

Light of Grace

a monthly publication of:

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1120 17th St S, Moorhead, MN 56560-5752

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

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Vol. 24, No. 11

November 1, 2013

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

Dear Friends,

One of the churches I served reached a crossroads in its life. The congregation had three choices: do the least possible and limp into death, close the doors, or risk big in a shrinking town. I didn't have 'the answer' to their dilemma. But, a still small voice whispered where we needed to begin.

Traditional church architecture included a steeple for a variety of reasons: marking the church as the visual center of a community, sheltering bells, vying for status. I have an affinity for the alternative term for steeples. Spire comes from the same root as the word for sprout—meaning new life grows. It's as ancient as our ancestors planting a seed believing that an invisible power will cause growth. Spire is also the core of the word INSPIRATION and tied closely to the word SPIRIT.

So, we began with the SPIRIT of the church. We asked the key question that bonds us together as Christians. "When and how has the church shown God's love to you?" Sometimes we forget buildings, and budgets, programs and meetings, music and the stuff we call church are just tools to help us be the church. 2000 years ago some people experienced Jesus as God's love embodied. They believed the most important thing they could do is be the body of Christ's for others. They decided the most important thing they could do in this life was to share Jesus' way of love with others—even if they had to die to do it. Thus, we began our meeting by listening to each other share one time when the church became the voice, hands and feet of Jesus in our lives. There was reverence, tears, and smiles in the sharing. Initial feelings of anxiety and despair were transformed into gratitude and hope.

Here at Grace we began our History, Hopes and Heart Whispers gathering with the same question. We'll begin our leader's vision retreat with the same question. Every time we describe how the church has shown God's love, it is like a spire pointing toward a God who chooses to

always embrace us. The small church I described decided God still had a purpose for it and made a costly commitment to do much more than limp into a short-term future, or simply close the doors. They now have the only pastor in town after the Roman Catholics removed their priest and then the sister doing pastoral care. Their church is now where the Lutherans hold events and funerals after their church closed. When the Catholics need a place that is fully accessible they gather in the United Methodist church. Their small UM congregation has become the outpost of God's care where new stories of "I discovered God cared for me when..." are created.



I invite you to think of when the church was the loving presence of God in your time of need. I especially ask you to think of it as we approach a time when nominations may ask you to serve in a new way (or in a way you've served before). I invite you to remember when the church whispered God's hope and healing into your life as we move into the time of year when Grace talks about balancing the 2013 budget and pledges for 2014. Please remember you aren't being asked to do anything less than to be part of offering others the chance to experience the peace that passes understanding, the love that knows no bounds, and the hope that carries us through. Your gift of time, your offering of resources, your lifting of prayers, your own unique way of saying "God loves you" to another person, is all part of telling the most needed story in all of life. When our earthly years are over, our sharing of God's love is the only truly lasting thing any of us can offer. Our lives 24/7 are meant to be the spires that point toward Jesus' love. You are meant to be an INSPIRATION.

God's Peace and Enduring Love,
Pastor Roger



Peggy Anderson (R.E.M. House)
Elouise Brendemuhl (4 Seasons)
Mabel Burkhardt (Bethany)
Lois Ferguson (Eventide)
Hyacinth Kronbeck (Park View)
Marjorie Ladwig (Eventide)
Tom Collins (Eventide)
Mabel Johnson (Fairmont)
Delores Dronen (Fairmont)
Ruth Ann Krutz (Eilm)
Jim Johnson (Golden Living)
Clara Krook (Bethany)
Vi Williams (Bethany on 42nd)
Mary Jane Phillips (Eventide)
Jeanne Schwager (Shenenne Crossing)

PRAYER LIST at Home

Vicky Westra Roger Opp
Jackie Kopp Charlie Bowman
Dale Smith Grant Mohr
Joan Ostlie Esther Vollbrecht
Cleo Williams Lane Englehardt



November Birthdays

5—S. Burkhardt
 8—J. Alveshere
 9— B. Jensen
 10—B. Beck
 12—J. Thiessen
 19—C. Krook
 M. Akin
 25—J. Johnson
 28—R. Christopherson
 S. Mohr
 C. Borgen
 A. Loeks
 29—D. Williams
 J. Thiseth
 30—D. Horn

November Anniversaries

18—L. & A. Monge



Ministry TEAM Program.. A New 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 (May/Nov) N. Grow, Ministry TEAM Coordinator

