

Light of Grace

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

Vol. 27, No. 3
March 1, 2016

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

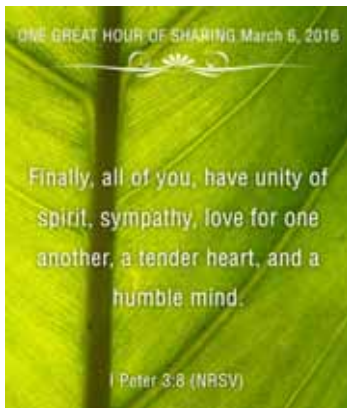
Pastor's E-Mail Address: graceunitedmethodistpastor@gmail.com

Parsonage Phone: (218) 233-0255

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM

Dear Friends,

March 6, 2016 United Methodists have an opportunity to turn our attention toward one cause. On One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday, we focus on carrying out Christ's work of reconciliation in the broken places in our world. One of the ads for One Great Hour of Sharing hints at a truth we often forget. I Peter 3:8 says, **"Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind."**



I believe the truth we sometimes forget is every Sunday is a special Sunday. Every Sunday is a little Easter. Every Sunday is meant to grow us in "unity of spirit, sympathy and love for one another." Every Sunday we are called to be part of God's reconciling love in the broken places of this world.

Yes, on One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday, we share the goodness of life with people who hurt. Our designated gifts to UMCOR (The United Methodist Committee on Relief) through The Advance and special appeals go directly toward relief efforts. Our One Great Hour of Sharing offering pays administrative expenses for UMCOR and supports ministries of food, shelter, health and peace. For instance, recently UMCOR responded to the situation in Flint, Michigan, where residents – including thousands of

children – have been exposed to lead in their drinking water since April 2014. UMCOR provided a grant to support local United Methodist churches and other agencies to address the problem. This community, somewhat reluctant to trust government agencies, has welcomed The United Methodist Church. **One Great Hour of Sharing allows us to share hope and healing around the globe—near and far. And, I invite us to give generously.**

However, every Sunday we are called to give of ourselves so Grace may be a place where people find hope and renewal. Everything we do is meant to whisper, "God is love." Every gift we bring is meant to say, "In the spirit of Jesus we are here for you and want to be a blessing in your life." Your support of Grace UMC is literally putting smiles on children's faces and planting the Bible stories in children's hearts every week. Your support of Grace provides a time and place where we lift up others in prayer—and often hear the difference prayer has made. Your support of Grace allows this church to be a place where people can come and find sanctuary in an often mean-spirited world—and see unity in Christ in spite of differences. That, too, is a blessing God is sharing through us, and through your support of Grace. We are making followers of Jesus for the transformation of the world and it is a privilege.

Grace UM Church allows us to share hope and healing in the hearts of people in our neighborhood and in the FM area. I invite us to give generously: in the words of our baptismal vows, "by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness." I invite us to see the New Life of Easter in every Sunday—and be a part of the love and hope of Christ every day of the week.

God's Daily Blessings,
Pastor Roger



PRAYER LIST at Care Facilities

- Peggy Anderson (R.E.M. House)
- Elouise Brendemuhl (Kinder Care)
- Mabel Burkhardt (Bethany)
- Lois Ferguson (Eventide)
- Hyacinth Kronbeck (Park View)
- Marjorie Ladwig (Eventide)
- Tom Collins (Eventide)
- Delores Dronen (Jamestown)
- Mary J. Phillips (Sheyenne Crossing)
- Jeanne Schwager (Bethany)
- Clara Krook (Bethany)

PRAYER LIST at Home

- Vicky Westra Rae Offutt
- Ruth Opp Luann Larson
- Dale Smith Eleanor Payton
- Bonnie Wagner

If you have any prayer concerns, call P. Horner, 218-790-2141 to start a prayer chain.



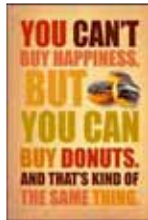
Ministry TEAM Program.. A Way of Being the Church at GUMC! The TEAM's mission is to provide ushers, greeters, opening welcome and readers to our congregation . TEAM #4 (Mar/Sept) TEAM Coordinators are Jon & Lisa Denny and Orland & Laura Roppe

