



# The Friendly Visitor

## Grace Lutheran Church

August 26, 2014

August 31  
Sunday Services  
8:15 a.m. & 9:45 a.m.

September 7  
8:15 a.m. Worship at Grace  
10:45 a.m. Outdoor Worship  
Service at Tower Park  
followed by Church Picnic

Fall Worship Schedule Begins  
September 14  
Sunday Worship Services  
8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Contact Us  
Pastor Michael Schmidt  
[revschmidt@live.com](mailto:revschmidt@live.com)

Director of Laity Ministries  
Stephanie Johnson  
[stephaniejohnson@g.com](mailto:stephaniejohnson@g.com)

Grace Kids' Care Director  
Heather Nelson  
[heathernelsondc@msn.com](mailto:heathernelsondc@msn.com)  
276-0943

Office Administrator  
Jacquelyn Holmes  
[graceluth5@msn.com](mailto:graceluth5@msn.com)

Office Assistant  
Michelle Voelker  
[rvoelker1@mchsi.com](mailto:rvoelker1@mchsi.com)

Organist  
Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg  
[jennwohlenhaus@yahoo.com](mailto:jennwohlenhaus@yahoo.com)

Director of Music Ministries  
Emma Stammer  
[memmas418@gmail.com](mailto:memmas418@gmail.com)

Custodian  
Todd Haugen 1-515-708-3758

Inside This Issue...  
Page 2.....Meet Emma, Thank You's  
Page 3.....Birthdays, Anniversaries  
Page 3&4..Coming Events  
Page 5.....Council Minutes  
Page 6.....Stewardship, Financials  
Page 7.....Furry Friends, DMARC  
Page 8.....We Need You!



## Super Wednesday Schedule Beginning September 10, 2014

*Everyone is welcome to join us for fall events!*

5:00-6:00 p.m. Supper served in Grace Hall I  
5:30-5:50 p.m. Chapel Chimers Beginner Hand Bell Choir in the Bell Room  
6:00-6:30 p.m. Praise Bells Intermediate Hand Bell Choir in the Bell Room  
6:00-7:00 p.m. Lectionary Study in the Conference Room  
6:30-7:30 p.m. Confirmation classes in the Chapel (**Beginning September 17**)  
6:30-7:30 p.m. Brass practice in the stage area  
6:30-7:30 p.m. Grace Bells (hand bell choir) in the Bell Room  
7:45-9:00 p.m. Chancel Choir in the Choir Room

## Celebration Sunday, September 7, 2014

Worship on September 7 will be at 8:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary  
10:45 a.m. at Tower Park on Hickman Road and 50<sup>th</sup> St.

- A shuttle will run continuously between Grace and the park from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. since parking is limited at the location.
- Burgers, brats, and beverages will be provided
- **The rest of the meal will be potluck.** No signups needed, simply bring your favorite dishes/salads/desserts. Yes, your dish may ride with you on the shuttle. So can your chairs.
- Chairs? *The shelter has quite a few picnic tables.* If you would like to bring your own lawn chairs and/or blankets you may.
- What to do after the worship and food?  
Share in some friendly banter, bring your favorite lawn games to share, clowns, balloons, face painting, or visit the playground

## Honor Flight Letters

**September 7th through September 14th** we will be involved in a letter writing campaign to offer thanks to the Korean War Veterans of the September 30th Honor Flight. Our goal is to send a letter for each veteran on the Honor Flight. There will be letter writing materials and examples available before and after church on September 7th & 14th, as well as the opportunity to write letters at home and bring them in to church. This is an exciting opportunity to both show thanks and Grace to veterans from all over Central and Western Iowa.

## A Warm Welcome to Emma Stammer Director of Music



**Emma Stammer** is a recently arrived Des Moines resident coming to you from Muscatine, Iowa. She was married in June of this year and moved to the area with her husband, Rick, and their two furry children (mini Dachshunds.) Emma was raised into a family of music ministers and brings to you a lifetime of experience communing and working in the church. She was baptized Presbyterian, received first communion in the Lutheran church, and was later confirmed into the Methodist church – all the while absorbing the liturgy, music, and faith of each denomination.