701-237-6738—C. Anderson
 218-233-5347—G. & T. Anderson,
 218-236-5753—P. & K. Anderson
 218-287-1676—I. Beving
 218-359-9000—E. Brendemuhl
 218-233-8038—G. Clifton
 218-287-1969—B. & J. Fraundorfer & Family
 701-541-2490—S. & L. Gedrose & Family
 218-233-4054—B. & L. Jensen
 218-233-8746—J. & B. Johnson,
 218-236-4814—M. Johnson
 218-236-1747—J. & C. Ladwig
 218-236-0434—J. & T. Lindblad
 701-271-9270—C. Ollestad
 701-205-1645—R. Opp
 218-236-5746—J. & J. Ostlie,
 701-280-2173—G. & K. Triptow
 218-233-3888—E. Vollbrecht
 218-233-5392—C. & D. Williams



DONUTS

Donuts will be made on Wednesday, November 20th beginning at 6:00 AM. Please place your orders with Judy Anderson, 218-236-0183.or the office, 218-233-1857. The last time to order donuts until 2014 is Monday, November 18th. Donuts are to be picked up by 9:00 AM . In the past donut sales have helped in our first-mile mission giving (Apportionments)

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS must be received in the office by 10:00 AM, on December 31, 2013 to be counted as a 2013 contribution. All contributions received after that date will be counted as a 2014 contribution.

Church Conference Reports are due in the office by November 11th, at 9 AM.

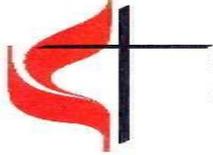
Lydia Circle will meet on November 21st at 7:00 PM at D. Stead's, 3507 20th St S, Fargo

If you plan to visit E. Vollbrecht, please call before going over there.. She would be happy to hear from you.

FINANCIAL UPDATE OCTOBER	
INCOME:	\$ 9,079.18
EXPENSES:	\$ 13,158.54
APPORTIONMENTS:	\$ 210.34



GENERAL OPERATING FUND



Dear Members of Grace:

November is Pledge month here at GUMC. We apologize for the directness of this letter but you need to know the hard facts of where we are so far this year.

- **The budget for 2013 was \$144,665.91**
- **There were 100 offering envelopes available for 2013 and 200 members**
- **Total given to General Fund as of September 30th is \$ 75,983.93**
- **Estimating for October, November and December money given to the General Fund we need 36,167, or \$ 12,056.49 monthly or \$2,782 weekly.**

We **need your help** to continue to keep our church alive and functioning.

Proposed costs of 2013 will increase over the 2013 budget. We are trying to do what we can but we need each member to search their hearts and pocketbooks. Pray about this and listen to what God is saying to you. We can no longer sit by the sidelines and hope the bills get paid. Remember what the bible says about giving "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Cor. 9:7

A Pledge Card is attached for your convenience. You can also do direct deposit, bill pay or church envelope. Pledge card and direct deposit may be also obtained from the church office.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of "Grace United Methodist Church".

Sincerely yours in Christ,

GUMC Finance Committee

**Grace United Methodist Church
 Moorhead, MN
 2014 Estimate of Giving Card**

2013 Envelope Number _____ **2014 Envelope Number (to be filled in by the office)** _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-Mail (office use only) _____

Please bring this card with you and place in the offering plate or return to the church.

By faith, as God enables me, I will—

- Pray regularly for the ministry of Grace United Methodist Church;
- Attend worship services and invite family and friends to attend with me;
- Be available to follow God's leading in working in and through my Church;
- Give to support the work of the Lord in 2013.

General Fund Giving Total for 2014 \$ _____

Above amount to be given \$ _____ per week or \$ _____ per month or \$ _____ yearly

Special Fund Giving Total for 2014 \$ _____ Divide the amount into the following categories:

Apportionments	\$ _____	per week or \$ _____	per month or \$ _____	yearly
Building Repairs/Improvements	\$ _____	per week or \$ _____	per month or \$ _____	yearly
Education & Activities	\$ _____	per week or \$ _____	per month or \$ _____	yearly
Missions	\$ _____	per week or \$ _____	per month or \$ _____	yearly
Parsonage	\$ _____	per week or \$ _____	per month or \$ _____	yearly
Other _____	\$ _____	per week or \$ _____	per month or \$ _____	yearly

Monies donated to Special Funds is above the giving to the General Fund.

I understand that I may change my estimate of giving at any time by contacting the church office (218-233-1857).

What Can I Do When I Am Frustrated?

Del Larson, CLM

I was saddened when I couldn't find a topic for this newsletter this month. Usually, ideas are popping into my head all the time. This time was different, and the deadline for the newsletter was fast approaching, and you don't want to miss Sondra's deadlines. In fact, I am squeezing this too close to her deadline. I owe her some lefsa.

I am frustrated! Very Frustrated! I am frustrated with the doctors for my back and their indecisions on how to treat me. I am frustrated with my house and all the work that needs to be done and me getting slower and the costs going up. I am frustrated with the lack of help for Special Olympics.

