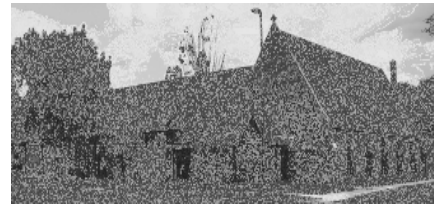


GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
301 E FOREST AVE  
MORA, MN 55051

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MORA, MINNESOTA  
permit No. 88

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



# GRACELINES

Grace Lutheran Church ~ It works because of you!

August 2011

**The deadline for the September 2011 newsletter is Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at NOON.**

## AUGUST COFFEE AND COOKIE SERVERS

August 7	Jaci Boxrud, Leah Berry
August 14	Renee Capra, Lee Moody
August 21	Barb Ennis, Anita Anderson
August 28	Shirley Klepsa, Judy Roeschlein

## SEPTEMBER COFFEE AND COOKIE SERVERS

September 4	Bonnie Boyer, Barb O'Donovan
September 11	Rally Sunday - Sharron Ahonen, Leah Hughes
September 18	Lucy Schultz, Jodi Schultz
September 25	Rhonda Felland, Kathy Anderson

DATED MATERIAL – PLEASE EXPEDITE

***We need new faces to help serve coffee & cookies Sunday mornings. Please call Dianne Larson at 679-2412 or the church office at 679-1062 if you are willing to serve! It's an easy volunteer position and a great way to share your talents!!***

***Attention Servers: Please bring 8 dozen goodies each to share. Thanks for your help- it's much appreciated!***

***COFFEE SERVING TIME: Coffee will be served between the services and after the 9:15 service. Please be at the church by 8:15 to get the coffee started and things set up. Please keep this copy, we will list your name in the bulletin the week before you are to serve.***

***If you are unable to serve on the Sunday listed please change a Sunday with someone else AND please let Dianne Larson know of the change at 679-2412.***

## MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS

August 8	John & Karen Sandy, Don Franko
August 9	Ray & Diane Knutson, Don Franko



**Meals on  
Wheels**

**Staff:** Senior Pastor Doug Larson  
Associate Pastor Brenda Wicklund  
Office Secretary & membership: Dianne Wachsmuth  
Friday Secretary: Leah Hughes  
Volunteer Coordinator: Sue Halsey  
Family Life Ministry: Jessica Thomson  
Janitors: Ray & Bev Fore  
Snow Removal: James Wren

**Officers:** President: Nick Schroeder  
Vice President: Mike Sampson  
Secretary: Tricia Otto  
Treasurer: Kristin Nelson

**Synod Delegates April 29-May 1:** Lynn Anderson, Lucille Schultz Alternate: Doyle Jelsing

**Council Members:**  
Bonnie Boyer, Matt Felger, Beatta Hillman, Mike Sampson, Laura Daher, Jill Kent,  
Pat Weiss-Meyer, Preston Carlisle, Nick Schroeder, Lynn Anderson, Tricia Otto

This month's solution

4	2	8	7	9	3	1	5	6
9	1	3	5	6	4	8	2	7
7	6	5	1	8	2	4	3	9
8	5	2	4	7	9	3	6	1
6	4	1	3	2	8	9	7	5
3	9	7	6	5	1	2	8	4
5	8	4	2	1	6	7	9	3
2	3	6	9	4	7	5	1	8
1	7	9	8	3	5	6	4	2

301 E Forest Ave  
Mora, MN 55051  
Senior Pastor Douglas Larson (home 320-982-3932)  
Associate Pastor Brenda Wicklund (home 320-384-7865)

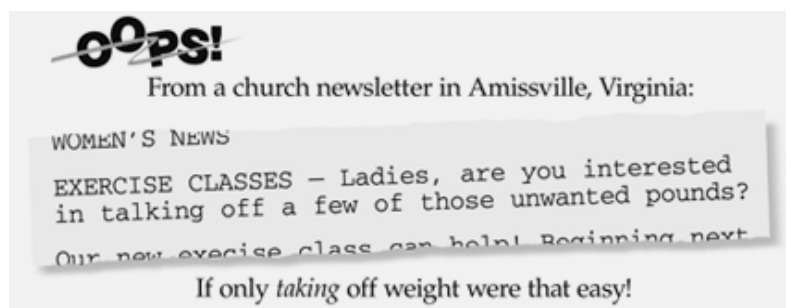
phone 320-679-1062  
fax 320-679-5005  
church@gracechurchmora.org  
www.gracechurchmora.org

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS~ August 2011**

	<u>GREETERS</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>COMMUNION ASSISTANTS</u>
			<u>8:00</u>	
8/7	.....	Russ & Donna Callander	Dianne Wachsmuth	Mary Rowley
8/14	.....	Ricke & Ruth Mattison	Sue Halsey	
8/21	Barb O'Donovan	Ron & JoAnn Menk	JoAnn Menk	Jaci Boxrud
8/28	Bill & Lee Moody	Larry & Mary Rowley	Beatta Hillman	
			<u>9:15</u>	
8/7	Deb & Eleanor Funk	Dean & Dan Funk	Vicky Semelhack	Kris Pulford, Joe & Julie Mulford, Don & Vicky Semelhack
8/14	Jerry & Valerie Brown	Roger & Geri Teich	Teri Heggernes	
8/21	Matt, Amanda, Zackary, Felger	Bruce & Jackie Thompson	Bruce Thompson	Matt & Amanda Felger, Mark & Verona Gravich, Robyn Wallace
8/28	Kristin & Kinzie Nelson	Greg & Marilyn Nikodym	Kristin Nelson	



	<u>8:00</u>	<u>ACOLYTES</u>	<u>9:15</u>
8-7	Austin Peterson Emma Anderson	Korisa Lindquist Courtney Lindquist	
8-14	Grace Marhon Slade Fore	Jacob Janousek Tanner Baxley	
8-21	Daniel Peterson Dakota Hamme	Cassidy Carlisle Kayla Goude-Ringler	
8-28	Jared Fladebo Alyssa Erickson	Mahayla Mensing Shawn McGrew	



*If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please exchange your Sunday with someone else on this list and then let the church office know of the change as soon as possible (679-1062). Thank you for your willingness to serve.*



**SUNDAY, August 7**  
**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**  
 8:00 a.m. – Traditional Communion Worship  
 9:15 a.m. - Contemporary Communion Worship

**SUNDAY, August 14 – Baptismal Anniversary**  
**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**  
 8:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship  
 9:15 a.m. – Contemporary Worship

**SUNDAY, August 21**  
**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
 8:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship  
 9:15 a.m. – Contemporary Worship

**SUNDAY, August 28**  
**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**  
 8:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship  
 9:15 a.m. - Contemporary Worship



**Fun Page**

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 thru 9.

