

Light of Grace

a monthly publication of:
GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1120 17th St S, Moorhead, MN 56560-5752

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February 1, 2017

Office Phone: (218) 233-1857 Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

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Church Website: www.graceumcmoorhead.org

Pastor: Roger Grafenstein

Pastor's E-Mail Address: graceunitedmethodistpastor@gmail.com

Parsonage Phone: (218) 233-0255

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 AM

Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM

Dear Friends,

The morning after the youth lock-in I was feeling energetic—because we had great “young” leaders that allowed this young grandpa to go home at 9 PM. I was also energized by the fact we had 16 5th-7th graders at the lock-in. Sunday morning while those 16 plus a few others that age were engaged in pancake-making and table-setting. We had 20+ other kids come up for children’s moments. Add in a couple babies and we had 40+ kids that Sunday at Grace UMC. God is choosing to bless Grace’s Ministry with Kids.

I’ve never surfed; but I know one thing about it. When the big wave comes you ride it. You muster up a mixture of courage, gratitude, and trust then go with the flow. There’s the possibility of wiping out (This young grandpa even knows what that ‘Wipe Out’ sounds like in the mind of a drummer). There’s also the possibility of riding the wave and coming out the other side standing.

The leaders at Grace want us to ride this wave and come out standing. **We’ve identified that children’s ministry is what God is calling us to focus on here and now—and what God is obviously blessing.** We’re clarifying the purpose of the children’s ministry. We’ve engaged parents to sign onto behavioral covenants with their children. We celebrate communion every first Wednesday evening and every 4th Wednesday evening we have a supper for the children and parents. We are planning a specific all leader training for teaching and working with “at risk” kids (kids that have serious illness in the family, insecure housing, low-household incomes and similar challenges that some of our kids face). At a Grace Vision & Ministry meeting 25 attended and one person put it this way, “So we’re not just trying to teach faith, we trying to make good citizens.” Yeah, we are working at sharing Bible stories and teaching healthy social interaction skills. We are teaching about Jesus and how to respond to life’s

challenges in ways Jesus’ would be proud of. It’s a challenging world and a faith to shape how we live is more vital than ever. Likely, that’s why God is blessing our Kids’ ministry.

Truth is, having a faith to base our life choices upon is important at all ages. Truth is all of us, no matter our age, are “at risk” of living less of a life than Jesus’ intended. So, during the month of February our sermon series is “Help with Hard Choices.”



All of us need support and guidance along life’s road. What better place to find that support and guidance than coming together to study Jesus’ instructions for living healthy, loving, lives. I hope you’ll join us each Sunday in February as we seek out ways of living into our faith more fully. I hope you’ll spend some time in prayer each day asking God how you might help Grace bless the children who keep coming to us in greater numbers.

“Then Jesus took a little child and placed it among them; taking the child in his arms, he said to them, ‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me, welcomes not me but the one who sent me’”(Mark 9:36-37).

God’s Peace,
Pastor Roger



Ministry TEAM Program.. A Way of Being the Church at GUMC! The TEAM's mission is to provide ushers, greeters, opening welcome and readers to our congregation . TEAM #5 (Feb/Aug) TEAM Coordinators are : B. & S. Fangsrud and J. Miller and Family

- Peggy Anderson (R.E.M. House)
- Elouise Brendemuhl (Kinder Care)
- Mabel Burkhardt (Bethany)
- Lois Ferguson (Eventide)
- Marjorie Ladwig (Eventide)
- Tom Collins (Eventide)
- Mary J. Phillips (Sheyenne Crossing)
- Jeanne Schwager (Bethany)
- Clara Krook (Bethany)
- Eleanor Payton (River Pointe)
- Bonnie Wagner (Fergus Falls)

- 218-236-0135—C. & R. Abel
- 701-261-9009—M. Akin
- 218-236-0183—J. Anderson
- 218-236-8836—D. Enkers
- 218-233-6915—J. & K. Enkers
- 218-233-0255—R. & C. Grafenstein
- 218-329-6199—M. & M. Hamm & Family
- 701-361-7571—B. & Z. Hanna & Family
- 218-236-7366—G. & S. Mohr
- 701-361-8785—A. Monge
- 218-236-5520—B. & M. Port
—S. Anderson & Family
- 218-233-3947—J. Schwager
- 218-498-2312—S. Simmons
- 701-866-6884—D. Stead & Family
- 218-236-8327—W. & W. Walseth
- 218-233-3341—M. Wright

PRAYER LIST at Home

- Vicky Westra Ruth Opp
- JoAnn Oelker David Reed
- Cullen Fraundorfer Shirley Mohr
- Myrna Swan Tammy Enkers



February Birthdays

- 1—J. Denny
- 2— L Larson
- 4—R. Lofgren
- 5—C. Welsh
- 6—C. Goldade
- 8—K. Baker
L. Gedose
- 13— E. Brown
- 15—J. Anderson
- 16—G. Chandler
- 17—J. Miller
K. Beck
- 19—F. Hamm
- 20—L. Denny
B. Burkhardt
E. Fraundorfer
- 22—H. Hamm
R. Murray
- 23—N. Lofgren
D. Burkhardt



DONUTS

The donut makers are back in business. Donuts will be made on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, To place your order for donuts, call the office, 233-1857, by January 16th. There is also a sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex.

