creating a new pictorial directory. Individuals and families can Begin signing up for portrait sessions now by calling **1-800-866-2263**. Portrait sessions will be held **March 6-7, 13-15 and 27-29**. Portrait sessions will be scheduled for **Weekdays 2:00 pm—9:30 pm and Saturdays 9:30 am-5:00 pm**. Watch for reminders in upcoming bulletins.

Each household that completes a portrait session will receive a 20% discount on portraits and a complimentary church directory. Additional portrait options will be available for purchase.

Seniors and Military families will receive an additional 10% discount on portraits.

Please plan to participate - our church directory won't be complete without YOU!

Cottage Meetings February 6 through 11

As part of the *A Strong Heritage for a Stronger Tomorrow* program campaign planners are asking for your help. In hopes of informing members more completely, we are asking for members to host a Cottage Meeting in their home sometime during the week of February 6 through the 11th. Each host is asked to invite 6 to 8 other couples or singles who live in their area over to their home to hear of this program. A presenter will visit your meeting. You will not need to make a presentation. No pledges or gifts are asked at this meeting. These meeting will begin at 7:00 PM with a 20-30 minute presentation about our Capital Campaign followed by 10 minutes of questions and answers. Hosts are simply asked to provide their home for this meeting and invite neighbors from Grace to attend. Coffee and treats may be served as well.

If you are willing to help in this vitally important task please sign up after worship or call the church office.

Grace Lutheran Coffee Mugs

The Evangelism Ministry is offering coffee mugs with the church logo for \$3.00 each. They may be found on the table in the narthex.



Join us each month to share a ride and dinner out. We meet in the church parking lot usually at 5:30 PM on the designated day and return home around 9:00 PM. Each month we dine at a local restaurant within about 50 miles of Luverne. There is no agenda other than to dine out and enjoy some fellowship.

Our next scheduled trip will be Tuesday, February 21st to the Glass House, Ihlen, MN. Meet in the church parking lot at 5:30 PM.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!! In order to keep in contact with all members, we need to have current information, namely phone number, email and addresses. If any of these have changed for you, please let us know. We don't mean to "bug" you, there just are times that we need to reach you.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

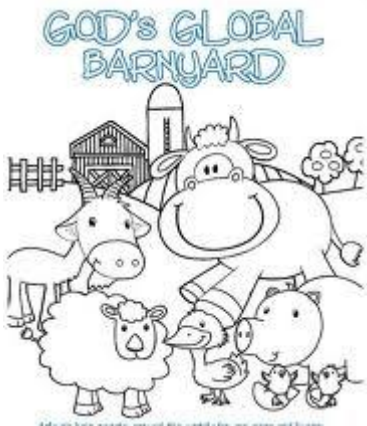
Best way to contact you: Phone ____ Cell: ____ Email: ____

Please sign this form if it is okay to use your information in our new directory.

THANK YOU

Return to the church office.

Children and Family



God's Global Barnyard.
January's Offering bought 630 baby chicks

Noisy Sunday
February 5th
Empty out your
barns and bring
the coins to
Church.
February's noisy
offering will go
to purchasing
pigs for \$30 a
piece through

WINGS

Wednesday 3:15-5:00

Extreme Makeover (attitude)

February 1 Twelve spies report on Canaan.
Numbers 13:17-14:9.

February 8 Paul is shipwrecked.
Acts 27:13-25; Philippians 4:10-13.

February 15 Simeon and Anna Prophecy
Luke 2:21-40

February 22 Jesus Speaks With the Teachers
Luke 2:41-52

February 29 Jesus is Baptized
Matthew 3:13-17

*****The take home sheets will be sent via e-mail. If you would like a paper copy sent home each week with your child please contact Amie Reker

MILESTONES

February 12, 10:45 service
Kindergarten students will be presented "Mouseprints...Journey Through the Church Year" Tote. In this tote are activity books and CD explaining the church year.