4			7			1		
	1	3			4	8		
7				8	2	4		
8				7			6	
		1	3		8	9		
	9			5				4
		4	2	1				3
		6	9			5	1	
		9			5			2

© Daily Sudoku Ltd 2011. All rights reserved.

Daily SuDoku: Wed 20-Jul-2011 easy

**Word Find**

E J E S U S S Y C I T F B T O  
 Q S A I R F A O U A H E A T P  
 P E K J F P V W O R S H I P C  
 E W D Z A R I B I X X T O Y R  
 N H C P M E O S U N D A Y V T  
 T P V Z I P R R F Z I C A S G  
 E R A V L A F A U G U S T U T  
 C A C S Y R R I Y C C M Z M S  
 O I A U P A I F D A C I R M W  
 S S T N Q T E P P B E R P E I  
 T E I S T I N P H I C F I R M  
 J M O H X O D T E N S G Y S M  
 F G N I Q N S V E S L O R D I  
 P I C N I C L U T H E R A N N  
 R M V E H U H Y M N S V W S G

**Word list:**

- |          |             |           |
|----------|-------------|-----------|
| August   | Summer      | Heat      |
| Family   | Vacation    | Picnic    |
| Swimming | Cabin       | Pentecost |
| Worship  | Praise      | Hymns     |
| Lutheran | Sunday      | Sunshine  |
| Jesus    | Lord        | Savior    |
| Friends  | Preparation |           |

**Soup For The Soul**

Volunteers serve a free meal to those in need every Monday from 4:00-7:00 at Emma's Pizza in Mora.

We could use people to help with dish washing and clean up.

Dish washing early shift: 4:00-5:30

Dish washing late shift: 5:30-7:30

Clean-up (vacuuming, floor washing, garbage, tables and chairs put away): 7:00-7:45

Donations are always welcome to keep this worthwhile community outreach program going! Money can be given to Dianne Wachsmuth in the church office or can be placed in the offering plate designated-Soup For The Soul.

Check out our Needs List! Items can be left at the Social Concerns display area.

Thanks! Kris Pulford

To volunteer call Bert Anderson: 320-223-3242

Questions call Kris Pulford: 679-3249

**From Pastor Doug**

**“What do you do when your religion isn’t big enough for God? What do you do when your rules and codes and laws simply aren’t enough anymore? What do you do when your system falls apart because the new thing that God is doing is better, beyond, superior, more compelling?”** These questions come from a book by Rob Bell that I have been reading, Jesus Wants To Save Christians. These questions come up from the passage in Acts 8:26 and following where Philip meets the Ethiopian eunuch. This person is returning from Jerusalem, is the treasurer of the Queen of Sheba, and he is reading about the Suffering Servant. He’s also confused about whom this refers to. Philip explains that it is Jesus, crucified and risen. The eunuch wants to be baptized into this new thing that God is doing in Jesus. Big problem, he is a eunuch—not allowed in the assembly of God according to the Old Testament (Deuteronomy 23:1). He hasn’t been circumcised, so not a real Jew either.

But he has read the Word of God and believes in Jesus. So what does Philip do? What are the rules in the new age of the Church? Are there rules for this yet? This reflects the tension in the early Church as it sought to follow Jesus in new ground. Philip baptizes the Ethiopian eunuch! Philip realizes that Jesus is too big for the former rules. He breaks new ground—maybe wondering where all this will lead. Peter and Paul find themselves in new ground again and again. And the Holy Spirit leads them to do the will of Christ.

I share this story because I believe we as individual Christians and as part of the Christian Church find ourselves in new ground every so often. Philip, Peter, Paul, Martin Luther and maybe you, have wrestled with this big God who comes to us in Jesus. How does Jesus fit into our world? I think He breaks things open so that His Kingdom and His will can be life and salvation to all who believe in Him. So—how is God breaking open your world?

**NEEDED:** You! Or maybe you are already helping in the ways God wants. Or maybe God knows you have more of what God needs. Nobody is beyond the call of God to help with the church they belong to. We have need someone to join the **Fellowship Ministry** who would like to help lead a warm, creative, energetic group of people. The **Property Ministry** has taken on some new members—and some people who have served so faithfully and diligently for many years have gone off this group—but a few more people would be helpful. In fact, a couple women would add their eye and perspective. We will need helpers with **Sunday School and Confirmation** in a month. God bless all who have helped and will help again! And maybe you, if you haven’t, are a person God is calling to come forward. Don’t wait to be asked--volunteer! It might be a wonderful blast!

**A QUESTION AT THE COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE:** How do people find out what the various Ministries do and how do they sign up? Well, this fall in October, the Stewardship Ministry will have another Mission Fair. All groups in the church will be asked to put up a booth for two weeks, showing what they are about. We did this some years back and it was great. It was a lot of fun to see all the ministry that Grace Lutheran is doing.

As I write this, I understand that the state shutdown is coming to an end. A budget has been approved. Now let us pray daily that in this next year, all those involved in state government can work together to bring about God’s will for the state of Minnesota, whatever that may be.

*Pastor Doug*

# General Information from Grace Lutheran Church

## Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request, contact Barb Sjoberg 679-5373 or the church office, 679-1062. If you would like to be added to the e-mail prayer chain, e-mail Barb Sjoberg at [encourager4him@hotmail.com](mailto:encourager4him@hotmail.com) or the church office at [church@gracechurchmora.org](mailto:church@gracechurchmora.org)

\*\*\*\*\*



**YOU ARE NEEDED! IT'S NOT HARD! We need to have some new faces helping with coffee and cookies on Sunday mornings.** You would only need to serve once per year. We would like to have three people each Sunday morning as there are more and more people attending Sunday morning services. Please contact Dianne at 679-2412.

