

Light of Grace

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

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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,

Anyone who has owned a home knows that there are a number of things that go along with owning a home. If you are a do-it-yourself type, you know completing projects takes commitment to the project, a timeline, the needed skills, covering the costs, knowledge of codes, and the project often takes precedence over other priorities. I remember the hauling of materials, the time, commitment and skills required to replace a deck, to sheetrock a garage, to re-landscape a foundation with proper slope for adequate drainage. Every project was a learning experience and an investment that came with a sense of accomplishment when it was complete.

Honestly, I never made a list of the necessary **habits** to complete such tasks. But, commitment, persistence, hard work, measuring twice to cut once, pride in workmanship, and a vision of the completed project were all part of doing such projects well. The nice things about home projects is that they have a clear starting point and a definite ending point—at least for those who have a hard time with “unfinished projects.” When it comes to matters of the soul, however, we are always dealing with unfinished projects.

You or I can set out to become more forgiving but will never be able to say, “Well, that project is accomplished.” “I have forgiveness down pat.” Or love? No one says, “Well, I’ve spent three months learning to love God and neighbor. I’ve got that one down.” Things of the soul are ongoing projects. Sometimes matters of the heart and soul are frustrating because just when we think we’ve become gracious or prayerful or generous, we bump into a situation where we find the foundation of whatever matter of the spirit it is, still needs more work.

Following Jesus is tough work—at least if we actually want to live up to his example. Too many times we find out we haven’t become as faithful in our lives as Jesus was. This Lenten Season (those 40 days

before Easter) we are going to revisit how we are doing with following Jesus. In one way, shape or form we examine our spiritual journeys every Lent. ***This year, most United Methodist Churches in Minnesota are going to be using the same resource to help us grow in our journey with Jesus. It’s called: “Surprise the World: Five Habits of Highly Missional People.”*** (Michael Frost – 2015 – Tyndale House Publishers)

Jesus had a mission to build a new world. Moreover, Jesus invited us to join him in building this new world into “thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.” He invited us to join him in building ourselves into God’s temples. Not an easy task. Probably not a task we’ll see completed in our lifetimes. But, it’s a building project worth leaning in to. So, mid-February we will begin learning five personal habits that help fulfill Jesus’ mission.



We’ll be ordering books soon. Call the office to reserve yours now or order on a Sunday. Each week will examine a habit that helps build faithfulness. God willing, we will grow stronger together as a church, and grow more faithful as individuals to the mission of Jesus who called us, loved us, saved us, and promised to always be with us as we seek to serve him.

God’s Peace,

Pastor Roger



PRAYER LIST AT Care Facilities

- Peggy Anderson (R.E.M. House)
- Elouise Brendemuhl (Kinder Care)
- Mabel Burkhardt (Bethany)
- Lois Ferguson (Eventide)
- Tom Collins (Eventide)
- Mary J. Phillips
- Jeanne Schwager (Bethany)
- Clara Krook (Bethany)
- Eleanor Payton (River Pointe)
- Bonnie Wagner (Fergus Falls)
- Reeta Herman (Fairmont)
- Pat Walter (Elim)
- Emily Elliott (Rosewood)
- Roger Helland (VA Hospital)
- Ruth Opp (Edgewood Vista)
- Jim Jameson (Bethany on 42nd)
- Al Maksymchuk (Bethany on 42nd)

PRAYER LIST at Home

- Vicky Westra Cullen Fraundorfer
- ArNetta Monge Kitty Reed
- David Reed Wanda Walseth



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 #2 (Feb/Aug). TEAM coordinators are B. and S. Fangsrud and J. Miller and Family

- 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



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

Buttermilk Donuts will be made on February 14th and 28th. To place an order for donuts, call the office, 33-1857. There is also a sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OTHERS IN TIME OF NEED



funeral coordinator is needed. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Pastor Roger.

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathies to the family of Marjorie Ladwig who passed away on on Thursday, December 28th. Her funeral was at Grace on Wednesday, January 3rd.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

January

INCOME: \$ 9,079.63
EXPENSES: \$ 15,267.52
APPORTIONMENTS: \$ 604.34



WHY IS GOD CALLING YOU?

Del Larson, CLM

Recently, I found our church picture directory. I enjoyed reviewing our directory and the stories of our church. Grace was incorporated in 1878. Three years later, there were 60 people in Sunday School. Over the years, there have been four building projects. This church grew and prosper through the years, because everyone was involved. This has been a home, a family for over 139 years.