Sunday School

9:30 – 10:30am

Feb 5 Jesus Heals a Man Who is Paralyzed
Mark 2:1-12

Feb 12 Jesus Heals Jairus's Daughter
Mark 5:21-24, 35-43

Feb 19 The Transfiguration
Mark 9:2-10

Feb 26 Jesus Calms a Storm
Mark 4:35-41

Sunday School Offering January: \$165.00

GRACE: \$82.50

Food Shelf \$27.50

Share \$27.50

Backpack Program \$27.50



God's Valentine Gift

God's Valentine gift of love to us
Was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book
To while away the hours.
His gift was to become a man,
So He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us,
So you and I could live.
He gave us sweet salvation, and
Instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies
And love our Savior, too.
So as we give our Valentines,
Let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give
Is that He gave everything.

By Joanna Fuchs

February Birthdays



- Feb 1: Sandra Duncan, Susan Kester, Jane Nelson, Knute Oldre, Mona Peterson
Feb 2: Emma Beyer, Marv Lammert, Damian Wickherst, Paul Witte
Feb 3: Larry Boelman, Mike Carlson, Mabel Gyberg, Gary Overgaard
Feb 4: Jean Hoven, Amy Leuthold, Elmer Moeller
Feb 5: Evie Boomgaarden, Ryder Koenig, Ingrid Mostad, June Polzin, Lynn Remme, Gloria Rolfs, Steve Tofteland, Paul Zebe
Feb 6: Arna Gabrielson, Kyle Oldre, Krosby Sandbulte, Dolly Talbert
Feb 8: Deb Hoogendoorn
Feb 9: Chris Hoogland
Feb 11: Seth Bose, Vicky Meyer, Jayson Rops, Liz Scheidt
Feb 13: Angie Abrahamson, Scott Adams, Deb Bush
Feb 14: Gerry Hamann, Linda Iverson, Carter Sehr
Feb 15: Dean Tofteland
Feb 16: Chad Anderson, Jason Berghorst, DeLinda Kephart, John Thorson
Feb 17: Connie Connell
Feb 18: Paula Thielbar
Feb 19: Brian Abrahamson, Andrew Gabrielson, Steve Graphenteen, Perry Hoven, Verlon Shearer
Feb 20: Philip Eisma, Casey Klosterbuer, Millie Moen
Feb 21: Jim Nelson, Leah Radisewitz
Feb 22: Evelyn Thode, Larry Viland
Feb 23: Phyllis Bentson, Mary Jo Graphenteen, Wayne Michelsen, Becca Renken, Schuyler Swier
Feb 24: Isabel Honerman, Samuel Honerman, Curt Laudon, Alyssa Nattress
Feb 25: Graham Hartquist, Rozilyn Oye, Ella Reisdorfer
Feb 26: Sandy Klosterbuer, Tom Skattum
Feb 27: Ariel Kruse
Feb 28: Reid Dreckman, Pastor Josh Enderson, Sarah Kanninen, Kenny Scheidt

February Radio Sponsors

- Feb 5: In memory of Bob Hatting from
Lois and family
- Feb 12: In memory of Norman & Ellen Aanenson
From family
- Feb 19: In memory of Gregory Remme from Gale
- Feb 26: From Naomi Circle

Pastoral Acts



Funerals

1/2 Melvin Smook

Baptisms

1/14 Henry Bradley Petersen
DOB 9/19/2011

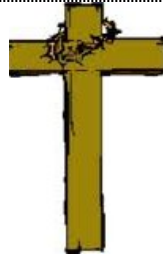
1/29 Eli Harlan Kinsinger
DOB 10.19.2011



Next Generation Ministries

Special Dates to Remember:

- Saturday
Feb 4
9:00 AM
NYG kids to assemble sandwiches
- Sunday
Feb 12
Manathon
All Men
Grades 9-12
Cost \$10
- Sunday,
Feb. 19 Ice skating at BMIA
Time TBD
Cost \$3
- Girls Night Out
Sunday
Feb. 26
from 5:00—8:00 PM
Cost \$10



1 Timothy 5: 12-13 *“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.”*

Confirmation Suppers 2012

Parents! Please sign up to help out with a Wednesday night 5:30 supper for sometime in 2012! Even if all it takes is ordering some pizza!! Thanks!