\*\*\*\*\*

## GRACE LUTHERAN ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

Laird and Louise Mork	320-679-3491	Eldora Pearson	320-679-2406
Pearl Peterson	320-679-0470	Irene Johnson	320-679-2743

\*\*\*\*\*

## OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS go out to:

- Jaci & Mark Boxrud, Jessica & Jason Thomson, Sierra and Saul, and Leah & Matt Berry, Layla and Maggie on the death of Jaci's father, Jerome (Art) Hoffman from Hastings.
- Becky, Jay, Kelly and Jared Fladebo; Sara, Adam, Ben and Haley Nordenstrom and Jenny and Jake Ellingson on the death of Becky's mother Alice Nelson
- Martha and Bill Gotfredson and Bob and Donna Youngquist, Shari Salmonson, Jane Skramstad and Karl Gotfredson on the death of Martha and Bob's sister Della Gunard.
- Sue and Bob Oehrlein on the death of Sue's brother Mark Heidecker of Rollag, MN.
- Gary and Diane Runquist on the death of Gary's brother Les.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Pastoral Acts

### FUNERALS

Date	Name	Member Non-Member	Officiating Pastor & Place
7/5/2011	Dean Newton	X	Pastor Brenda Wicklund @ Dresser-Methven Funeral Hm. Mora

### BAPTISMS:

Date	Name	DOB	Child of:	Sponsors:
07/24/2011	Keaton Marie Brandt	04/05/2011	Christopher & Elizabeth Brandt	Jamie & Debra Wright Tommy & Barry Schultz

### WEDDINGS:

- 07/09/2011 Jesse Polchow and Alissa McDermeit by Pastor Doug Larson
- 07/16/2011 Christian Blom and Lynette Hampey by Pastor Brenda Wicklund

### TRANSFERS TO OTHER CHURCHES:

June 22, 2011 Kaden Paul Lucas to Calvary Lutheran Church Bemidji, MN.



### We Are On The Radic

The 8:00 a.m. Worship Service is broadcast on KBK 95.5 FM at 9:15 am every Sunday morning. It is recorded by the station and then played back at this time. If you can't make it to church, or have to work, but have access to a radio, you can tune in and be a part of worship that way.

A RADIO SPONSOR sign up chart is posted by the FLOWER CHART, located by the elevator, if you are interested in helping to sponsor a radio broadcast in honor of a birthday, anniversary, wedding or other special dates, or in memory of a loved one. The cost of each Sunday is \$115. Thanks to those of you who give to this important ministry of Grace!

Invite a friend to worship on Sunday or any event at church!



# Banner Ministry "Expressing the Faith"

Contact: Barb Sjoberg

January, February, March –Barbara Larson, Sharon Forster  
July, August, September – Martha Gotfredson, Lee Moody

"We will shout for joy when you are victorious and will lift up our banners in the name of our God." Psalm 20:5

April, May, June –Lucille Schultz

Oct., Nov., Dec. – Sharon Holmstrom, Barb Sjoberg

WHERE ARE WE IN THE CHURCH YEAR?  
WHAT ARE THE LITURGICAL COLORS FOR AUGUST?

### We are currently in the Time after Pentecost.

This is a long season of life and growth when we learn much about our faith and life in Jesus.

Green is the liturgical color for this church season. Green, seen everywhere in plants and trees, symbolizes life and hope. Green is used, to indicate our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ.

We focus on the growth of the church as the Body of Christ - a community of faith.

**Worship and Word**  
**Worship is the heart of the life of Grace.**  
**Here is a schedule of our liturgies**  
**AUGUST 2011 – Year A**

The Time after Pentecost consists of the Sundays after Pentecost but before Advent. It varies in length, depending on the date of Easter Day. This season is also called "ordinary time," because the Sundays do not have special names, just ordinal numbers.

### Eighth Sunday after Pentecost - August 7, 2011

1 Kings 19:9-18, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33

### Fourth Sunday after Pentecost - August 14, 2011

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15:10-28

### Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - August 21, 2011

Isaiah 51:1-6, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

### Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - August 28, 2011

Jeremiah 15:15-21, Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28

FESTIVALS & SEASONS OF THE CHURCH – During the Month of August: Time after Pentecost

### THEME: The Church fulfills the Great Commission

This is the final season of the Christian year, is the longest season and is the time where the church focuses on outreach and fulfilling the call Jesus gave right before His ascension- "...to go and baptizing every nation" using His power given through the Holy Spirit.

**DATES: The Time after Pentecost** lasts from the day after Pentecost to the day before Advent. It is the longest season of the church year, encompassing 23 - 28 Sundays. Thus it begins on June 13th and ends on November 26th, 2011.

### WHAT IS THE TIME AFTER PENTECOST – Time of the Church – Ordinary Time?

**The Time after Pentecost is a teaching time, a growing time, in the life of the church.**



This is the non-festival portion of the liturgical calendar during which the church focuses on Christian living, evangelism, stewardship, and service to others. It is a season for growth in the church, as we listen to the call of the Holy Spirit to respond in faith.

Churches emphasize Jesus' teachings about the kingdom of God. They engage issues of daily life and concerns of the community, nation, and world. The season comes after we have remembered Christ's sacrifice on Good Friday and celebrated his resurrection on Easter and the gift of the Holy Spirit at Easter and Pentecost.

We come to this season, then secure in the knowledge that God is with us at work and leisure, when we give and receive love, and when we are anxious, afraid, joyful, lonely, struggling with decisions, succeeding, and failing.

Because Pentecost is the day that God poured out His Holy Spirit on Christ's disciples, the Time after Pentecost is centered on sanctification, the work of the Holy Spirit in the day-to-day life of the Christian

Through the gift of faith that comes only from the Holy Spirit, Christians are able to believe in Christ as Lord and proclaim Him in their daily lives by their neighbors.

SERVICE

able to believe service to

FAITH

As we bless others, we find ourselves blessed in return.

Be the Blessing



## Worship

Council liaisons: Jill Kent, Tricia Otto, Pat Weiss-Meyer

### **Worship, Music, & Arts Ministry**

Members: Todd Sjoberg, Judy Radeke, Linda Parson, Jacki Peterson, Dick Schultz

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Altar Guild**

Contact: Sharron Ahonen

August 2011: Althea Danielson, Lois Nelson

September 2011: Dianne Wachsmuth, Ruth Mattison

October 2011: Mary Schwartz, Evelyn Lobdell

November 2011: Sandy Broehl, Diane Blegen

\*\*\*\*\*



If you have an abundance of flowers that would make nice bouquets and would like to donate them for our altar flowers, please let Kim Bankers or the church office know. Kim is graciously doing flower arrangements for us.



**WORSHIP AND MUSIC SURVEY:** Somewhere over 80 surveys were returned.

This was very good. Worship and Music Ministry has been going over the information and will continue in the next months. Hopefully, in the next newsletter some conclusions and results will be ready. *Thanks* to all of you who took the time and energy to fill them out.

