

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

Church E-Mail Address: graceunitedmethodist@gmail.com

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,

Grace's office administrator, Sondra, found a wonderful quote that she placed in the February 25th bulletin.

The Role of Faith

“Fear imprisons, faith liberates;
fear paralyzes, faith empowers;
fear disheartens, faith encourages;
fear sickens, faith heals; ...
most of all,
fear puts hopelessness at the heart of life,
while faith rejoices in God.”

Harry Emerson Fosdick

It is no wonder Jesus told his followers over and over again, “Do not be afraid.” We are in a time when we know what fear is all too well. The recent Florida school shooting is a vivid reminder the world can be a dangerous place. Unfortunately, it's not that long after the Las Vegas Massacre and the Sutherland Springs Baptist Church Massacre. Without any other news, those tragedies would be enough to stir up grief and fear within us. Add in hurricanes, fires, international unrest, and all the rest on the 24/7 news feed and we definitely know what fear is.

However, Harry Emerson Fosdick reminds us of the faith Jesus calls us to. **Faith is liberating, empowering, encouraging, healing, joy-filled. The questions are: How**

become so faithful we point the world toward a God who liberates, empowers, encourages, heals and brings joy?

So, during Lent Grace Church is focusing on how to lived faith-filled, faithful lives.

I call our Sunday morning journey—**The 2018 Lenten Challenge. Five challenges from Jesus for our lives: Change Your Heart, Take Up the Cross, Be Cleansed, Trust and Bear Fruit.**

Our Wednesday Evening gatherings focus on “**The Five Habits of Highly Missional People**”—**habits that help us let go of fear and discover faith and help create a church where others are empowered to do the same.**

The habits follow the BELLS model—Bless, Eat, Listen, Learn, and Sent. Each Wednesday we'll be invited to try specific things in our own lives that will help us overcome fear and create a church where others can move beyond fear, too.

My hope for you this Lent 2018: that God will fill your soul with hope, strength and joy in these trying times. My hope for Grace Church is that we'll be a beacon of hope, encouragement, and healing for our community.

Lenten Blessings,

Pastor Roger



Peggy Anderson (R.E.M. House)
 Elouise Brendemuhl (Kinder Care)
 Lois Ferguson (Eventide)
 Tom Collins (Eventide)
 Mary J. Phillips (Bethany)
 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)

TEAM # 3 (Mar/Sept). TEAM coordinators
 are J. & L. Denny and O. & L. Roppe
 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. Naasz
 218-236-9169—L. & O. Roppe
 218-236-7848—I. Smith & Family
 701-412-3833—A. Larson & Family
 701-237-9055—N. & Ron Lofgren
 218-233-3917—C. & Bob Miller
 218-329-1835—J. Miller
 218-233-3917—J. Miller
 701-306-1705—L. Smith

PRAYER LIST at Home

Vicky Westra Cullen Fraundorfer
 ArNetta Monge Kitty Reed
 David Reed Wanda Walseth
 Ron Anderson



DONUTS

Buttermilk Donuts will be made on March 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.



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

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OTHERS IN TIME OF NEED



N. Grow has volunteer to be the funeral coordinator, but would welcome an assistant coordinator. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Pastor Roger.

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathies to the family of Mable Burkhardt who passed away on Tuesday, January 30th. Her funeral was at Grace on Saturday, February 3rd.



March Anniversaries

3—W. & M. Port

**FINANCIAL UPDATE
 February**

INCOME: \$ 9,123.75
EXPENSES: \$ 14,217.44
APPORTIONMENTS: \$ 713.34



heading your way. Flowers are starting to bloom, and the Sun warms these old bones from the cold winter of the North. Everyone looks forward to Spring, when new life sprouts forth and life is renewed. However, there is one part that I really hate about the new growth and life season.

Weeds! Those pesky brambles that poison the ground, prick and cut us when we walk along the path of life seeking the glory of God. Why would God ever add these demons to our gardens and life? What was He thinking?

