

Light of Grace

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

Vol. 28, No. 11
November 1, 2017

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,

As I write this, **I have just stepped in from the perfect autumn day: sun shining, still, and 60 degrees. One block from the church I saw a line of four maple trees in their golden splendor—**

only a handful of golden leaves on the green grass below. Tomorrow morning, however, we are under a winter storm watch. Plus, on the radio is one more news report on Studs to Rugs closing its doors—leaving some homeowners and all its employees in quite a quandary to say the least.

I am reminded life has many seasons and we are called to live through them all. Seasons of beauty and calm, seasons of storm and surprise, the book of Ecclesiastes says, “To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven” (Ecclesiastes 3:1). I know few details of the Studs to Rugs closure. It happened quickly. Some clients were left with no electricity and kitchens completely gutted. Others were at less critical junctures in their home projects. Workers were left without jobs. Then a few of the workers decided they might be able to make a bad situation a bit better for all concerned. They banded together to help homeowners help finish up projects.

They've chosen to make the best of the sudden change of season in all of their lives.

I find something noble and faithful in their choice. November 5th we will finish our worship series “You Are Meant for More.” But, just because the series concludes doesn't mean that truth will vanish. **Jesus' life, death and resurrection is the reminder we are indeed meant for more than the storms in life. We are meant to receive and share Grace, Peace, Love, and Blessing in life.**



I had a call from the Police Department to assist where there'd been a suicide. Over the years I've been called to such situations many times. So, as I was wrapping up I told the neighbor who had been there for the family member who found the body—“for years to come you will be described as an angel.” The neighbor wasn't supposed to be home; she'd taken off early from work and arrived just in time to be of help and comfort. I know the neighbor will be described as an angel because I've seen it before in similar situations—people who ordinarily would not have been where they were on any other day; for some reason they ended up being exactly the place they were most needed. The family always goes on to describe that person as “like an angel.” Any day God might use you to be another's angel. Maybe God already has.

Sunday, November 5th is All Saint's Sunday. November 12th the Scriptures focus on “encouraging one another” until Jesus comes in final victory. November 19th is the Sunday we give thanks. In November I invite you to be thankful for the angels and saints in your life. Marvel at the times God has used you to encourage and bless another. November 29th is Christ the King Sunday; if you're in the midst of a storm, it is a time to remember **Christ will triumph over every storm.** Each Sunday we will be looking for the best in life, the best in each other and the best that's yet to come. Prepare to be uplifted: and learn to be a blessing for others in all seasons.

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)
- Marjorie Ladwig (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 (Fairmont)



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 (Nov/May) TEAM coordinators are R. & P. Murray and W. Walseth and D. Stead

- 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. B.endemuhl
- 218-233-8038—G. Clifton
- 218-287-1969—B. & J. Fraundorfer & Family
- 701-541-2490—S. & L. Gedrose & Family
- 701-238-5025—L. Jensen
- 218-233-8746—B. Johnson,
- 218-236-1747—C. Ladwig
- 218-287-2639—D. LeQuire
- 701-205-1645—R. Opp
- 218-236-5746—J. Ostlie
- 218-233-3888—E. Volbrecht
- 218-233-5392—C. & D. Williams

PRAYER LIST at Home

- Vicky Westra Ruth Opp
- Cullen Fraundorfer ArNetta Monge

NOVEMBER Birthdays



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



DONUTS

Homemade Buttermilk Donuts will be made on Wednesday, November 1st, and November 15th, 2017. To place your 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. **NOVEMBER 15TH IS THE LAST TIME DONUTS WILL BE MADE IN 2017.**

HELP! HELP!

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

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathies to M. Hamm and her family. Mackenzie's grandmother, Gertrude Lomsdal, passed away on October 9th. Her funeral was at Grace on October 14th.

Our Sympathies to the family of John Ladwig, M.D. who passed away on Tuesday, October 24th. His Funeral was at Grace on Saturday, October 28th.

CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions must be received in the office by 10:00 AM, on December 29, 2017 to be counted as a 2017 contribution. All contributions received after that date will be counted as a 2018 contribution. Grace is not responsible to Count your contribution for 2017 if it is lost in the mail.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE
October**

INCOME: \$ 16,492.10
EXPENSES: \$ 16,131.73
APPORTIONMENTS: \$ 521.34



THE LITTLE CHURCH THAT COULD

by Del Larson, CLM

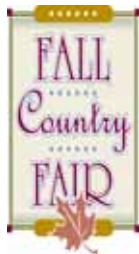
Taking a road trip can usually be quite interesting. You never know what you will see or even learn. In mid-September, six members of Grace drove all the way to Hubbard, Mn to *Refresh, Renew, Revitalize*. If you haven't heard of Hubbard, you are not alone. Try looking it up on Google and you won't find much, but a lot is happening in that little church. Correction, it is a big church. In fact, it is the largest building in Hubbard.

The Minnesota Conference has sent three pastors over the past 25 years to close its doors. However, this little church has shown the Conference, the District, and the Park Rapids area that they could survive and flourish. This amazing accomplishment came from the commitment of all its members, who were mostly seniors like our church. Their commitment was to truly become the church of the community and area. There were a few children in the little village, but most didn't attend because there was no Sunday School. I can see why the doors were slowly closing. Things began to change once the seniors reached out and became adopted grandparents. Soon they grew from two to 25 students and many parents followed. It could not have happened without everyone actively on board with both feet and two hands. There was no looking from the sidelines, "It was all hands on deck." Sink or Swim! Go Big or Go home! We will not surrender, because we are part of Christ's army of servants and He leads us. For this two-day conference, nearly all the members of the church were working to make God moments for all of us.

I have attended many conferences over my career, and this workshop was just as motivating and inspiring. There were many great stories that were shared in Hubbard. They renewed and revitalized my commitment to serve. Along with over 200 other people from across the state, my heart was lifted and the Holy Spirit refreshed my soul. Nothing is impossible if all of us are willing to work to make Grace another Little Church that Could.

We are now faced with a similar situation here at Grace. Our financial bottom line shows huge red marks that look insurmountable. As most of us know, this is not the first time that Grace has faced a crisis. Over the past 135 plus years, many challenges have tested our strength. Lets also remember that God has guided us over those years. At times we may have asked "Where is God in all of this?" He is always with us, for through our struggles we become stronger. We

know that by our love of Christ Jesus, Grace will continue to be a home for those seeking Christ. With prayer and all of us working together, we will overcome this hurdle. Grace can become the next great story. Let it be said for evermore, "Grace is the Little Church That Could." AMEN



FALL FESTIVAL

The Women of Grace Fall Festival will be held on Sat., November 4th. Doors will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch of homemade soup, sandwich, and dessert will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Left over soup will be sold by the quart and pint after 1 p.m. Join in the fellowship by helping with this event. Sign-up sheets will be on the narthex table. If you have any questions, please contact P. Murray, J. Graning or J. Anderson.



CHARGE CONFERENCE

The annual Church Conference will be held on Sunday, November 12th following Worship Services. Please get your reports into the office as soon as possible to be included in the booklet.



SMART MONEY

Dave Ramsey from Financial Peace university will be live streaming his Smart Money event at Grace United Methodist on Tuesday, November 7th at 7:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact T. Grow.

QUILTERS

The quilters and donated 2 tied blankets and 5 quilts to Churches United; 5 quilts to the New Life Center; 3 quilts to the Salvation Army and 2 quilts to Youth Works. Three quilts were saved for the Fall Festival. The women have worked hard this, but there is a lot more quilting to be done. Thank you Women of Grace Quilters.