#### *How to Green Your Summer*

##### **1. Steppin' light**

Find local activities with low environmental impacts like a trip to the local park, woods, zoo, ballgame, or beach with friends to relax. Time spent with friends and family can be a great way to catch up and have fun. Picking up that new book you've been meaning to read while lounging on the deck is another great way to pass the time and leave a smaller footprint behind.

##### **2. Cool and easy**

Air conditioning can offer much-needed respite from the heat and can make sweaty nights bearable, but be sensitive to overuse. Turning up the thermostat a few degrees on your AC is a great way to save tons of cash while making the planet a cooler place at the same time.

##### **3. Up in your grill**

Love to BBQ? Propane burns much cleaner than either wood or charcoal briquettes. If you can't resist charcoal, try a natural product like those produced by Cowboy Charcoal--much cleaner than your traditional briquettes. Of course, when you're done grilling, use natural cleaning products such as SoyClean organic grill cleaner to keep your summer as chemical-free as possible. Tests show it's just as tough on grime as traditional cleaners, but won't leave that chemical residue behind to leach into your next burger or grilled tomato.

##### **4. The local roundup**

Buy food locally. Farmers markets are great places to shop, and ensure that the veggies you're eating hot off the grill or mixed in a salad haven't traveled thousands of miles just to reach your plate. That cuts down on the use of fossil fuels, which leads to significantly reduced levels of pollution and resource depletion over your typical tomato bought at the local supermarket.

##### **5. The green plate special**

Use reusable dishes rather than plastics or Styrofoam. If you absolutely must use disposables, make sure to pick up compostable varieties beforehand to put in the compost bin when you're through.

##### **6. Charge!**

Pick up a solar backpack or device like the Freeloader or the Solio to take with you on day trips. That way, whether you're at the beach or on the go you'll be able to run and recharge a wide range of portable devices on solar energy. Save a buck by cutting out the electric company and giving your rechargeables the solar power they deserve.

## Thoughts from Pastor Brenda

**“The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.” Psalm 19:1-2**

Creation! Have you gotten to see God's creation lately? I know I have. My husband and I along with my brother and sister-in-law took a two day trip to the beautiful Grand Marias area. Wow! The blues of Lake Superior, the splashing of its waves, the flowers blooming through the crevices of the rocks, the greens of the trees and without any words God was being praised in all of creation. Even the sea gulls with their banter praised God. Creation praises its' Maker night and day the Psalmist says, in words that we don't even understand.

When have you sensed that creation was praising God this summer? Have you been too busy to notice or are you enjoying each and every breeze, sunrise, sunset, and even the storms that refresh us with cool and rain? This time of year is a wonderful time to watch creation praise God. It might be the laughter at the beach or pool of children, the campfire late at night; anywhere you go for a drive right now you will see creation praising God. It may even be as you have the cup of coffee looking out your window (did I just give myself away?). It might be in that first cucumber or beans from the garden, or the berries you pick for your jam. Creation, along with us, is praising God. We hear God when we enjoy and appreciate time in all of the beauty of creation.

As your summer unfortunately will wind down, here at Grace Lutheran Church we are looking ahead with anticipation and excitement for the month of September! Sunday School will begin again along with Release Time for the children! We will be looking at Luther's Catechism and especially the Ten Commandments along with other Bible stories. First Communion classes will be offered for 1st graders or 6 years old and up if parents would like them to participate. Confirmation will begin again and the Peer Ministry Team will be starting a night for growing relationships and opening the Bible twice a month on Wednesday's for 9-12th graders. Family Fun night will begin along with some cooking classes for parents and children. We will also have a quarterly fun day on Sundays throughout the year! Doesn't it all just sound like fun?

Please keep that ministry in your prayers and discern what you would like to assist or participate in any of the activities. The whole congregation is in charge of taking care of our children. They are our kids!

What about you? How is your faith life going? Are you ready to begin to open the Bible and discuss, learn, pray and grow in your life? Even though we have some hours set aside for that it may not work for you. What would work and what would you like to see? Please let us know as we look forward to where God is leading us here at Grace Lutheran Church.

Have a wonderful time playing in Creation!

Peace,

Pastor Brenda

**“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.” Psalm 19:14**

## Helping Hands For August



### Coordinators:

Lynnae Christianson,  
Jaci Boxrud,  
Kathy Menze,  
Deb Schultz

### Group Members:

Anderson, Brian G  
Backlund, David & Deb  
Baldwin, Debbie  
Boxrud, Jaci & Mark \*  
Capra, Ernie & Renee  
Carlson, Wesley & Roxann  
Cheney, John & Cindy  
Christianson, Ordean & Lynnae  
Christianson, Ryan  
Dickinson, Barry & Colette  
Ellingson, Jacob & Jennie  
Ennis, Greg & Patricia  
Ennis, Paul & Barb  
Falk, Lloyd & Jan  
Felland, Tim & Rhonda  
Forster, Frank\* & Sharon  
Fredrickson, Earl & Betty  
Grace, Ron & Gerri  
Graham, Lesley & Kelly\*  
Graves, Ron  
Haasken, Lorna  
Hallin, Beth & James\*  
Hallin, Debbie & Mike \*  
Hanrehan, Derek &  
Connie Danielson  
Johnson, Merlin & Beatrice  
Johnson, Randy & Kris  
Kapinos, Keith & Sandra  
Kehr, Kelly & John \*  
Knutson, James & Julie French  
Larson, Thomas & Marri  
Ludowese, Janet  
Menze, Larry & Kathy  
Moody, William & Leone  
Mulford, Joseph & Julie  
Nowling, Dan\* & Racheal  
Parent, Sheila & Wm II  
Radeke, Curt & Judith  
Sampson, Michael & Kris  
Sarault, Robert & Mary  
Schultz, Richard & Deborah  
Skolte, James & Lynette  
Stassen, Dean & Gayle  
Thomson, Jason & Jessica  
Tipp, Marlis  
Ulstrom, David & Shirley  
VanDriel, Don & Elaine  
Voss, Peggy & Jerry\*  
Wicklund, Mark & Darlene  
Wills, Stephen & Patricia

## Helping Hands 101

“What does it mean when my name is on the Helping Hands List in the newsletter?” I’ve been asked this question recently, and it’s a good idea to explain what Helping Hands is all about periodically.

Our membership is divided into six groups, somewhat equal in number. Each group is the Helping Hands group for two months of the year, January and July, February and August, and so forth. During the month, if there were a funeral at Grace, the members of that group would be called upon to bring the food and provide workers for a funeral. The job of the coordinators of the month is to organize the funeral. They would call members for the food donations and workers for the funeral, and be there during the funeral to organize the serving. During the warm weather months, salads are brought, and during the cold weather months, hot dishes are brought in. Cupcakes are also donated.