Least we forget, those pests are because of our actions. When Adam and Eve fell to temptation in the garden, God punished them with the curse of weeds and thorns. As the perfect father, God had to teach His children a lesson. A reminder that, "...The brambles on the Earth are the product of sin of our heart." They will forever be a pain in our work and in our pleasure. Our rebellion against God is like paths covered in thorns and pain.

Reading Max Lucado's *He Chose the Nails* this Lenten season, I have begun to understand more about the sacrifice Jesus gave for our sins. We know the story about the crown of thorns, and probably connected that with Christ being called the King of Jews. Unknown to the soldiers, they were helping Christ fulfill this great plan. It was the soldiers who decided to mock Jesus with this crown. The thorns would become a representation of our sins. Max shares, "If the fruit of sin is thorns, isn't the thorny crown on Christ's brow a picture of the fruit of our sin that pierced His heart?"

We have all walked or rolled into prickly thistles in our lives. According to Max the fruit of sin for humanity is: shame, fear, disgrace, discouragement, guilt, and anxiety. I know I have

suddenly you have this terrible flash of honor, and your heart beats double. Christ suffered with the stings of the whip. With each lash another type of sin entered his body. A terrible way to be taken to the brink of death. With the crown thorns, the soldiers were trying to humiliate Jesus and to weaken him, just as the pricks and cuts of sin hurt us.

As you go through Lent this year be alert for two things:

1. "The Fruit of Sin," (shame, fear, disgrace, discouragement, guilt, and anxiety) When you experience these fruits of sin, remember that Christ also experienced them and took them to the cross to die for so that we may live.
- 2, Each time you see a cross, look closely at those thorns and the agony they produce. Christ wore that crown for you. Remove the thorns of your life.

Lastly, when you see a thorn or prickly bush, remember what it stands for and why it will come again and again. AMEN

MINNESOTA FOOD SHARE



Food Shelf March begins the 2018 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.



UMCOR SUNDAY

UMCOR Sunday is March 11th. The special offering on this day provides major support for immediate assistance in the wake of natural and human-

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 1:30 pm Martha Circle	2	3 Lydia Circle Pie Baking 9:00 am Financial Peace
4 3rd Sunday in Lent 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 11:00 am Pick up Pies	5 1:00 pm Quilting	6 9:00 am North Star Clergy at D.L. 6:30 pm Operations & Resources	7 5:00 pm Soup Supper 6:00 pm GraceKids Ministry 6:15 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Lent Services 7:30 pm Choir	8 1:00 pm Mhd Police Chaplains 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline	9	10 9:00 am Financial Peace University
11 4th Sunday in Lent 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School UMCOR Sunday Day Light Saving Time Begins	12 1:00 pm Quilting 7:00 pm Caregivers	13	14 6:00 am Donut Making 5:00 pm Soup Supper 6:00 pm GraceKids Ministry 6:15 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Lent Services 7:30 pm Choir	15 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 7:00 pm Lydia Circle 9:00 am District Committee on Ministry—Northern Pines until 3:00 pm Friday	16	17
18 5th Sunday in Lent 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	19 1:00 pm Quilting	20	21 5:00 pm Soup Supper 6:00 pm GraceKids Ministry 6:15 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Lent Services 7:30 pm Choir	22 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 9:00 am Park View Worship 10:00 am Golden Living Worship	23	24
25 Palm Sunday 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Worthy Is The Lamb Easter Cantata 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 7:00 am Pastor Roger Kiwanis Speaker 5:00 pm Soup Supper 6:00 pm GraceKids Ministry 6:15 pm Confirmation 7:30 pm Choir	29 Holy Thursday 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 7:00 pm Holy Thursday Communion	30 Good Friday 7:00 pm Good Friday Service	31

