

September 24, 2013



**Join Us for Fall Fun...
Everyone is Welcome!**

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Fall has begun!

This is such an exciting time of year for any community of faith, but especially here at Grace. It seems like everything is starting up again and there is a tangible energy as we gather together on Sundays and during the week. I love it.

There are a couple of changes at Grace that I would like to highlight as we jump into this programmatic year. One is the use of the Narrative Lectionary. The other is a change in First Communion.

The Narrative Lectionary, or NL, is a change in the lessons used as a guide for worship instead of the Revised Common Lectionary, or RCL. The Narrative Lectionary is a progression through the whole of scripture, from Genesis to Revelation. There is one lesson for each Sunday. The logic behind the development of the NL is the best way to teach Biblical literacy is to use the whole of scripture in progression. The use of the NL opens up a variety of exciting opportunities for our time together in worship. I am truly excited about walking through the Bible with you.

The change in First Communion is a subtle, but exciting change. The policy has been that a youth may take the First Communion class at any point, Kindergarten or beyond. This has led to a very diverse group of ages in the same class. The goal is to follow more of the orthodox theology that allows younger children to receive Communion. The change will be that any youth aged 3 or older may receive Communion at the parent's discretion. This is done through meeting with me.

Then, ALL third grade students will take a First Communion class during Lent and the ceremonial First Communion will happen on Maundy Thursday. This will make it possible to teach to the age and let these children get more out of First Communion while not withholding the sacrament from our youngest of members in families with more orthodox theology.

I am truly excited to see what this year will bring! What a great time to be at Grace!

Pastor Mike



Happy Birthday

October 2	Robert Campbell Ardis Schmelzer Margaret York Steve Johnson Christine Hines Andy Roat Eric Barks Ivy Mae Lawson
3	Barbara Knapp Howard Welty
4	Ava Lund
5	Paul Nelson
6	Amanda Jensen
7	Ernestina Reaza Adam Bergman
8	Nelda Sampel Harlan Mortenson
9	Joanne Johnson Riley Mortenson
11	Christopher Kallenbach Daniel Harmon Emily Harmon Jeramie Mitchell Alexander Gutmann
12	Benjamin Wonderlin
13	Deanna Hummel Sheryl Sauerman David Peterson Jessica Warren Victoria Janson
14	Jane Ridnour James Fenimore
15	Chris Lawson Eryn Lenhart Kyra Lenhart Maya Lenhart
16	Joan Johnson Rev. Stephen Sherer Kara Jordahl Lukus Loehrke
17	Gary Nelson Roberto Ruiz
18	Bruce Nelson
20	Dick Sampel Sean Stickrod Stuart Turner James Briggs
21	Sarah Schroeder Sage Speck
23	Ronald Vernia Trinity Newman
24	Melissa Kallenbach
25	Joyce Lewis Tina Meadows
26	Seth Kallestad
27	Douglas Dinnauer Sarah Voelker
28	Max Sauerman
29	Jeanette Ziesman Col. Franklin Peterson Jessica Russell
30	Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg Travis Brown Pedro Espericueta Maycia Welty
31	Fay Cline Ashley Artzer Tanner Peeler



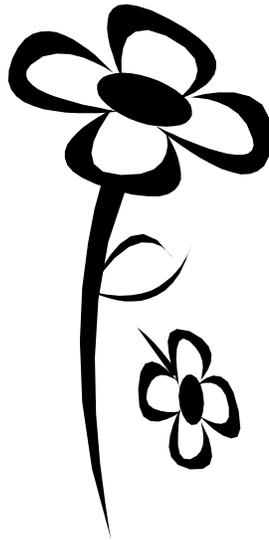
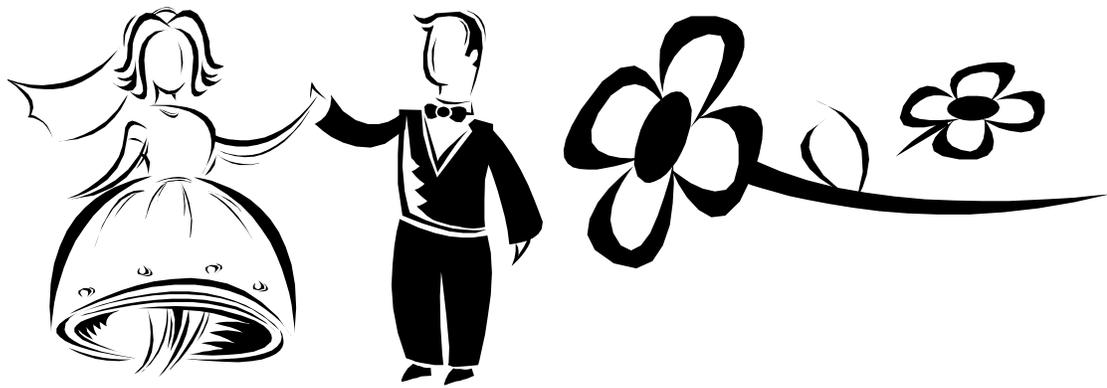
Happy Anniversary