I suppose, there are more frustrations, but my frustration bucket over-filled Sunday night when I got a call from friends at the lake complaining and asking when was I going to take care of the leaves in our yard. Then later as we are going to bed, my wife tells me her brother called and says he forgot to get someone to take care of the lawn at the lake. This is now the end of October. This had been my job for the past 50 years, but family was trying to be helpful to me and fired me. At least, I got it done on time. Now, I am laying in bed and I can feel the frustration rising and my blood pressure, which is usually low, starting to climb. Then I asked myself the strangest question. "Why am I frustrated over this, and what started it?"

Suddenly, like a flash of light, my brain was telling me, "You have a topic to write about."

I laid there for a while and was thinking, how can this be a topic for church. Then I began to think of the times I was least frustrated:

Being in Worship; visiting members of the congregation; writing or working on church material; hearing people say they will help with Churches United suppers; reading scripture; Bible studies; working with youth; and the list could go on and on.

When we experience joy, it is impossible to be frustrated. When we share our Christian love, we are filled with the Spirit. When we take the time to hear and see what God is offering us, how can we be sad? Not me! Life is filled with sadness, mourning, and frustrations, but when we turn to God, we can let Him help us solve our problems.

When we attend church, we can be filled with the Holy Spirit and be uplifted. When we study scripture, our eyes will be open to the promises of God. Finally, when we pray, God hears our concerns and frustrations and reminds us that He is there too and will help carry the burden, or show you ways around the obstructions.

Thank you God for showing me how to get rid of this frustration. I pray that I can continue to remember these words when I get frustrated again.

How about you? What can you do when you feel frustrated or sad?

ROLLAG! ROLLAGE! ROLLAG!

The 2013 Rollag report is a joyous moment as we see what our efforts have brought forth. This year, we worked with Christ the King Lutheran Church, our neighbors down on 14th St. Although we were unsure how this would work; like always, we manage to make it work.

We had one of the busiest Sundays in our 13 year history, with us running out of some food items by 2:00 on the first day. However, we can report that this was one of our best years at Rollag. The other two churches that proceed us on Friday and Saturday experienced poor results, most likely because of the hot weather that proceeded our days at Rollag.

Gross Income from Rollag \$21,713
Total Expenses were \$10,484
Net Profit of \$11,229

Grace members worked 861 hours which was 83.4% of the total hours. Christ the King members worked 171 hours 16.6% of the total hours. Based on these percentages: Grace's share of the profits is \$9,229; Christ the King received \$2000, which was rounded up from \$1,864.

There are some issues that we face for next year that we are working on now. It has been determined that we can no longer use the outdated cooking and cooling appliances and they must be replaced. Rollag seems to think that we should be responsible for the replacing these items. We do not feel we are responsible for these items. We are in negotia-

tions with the Western Steam Thrashers Reunion at Rollag and the other churches. We will keep you informed.

Thank you again for your support and help to make this a successful year.

Yours in Christ,
Del Larson, Team manager

TALENT SHOW

The Talent Show scheduled for Saturday, November 2nd has been CANCELLED. It will be rescheduled to a date in 2014.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

The Annual Charge Conference will be Sunday, December 8th at 12:15 PM to approve the budget for 2014 and hear the 2013 committee reports.

AMONG THE SAINTS

In God in the Moment, Kathy Coffey retells the story of a priest who fielded this questions: "How many people were at the early celebration of the Eucharist last Wednesday morning?"

The priest replied, "There were three old ladies, the janitor, several thousand archangels, a large number of seraphim and several million of the triumphant saints of God."

Coffey writes: "Such a 'cloud of witnesses' answers a deep human urge to be part of something larger, to not stand alone, to give our little lives meaning. One drop of water, left alone, evaporates quickly. But one drop of water in the immense sea endures."