Fri, Mar 2	am: 69, pm: 73	Gen 43:1-15	1 Cor 7:1-9	Mark 4:35-41
Sat, Mar 3	am: 75, 76, pm: 23, 27	Gen 43:16-34	1 Cor 7:10-24	Mark 5:1-20
Sun, Mar 4	am: 93, 96, pm: 34	Gen 44:1-17	Rom 8:1-10	John 5:25-29
Mon, Mar 5	am: 80, pm: 77, 79	Gen 44:18-34	1 Cor 7:25-31	Mark 5:21-43
Tue, Mar 6	am: 78:1-39, pm: 78:40-72	Gen 45:1-15	1 Cor 7:32-40	Mark 6:1-13
Wed, Mar 7	am: 119:97-120, pm: 81, 82	Gen 45:16-28	1 Cor 8:1-13	Mark 6:13-29
Thur, Mar 8	am: 42, 43, pm: 85, 86	Gen 46:1-7, 28-34	1 Cor 9:1-15	Mark 6:30-46
Fri, Mar 9	am: 88, pm: 91, 92	Gen 47:1-26	1 Cor 9:16-27	Mark 6:47-56
Sat, Mar 10	am: 87, 90, pm: 136	Gen 47:27-48:7	1 Cor 10:1-13	Mark 7:1-23
Sun, Mar 11	am: 66, 67, pm: 19, 46	Gen 48:8-22	Rom 8:11-25	John 6:27-40
Mon, Mar 12	am: 89:1-18, pm: 89:19-52	Gen 49:1-28	1 Cor 10:14-11:1	Mark 7:24-37
Tue, Mar 13	am: 97, 99, 100, pm: 94, 95	Gen 49:29-50:14	1 Cor 11:17-34	Mark 8:1-10
Wed, Mar 14	am: 101, 109, pm: 119:121-144	Gen 50:15-26	1 Cor 12:1-11	Mark 8:11-26
Thur, Mar 15	am: 69, pm: 73	Exod 1:6-22	1 Cor 12:12-26	Mark 8:27-9:1
Fri, Mar 16	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 18	am: 118, pm: 145	Exod 3:16-4:12	Rom 12:1-12	John 8:46-59
Mon, Mar 19	am: 31; pm: 35	Exod 4:10-31	1 Cor 14:1-19	Mark 9:30-41
Tues, Mar 20	am: 121, 122, 123, pm: 124, 125, 126	Exod 5:1-6:1	1 Cor 14:20-40	Mark 9:42-50
Wed, Mar 21	am: 119:145-176, m: 128, 129, 130	Exod 7:8-24	2 Cor 2:14-3:6	Mark 10:1-16
Thur, Mar 22	am: 131, 132, 133, pm: 140, 142	Exod 7:25-8:19	2 Cor 3:7-18	Mark 10:17-31
Fri, Mar 23	am: 22, pm: 141, 143,	Exod 9:13-35	2 Cor 4:1-12	Mark 10:32-45
Sat, Mar 24	am: 137, 144, pm: 42, 43	Exod 10:21-11:8	2 Cor 4:13-18	Mark 10:46-52
Sun, Mar 25	am: 24, 29, pm: 103	Zech 9:9-12	1 Tim 6:12-16	Luke 19:41-48
Mon, Mar 26	am: 51, pm: 69:1-23	Lam 1:1-12	2 Cor 1:1-7	Mark 11:12-25
Tues, Mar 27	am: 6, 12, pm: 94	Lam 1:17-22	2 Cor 1:8-22	Mark 11:27-33
Wed, Mar 28	am: 55, pm: 74	Lam 2:1-9	2 Cor 1:23-2:11	Mark 12:1-11

Habits of Highly Missional People.”

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 bars.

TIME CHANGE



It is that time of year again. On Sunday, March 11th at 2:00 am it is time to turn that clock ahead one hour. You do not want to be late for Sunday Morning Worship Services.

she warned him. “You’re not supposed to talk out loud in church.”

“Why?” asked the brother. “Who’s going to stop me?”

Kathy pointed to the rear of the sanctuary; “See those men standing back there? Well; those are the hushers!”

AN IRISH BLESSING

May you have walls to keep out the wind;
 A roof to keep out the rain;
 Warm drinks by the fire;
 Laughter to cheer you;
 Those you love near you;
 And all that your heart may desire;
 Including the love of God within.