October 1	John & Carrie Schall
4	Richard & Rosemary Randolph
5	Donald & Margaret York
6	Ross & Cherlyn Lewis
7	Chris & Jeryl Janson
12	Louie & Sue Anderson Burke & Shirley Shiffler
16	Ricky & Jennifer Huisman
17	Michael Newell & Barbara Knapp
21	Delmar & Linda Vernia
22	Joel & Stacie Holst
24	David & Susan Halblom
25	Brian & Sherry Brindley Michael & Diane Heid
26	Scot & Rebecca Sonius
27	Hal & Michele Turner
28	Michael & Marilyn Nizzi
29	George & Kelley Marks
31	Lee & Dolores Johnson



2013-14 Super Wednesday Schedule

5:00-5:30 p.m.	Cherub Choir (vocal choir) in Chapel on lower level (Preschool-Grade 2)
5:00-5:30 p.m.	Youth Choir (vocal choir) in the Choir Room (Grades 2-6)
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Supper served in Grace Hall I
5:30 p.m.	Book Discussion in Library
5:30-6:00 p.m.	Beginner's Bell Choir (hand bell choir) in the Bell Room (Beginning bell ringers ages 8 & up)
6:00-6:30 p.m.	Praise Bells Intermediate Bell Choir (hand bell choir) in the Bell Room (Anyone with 2+ years ringing experience)
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Kids' Hour in Gym and Room 101
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Lectionary Study in the Conference Room
6:00-7:30 p.m.	High School Hangout Time - gym
6:30 p.m.	Holy Communion Worship Service in the Sanctuary
6:30-7:30 p.m.	Confirmation worship in Sanctuary and then classroom study
6:30 p.m.	Brass Practice in Chapel on lower level
6:30-7:30 p.m.	Grace Bells in the Bell Room (9 th grade & up)
7:30 p.m.	Men of Grace Music Team in the Choir Room



We, (Rich Snyder and Deanna Pullen), would like to invite friends and members of Grace to our wedding on Saturday, November 2, at 2:00 in the sanctuary here at Grace Lutheran.

A reception will follow at the church. Since we have both established our individual households, we are requesting no gifts. We look forward to this beautiful occasion and are pleased to have you join in our celebration of marriage.

A New Baby Boy!

We are pleased to announce the birth of Ian Jon Galle born at 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday evening, September 11. His proud parents are Jason and Kristina Galle and very proud grandparents are Tom and Becky Selander. Congratulations to this family!

Women Up!

***Women's Retreat at Lutheran Lakeside
Be inspired and enthused!***

Calling all women for Women Up! Lutheran Lakeside Camp is hosting another women's retreat this year on October 18-19. Come for a weekend of worship, Bible study, relaxation and learning from 5:00 p.m. on Friday to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday.

There is no registration cost and leaders of this retreat are not being paid. In addition, they are providing materials and food. They are "paying it forward." You have the opportunity to "pay it forward" with a freewill offering. The fund will be used to send children to camp who are financially unable to attend.

For more information, contact Valerie Culp at 965-5972, go to www.lutheranlakeside.com or pick up a brochure in the Gathering Hall.

Carpooling is a possibility.

Deadline for registration is September 30.



75 Women Rising Up

Sympathy Is Extended

To the Fry family on the death of Rick's father, Denny, of West Burlington, IA. Denny passed away on August 27 at the age of 71. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Grace Fellowship

You (all adults) are invited to the October meeting for an evening of fellowship, food, fun, and music. We have invited the Midnight Madness Women's Quartet to sing a variety of songs. The committee will prepare the sandwiches, cookies and beverages which will be served at 5:00 p.m. So come, enjoy!

Grace Fellowship (Senior Members)

Sunday, October 6

5:00 p.m. in Grace Hall I

Contact Verda Swanson at 276-6625 or Barb Tussing at 278-2039 for more information.

Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting
8-27-13 at 7:00 PM

Present: Rich Snyder, Karri Brandsfield, Stacie Holst, Mary Helt, Jay Wangerin and Carla Peterman

Meeting was called to order with a prayer by Rich

Agenda was accepted with the addition of one item

Minutes from the July meeting were accepted as written

Written reports were accepted as written

- It was mentioned in the lay ministry report that we are in need of a communion assistant and a lector coordinator. We will mention this to the lay ministry committee to see if they can assist in the finding of people to help with these duties.
- It was mentioned in the office report that we need to update our personnel policy at Grace. We will bring this up to the personnel committee and have them look into this.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Emergency Business Continuity Plan was discussed briefly. Rich has some information from a few businesses regarding their emergency procedures to give us some ideas of where to start. It was brought up to at least post some tornado and fire signs at the exits/doorways in the building so people know where to go in case something happens. We also brought up that we need some sort of record retention policy for all the old files that we have at the church.

Pictorial directory was tabled until Pastor Mike has a chance to get with the committee once he is back on his feet from surgery.

No new info on the church picnic other than what was in the bulletin on Sunday. The meat and beverages will be provided and everyone is to just bring a salad/vegetable/dessert to share. Service will be at 10:00 with the meal to follow. People can bring lawn chairs to sit in as seating is limited at the park. There will be a few games, etc. to play after the meal. There will be a bus available at church to shuttle people to and from the park between 9 – 1.

NEW BUSINESS:

We will be in need of 4 new council members this year plus the 1 open spot that was not filled last year. Please start thinking of people who might be a good fit for these positions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No new announcements for this month.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held September 24th.

Respectfully submitted,
Karri Brandsfield, Secretary



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE

Fall Emphasis on Lutheran World Relief

The Fall Drive for Lutheran World Relief will be from September 22 to October 6! Here are some ways to get involved:

Pray for the work of LWR and for the recipients of this important aid throughout the world. Visit lwr.org for more information.

Sunday School offering project: students can bring these items to class to help those in need: Money, or 4 ounce bars of soap and toothbrushes, both in original wrappers.

Make a donation: Bring items like those on display, or donate monetary gifts. Bring your gifts to the displays, put them in the offering plates at worship or send them to the church office. Special envelopes will be in the pews. Checks should be made out to Grace Lutheran Church. Please put LWR on the comment line.

Make LWR kits: during the Wednesday night Kid's Hour on Sept. 11, from 6:00-7 p.m.

Make quilts on Thursday mornings.

Join the LWR committee: All members are welcome. Contact Cathy Barks at 278-1461. Help at any of these events and do the shopping throughout the year. We will box up all kits and quilts after the 10:45 a.m. service on Sunday, October 6. Help deliver the boxes to Ankeny on October 19.

Bumper Scratch

If you attended the church service at Tower Park on Sunday, September 8, and you own a white SUV that may have been damaged on the right side of the rear bumper, please call the church office at 276-6873, so that the responsible party can cover your repair costs.

Library News

Two new library books have not been returned and others are waiting to read them. They are, "Proof of Heaven" and "The Story: the Bible Told as One Continuing Story of God and His People."

Please return them as soon as possible.

New

"The Lutheran Handbook on Marriage" - Adult Nonfiction
"Ben's Big Break; the Seekers" - Youth Fiction

Bible Study Groups Resume

Tuesdays: The Good and Beautiful God Book group will be meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays starting September 10th with our last session being Tuesday, November 5th in the Café area. Contact Julie Honsey at jhlreader@aol.com

Sundays: The Good and Beautiful God Book group will be meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays starting October 27th with our last session being Sunday, December 8th in the Café area. Contact Cherie Rissman at cherierissman@gmail.com

Hunger Events in Des Moines

Food, Nutrition, and Health in a Changing World: Wednesday, October 16, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

This 5th annual Health Conference at Drake University is held in conjunction with the World Food Prize Symposium. It is free and open to the public, although registration is required by October 9. Specific location information and a schedule overview are posted on the social ministry bulletin board by the office, or go to www.heartlandconsortium.org

Hope for the Hungry: Saturday, November 16, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

This 5th annual conference at St. John's Lutheran Church (600 6th Ave, Des Moines) takes a specific look at hunger in Des Moines and how we can combat it. This year's theme is "Feed, Empower, Advocate." The day includes a keynote address and breakout sessions with field experts and plenty of opportunity for discussion and ideas-sharing. Come for a day of learning and of having an impact on the goals that will be set for 2014. Registration is \$15 if postmarked before November 1, or \$30 after that date. Brochures are available in the Gathering Hall, or you can go to www.hopeforthehungry.blogspot.com.