The coordinators have charts to go by, so they know how much food is needed. If they can’t get enough food from the list, they may go to the previous list, if there had been no funeral that month. There are some people who come forward and offer to bring food for whatever month it is, so they are utilized to help as well. We try to keep up to date as to the health and capabilities of our members, so we wouldn’t want to ask for help from someone who is unable to do so. Some members may not be able to prepare something, but offer money to buy a donation, or just go and buy something to donate. This plan works as well.

Families pay a small amount for the funeral. The fee goes to buying coffee, pickles, buns, napkins, etc. for the funeral. The remainder goes into the WELCA treasury, where it is used for the many ministries at Grace.

Some people have indicated which months they prefer to be on. We try to accommodate that. Snowbirds, of course, have to be off the winter months. But please don’t try to get off the summer months. Everyone is busy in the summer, and if you’re able to help, we need you. If you happen to be gone, that’s o.k; we’ll utilize you another time.

We have eight to ten funerals a year, and naturally you never know when they will be. Sometimes we will go for several months without a funeral. One time we had three large funerals three days in a row, and we handled it very well. One never knows.

By being on this list, you are being an important member of our church family. Loss of a loved one is a difficult time in any family’s life. Providing the funeral meal along with the service is a great gesture of Christian love. Your hands may give part of that love simply by mixing up some tuna salad or a batch of cupcakes.

P.S. I’m always looking for more coordinators, whether in the form of callers or working day supervisors. Perhaps you are someone who would like to be called for food donations more frequently. If this is the case, let the church office know or email me at [sueatgrace@live.com](mailto:sueatgrace@live.com)

~ Sue Halsey, Volunteer Coordinator

## WELCA

### A GRACE COUNTRY HARVEST FALL BAZAAR UPDATE

*How are your craft projects coming along? If you haven’t started yet, it’s time to get crafting. Remember if it’s ideas you need, check out the idea books in the Grace Living Library.*

**Flower gardens and roadside ditches should be in full bloom** and now is the time to pick and dry some of those lovely flowers. Dried arrangements and clusters of dried flowers are good sale items for the Garden of Grace area. Here is a list of some kinds of flowers and weeds that dry very well: roses, baby’s breath, yarrow, liatras, straw flowers, caspia, tanzie, stasis, various grasses, foxtail, and wheat. Maybe you can even experiment with some flowers from your own garden.

There will be a **Grandma’s Attic** again this year. Remember we emphasize “treasures from the past”. Do you have some special old, treasured antique or vintage items that you can donate?

It will soon be time for **harvesting and canning**. Are you thinking about which jams, jellies, pickles, salsas, beets, etc. you will be able to make/can for our **Country Harvest Sweets** area?

We would like to invite anyone from the congregation who is interested to get involved with the Bazaar. There are various sub-committees in which you may be interested... *We would love to have new people get involved. You will be happy you joined in the fun.*

**This year’s bazaar is Saturday, November 12.** We need the cooperation of the entire congregation to make this event successful. Use your imagination and get crafting!

**We invite you to join the Prayer Shawl Ministry here at Grace Lutheran Church.**



Prayer Shawl Ministry

**The Prayer Shawl Ministry** will not meet formally for the summer, but ministry members can remember to bring your knitting/crocheting with you when you go on your summer vacations. Vacations are a special time to connect with the Holy Spirit through the construction of a "Prayer Shawl".

We continue to distribute them even in the summer and they bring God’s warmth and love to the receiver.



**WINDOWS TELL THE STORY.** Through the history of churches and cathedrals, stained glass windows have told the story of the Bible. Our windows at Grace Lutheran in the Family Life Center continue this tradition. Twelve windows are now being made and will be ready sometime in August for installation. The six east side windows will tell the story of God working in the Old Testament: Creation and Fall, Burning Bush and Ten Commandments, Worship and Psalms, Prophets preaching and waiting for the Messiah. The west side windows will proclaim the Birth of Jesus, Teaching Parables, Miracles and the Passion Week.

Just under half of the cost of these windows has been paid for at this time (\$22,700). A full window costs \$3,800. You may purchase any portion of a window you wish. The remainder to be paid is \$22,900. You will find the donation sheets at the church office.

## ***Family Life Ministry***

Over \$400 was raised in the can drive! Thanks to the Johnstone's for the use of the trailer and delivery of the cans! Thanks to all who brought in their cans for the youth!

The Coborn's brat stand earned the youth \$397.97 and the youth received \$180 in donations towards our mission trip! Thanks to all who came and supported us!

Our Mission Trip to Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota was amazing! Check out all the photos on the Grace Facebook page! Rachel and Amy Scullard, Kailey Berry, Cassidy Carlisle, Ally Erickson, Grace Marohn and Sydney Anderson are all awesome youth! They did everything that was asked of them without question. I am so proud of them!

We have scheduled another date for *Feed My Starving Children*! We will be going down *Wednesday August 17th, our shift is from 9:30-11:30*. Please sign up on the FLM table so I have an idea of how many will be going. If you have room for youth to ride with you please let Jessica know that as well! We look forward to this time of service together as a church family.

Upcoming dates: *First Communion Training*: Sunday September 25th, Wednesday October 5th- 3:00-4:30 and Wednesday October 12th 3:00-4:30. This is for all youth 6 years old and older who would like to receive communion.

We will also be starting a *cooking class this fall*. Cam and Nick Schroeder will be teaching a family style cooking class on *Wednesday October 5th*. Mark your calendars!!

Have a great summer! ~ Jessica Thomson

---

## ***Release Time***

Leaders: Pastor Doug, Pastor Brenda, Tricia Otto, Jessica Thomson, Kristin Nelson

---

## ***Luther Point Bible Camp***

If you have any questions regarding Luther Point Bible Camp, feel free to contact our Camp Ambassador, Tricia Otto at 679-9818.

**Luther Point's Summer Celebration: Sunday August 7:** Mark your calendars now to join us for the annual Craft / Quilt Auction and Summer Celebration on Sunday August 7th. We are looking for individuals to create and donate items such as artwork, wood-crafted items, quilts, other crafts, theme baskets and more for the Auction and Silent Auction. With questions, contact Marcel at 715-689-2347 or Marcel@LutherPoint.org.