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathies to the family of Rae Offutt who passed away on Thursday, January 12th. Her funeral was at Grace on Tuesday, January 17th.



Our sympathies to the family of Don Hartog who passed away on Thursday, January 19th. His funeral was at Grace on January 28th

LENT

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 1st. Let us begin today to prepare ourselves for spiritual growth during this special time of the church year.



WOMEN OF GRACE

A meeting for all Women of Grace will be held on Sunday, February 26th at 11:10 pm in the lounge. All women are invited to attend this meeting. If you have any questions, please contact P. Murray or J. Anderson.

VALENTINE'S DAY



In the early Christian church, there were three priests named Valentine or Valentinus. Though they didn't live at the same time, each was said to be holy and each had been martyred for his faith. All three priests were designated as saints. Around the year A.D., 498, Pope Gelasius declared February 14 as St. Valentine's Day.

Valentine's Day came to be associated with love, romance and marriage. The day is now so popular that only during the Christmas season do people mail more greeting cards.

No matter how many cards, flowers or sweets you receive this Valentine's Day, be assured that God loves you with an "everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3, NRSV)

THE ROLE OF FAITH

"Fear imprisons, faith liberates; fear paralyzes, faith empowers; fear disheartens, faith encourages; fear sickens, faith heals; fear makes useless; faith makes serviceable—and most of all, fear puts hopelessness at the heart of life, while faith rejoices in its God."



- Harry Emerson Fosdick



FAT TUESDAY

Mardi Gras also called Shrove Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday, in English, refers to events of the Carnival celebrations, beginning on or after the Christian feasts of the Epiphany (Three Kings Day) and culminating on the day before Ash Wednesday. Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday", reflecting the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season. Pancakes are a traditional food. Pancakes and related fried breads or pastries made with sugar, fat, and eggs are also traditionally consumed at this time

Related popular practices are associated with Shrovetide celebrations before the fasting and religious obligations associated with the penitential season of Lent. In countries such as England, Mardi Gras is also known as Shrove Tuesday, which is derived from the word shrive, meaning "confess".

The festival season varies from city to city, as some traditions, such as the one in New Orleans, Louisiana,, consider Mardi Gras to stretch the entire period from Twelfth Night (last night of Christmas which begins Epiphany) to Ash Wednesday. Others treat the final three-day period before Ash Wednesday as the Mardi Gras.

GROUND HOG



On February 2nd will the ground hog see his shadow and retreat back into its den for six more weeks of winter or will it not see its shadow and spring will arrive early?

Date	Psalm	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Wed, Feb 1	am: 72, pm: 119:73-96	Isa 54	Gal 4:21-31	Mark 8:11-26
Thur, Feb 2	am: 70, 71, pm: 74	Isa 55:1-13	Gal 5:1-15	Mark 8:27-9:1
Fri, Feb 3	am: 69, pm: 73	Isa 56:1-8	Gal 5:16-24	Mark 9:2-13
Sat, Feb 4	am: 75, 76, pm: 23, 27	am: Isa 57:3-13	Gal 5:25-6:10	Mark 9:14-29
Sun, Feb 5	am: 93, 96, pm: 34	Isa 57:14-21	Heb 12:1-6	John 7:37-46
Mon, Feb 6	am: 80, pm: 77, 79	Isa 58:1-12	Gal 6:11-18	Mark 9:30-41
Tue, Feb 7	am: 78:1-39, pm: 78:40-72	Isa 59:1-15a	2 Tim 1:1-14	Mark 9:42-50
Wed, Feb 8	am: 119:97-120, pm: 81, 82	Isa 59:15b-21	2 Tim 1:15-2:13	Mark 10:1-16
Thur, Feb 9	am: 146, 147, pm: 83, 85, 86	Isa 60:1-17	2 Tim 2:14-26	Mark 10:17-31
Fri, Feb 10	am: 88, pm: 91, 92	Isa 61:1-9	2 Tim 3:1-17	Mark 10:32-45
Sat, Feb 11	am: 87, 90, pm: 136	Isa 61:10-62:5	2 Tim 4:1-8	Mark 10:46-52
Sun, Feb 12	am:66, 67, pm: 19, 46	Isa 62:6-12	1 John 2:3-11	John 8:12-19
Mon, Feb 13	am: 89:1-18, pm: 89:19-52	Isa 63:1-6	1 Tim 1:1-17	Mark 11:1-11
Tue, Feb 14	am: 97, 99, 100, pm: 94, 95	Isa 63:7-14	1 Tim 1:18-2:8	Mark 11:12-26
Wed, Feb 15	am: 101, 109, pm: 119:121-144	Isa 63:15-64:9	1 Tim 3:1-16	Mark 11:27-12:12
Thur, Feb 16	am: 105:1-22, pm: 105:23-45	Isa 65:1-12	1 Tim 4:1-16	Mark 12:13-27
Fri, Feb 17	am: 102, pm: 107:1-32	Isa 65:17-25	1 Tim 5:17-25	Mark 12:28-34
Sat, Feb 18	am: 107:33-43, 108, pm: 33	Isa 66:1-6	1 Tim 6:6-21	Mark 12:35-44
Sun, Feb 19	am:118, pm: 145	Isa 66:7-14	1 John 3:4-10	John 10:7-16
Mon, Feb 20	am: 106:1-18, pm: 106:19-48	Ruth 1:1-14	2 Cor 1:1-11	Matt 5:1-12
Tue, Feb 21	am: 120, 121, 122, 123, pm: 124, 125, 126, 127	Ruth 1:15-22	2 Cor 1:12-22	Matt 5:13-20
Wed, Feb 22	am: 119:145-176, pm: 128, 129, 130	Ruth 2:1-13	2 Cor 1:23-2:17	Matt 5:21-26
Thur, Feb 23	am: 131, 132, 133, pm: 134, 135	Ruth 2:14-23	2 Cor 3:1-18	Matt 5:27-37
Fri, Feb 24	am: 140, 142, pm: 141, 143	Ruth 3:1-18	2 Cor 4:1-12	Matt 5:38-48
Sat, Feb 25	am: 137, 144, pm: 104	Ruth 4:1-17	2 Cor 4:13-5:10	Matt 6:1-6
Sun, Feb 26	am: 148, 149, 150, pm: 114, 115	Deut 6:1-9	Heb 12:18-29	John 12:24-32
Mon, Feb 27	am: 25, pm: 9, 15	Deut 6:10-15	Heb 1:1-14	John 1:1-18
Tue, Feb 28	am: 26, 28, pm: 36, 39	Deut 6:16-25	Heb 2:1-10	John 1:19-28