Lutheran Lakeside Camp Fall Volunteer Work Day

Help get Lakeside ready for the winter season. Your help is needed with trees, painting, and cleaning on October 5 from 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m., with coffee served at 9:00 a.m. and lunch at noon. Call 712-336-2109 or email Gary Zeman at z@lutheranlakeside.com

Have a Collection to Share?

Do you have a collection of items that would be fun to share in the Gathering Hall display cabinet? Items that have been showcased in the past include trains, crèche sets, pottery, Snoopy dolls, and more! Currently Carol Woodruff has a beautiful egg collection on display. There is a sign-up sheet hanging by the cabinet. Sign up for a couple of months and come to the office for the key. Can't wait for you to share your hobby!

Lutheran College Fair: Mark your calendar for the evening of **Sunday, October 6**. 15 colleges and universities will be represented, and the evening includes a financial aid seminar as well as a college fair reception and hors d'oeuvres. Details are as follows:

Place: Faith Lutheran Church, 10395 University Ave., Clive

Registration: 6:30 p.m.

Financial Aid Seminar: 6:45 p.m.

College Fair Reception and Hors d'oeuvres: 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.

For more information www.lutherancolleges.org



Loaves and Fish



You're familiar with the story. Jesus is teaching a crowd of people. It gets late, and everyone is hungry. The disciples encourage Jesus to send the people away, but Jesus gently pushes back and challenges the disciples to feed the crowd. What? With five loaves and two fish? But in Jesus blessing the loaves and handing them to the disciples to distribute, a miracle happens. In the end, "all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children" (Matt. 14:20-21).

Loaves and fish...

It has happened time and time again. A need arises, the Spirit moves, and things start happening. A few years ago when we did a combined Vacation Bible School with Bread of Life Church, we had not budgeted for that unforeseen ministry opportunity. So we approached the congregation for financial support for children who may not otherwise have this opportunity, and we could not stop Grace from giving. We had more than enough.

Loaves and fish...

When we began the conversation of starting a new ministry called First Circle Friends, we had no participants enrolled and had no idea how many volunteers we would find. But we stepped forward in faith anyway. And it turned out that we didn't have to *find* volunteers at all. God sent them. And the ministry is thriving and ready to grow.

Loaves and fish...

Some members of Grace are involved with conversations about how to feed hungry people in Des Moines. But who knew what that had to do with an unrelated meeting that two of those members were attending? First Circle Friends volunteers were gathered for a training session, and in the course of the conversation, apparently somewhat randomly, the trainer mentioned her passion for canning food for preservation. Two of us looked at each other, stunned, because just a week or so earlier, in the hunger conversation, we had been talking about how great it would be if we could find some people who could share their skills in that area. Lo and behold.... a random remark... or the work of the Spirit?

Loaves and fish...

Somehow, whenever we step forward in faith and give of ourselves, our time, and our possessions, we end up with more than that with which we started. "Jesus blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples" (Matt. 14: 19). Perhaps therein lies the key. The disciples had some resources – a few - but certainly not enough on their own. How could five loaves and two fish feed so many? *Besides that*, they probably thought, *if we give it all away we won't have any left for ourselves*. But Jesus intervened – Jesus blessed, and the disciples gave. It seemed that they still just started out with five loaves and two fish, but somehow, in Jesus' intervention and blessing, it wasn't just enough – it was more than enough. Go figure.

What does that mean for us at Grace in the coming year? What will God do with the selves, time and possessions that we all have to give? Careful, though, because we likely won't end up with enough in the end. We may very well end up with *more* than enough.

Loaves and fish...

Stephanie Johnson

Stewardship Thought

We hope that you have been able to participate in the current Bible study "From Duty to Delight".

This study is showing us how to live an abundant life including being a good steward. The sessions are designed to be able to attend all or just single sessions, so please feel free to join us even if you missed the September sessions. The Stewardship Committee is pleased to present this series on how to live a joy filled life. This series is one example of the Stewardship Committee's role in teaching the congregation what it is to be a good steward and to encourage participation in those acts. We are currently exploring other communication methods to perform our role. Do you have a background that would help us? Would you like to share your talents as an act of stewardship? Please consider joining our committee, even for a single year, new ideas are always welcome. Please contact any current member of the committee for more information. *Doug Johnson, Kevin Krause, Leonard Larsen, Jay Wangerin*

Finance Report – August Results

Financial results for August YTD are as follows:

- Offerings – Actual \$294,424, Budget \$291,183
- Other Income – Actual \$10,356, Budget \$10,235
- Expenses – Actual \$298,621, Budget \$306,539
- Net activity – Actual \$6,160, Budget \$(5,121)

Actual net activity was favorable to budget. Pledged offerings equals budget and unpledged activity is above budget – thank you! Favorable expense activity is the result of certain expense activity that was budgeted but the actual expense has yet to occur. Additionally, savings was achieved due to lack of the property position for a portion of the year.