Skating Party! (Take 2)



We are going to try to have a Grace ice skating night on Sunday, February 19. Time is TBD as they run a weekly schedule for open skate at the Blue Mound Ice Arena so please stay posted! All students grades 6-12 are welcome! Cost to skate is \$3

Change of Date for Manathon

The Manathon has been moved to Sunday, February 12 from 3:00 pm to 8:00. Calling all men (Grades 9-12) . Come and figure out what is your true “Call of Duty”. Get ready for a night of Dodgeball, games, Manly activities, Wings and Root Beer. . Cost will be \$10 to help cover food expenses. Be ready to learn what a Man of God is.



Girls Night Out

Attention Women of Faith! Be ready to come together for some fun, fine italian dining, and fellowship with your sisters in Christ. Hear from amazing women as they share their stories with you, and how Christ has changed their lives for the better! Cost of the event will be \$10. Event will be on Sunday February 26, from 5-8:00 PM In the grace fellowship hall. Please register with Dustin ahead of time as we will have some catered food. Any girls grades 9 -12 are welcome. Bring your friends!

**PRAY
UNTIL SOMETHING
HAPPENS**

Isaiah 40:31

“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”

January 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day 8:15 Pre-recorded Broadcast KQAD No Sunday School 10:00 Wor/Comm	2 Office Closed	3 9:00 Staff Meeting	4 7:00 Men's Study No WINGS 6:15 Worship/Comm 7:00 Conf Gr 6-8/ Mentors 7:30 9th Gr/Mentors	5 8:30 Missions in Action 7:00 Exaltation Worship Team	6 3:00 Telecast Ch 3 (Knology)	7 5:30 Worship
8 Noisy Sunday 8:15 Worship 9:15 Coffee 9:30 SS & Adlt Sty 10:45 Worship	9 9:00 Bible Study 10 & 4:00 Telecast Ch 3 (Knology) 6:30 Vibes 7:40 Echoes	10 9:00 Staff Meeting 2:00 GLCW Ex Bd 6:45 Parish Planning Council 8:00 Ministries	11 7:00 Men's Study 3:15 WINGS 6:15 Worship 7:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Conf Gr 6-9 8:15 Bread of Life Worship TEam	12 2:00 GLCW 4:30 Book Study	13 3:00 Telecast	14 9:00 Capital Campaign Training 5:30 Wor/Comm
15 8:15 Worship/Comm 9:15 Coffee 9:30 SS & Adult Sty 10:45 Worship/Comm/2 yr olds prayer pillows Cap Campaign Kickoff	16 GRACE NOTES DEADLINE 9:00 Bible Study 10 & 4 Telecast 6:30 Vibes 7:40 Echoes	17 9:00 Staff Meeting	18 7:00 Men's Study 3:15 WINGS 6:15 Wor/Comm 7:00 Conf Gr 6-9 7:00 Chancel Choir	19 8:30 Missions in Action 4:30 Book Study 5:30 Ride & Dine	20 3:00 Telecast	21 5:30 Worship
22 8:15 Worship 9:15 Coffee 9:30 SS & Adult Sty 9:30 New Member Class 10:45 Worship 3:00 All Church Board Games Day	23 9:00 Bible Study 10: & 4 Telecast 6:30 Vibes	24 9:00 Staff Meeting CIRCLES	25 7:00 Men's Study 3:15 WINGS 6:15 Worship 7:00 Conf Gr 6-9	26 CIRCLES 4:30 Book Study	27 3:00 Telecast	28 5:30 Worship
29 8:15 Worship 9:15 Coffee 9:30 SS & Adult Sty 9:30 New Member Class 10:45 Worship	30 9:00 Bible Study 10 & 4 Telecast 6:30 Vibes 7:40 Echoes	31 9:00 Staff Meeting 9:00 Assemble GN 1:30 MJB Comm 2:30 Pop Cr Comm 3:30 Vet's Comm				