

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

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Adult Sunday School: 9:00 AM

Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM

Dear Friends,

I recently saw a quotation that spoke to me as I've been preparing for Lent. **"I've noticed Jesus won't heal the things we insist on hiding from him. He wants to take your hurts and mine and bury them in his broken body"** (Steve Seamands). The 40 days of Lent are meant to give us a chance to recall the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert wilderness searching his soul and finding his calling. The season of Lent even harkens back to the 40 years of desert wandering of the Israelites as they sought the Promised Land. Few Christians wander in the desert any more—but all Christians face challenges and struggles. All Christians experience hurt and need healing.

There are a couple recent commercials where a person says in effect, "I never told my doctor about this; but, finally I decided to share and my doctor was able to help me; now my life is better." I think one commercial is about depression and another is about intestinal stuff. Lent can be a season filled with light and hope—precisely because it is our chance to take stock of our lives and talk with the "great physician" about our health. How are we tak-



Come
As You
Are

ing care of our bodies, our minds, and our souls? How are we treating those closest to us? Where do we need to learn the arts of forgiveness or hospitality? What are our growing edges where making a change would bring blessing into our daily lives? What are our rough edges that God wants to help us work at smoothing?

Ash Wednesday begins our Lenten season and the theme for Ash Wednesday is "Come As You Are." Come as you are is God's constant invitation to us. Come as you are—with hopes and dreams, with regrets and sorrows, with wounds and worries, with joys and sorrows. Come as you are and let God "take your hurts and mine and bury them in his broken body." **Come as you are and let God the healer meet us where we are, work with us as we are, and transform us into who Jesus always dreamed we could be.** Lent is our chance to let God work in our lives until that day we say, "I opened up to God and now my life is better."

May God bless your Lenten journey with hope, health and new beginnings.

Blessings,

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 #6 (Mar/Sept) TEAM Coordinators are : J. & L. Denny and O. & L. Roppe

- 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)
- Cleo Williams (Eventide)

PRAYER LIST at Home

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

- 218-512-0395—L. & J. Beck
- 701-205-7268—S. 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

Donuts will be made on Wednesday, March 1, 15, and 29th, 2017, to place you order for donuts, call the office, 233-1857, the Monday prior to the day donuts are made. There is also a sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex.



PARTY TIME

Everyone is invited to help M. Wagner celebrate her 80th Birthday with an open house party in her honor on Sunday, March 19th from 2:00—4:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall at Grace UMC.



PIE SALE

Lydia circle will be making pies for delivery on Sunday, March 19th. Please order your order by Wednesday, March 15th. You can place your order after church on Sunday or by calling P. Newgard at 701-367-0574.

INTENTIONAL LIVING LIKE CHRIST

—by Del Larson, CLM

Many writers like to be secluded and get away from their normal life, to be able to reflect and to get into their deepest thoughts. Imagine what it was like for the scripture writers to be alone with God, and to be able to hear what God wanted them to write. Ministers seek seclusion when sitting at their computer taking the scripture lesson and molding a sermon that not only connects, but inspires those sitting in pews, or listening at home.

I am reminded of this need for solace here in Arizona. My writing times have vanished. Without the many activities and responsibilities of home, I find myself getting more of those moments to be still and listen. Somehow, God seems to be closer here as we slow down time by pausing to recognize our blessings, and to be still to spend more time with God. It has nothing to do with the age of the community we live in here, or that the Sun shines everyday. It is like church here nearly every day. You become rejuvenated with the people and their spirit. These people who care about you; who help you; who share God's word with you, are God's witnesses nearly every day. God is definitely here at Rincon Country RV Park.

Yes, there are great, well attended Bible Studies here, and although there is no Sunday worship service in the park, you are invited to numerous church services by neighbors and friends. Luann and I do not have a car with us, but we have many offers for needed rides. Another Christian caravan that has been around for over 40 years.

The past ten days have been rough for me with my back so sore that I didn't leave the motorhome for a week. I have had three different people drive me to a walk-in clinic, ER, and a drug store, with just as many offering to do the same. Usually, we rent a car every other weekend. People check on us to make sure we have what we need. One couple is thinking about buying a second Park Model trailer for family visits, but will rent it to us for the season. I would like to point out, that we are the youngest in the park. Kindness isn't just limited to rides. You see the same in all the activities here. People teaching you how to turn a bowl, to make jewelry, or in the games we play. Everyone is inclusive and welcoming.