On Sunday, January 14, the Gospel Pastor Roger shared was from John 1:43-51. It was the story of Jesus calling new followers. Phillip, after being asked, sought his friend, Nathaniel, who asked Jesus how he knew him and Jesus replied, "I saw you sitting under the fig tree ... where Phillip found you." What a great example of how God keeps close tabs on us. The other scripture from Psalms 139: is King David's song of praise to God for knowing what is in our hearts and thoughts before we open our eyes each morning. There is no place that we can hide from God. We are His, and He calls us to come to Him not only when we are in need, but also when God needs us to fulfill His great plan. The following Sunday the Gospel was from Mark 1 and how Jesus sought four fishermen to become fishers of men. These men forsook all they had to walk with and learn from Christ. Do you fish?

An Old Testament story, tells of young Samuel, who while sleeping heard his name called. He got up and went to Eli, his spiritual mentor, but Eli sent him back to bed. A short time later Samuel was called and returned to Eli, who again told him to go back to bed. The third time, Eli told him to reply to the call, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

We have heard people say they have been called to their job, or how they found the right person. I know that I was called to teach and to find Luann. I have witnessed numerous times how God has worked in my life and teaching. I lost my teaching job in 1981, and moved away for two years before

I was recalled to Moorhead to finish my career. God was there guiding me, making me a better teacher while working in business. Many people don't understand how God calls us? For me it might be an Aha moment, a story I read, or something I find, which is how I became a Lay Minister.

God calls each of us. You have most likely felt the power of God through prayer numerous times. You get that warm feeling inside your chest when you hear praise music, and when Roger shares a significant point during his message. For me it often comes from writing. I am amazed how God puts ideas and words in my mind like this article. I have heard others ask, "How do you know God is calling you? I don't hear anything."

First, please trust that God does call you.

Search your heart and really listen. Have you read or heard recently someone ask for a funeral coordinator, a teacher for Sunday School, or people to get involved with our church leadership group? This church was built, and has been sustained by the many hands over the years that heard God's call to step up and make a difference for the life and future of this church and community. Before the turn of the last century, there were over 30 people serving on different boards and committees. We have streamlined our structure, but still have only 12 serving, without any new additions for 2018. Like our ancestors, who worked to give us this place of worship, we too need to build for the future. How many of you started out as babies here and have grown into grandparents because of the love God has shared here. I heard a young couple say recently, how wonderful it was their children loved to come to church and enjoyed the experiences. It is easy to put other things like jobs, sports, and hobbies before God, but God expects to be first in our lives, otherwise what life will we have. Why is God calling you? What can you do to help the next generations to come know the love of Grace Church?



Grace United Methodist

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 1:00 pm Mhd Police Chaplains 1:30 pm Martha Circle	2	3 9:00 am Financial Peace University
4 5th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	5 1:00 pm Quilting	6 6:30 pm Operations & Resources	7 6:00 pm GraceKids Ministry 6:15 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir	8 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline	9	10 9:00 am Financial Peace University
11 Last Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	12 1:00 pm Quilting 7:00 pm Caregivers	13	14 Ash Wednesday 6:00 am Donut Making 5:00 pm Soup Supper 6:00 pm GraceKids Ministry 6:15 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Lent Imposition of ashes Services 7:30 pm Choir	15 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 7:00 pm Lydia Circle	16	17 9:00 am Financial Peace University
18 1st Sunday in Lent 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 11:15 am Women of Grace—Lounge	19 1:00 pm Quilting	20	21 5:00 pm Soup Supper 6:00 pm GraceKids Ministry 6:15 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Lenten Services 7:30 pm Choir	22 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 9:00 am Park View 10:00 am Golden Living	23	24 9:00 am Financial Peace University
25 2nd Sunday in Lent 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	26 1:00 pm Quilting	27 6:30 pm Vision and Ministry	28 6:00 am Donut Making 5:00 pm Soup Supper 6:00 pm GraceKids Ministry 6:15 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Lenten Services 7:30 pm Choir			