- 218-512-0395—L. & J. Beck
- 701-205-7268—S.e Grow & Family
- 701-306-4382—T. Grow
- 701-403-9063—T. & D. Grow
- 701-541-4136—S. & N. Grow
- 218-238-2223—D. & L. Larson
- 701-212-3587—A. Loeks
- 218-233-3405—C. & B. Naasz
- 218-236-9169—L. & O. Roppe
- 218-236-7848—D. & I. Smith & Family
- 701-412-3833—A. Larson & Family
- 701-237-9055—N. & R. Lofgren
- 218-233-3917—C. & B. Miller
- 218-329-1835—J. Miller
- 218-233-3917—J. Miller
- 701-306-1705—L. Smith



March Birthdays

- 2- R. Wagner
- J. Beck
- 5- W. Walseth
- 6- L. Norby
- 8- B. Fraundorfer
- 9- M. Grow
- 11- D. Larson
- 12-L. Romanyshyn
- 15- L. Burkhardt
- 18- N. Schindler
- J. Chandler
- 19- M. Wagner
- 21- L. Simmons
- 22- E. Elliott
- C. Grafenstein
- D. Walseth
- 24-T. Fraundorfer
- 25- S. Grow
- 28- B. Fangsrud
- 29- E. Payton
- 31—R. Abel



Donuts will be made on Wednesday, March 9th and March 23, 2016, To place your order for donuts, call the office, 233-1857, on Monday the week donuts are made..

DONUTS



Everyone is invited to help L. Norby celebrate her 90th Birthday with an open house party in her honor on Sunday, March 6th from 2:00—4:00 pm. No gifts please, just join her with Birthday wishes.

PARTY TIME



March Anniversaries
3- W. & M. Port

NEED A RIDE

H. Kronbeck, at Park View Terrace would like a ride to Worship Services on Sunday. Please let her know if you can pick her up, 233-1690.

NEW TO GRACE

Anyone interested in exploring membership or learning more about Grace Church is invited to attend a gathering on Sunday, March 13th at 11:00 am. This will be a time of sharing and time for questions and answers with Pastor Roger. Childcare will be provided. Refreshments of pie will be served.

ALL GLORY AND HONOR I GIVE TO GOD

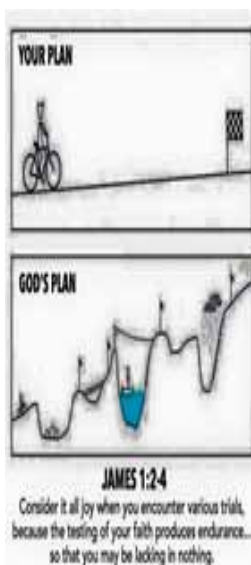
by Del Larson, CLM

Please forgive me for this month's article. I am not trying to blow my own horn, because you know my music skills wouldn't allow it. I am not putting the spotlight on me, because we all know that the true light comes only from God. As most of you know, our family, like many others, has had its share of struggles. For us, I truly know that without God, I would not be writing this or even possible standing today. I would have been beaten down and would not be considering my life to be a success. I give all glory to God for giving me both the challenges and opportunities that have helped me grow into the Christian I am today.

God has always been a part of my life. From the age of nine when my father died leaving my mother to struggle raising four children, to my teen years when I challenged the church's hierarchy, God has definitely been a part of my life. I am not going to hide that there were times I walked away from church, but God didn't give up on me. Rather he sent another person into my life to guide me.

There have been times over the past 30 years that I have questioned God; however, once I realized that God gives us struggles to strengthen us, He also guides us back to the right path and His flock.

Last Fall, on Laity Sunday, I asked you how God works in your lives at Grace. It came to our attention that although many of you experienced the presence of God, there are others who are still waiting and listening for His whispers. I have been asking the same questions recently. My ministry team at Grace strongly suggested that I cut back on my role as Certified Lay Minister, due to my health and injuries, besides the struggles of dealing with our grandson including his hospitalizations. Although, I wanted to continue to serve, God sent others to me to get me to slow down to heal. These are examples of God working and whispering in our lives. I turned down an opportunity to work with other Lay Leaders in our District across northern Minnesota. I also cut back on the number of visits to home-bound seniors and other activities in the church. When Luann broke her leg over the holidays, my care-giving expanded and we decided to stay home from AZ.



Over the past month, I have started noticing an emptiness. I was missing my role in church, serving the homeless, and talking with the seniors. I am not back to where I was before my back problems over a year ago, but my heart aches to serve the Lord for He has been my guide. After talking about this, Luann read me a couple of passages from *The Way*, the book we are reading for Lent. Christ was sent here to make us all fishers of men. Listen for God's whispers because He is calling all of us to share the Good News. It is time for me to get back to work for God. How about you? There are many ways to serve, but serve we must.