Men In Mission

Men In Mission will have their joint meeting with the men from Immanuel Methodist on Thursday **October 10th starting at 6:00 p.m.**

The speaker will be our own Denny Rehder to give us a look at railroad History sharing stories and songs from 18 years of performing "Grass Between the Rails" as a "Roads" scholar for Humanities of Iowa and National Endowment for Humanities. Please plan to be there.

Restorative Justice Conference

AMOS is sponsoring a Restorative Justice Conference on Saturday, **October 19, 9:00 a.m.-noon** at Plymouth UCC Congregational located at 42nd and Ingersoll Avenue in Des Moines. The event is free and open to the public with daycare being provided. No registration is required. Topics to be addressed include:

- What is restorative justice?
- AMOS Court Watch-lessons learned.
- School Mediation
- Racial Profile Project

For more information call 515-279-2234. Contact Julie Honsey (282-8817) if you are interested in attending the event.

ATTENTION: Parents of College Students

We, as a church family, would like to stay connected with our college-bound members. Please provide us your child's college address so we may send an occasional care package along with notes of encouragement. Please email addresses to: cherierissman@gmail.com

Wanted: Pies for Lutheran Lakeside Camp

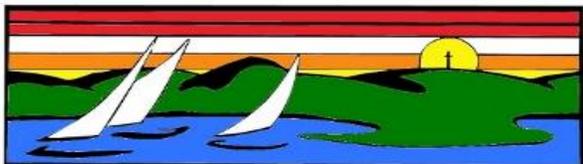
Our camp, Lutheran Lakeside Camp, is having a big camp reunion to celebrate many years of campers, counselors, workers and happy owners. Lutheran Lakeside Camp would love to have you make a contribution in goods, pies, silent auction, or financial gifts. Please contact Mary Freimuth Helt, 515-255-6433, the camp, or bring a pie to the event.

When: September 28, 2013 5:00-7:30 p.m.

Where: Walnut Woods State Park Lodge
8951 SW 52nd Ave., West Des Moines

What: Campfire for those who love Lakeside campfires and have missed them. Meet and greet old and new friends and raise a little money for the camp.

Activities: Dinner will be sloppy Joes, beans, etc.-the usual camp-type food. There will be a silent auction and dinner with singing around the campfire with s'mores.



Preventing Bullying

Do you ever worry about children you know being bullied? October is National Bullying Awareness Prevention Month, a time to draw awareness to this issue facing so many young people.

Through our shared ministry, you help LSI (Lutheran Services in Iowa) offer many programs for children and youth that teach the kind of skills that can *prevent* bullying behavior, such as anger management, healthy decision-making, positive self esteem and more. Learning these skills not only helps kids have better relationships with their peers, but they do better in school, at home and in the community. Thank you for your support of these critical programs!

For information on LSI, visit www.LSIowa.org. Join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Your LSI Shared Ministry Snapshot: Growing up at age 16

What do you do when you're a teen with no place to go? Sam, a former resident at LSI's Bremwood Residential Treatment Center in Waverly, had graduated from treatment, but moving back to a rough home life wasn't an option. She also didn't want to go to a foster home. She loved the new school friends and support she had in Waverly.

Thanks to LSI's supervised apartment living program, Sam was able to stay in the Waverly area. Funded through the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), the program helps teens who are aging out of care. "Supervised apartment living is for youth who may have a home, but it's not their best option," said Ashley, an LSI caseworker. "This program allows them to live on their own with support before actually being on their own."

Teens like Sam have to grow up fast. With help, Sam signed a lease on an apartment and then spent her senior year of high school juggling homework, multiple jobs, certified nursing assistant classes and managing her own budget and home. Ashley helped monitor Sam's academics and employment and was there to answer the questions a parent might normally help with, such as banking or college application issues.

"Ashley's awesome," Sam said. "I love her. She's always there if I need someone to talk to." "Sam is such a great kid," said Ashley. "She could have given up when things got hard, but she bounces back. It's very cool to see her grow and come full circle. She's becoming her own person." Thank you for helping teens like Sam become successful young adults!