**Come and Retreat with Us:** We have weekend openings for the Retreat Center, Family Cabins, Luther Lodge and more. Perfect for a weekend get away with family and friends. Are you looking to schedule a family reunion? Whatever the occasion, consider staying at Luther Point! Inquire with Liz@LutherPoint.org or call (715) 689-2347.

**Choral Retreat:** Calling all singers!! On Saturday, September 17th, 2011, Luther Point and Luther Park will be hosting a day-long choral retreat at Luther Park in Chetek, WI! Dr. Elliot Wold, Retired UW-RF Choral Conductor, will lead the retreat choir in the conversation about Christ through song. Join other singers in mastering pieces of choral music while fellowshiping with one another in a setting that fosters relaxation and recreation. The retreat culminates with worship. 8am-7pm. Cost for the day is \$40 (\$20 deposit) and that includes 3 meals, music, and workshop. Feel free to come Friday night, adding on \$15 for a 7pm arrival and lodging. Check out Luther Point's website for more information! To register or for more information: 715-689-2347; Email: info@lutherpoint.org; Website: www.lutherpoint.org

**Introducing "Impact 365" Year Round Ministry Team:** "Impact 365" is a team of young adults who are devoting their year to ministry at Luther Point and in your congregation. All the team members have previously worked on summer staff at Luther Point and are ready to bring that same energy and enthusiasm of the summer camp experience to everything they do. The ministry of the team is about more than just promoting camp—it's about being a resource for youth and family ministry. Events are being scheduled now for the 2011-2012 school year. We realize that camp doesn't have to happen at camp, and we want to be able to share the same relational and engaging ministry experiences of camp with you! Events are on a contractual basis for a fee to support the Impact 365 team. Contact Liz: 715-689-2347 or Liz@LutherPoint.org

## **Stewardship – 'Caring from the Faith'**

Council liaisons: Laura Daher, Bonnie Boyer, Lynn Anderson, Mike Sampson, Beatta Hillman, Matt Felger, Pat Weiss Meyer

### ***Finance Ministry***

Members: Doyle Jelsing, Roger Peterson, Bonnie Boyer, Kristin Nelson, Betty Smith, Sara Kopka, Matt Felger

*Checkbook information:*

Beginning balance	(8,461.33)
Donations	26,119.59
Expenses	<u>(25,836.65)</u>
Ending balance	(8,271.45)

*Dedicated Account Balance:*

Undesignated General - \$10,000	
Renovation - \$322.40	
Banner - \$5.92	
Youth Mission trip scholarship- \$2,162.66	
Nelson's receipts/Pastor Contingency – \$310.69	
Fair Trade – \$23.98	
Matching - \$4513	
Library \$500.00	

*Mortgage Information:*

First of month balance	363,255.33
monthly payment	(2,168.14)
additional principal pmt	<u>(614.00)</u>
End of month balance	360,446.19

---

### ***Property Ministry***

Ron Stark, Galen Brelie, Bill Moody, Larry Simonich, Gene Weckwerth, Jim Skolte, Gary Broehl

### ***Stewardship Ministry***

Members: Bill Daher, Rollie Fredrickson, Pastor Doug

### ***Personnel:***

Members: Rich Rasmusson, Sharron Ahonen, John Sandy

### ***Nominating Committee:***

Members: Dave Ulstrom, Dale Hawkins, Bev Deis, Jason Thomson, Ruth Mattsion, Greg Myers, Jodi Schultz

### ***Memorial Ministry***

Members: Kris Johnson, Mary Nordenstrom

### ***Foundation Ministry***

Members: Doyle Jelsing, Deb Schultz, Laura Strand, Jeff Bangma

### ***Mutual Ministry:***

Pam Johnstone (679-3311), Karen Rasmusson (679-5636), Walt Olen (679-1570)

If you have a spiritual concern or comment, let one of these people know. They are there for you!

### ***Social Justice Ministry,***

Deb Schultz, Barb Orstad, Pam Hallauer, Mary Brelie, Kris Pulford, Jessica Olen, Ruth Mills

***Next Meeting: Sept.14, 2011*** - We would like to move the meeting back to 5 PM for those who also want to attend Choir rehearsals, but will talk with Pastor Brenda about the time for the Women's Bible Study.

---

Let go! Much attention is being paid to the heavy backpacks kids now lug to school. My fifth-grader's backpack weighs nearly 20 pounds — more than one-quarter of her body weight!

This year I bought my kids backpacks with wheels to ease the muscle strain. Problem solved? Wrong. They continue lugging the packs on their backs, and I keep reminding them to put the packs down and roll them.

I don't understand it — or do I? We adults carry heavy burdens, too. They pile up and weigh us down. The cumulative weight can be crushing. But we don't have to carry our troubles. Jesus tells us to let him shoulder the load (see Matthew 11:28). Jesus already took away our biggest burden by dying on the cross. So we can truly "Let go ... and let God."

—Kari Myers

---

## **CALLING ALL SINGERS!**

A F.I.S.H. Benefit Community Choir Concert is being planned for Sunday, September 11 at 4:00 pm in the Family Life Center. A Patriotic program is being planned in commemoration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11. There will be a lot of wonderful choral music with a patriotic theme and the concert should be very meaningful for the choir members as well as those who come to enjoy the music.

Rehearsals are planned for several Wednesdays in August, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, and a tech rehearsal on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. All rehearsals are at 6:30 pm at Grace. Please consider being a part of this Community Choir as we enjoy making music together and raising some money for F.I.S.H projects.

Questions? Call Mary Brelie at 679-4675

## Education – ‘Passing on the Faith’

Council liaisons: Beatta Hillman, Mike Sampson, Pat Weiss-Meyer, Tricia Otto, Jill Kent, Lynn Anderson, Preston Carlisle

### Living Grace Library Ministry



Members: Kailey Berry, Sarah Berry, Penny Casavant, Lynnae Christianson, Jeanne Granlund, Sue Halsey, Mary Lykins, Char Mayer, Ruth Mills, Jane Myers, Karin Simonich, Laura Strand, Jackie Thompson

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

#### Mission Statement

The Grace Lutheran Library Mission will support all the members of Grace using the library resources to help them interpret what they read, hear, see and experience within the context of the Christian Gospel.

#### Author of the Month - Kim Vogel Sawyer

Our library has a number of books by this author on our shelves. Some of the titles are “series” books and some are “stand alone” titles. One series of three books includes the titles, *Blessing*, *Beginnings* and *Bygones*. Many of the books by this author have an Amish theme.