Grace United Methodist

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00 am Donut Making 1:00 pm ELR 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 pm Hand Bell Choir 7:15 pm Choir	2 Ground Hogs Day 7:00 am Book Study 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 1:30 pm Martha Circle	3	4
5 5th Sunday after Epiphany Boy Scout Sunday 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	6 1:00 pm ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	7 7:00 pm No-Prayer Shawl Ministry	8 1:00 pm ELR 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 pm Hand Bell Choir 7:15 pm Choir	9 7:00 am Book Study 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Sondra out of office	10	11
12 6th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	13 1:00 pm ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	14 Valentines Day 7:00 pm Operations & Resources	15 6:00 am Donut Making 1:00 pm ELR 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 pm Hand Bell Choir 7:15 pm Choir 8:15 pm Vision & Ministry—Grace Kids	16 7:00 am Book Study 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 1:00 pm Mhd Police Chaplains Meeting Scouts set up for Glue & Gold Ceremony 7:00 pm Lydia Circle	17 Scout Blue & Gold Ceremony	18
19 7th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	20 1:00 pm ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	21	22 1:00 pm ELR 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 pm Hand Bell Choir 7:15 pm Choir	23 7:00 am Book Study 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 9:00 am Park View Terrace Worship 10:00 am Golden Living Worship 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision	24	25
26 8th Sunday after Epiphany Transfiguration of our Lord 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 11:10 am All WOG	27 1:00 pm ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	28 Fat Tuesday	Lent begins on March 1st with 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service 			

PROVIDENCE AT WORK


In 1722, St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Leipzig, Germany, was searching for an organist/choir director. Composer Georg Philipp Telemann was offered the job. He accepted but soon decided he would remain in Hamburg. Another composer, Christoph Graupner, was then offered the job, but his powerful employer would not release him to take the position.

Finally, a man named Johann Sebastian Bach was chosen for the job.

Bach was extremely productive, often writing an anthem a week. He played the organ, directed the choir and taught music to students. He wrote monumental works such as St. Matthew's Passion, which is still sung by choirs today.

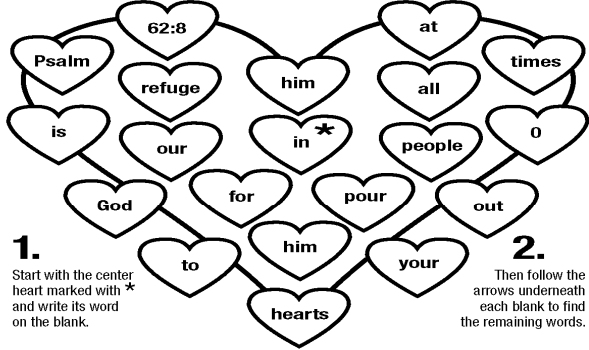
Bach composed more than 300 cantatas, dozens of chorales, preludes, organ compositions and other musical works. More than 250 years after his death, Bach's music still brings inspiration to many.

Bach died at 65, while still composing and serving the church. Bach's legendary service at St. Thomas Church reflects God's providential care at work in him and through him.



OUR HEARTS

This special Bible verse from the NIV describes what God wants us to do with our hearts.



1. Start with the center heart marked with * and write its word on the blank.

2. Then follow the arrows underneath each blank to find the remaining words.

“Trust _____ ,
 _____ ; _____
 _____ , _____
 _____ ”

Answer: "Trust in him at all times. O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge." Psalm 62:8

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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