HOUR OF SHARING



One Great Hour of Sharing is Sunday, March 6th. With your generous giving to One Great Hour of Sharing acts as the arms and legs of Christ's church, moving toward the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Because you give, the United Methodist Church's compassionate response to human suffering continues today. UMCOR will be able to offer aid in Jesus' name to those who suffer because you give through One Great Hour of Sharing which allows responds when disaster strikes. When you give you equip Christ's body to serve in his name.



New Life Center

The New Life Center Auxiliary's annual Prayer Breakfast and Evening Dessert is on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fargo. The Prayer Breakfast is at 9:30 am and the Evening Dessert is at 7:30 pm. River Jordan, author of **Praying for Strangers, An Adventure of the Human Spirit** will deliver an inspirational message at both events. Tickets go on sale February 29th. For more ticket information call the NLC at 701-235-4453 or go online at www.fargonlc.org



SCHEDULE FOR LENT WEDNESDAY NIGHT March 2, 9 & 16th

Soup Supper.....	5:00 pm
Bell Choir.....	5:45 pm
Youth Group.....	6:00 pm
Lent Service.....	7:00 pm
Choir Practice.....	7:30 pm

Date	Psalm	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Tue, Mar 1	am: 78:1-39, pm: 78:40-72	Gen 45:1-15	1 Cor 7:32-40	Mark 6:1-13
Wed, Mar 2	am: 119:97-120, pm: 81, 82	Gen 45:16-28	1 Cor 8:1-13	Mark 6:13-29
Thur, Mar 3	am: 42, 43, pm: 85, 86	Gen 46:1-7, 28-34	1 Cor 9:1-15	Mark 6:30-46
Fri, Mar 4	am: 88, pm: 91, 92	Gen 47:1-26	1 Cor 9:16-27	Mark 6:47-56
Sat, Mar 5	am: 87, 90, pm: 136	Gen 47:27-48:7	1 Cor 10:1-13	Mark 7:1-23
Sun, Mar 6	am: 66, 67 pm: 19, 46	Gen 48:8-22	Rom 8:11-25	John 6:27-40
Mon, Mar 7	am: 89:1-18, pm: 89:19-52	Gen 49:1-28	1 Cor 10:14-11:1	Mark 7:24-37
Tue, Mar 8	am: 97, 99, 100, pm: 94, 95	Gen 49:29-50:14	1 Cor 11:17-34	Mark 8:1-10
Wed, Mar 9	am: 101, 109, pm: 119:121-144	Gen 50:15-26	1 Cor 12:1-11	Mark 8:11-26
Thur, Mar 10	am: 69, pm: 73	Exod 1:6-22	1 Cor 12:12-26	Mark 8:27-9:1
Fri, Mar 11	am: 107:1-32, pm: 107:33-43	Exod 2:1-22	1 Cor 12:27-13:3	Mark 9:2-13
Sat, Mar 12	am: 102, 108, pm: 33	Exod 2:23-3:15	1 Cor 13:1-13	Mark 9:14-29
Sun, Mar 13	am: 118, pm: 145	Exod 3:16-4:12	Rom 12:1-12	John 8:46-59
Mon, Mar 14	am: 31, pm: 35	Exod 4:10-31	1 Cor 14:1-19	Mark 9:30-41
Tues, Mar 15	am: 121, 122, 123, pm: 124, 125, 126	Exod 5:1-6:1	1 Cor 14:20-40	Mark 9:42-50
Wed, Mar 16	am: 119:145-176, pm: 128, 129, 130	Exod 7:8-24	2 Cor 2:14-3:6	Mark 10:1-16
Thur, Mar 17	am: 131, 132, 133, pm: 140, 142	Exod 7:25-8:19	2 Cor 3:7-18	Mark 10:17-31
Fri, Mar 18	am: 22, pm: 141, 143	Exod 9:13-35	2 Cor 4:1-12	Mark 10:32-45
Sat, Mar 19	am: 137, 144, pm: 42, 43	Exod 10:21-11:8	2 Cor 4:13-18	Mark 10:46-52
Sun, Mar 20	am: 118, 1-2, 19-29, pm: 31:9-16	Isa 50:4-9a	Phil 4:5-11	am: Lk 19:28-40 pm: Lk 23:1-49
Mon, Mar 21	36:5-11,	Isa 42:1-9	Heb 9:11-15	John 12:1-11
Tues, Mar 22	71:1-14	Isa 49:1-7	1 Cor 1:18-31	John 12:20-36
Wed, Mar 23	70	Isa 50:4-9a	Heb 12:1-3	John 13:21-32
Thur, Mar 24	116:1-2, 12-19	Exod 12:1-42	1 Cor 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Fri, Mar 25	22	Isa 52:13-53:12	Heb 10:16-25	John 18:1-19:42
Sat, Mar 26	31:1-4, 15-16	Lam 3:1-9, 19-24	1 Pet 4:1-8	John 19:38-42
Sun, Mar 27	am: 148, 149, 150, pm: 113, 114	am: Exod 12:1-14 pm: Isa 51:9-11		am: John 1:1-18, pm: Jn 20:19-23
Mon, Mar 28	am: 93, 98, pm: 66	Exod 12:14-27	1 Cor 15:1-11	Mark 16:1-8
Tues, Mar 29	am: 103, pm: 111, 114	Exod 12:28-39	1 Cor 15:12-28	Mark 16:9-20
Wed, Mar 30	am: 97, 99, pm: 115	Exod 12:40-51	1 Cor 15:29-41	Matt 28:1-16
Thur, Mar 31	am: 146, 147, pm: 148, 149	Exod 13:3-10	1 Cor 15:41-50	Matt 28:16-20