What I see here, comes down to living your life as a Christian every day, modeling yourself after Christ, doing what Christ commands us to do for one another. It is making an intentional effort to be a Christian each and every day. Please don't be frustrated, or disap-

pointed by that comment. I know that you have witnessed love and caring in Moorhead. There are many success stories. God wants us to be intentionally living as a Christian every day, 24/7. It means that our actions and reactions are all Christian based. Luann and I have never gone without food, because we donated money to a cause. Although I may be tired afterward, I have never had to see a doctor because I volunteered. Living to be an Intentional Christian, means that we give and help more. We seek ways to serve and be like Christ. We ask God each morning, what He has planned for us, and then follow his lead. When you lay your heads down at night, give praise to God that you could do His work and spread His grace here on earth.

UMCOR SUNDAY



UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great hour of Sharing) is March 26th. Together, we reach children, families and communities who have experienced devastation in the wake of disaster. 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 UMCOR Sunday. When you give you equip Christ's body to serve in his name.

LENT



Wednesday, March 1st, Ash Wednesday, begins the Lent Season. This year's theme is "Revival: John Wesley's message and his faith". Adam Hamilton will take you on a six-week journey as he travels to England, following the life of John Wesley and exploring his defining

characteristics of a Wesleyan Christian. Wesley's message and his faith continue to speak to 21st-century Christians—calling for a revival of our hearts and souls so that our world might be changed. This story is our story. It defines our faith and it challenges us to rediscover our spiritual passion. Books are available for \$13.00 each.

Date	Psalm	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Wed, Mar 1	am: 95, 32, 143, pm: 102, 130	Jon 3:1-4:11	Heb 12:1-14	Luke 18:9-14
Thur, Mar 2	am: 37:1-18, pm: 37:19-42	Deut 7:6-11	Titus 1:1-16	John 1:29-34
Fri, Mar 3	am: 95, 31, pm: 35	Deut 7:12-16	Titus 2:1-15	John 1:35-42
Sat, Mar 4	am: 30, 32, pm: 42, 43	Deut 7:17-26	Titus 3:1-15	John 1:43-51
Sun, Mar 5	am: 63, 98, pm: 103	Deut 8:1-10	1 Cor 1:17-31	Mark 2:18-22
Mon, Mar 6	am: 41, 52, pm: 44	Deut 8:11-18	Heb 2:11-18	John 2:1-12
Tues, Mar 7	am: 45, pm: 47, 48	Deut 9:4-12	Heb 3:1-11	John 2:13-22
Wed, Mar 8	am: 119:49-72, pm: 49, 53	Deut 9:13-21	Heb 3:12-19	John 2:23-3:15
Thur, Mar 8	am: 50, 59, 60, pm: 19, 46	Deut 9:23-10:5	Heb 4:1-10	John 3:16-21
Fri, Mar 10	am: 40, 54, pm: 51	Deut 10:12-22	Heb 4:11-16	John 3:22-36
Sat, Mar 11	am: 55, pm: 138, 139	Deut 11:18-28	Heb 5:1-10	John 4:1-26
Sun, Mar 12	am: 24, 29, pm: 8, 84	Jere 1:1-10	1 Cor 3:11-23	Mark 3:31-4:9
Mon, Mar 13	am: 56, 57, 58, pm: 64, 65	Jere 1:11-19	Rom 1:1-15	John 4:27-42
Tues, Mar 14	am: 61, 62, pm: 68	Jere 2:1-13	Rom 1:16-25	John 4:43-54
Wed, Mar 15	am: 72, pm: 119:73-96	Jere 3:6-18	Rom 1:28-2:11	John 5:1-18
Thur, Mar 16	am: 70, 71, pm: 74	Jere 4:9-10, 19-28	Rom 2:12-24	John 5:19-29
Fri, Mar 17	am: 69, pm: 73	Jere 5:1-9	Rom 2:25-3:18	John 5:30-47
Sat, Mar 18	am: 75, 76, pm: 23, 27	Jere 5:20-31	Rom 3:19-31	John 7:1-13
Sun, Mar 19	am: 93, 96, pm: 34	Jere 6:9-15	1 Cor 6:12-20	Mark 5:1-20
Mon, Mar 20	am: 80, pm: 77, 79	Jere 7:1-15	Rom 4:1-12	John 7:14-36
Tue, Mar 21	am: 78:1-39, pm: 78:40-72	Jere 7:21-34	Rom 4:13-25	John 7:37-52
Wed, Mar 22,	am: 119:97-120, pm: 81, 82	Jere 8:18-9:6	Rom 5:1-11	John 8:12-20
Thur, Mar 23	am: 42, 43, pm: 85, 86	Jere 10:11-24	Rom 5:12-21	John 8:21-32
Fri, Mar 24	am: 88, pm: 91, 92	Jere 11:1-8, 14-20	Rom 6:1-11	John 8:33-47
Sat, Mar 25	am: 87, 90, pm: 136	Jere 13:1-11	Rom 6:12-23	John 8:47-59
Sun, Mar 26	am: 66, 67, pm: 19, 46	Jere 14:1-9, 17-22	Gal 4:21-5:1	Mark 8:11-21
Mon, Mar 27	am: 89:1-18, pm: 89:19-52	Jere 16:10-21	Rom 7:1-12	John 6:1-15
Tue, Mar 28	am: 97, 99, 100, pm: 94, 95	Jere 17:19-27	Rom 7:13-25	John 6:16-27
Wed, Mar 29	am: 101, 109, pm: 119:121-144	Jere 18:1-11	Rom 8:1-11	John 6:27-40
Thur, Mar 30	am: 69, pm: 73	Jere 22:13-23	Rom 8:12-27	John 6:41-51
Fri, Mar 31	am: 107:1-32, pm: 107:33-43	Jere 23:1-8	Rom 8:28-39	John 6:52-59