One of the “stand alone” books is titled *Where Willows Grow*. This book is set in the 1930's in Kansas. There is no rain. Crops cannot grow in the dusty fields. Harley Phipps leaves home to take a government job through the Works Progress Administration with the intent of sending his pay home to his wife & daughters so that they can keep their farm. Anna Mae’s faith in God and trust in her husband are tested when letters and money do not come. Harley has never believed in God and tries to do right by his family in his own way. Didn’t he ask his neighbor Jack to keep an eye on things at the farm and help Anna Mae out? Why didn’t Anna write him a note to let him know things were alright at home?

The following is a list of some of the other Kim Vogel Sawyer novels on the library shelves:

<u><i>Courting Miss Amsel</i></u>	<u><i>Fields of Grace</i></u>
<u><i>A Hopeful Heart</i></u>	<u><i>Where the Heart Leads</i></u>
<u><i>A Promise for Spring</i></u>	<u><i>Waiting for Summer’s Return</i></u>

**Summer** is a good time to make use of Living Grace Library to **Read! Read! Read!** There are many, many books waiting to be read for pre-schoolers, early readers, elementary school readers, pre-teen readers, teen readers and adult readers. There is a large section of adult fiction - but you may want to try some non-fiction too.

Don’t forget movies. The library has added a selection of new DVD’s for you to check out and enjoy.

*Living Grace Library is open whenever the church is open. Come in any time.*

*Please remember to return your finished library books. The book you may have forgotten to return may be just the book someone else is patiently waiting to read. Thank you.*

### Vacation Bible School -

For more information contact: Kelly Kehr & Jessica Thomson

### Confirmation Ministry

Coordinator: Kris Sampson

Recorder: Kelly Erickson

### Milestone Ministry

The Milestones Ministry seeks to **RECOGNIZE, RESPOND, and REACH OUT** in celebration of the milestones of our Faith Journeys

God comes into our world and graciously claims us for the Kingdom of God. This great event is often under-used in our life. On August 14<sup>th</sup> those baptized into new life by God’s Word and water will be invited to gather around the Baptismal font to celebrate this great gift of God. Following is a list of members that were baptized this month:

### Baptismal Anniversaries

Bangma, Pauline	Folkema, Angela	Kapinos, Korbin
Bergstadt, Alyssa	Fore, Rebecca	Kent, Jill
Berry, John	Fore, Slade	Loren, Alexandra
Berry, Nicole	Fore, Tracy	Marohn, Eric
Boyer, Brianna	Funk, Donna	Menze, Kathy
Brandt, Kendall	Funk, Jeremy	O’Connor, Logan
Capra, Ernie	Goude, Calysta	Olson, Jane
Casavant, Doyle	Graves, Logan	Olson, Kirby
Dickinson, Barry	Gravich, Mark	Paulson, Peter
Dickinson, Colette	Hams, Andrea	Pearson, Shelby
Ellingson, Jacob	Jelsing, Doyle	Pierson, Anson
Ennis, Barb	Kapinos, Heather	Posthumus, Aaron
		Posthumus, Isabelle

Qual, Karla  
Radeke, Curt  
Sampson, Michael  
Schritz, Logan  
Schroeder, Honor  
Schultz, Heather  
Schultz, Robert  
Simonich, Karin  
Smith-Unger, Brendan  
Whitbred, Ellie  
Wicklund, Dan  
Wicklund, Evan  
Wren, James  
Zaar, Sharon



### Birthdays

Berry, Jennifer 2	Peterson, Austin 11	Halvorson, Landen 23
Kopka, Sara 2	Donaghue, Carson 12	Methven, Claudia 23
Berry, Sarah 3	Roeschlein, Tom 12	Sundberg, Rita 23
Berry, Leah 4	Greski, Jinx 13	Thomas, Corrine 23
Crow, Adam 4	Weinreich, Anna 13	Whitbred V, Charles 23
Goude, Calysta 4	Nordeen, Carol 14	Anderson, Kathryn 24
Johnstone, Pam 4	Christianson, Lynnae 16	Haasken, Lorna 24
Nielsen, Faith 4	Vraa, Charles 16	Olen, Lucas 24
Peterson, Jeremy 4	Hams, Austin 17	Pierson, Trinity 24
Kent, Jill 5	Peysar, Emily 17	Broehl, Randy 25
Nichols, Ellaina 6	Brown, Roya 18	Boyer, Bonnie 26
Orstad, Curtis 6	Fore, Kevin 18	Kunst, Bridgett 26
Dahlof, Lenora 7	Larson, Douglas 18	Nordenstrom, Sara 26
Fore, Katie 7	Parson, Kristom 18	Pierson, Kay 26
Olson, Diane 7	Hawkins, Dale 19	Turner, Dylon 27
Orstad, Carl 7	Berry, Thomas 20	Gotfredson, Martha 28
Casavant, Kayla 8	Funk, Donna 20	Adams, Michael 29
Hawkins, Jean 8	Kobberdahl, Arthur 20	Bergstadt, Kenneth 29
Kleven, Kristie 8	McGovern, Charles 20	Carlisle, Cassidy 29
Olson, Eric 8	Smith, Matthew 20	Olson, Linda 29
Kahle, Beatrice 9	Swanson, Lori 21	Parson, Sarah 29
Tetnowski, Aaron 9	Teter, Jorden 21	McClanahan, Devin 30
Dickinson, Barry 10	Lobdell, Evelyn 22	Sandy, Karen 30
Casavant, Doyle 11	Brown, Kim 23	Danielson, Connie 31
Marohn, Elizabeth 11	Graves, Derek 23	Kobberdahl, Mary 31
		Langenbau, Khloe 31
		Larson, Richard 31