GRACE UNITED METHODIST MARCH 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Training	2 8:00 am ELR 5:00 pm Soup Supper 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Lent Services 7:30 pm Choir	3 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 1:30 pm Martha Circle 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Pastor Roger on Vacation thru March 7th	4	5
6 4th Sunday in Lent 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 9:00 am "The Way" 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 2:00 pm L. Norby 90th Birthday Party	7 8:00 am ELR 1:00 pm Quilt- ing	8 7:00 pm Operations and Re- sources 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Training	9 6:00 am Donut making 8:00 am ELR 5:00 pm Soup Supper 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:10 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Lent Services 7:30 pm Choir	10 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 2:00 pm HCI Pastors' Confer- ence Call w/ Coach	11	12
13 5th Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings Time begins 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 9:00 am "The Way" 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 11:00 am New to Grace Gathering w/ child care	14 8:00 am ELR 1:00 pm Quilt- ing	15 6:00 pm HCI Team w/ Coach Jim 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Training	16 8:00 am ELR 5:00 pm Soup Supper 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Lent Services 7:30 pm Choir	17 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 7:00 pm Lydia Circle 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision	18	19
20 Palm Sunday 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 9:00 am "The Way" 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	21 8:00 am ELR 1:00 pm Quilt- ing	22	23 6:00 am Donut making 8:00 am ELR 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	24 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 9:00 am Park View Terrace 10:00 am Golden Living 2:00 pm River Pointe 7:00 pm Holy Thursday Com- munion	25	26
27 Easter Sunday 8:30 am Sunrise Easter Worship 9:00 am No Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am No Children's Sunday School	28 8:00 am ELR 1:00 pm Quilt- ing	29	30 8:00 am ELR 3:00 pm Set up Churches United Dinner 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	31 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline		



FOOD PANTRY

March is "Food Shelf Month". Please bring non-perishable food items and place in and around the food donation cart located in the Narthex. All items will be taken to the food pantry.

NLC 2015 SERVICE STATISTICS

Lodgings, Shelter - 40,157 nights for an average of 110 nightly. Out of the 40,157 nights of lodging 31,056 were in general shelter housing; 5,671 were in Harbor program, 170 in medical respite, 2,239 in Passport; 1,021 in Passport traditional housing. A total of 94,321 meals were served with an average of 259 prepared daily. The thrift store provided 1,759 individuals with clothing, furniture, and other household essentials at no cost.

New delegates to the New Life Center Auxiliary are needed. If you are able to serve as a delegate, please contact J. Oelke or S. Mohr.



OFFUTT SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for the 2016 Offutt Scholarship are now available.

These scholarships are available to members of Grace UMC and their families for post-secondary education for the coming academic year. Applications are due in the office by May 1, 2016. These funds are generated by a generous gift from the Ron and Lidia Offutt family to the Grace UMC Endowment Fund. The applications are available in the Church officer and at the Church website:

www.graceumcmoorhead.org. under forms. If you have any questions about the Scholarships or about the Grace UMC Endowment and its activities, please contact P. Anderson.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 21-27th

Holy Thursday Communion7:00 pm
Good Friday Remembrance.....7:00 pm
Easter Sunrise Service8:00 am
Easter Worship Service.....10:00 am

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Grace United Methodist Church
1120 17 St S
Moorhead MN 56560
(218) 233-1857