Date	Psalm	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Thur, Feb 1	am: 70, 71, pm: 74	Gen 23:1-20	Heb 11:32-12:2	John 6:60-71
Fri, Feb 2	am: 69, pm: 73	Gen 24:1-27	Heb 12:3-11	John 7:1-13
Sat, Feb 3	am: 75, 76, pm: 23, 27	Gen 24:28-38, 49-51	Heb 12:12-29	John 7:14-36
Sun, Feb 4	am: 93, 96, pm: 34	Gen 24:50-67	2 Tim 2:14-21	Mark 10:13-22
Mon, Feb 5	am: 80, pm: 77, 79	Gen 25:19-34	Heb 13:1-16	John 7:37-52
Tue, Feb 6	am: 78:1-39, pm: 78:40-72	Gen 26:1-6, 12-33	Heb 13:17-25	John 7:53-8:11
Wed, Feb 7	am: 119:97-120, pm: 81, 82	Gen 27:1-29	Rom 12:1-8	John 8:12-20
Thur, Feb 8	am: 146, 147, pm: 83, 85, 86	Gen 27:30-45	Rom 12:9-21	John 8:21-32
Fri, Feb 9	am: 88, pm: 91, 92	Gen 27:46-28:4, 10-22	Rom 13:1-14	John 8:33-47
Sat, Feb 10	am: 87, 90, pm: 136	Gen 29:1-20	Rom 14:1-23	John 8:47-59
Sun, Feb 11	am: 148, 149, 150, pm: 114, 115	Prov 26:1-23	2 Cor 3:7-18	Luke 9:18-27
Mon, Feb 12	am: 25, pm: 9, 15	Prov 27:1-6, 10-12	Phil 2:1-13	John 18:15-18, 25-27
Tues, Feb 13	am: 26, 28, pm: 36, 39	Prov 30:1-4, 24-33	Phil 3:1-11	John 18:28-38
Wed, Feb 14	am: 95, 32, 143, pm: 102, 130	Amos 5:6-15	Heb 12:1-14	Luke 18:9-14
Thur, Feb 15	am: 37:1-18, pm: 37:19-42	Hab 3:1-18	Phil 3:12-21	John 17:1-8
Fri, Feb 16	am: 95, 31, pm: 35	Eze 18:1-4, 25-32	Phil 4:1-9	John 17:9-19
Sat, Feb 17	am: 30, 32, pm: 42, 43	Eze 39:21-29	Phil 4:10-20	John 17:20-26
Sun, Feb 18	am: 63, 98, pm: 103	Dan 9:3-10	Heb 2:10-18	John 12:44-50
Mon, Feb 19	am: 41, 52, pm: 44	Gen 37:1-11	1 Cor 1:1-19	Mark 1:1-13
Tues, Feb 20	am: 45, pm: 47, 48	Gen 37:12-24	1 Cor 1:20-31	Mark 1:14-28
Wed, Feb 21	am: 119:49-72, pm: 49, 53	Gen 37:25-36	1 Cor 2:1-13	Mark 1:29-45
Thur, Feb 22	am: 50, 59, 60, pm: 19, 46	Gen 39:1-23	1 Cor 2:14-3:15	Mark 2:1-12
Fri, Feb 23	am: 40, 54, pm: 51	Gen 40:1-23	1 Cor 3:16-23	Mark 2:13-22
Sat, Feb 24	am: 55, pm: 138, 139	Gen 41:1-13	1 Cor 4:1-7	Mark 2:23-3:6
Sun, Feb 25	am: 24, 29, pm: 8, 84	Gen 41:14-45	Rom 6:3-14	John 5:19-24
Mon, Feb 26	am: 56, 57, 58, pm: 64, 65	Gen 41:46-57	1 Cor 4:8-21	Mark 3:7-19a
Tues, Feb 27	am: 61, 62, pm: 68	Gen 42:1-17	1 Cor 5:1-8	Mark 3:19b-35
Wed, Feb 28	am: 72, pm: 119:73-96	Gen 42:18-28	1 Cor 5:6-6:8	Mark 4:1-20



LENT

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 14th with the study of “**Surprise the World: Five Habits of Highly Missional People.**” Books can be ordered by calling the office, 218-233-1857. Let us begin today to prepare ourselves for spiritual growth during this special time of the church year.

SCHEDULE FOR LENT

Soup Supper.....5:00 pm
GraceKids Ministry....6:00 pm
Lent Service.....7:00 pm
Choir Practice.....7:30 pm

There is a sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex for those wanting to donate a pan of bars to go with the soup.



WOMEN OF GRACE

A meeting for all Women of Grace will be held on Sunday, February 18th at 11:15 am in the lounge. All women are invited to attend this meeting. If you have any questions, please contact P. Murray or J. Anderson.

LYDIA'S PIES



Help Lydia Circle help support operations of Grace Church. The women of Lydia Circle will be baking pies on Saturday, March 3rd for pick up after worship services on Sunday, March 4th. Order a pie to say thank you to someone who did something special for you or take home a pie because you are special. Orders will be taken after worship services on February 11th, 18th and 25th or you can call P. Newgard at 701-367-0754.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Grace United Methodist Church
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(218) 233-1857