Date	Psalm	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Fri, Nov 1	am: 40, 54 pm: 51	Neh 2:1-20	Rev 6:12-7:4	Matt 13:24-30
Sat, Nov 2	am: 55 pm: 138, 139	Neh 4:1-23	am: Rev 7:4-17	Matt 13:31-35
Sun, Nov 3	am: 24, 29 pm: 8, 84	Neh 5:1-19	Acts 20:7-12	Luke 12:22-31
Mon, Nov 4	am: 56, 57, 58 pm: 64, 65	Neh 6:1-19	Rev 10:1-11	Matt 13:36-43
Tue, Nov 5	am: 61, 62 pm: 68	Neh 12:27-31a, 42b-47	Rev 11:1-19	Matt 13:44-52
Wed, Nov 6	am: 72 pm: 119:73-96	Neh 13:4-22	Rev 12:1-12	Matt 13:53-58
Thur, Nov 7	am: 70, 71 pm: 74	Ezra 7:1-16	Rev 14:1-13	Matt 14:1-12
Fri, Nov 8	am: 69 pm: 73	Ezra 7:27-28, 8:21-36	Rev 15:1-18	Matt 14:13-21
Sat, Nov 9	am: 75, 76 pm: 23, 27	Ezra 9:1-15	Rev 17:1-14	Matt 14:22-36
Sun, Nov 10	am: 93, 96 pm: 34	Ezra 10:1-17	Acts 24:10-21	Luke 14:12-24
Mon, Nov 11	am: 80 pm: 77, 19	Neh 9:1-15	Rev 18:1-8	Matt 15:1-20
Tue, Nov 12	am: 78:1-39 pm: 78:40-72	Neh 9:26-38	Rev 18:9-20	Matt 15:21-28
Wed, Nov 13	am: 119:97-120 pm: 81, 82	Neh 7:73b-8:3, 5-18	Rev 18:21-24	Matt 15:29-39
Thur, Nov 14	am: 83 pm: 85, 86	1 Chron 10:1-14	Rev 19:1-10	Matt 16:1-12
Fri, Nov 15	am: 88 pm: 91, 92	1 Chron 11:1-25	Rev 19:11-16	Matt 16:13-20
Sat, Nov 16	am: 87, 90 pm: 136	1 Chron 13:1-14	Rev 20:1-6	Matt 16:21-28
Sun, Nov 17	am: 66, 67 pm: 19, 46	1 Chron 14:1-17	Acts 28:14b-23	Luke 16:1-13
Mon, Nov 18	am: 89:1-18 pm: 89:19-52	1 Chron 15:1-29	Rev 20:7-15	Matt 17:1-13
Tue, Nov 19	am: 97, 99, 100 pm: 94, 95	1 Chron 16:7-36	Rev 21:1-8	Matt 17:14-21
Wed, Nov 20	am: 101, 109 pm: 119:121-144	1 Chron 20:1-8	Rev 21:9-21	Matt 17:22-27
Thur, Nov 21	am: 105:1-22 pm: 105:23-45	1 Chron 21:1-27	Rev 21:22-22:5	Matt 18:1-9
Fri, Nov 22	am: 102 pm: 107:1-32	1 Chron 22:1-19	Rev 22:6-13	Matt 18:10-20
Sat, Nov 23	am: 107:33-43, 108 pm: 33	Isa 65:17-25	Rev 22:14-21	Matt 18:21-35
Sun, Nov 24	am: 118 pm: 145	Isa 19:19-25	Rom 15:5-13	Luke 19:11-27
Mon, Nov 25	am: 106:1-18 pm: 106:19-48	Joel 3:1-2, 9-17	1 Pet 1:1-12	Matt 19:1-12
Tue, Nov 26	am: 121, 122, 123 pm: 124, 125, 126	Nahum 1:1-13	1 Pet 1:13-25	Matt 19:13-22
Wed, Nov 27	am: 119:145-176 pm: 128, 129, 130	Obad 15-21	1 Pet 2:1-10	Matt 19:23-30
Thur, Nov 28	am: 131, 132, 133 pm: 134, 135	Zeph 3:1-13	1 Pet 2:11-25	Matt 20:1-16
Fri, Nov 29	am: 140, 142 pm: 141, 143	Isa 24:14-23	1 Pet 3:13-4:6	Matt 20:17-28
Sat, Nov 30	am: 137, 144 pm: 104	Mic 7:11-20	1 Pet 4:7-19	Matt 20:29-34

Grace United Methodist

November 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 7:00 PM Tal- ent Show CANCELLED TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK-1 HR.
3 All Saints Sunday 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship w/Communion 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Nominat- ing Committee	4 1 PM Quilters	5	6 6:15 PM Bell Choir 6:30 PM AWANA 7:15 PM Choir	7 9 AM Bulletin Deadline 1:30 PM Martha Circle 7 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry	8	9 9:30—11:00 AM Safe Sanctuary Training
10 25th Sunday after Pentecost 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School	11 9 AM Charge Conference Reports due in Office 1 PM Quilters	12 6 PM Trustees 7 PM Ad Council	13 6:15 PM Bell Choir 6:30 PM AWANA 7:15 PM Choir	14 9 AM Bulletin Deadline	15	16
17 26th Sunday after Pentecost 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School	18 1 PM Quilters	19 9 AM Newsletter Dead- line	20 6:15 PM Bell Choir 6:30 PM AWANA 7:15 PM Choir	21 9 AM Bulletin Deadline 2:00 PM River Pointe 7 PM Lydia Circle - D. Stead's	22	23 10:00 AM SPRC Meet with D.S 10:45 AM Church Leaders
24 Last Sunday after Pentecost 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 1:00 PM Ad Council/ Leaders Visionary Mtg.	25 1 PM Quilters	26	27 9 AM Bulletin Deadline 6:15 PM No Bell Choir 6:30 PM No AWANA 7:15 PM No- Choir	28  Office Closed	29	30