Date	Psalm	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Wed, Nov 1	am: 119:49-72, pm: 49, 53	Ezra 6:1-22	Rev 5:1-10	Matt 13:10-17
Thur, Nov 2	am: 50, 59, 60, pm: 66, 67	Neh 1:1-11	Rev 5:11-6:11 pm: Rev 19:1-10	Matt 13:18-23
Fri, Nov 3	am: 40, 54, pm: 51	Neh 2:1-20	Rev 6:12-7:4	Matt 13:24-30
Sat, Nov 4	am: 55, pm: 138, 139	Neh 4:1-23	am: Rev 7:4-17	Matt 13:31-35
Sun, Nov 5	am: 24, 29, pm: 8, 84	Neh 5:1-19	Acts 20:7-12	Luke 12:22-31
Mon, Nov 6	am: 56, 57, 58, pm: 64, 65	Neh 6:1-19	Rev 10:1-11	Matt 13:36-43
Tue, Nov 7	am: 61, 62, pm: 68	Neh 12:27-31a, 42b-47	Rev 11:1-19	Matt 13:44-52
Wed, Nov 8	am: 72, pm: 119:73-96	Neh 13:4-22	Rev 12:1-12	Matt 13:53-58
Thur, Nov 9	am: 70, 71, pm: 74	Ezra 7:1-16	Rev 14:1-13	Matt 14:1-12
Fri, Nov 10	am: 69, pm: 73	Ezra 7:27-28, 8:21-36	Rev 15:1-18	Matt 14:13-21
Sat, Nov 11	am: 75, 76, pm: 23, 27	Ezra 9:1-15	Rev 17:1-14	Matt 14:22-36
Sun, Nov 12	am: 93, 96, pm: 34	Ezra 10:1-17	Acts 24:10-21	Luke 14:12-24
Mon, Nov 13	am: 80, pm: 77, 19	Neh 9:1-15	Rev 18:1-8	Matt 15:1-20
Tue, Nov 14	am: 78:1-39, pm: 78:40-72	Neh 9:26-38	Rev 18:9-20	Matt 15:21-28
Wed, Nov 15	am: 119:97-120, pm: 81, 82	Neh 7:73b-8:3, 5-18	Rev 18:21-24	Matt 15:29-39
Thur, Nov 16	am: 83, pm: 85, 86	1 Chron 10:1-14	Rev 19:1-10	Matt 16:1-12
Fri, Nov 17	am: 88, pm: 91, 92	1 Chron 11:1-25	Rev 19:11-16	Matt 16:13-20
Sat, Nov 18	am: 87, 90, pm: 136	1 Chron 13:1-14	Rev 20:1-6	Matt 16:21-28
Sun, Nov 19	am: 66, 67, pm: 19, 46	1 Chron 14:1-17	Acts 28:14b-23	Luke 16:1-13
Mon, Nov 20	am: 89:1-18, pm: 89:19-52	1 Chron 15:1-29	Rev 20:7-15	Matt 17:1-13
Tue, Nov 21	am: 97, 99, 100, pm: 94, 95	1 Chron 16:7-36	Rev 21:1-8	Matt 17:14-21
Wed, Nov 22	am: 101, 109, pm: 119:121-144	1 Chron 20:1-8	Rev 21:9-21	Matt 17:22-27
Thur, Nov 23	am: 105:1-22, pm: 105:23-45	1 Chron 21:1-27	Rev 21:22-22:5	Matt 18:1-9
Fri, Nov 24	am: 102, pm: 107:1-32	1 Chron 22:1-19	Rev 22:6-13	Matt 18:10-20
Sat, Nov 25	am: 107:33-43, 108, pm: 33	Isa 65:17-25	Rev 22:14-21	Matt 18:21-35
Sun, Nov 26	am: 118, pm: 145	Isa 19:19-25	Rom 15:5-13	Luke 19:11-27
Mon, Nov 27	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 28	am: 121, 122, 123, pm: 124, 125, 126	Nahum 1:1-13	1 Pet 1:13-25	Matt 19:13-22
Wed, Nov 29	am: 119:145-176, pm: 128, 129, 130	Obad 15-21	1 Pet 2:1-10	Matt 19:23-30
Thur, Nov 30	am: 131, 132, 133, pm: 134, 135	Zeph 3:1-13	1 Pet 2:11-25	Matt 20:1-16



NEW LIFE CENTER FUNDRAISER

“Same Kind of Different As Me” the story of hope and redemption. You can meet Ron at a Dessert Social at the Avalon Event Center, Fargo on November 16th at 6:30 pm, tickets are \$30.00. Tickets for both events can be

purchased at www.fargonlc.org or by calling 701-729-6637.



Poinsettias

POINTSETTIAS

If you would like to order a Poinsettia to take home with you after the Christmas Service, please call the office by Friday,

November 4th.



SAVE THE DATES

All Women of Grace and their guests are invited to the Advent luncheon, on Saturday, December 2nd 11:00 am. Please purchase your tickets by Monday, November 27th from J. Anderson.



NEW DIRECTORY

The new address and phone directory for 2018 will be printed in January. If you have moved, or changed phone numbers, please let the office know so your correct information will be current.

POSSIBILITIES

Imagine the possibility of Grace UMC meeting the needs of a rapidly growing FM community with a second service. If you are interested in exploring the possibility please talk with Pastor Roger.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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1120 17 St S
Moorhead MN 56560
(218) 233-1857