Emma has been a vocal coach and pianist by trade for 10 years. She directed her own all-female jazz choir in high school, then went on to earn a bachelor's degree in piano performance at Iowa State and a master's degree in collaborative piano (emphasis in vocal coaching) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. During college she spent many hours a day in the choir room, assisting rehearsals and singing, and also served as a teaching assistant in collaboration with wind, string, and voice studios. Over the past several years, Emma has coached at a number of opera festivals across the United States and in Italy, and has continued to serve in the church as singer, organist, and director.

She looks forward to meeting those who frequent Grace Lutheran, and to ensemble rehearsals beginning soon! Please come and say Hi when you get a moment – Emma will be in the office most mornings, and will attend both services each Sunday.

### Thank You

I would like to say "Thank You" for all of the prayers, support, and cards while I was recovering from ankle surgery. It is a great feeling to be part of such a warm and supportive community. I also want to say thank you to the Rev. Bill Kallestad who helped with so many things around Grace while I was away. Thank you all so much for the support!  
Pastor Mike

Thanks for the lovely flowers. They sure made my day! Le Roi Beers

Thank you so much for all of the cards, kind words and prayers during my recent spinal fusion surgery. It really meant a lot that so many people were thinking of me. I am pleased to report that my surgery went great and that I am now 1.5 inches taller!

Haley Dostalik

Grace Scholarship Committee,

I would like to personally thank you for your generous gift. I feel honored to receive this award. I am very grateful and blessed to be part of such a wonderful community here at Grace. Thank you so much for all of the support!  
Sincerely, McKenzie Carney



### In Loving Memory

**Brian Barks** passed away on August 14 at the age of 57. He was a life-long member of Grace Lutheran Church. Brian served on the Property Committee and was always involved in building projects at Grace. He coordinated sound and video recording and began the Church Service to Go ministry, delivering copies of the morning's worship services to homebound members on the way home from church.

He worked for EFCO in Des Moines his entire career. Most recently he worked in the Industrial Engineering Department. He was an avid cyclist and amateur marksman. Brian enjoyed reading, traveling and attending theater.

Brian is survived by his wife of 32 years, Catherine; two sons, Christopher and Eric; his father, Robert; his brother, Bradley (Melissa) of St. Louis, MO and their children, Justen, Elizabeth and Susan. Brian was preceded in death by his mother, Kathryn.

The funeral was held at Grace Lutheran Church on August 19 with burial at Chapel Hill Gardens Cemetery.



Dear Grace Friends in Christ,

Our family would like to express our appreciation for your Christ-like ways of walking with us during this sad time following Brian Barks' death.

So many of you have responded with prayers, calls, cards, visits and with food and supplies to help us cope with it.

A special "Thank You" to Rev. Bill Kallestad for ministering to us in the emergency room and to Pastor Mike for guiding us through the rest of the way.

Thank you to all who brought food and served the lunch or participated in his celebration of life. We are bolstered by the prayers and caring – evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit at Grace Lutheran Church.

Love,  
Cathy, Chris and Eric Barks  
Bob, Brad and Lisa Barks  
Justen, Elizabeth and  
Susan Barks  
Allison Bash and  
Cathy's family the Woods,  
Liechtys and McKeevers

## Happy Birthday to You!

September	1	Cindy Peeler
	2	Heather Nelson Michelle Voelker
	3	Nylya Bartlett
	4	John Donnenwerth Bill Henderson
	5	Kiley Brandsfield Richard Snyder
	6	Nely Ruiz
	7	Dennis Rehder
	8	Grace Calhoun Ethan Meadows
	9	JoAnn Gronert Alex Mulvihill Carrie Schall Lois Slye
	10	John Schall
	11	Ian Galle
	13	Robert Briggs Anne Farrell Rhonda Jensen John Trickle
	14	Katelyn Jessen
	15	Laural Brown Richard Voelker
	17	Lorna Johns Stephen Bloomberg
	18	Sophia Anderson Karen Mann Rev. Michael Schmidt
	19	Sarah Helt Sonny Hutton
	20	Frank McKinney Michael Vernon Cindy Wheeler
	21	Chris Lehfeld Marlin Nielsen Anthony Royster
	22	Finnegan Holst Jeanine Rutter Aaron Thompson
	23	Susanne Carney Cory Johansen Angela Ringgenberg
	24	Michael Meadows Thomas Rutter
	25	Karla Tillotson
	26	Bruce Mumm Barb Powers
	27	Jeanette Best Joshua Curry Gregory Honnold Jeryl Janson William Kallestad Helen Schroeder
	28	Ross Peeler
	29	LaRue Buihner Aaron Page Robert Rissman