### Wedding Anniversaries...

Menk, Karl and Carrie*	AUG 1	2009
Thompson, Bruce and Jackie	AUG 2	1980
Lykins, Ronald and Mary	AUG 5	1972
Posthumus, Aaron and Sandra	AUG 5	2006
Sarault, Robert and Mary	AUG 5	1983
Semelhack, Donald and Vicky	AUG 6	1977
Kritzeck, Faye and Mark*	AUG 7	1999
Pierson, Robert and Kay	AUG 7	1971
Barnick, Dale and Wendy	AUG 8	2009
Thomson, Jason and Jessica	AUG 9	1997
Wallace, Robyn and Jim *	AUG 9	1986
Graves, Kristin and Ross *	AUG 10	1991
Jobe, Robert and Bonnie	AUG 13	1994
Pulford, Kristen and Robert*	AUG 13	1972
Hamme, Jeffrey and Kathleen	AUG 16	1969
Piescher, Ryan and Kristine *	AUG 16	2003
Rowley, Don and Deloris	AUG 16	1969
Grams, Roger and Vera	AUG 17	1991
Lindblom, John and Jackie	AUG 17	1991
Felger, Matt and Amanda	AUG 18	2001
Stassen, Dean and Gayle	AUG 18	2007
Mulford, Joseph and Julie	AUG 19	1995
Capra, Ernie and Renee	AUG 21	2001
Dickinson, Barry and Colette	AUG 21	1982
Ellingson, Jacob and Jennie	AUG 21	2010
Nikodym, Greg and Marilyn	AUG 21	1971
Funk, Gerald and Donna	AUG 22	1987
Peterson, Nathan and Melissa	AUG 23	2003
Dalbey, Gary and Bonnie	AUG 24	1985
Felland, Tim and Rhonda	AUG 24	1985
Radeke, Curt and Judith	AUG 27	1966
Riedl, Jessica and Michael*	AUG 28	2010
Warner, John and Linda	AUG 29	1964
Berry, John and Sarah	AUG 31	1991

### Via de Cristo 2011 Weekend Dates

Dates	Church & Address	Weekend	Area
October 13-16 & 20-23	Cross of Glory Lutheran, 5929 Brooklyn Blvd, Brooklyn Center, MN	566, 567	Metro
October 13-16 & 20-23	Gethsemane Lutheran, 901 4th St S, Virginia, MN	568, 569	North
November	TBA	570, 571	South

**Sunday School Ministry:** Coordinator: Val Brown Co-Coordinator: Marlene Marohn;  
Teachers: Kindergarten – Kristin Nelson, Preschool B – Jenny Berry & Darcy Qual,  
Preschool A – Marlene Marohn & Julie Mulford, Preschool Assistants: Kailey Berry

“Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.”

Grace Lutheran Council Meeting - June 14, 2011

Members Present: Pastor Doug, Pastor Brenda, Beatta Hillman, Pat Weiss-Meyer, Nick Schroeder, Jill Kent, Laura Daher, Tricia Otto and Preston Carlisle  
Members Absent: Mike Sampson, Matt Felger and Lynn Anderson

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by President Nick Schroeder.  
Devotions were led by Tricia Otto.

A motion was made by Jill to approve the agenda seconded by Tricia, Motion carried.

A motion was made by Beatta and seconded by Preston to approve the minutes from April and May. Motion carried.

President’s Report: Nick shared that he met with the Fellowship Committee on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The core group works well together, however some members are resigning and new recruits are needed to fill leader/administrator for this Ministry.

Treasurer’s Reports: Motion was made by Laura to accept the reports, seconded by Pat and carried.  
Pastor’s Reports:

Pastor Doug: Met with Pastor Brenda and Jessica Thomson to get long range planning completed for Family Life Ministry, Release Time, Sermonettes, and Sunday School. There is more to do and they will continue to meet until the plan is complete. The response to the Worship and Music Survey was quite good. We received approx 60 back. The Mortgage Reduction Committee is looking forward to meeting again this week with supporters of that last campaign. Pastor Brenda’s insurance has been taken care of with the help of the Finance Ministry. It will be up to council to approve at this time.

Pastor Brenda: Attended Festival of Homiletics in May and it was a great conference. Also, attended the Women of ELCA day conference in Duluth. Have been working with Pastor Doug and Jessica Thomson on long term planning for Family Ministries.

Ministry Reports: Were reviewed by council as submitted by the Stephen Ministry/Touch of Grace, Fellowship and Finance Committees.

Unfinished Business: Need to finalize the mounting of the defibrillator. Locations discussed were: above library door, by the mailboxes near the office and near the doors by the Narthex area. Insurance coverage for Pastor Brenda was approved by Finance and approved by Council at the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Pastor Brenda’s insurance starts in July 2011. Council supports the Mortgage Reduction plan and submitted individual offering to support.

New Business: Grace Lutheran Church parking lot needs seal coating and repairs. There has been 1 bid submitted for \$4,700 need to have discussion with Finance Committee. Kitchen Floor and Floor Mats need to be discussed with Finance Committee as well.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:03 to meet with Grace Lutheran Ministries’ at the leaders round table. Separate meeting notes were taken for the Ministries’ round table meeting.

Next Council Meeting scheduled for July 12, 2011 at 6:30PM

Grace Lutheran Church Council by Tricia Otto, Council Secretary

We are not out of the woods yet in terms of the financial crisis. It has been over two years and a lot has happened to people and their jobs and financial position. Some of you have lost jobs. Some have faced hard decisions in relation to your property. Some have found jobs in new areas. Some are still looking diligently for stable footing and a way to make it through these times. And we know that for those in retirement, your funds have been affected also. It isn't easy for anyone.

Here in the church, worship attendance continues to be pretty steady. It is good to see people using their church resources in these times. Involvement in programs has actually increased somewhat.

In terms of offerings, we have been fortunate that for the last two years, we have been able to meet the basic needs of the church. For the last year and a half, there has been enough to cover our bills on a weekly basis. Perhaps this spring, we have started to lose just a little ground. So, as a church, we know that things are still tight for most of us.

In these times that continue to be trying, we want to remind you of a few things:

- 1) We believe that the members of Grace Lutheran care about what is happening to one another. Please continue to draw on the support that our faith and community of believers, provides. Ask for prayers and be in worship to receive the strength that comes from God through the Word, Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.
- 2) Remember that worship is free! An offering is not an admittance ticket. We make a financial offering in response to what God has given us. Sometimes, our presence is all the offering we need to and can make. So know that whether your offering is what it has been; whether it is less than you would like; or whether you are not able to make any offering, you are still very welcome in worship. Please come!
- 3) If you have been able to continue your offerings in the way you want, we thank God for that blessing.
- 4) As a Church Council, along with the Finance Ministry and Stewardship Ministry, we are trying hard to be good managers of what is offered, so that the ministry of of caring for one another and proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ can continue.

Now may the peace of Christ that passes all understanding, hold and keep you safe in God's hands.

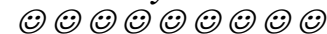
Grace Lutheran Church Council

---

**Thrivent Financial Members:** Thank you for choosing Grace Lutheran as a recipient of your "Thrivent Choice Dollars". The Church Council has used some of that to meet current expenses. They will decide monthly on future special uses for them, such as matching other projects.

---

***Get Ready To Smile!***



Our new church directory is in the plans.  
Mark your calendars - photos will be taken Oct 10-13, Oct 7-8.