Grace United Methodist

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00 am Donut making 1:00 am ELR 5:00 pm Soup Supper 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Lent- Imposition of ashes Services 7:30 pm Choir	2 7:00 am Book study 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 1:30 pm Martha Circle	3	4
5 1st Sunday of Lent 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	6 1:00 am ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	7	8 1:00 am ELR 5:00 pm Soup Supper 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Lent Services—Precursors 7:30 pm Choir	9 7:00 am Book study 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline	10	11
12 2nd Sunday of Lent Daylight Saving Time Begins 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	13 1:00 am ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	14 7:00 pm Operations and Resources	15 6:00 am Donut making 1:00 am ELR 5:00 pm Soup Supper 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Lent Services—A Longing for Holiness 7:30 pm Choir	16 7:00 am Book study 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline	17	18 Lydia Circle
19 3rd Sunday of Lent 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 2:00 pm M. Wagner. 80th Birthday Party	20 1:00pm ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	21	22 1:00 am ELR 5:00 pm Soup Supper 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Lent Services—A Crisis of Faith 7:30 pm Choir	23 7:00 am Book study 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 9:00 am Park View Terrace 10:00 am Golden Living	24	25
26 4th Sunday of Lent 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	27 100 pm ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	28	29 6:00 am Donut making 1:00 am ELR 3:00 pm Set up Churches United Dinner 5:00 pm Soup Supper 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Lent Services—The Necessity of Grace 7:30 pm Choir	30 7:00 am Book study 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline	31	



MINNESOTA FOOD SHARE

March begins the 2017 Minnesota FoodShare Campaign. For 35 years, Minnesota FoodShare has coordinated the largest statewide, grassroots food and fund drive to

help restock food shelves. Please place your donations in the food cart in the Narthex in support of the Emergency Food Pantry.



SCHEDULE FOR LENT WEDNESDAY NIGHT March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29th

- 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

Thank you to the Smith's for preparing the soup.



NEW LIFE CENTER

The New Life center Auxiliary presents the 40th Annual Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, April 20th at 9:30 at the Hilton

Garden Inn in Fargo. If you are unable to attend the breakfast, A Movie & A Message will take place that evening at 6:30 pm at the Fargo Theatre. The guest speakers for both events are Kim & Krickitt Carpenter. The Carpenter's are authors of "The Vow" their story of how after a car accident Krickitt didn't recognize her husband and how they fell in love all over again. Tickets are \$22 for the breakfast and \$12 for the Movie and can be purchased beginning March 9th at www.fargonlc.org or by calling 701-235-4453.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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