## Happy Anniversary to these couples!

September	3	Brent & Valerie Culp
		Todd & Elizabeth Prescott
	4	Donald & Gail Peterson
	5	Charles & Tammy Denton Arnold & Willa Mae Johansen
	6	Aaron & Martha Page
	12	Lonnie & Diane Jessen
	13	Larry & Janice Nordeen
	17	Michael & Nicole Vernon
	24	Joshua & Sharena Appenzeller
	27	Tom & Mary Jo McCleary



**Tuesday Morning Adult Bible Study  
begins September 9  
Be sure to attend!**

## College-Bound Students

We would love to have the addresses of our college-bound students. We plan to send a few care packages and notes of encouragement throughout the school year. Please provide addresses to Cherie Rissman, 270-0278 or [cherierissman@gmail.com](mailto:cherierissman@gmail.com)

## Member Care

If you or a loved one experience a time of crisis, your Grace family would like to assist in helping with specific needs imposed by the situation. Volunteers are willing to prepare meals, provide rides, grocery shop, or spend time with you. Please know that you are loved and cared for with people willing and wanting to help. To make arrangements for help, contact Jackie Holmes in the office at 276-6873 or [graceluth5@msn.com](mailto:graceluth5@msn.com) or [worship@gracedm.org](mailto:worship@gracedm.org) and she will give your name and contact information to a member of the team who will be in communication with you regarding your needs.

## Visiting Friends of Grace Meeting

Are you interested in the ministry of reaching out and visiting our home bound members? If so, please join us for an orientation meeting of Visiting Friends of Grace.

We will meet on Tuesday, **August 26, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.**, in the Conference Room. If this date does not work for you, we will be holding another orientation meeting, which will be announced soon. If you have any questions, please contact Cherie Rissman at [cherierissman@gmail.com](mailto:cherierissman@gmail.com) or 270-0278.



### Join or Donate to Team Haley

**Todd Haugen** is running the Des Moines Half-Marathon in honor of his niece, **Haley Dostalik**, on October 19th. After all that Haley has gone through this year (two spinal surgeries), Todd felt this would be a great way to support his niece while helping an organization that is near and dear to Haley and her family — the Marfan Foundation. Please consider donating in Haley's honor. Todd is hoping to raise \$500 for the Marfan Foundation, but would be thrilled to raise even more!

Donations can be made to his First Giving page at <https://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/ToddHaugen/2014DesMoines>.

For checks: Make out to "The Marfan Foundation" with Todd's name in the memo.  
 Mail to: The Marfan Foundation  
 Attn: Team Victory  
 22 Manhasset Avenue  
 Port Washington, NY 11050

If you would be interested in joining "Team Haley" by running in the marathon, half-marathon or 5K race, please visit <https://www.firstgiving.com/marfan/2014DesMoines>. (Participants get a lot of neat perks from the Marfan Foundation!) Thanks so much for your support and all of your thoughts and prayers for Haley.



### Curtain up! Light the lights!

What do computer technicians, camping guides, mysterious voices, pumpkins, and aliens have in common? Why, a fun play at Grace Lutheran Church of course! Mark your calendars for **Saturday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m.** for a presentation of "No Signs of Intelligent Life" by your own Grace Players in Grace Hall. Some of our characters may be making guest visits at worship in the coming weeks, so keep your antennae open for snapshots of what's to come. Don't miss out! When else in life will you have a chance to have some close encounters of the alien kind? (*The play is being produced by special arrangement with Eldridge Publishing Company.*)



**Lutheran World Relief**  
 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

### Grace 2014 Fall Drive September 14-September 28

"LWR is Affirming God's love for all people, we work with Lutherans and partners around the world to end poverty, injustice and human suffering" This is the Mission Statement of LWR. During 2013 LWR reached over 7.7 million people in 35 countries through 185 projects.

Each year in the spring and fall the Grace community supports LWR's mission by the assembling of Personal Care kits, Baby Care kits, School kits and Fabric kits. In addition to the kits, Quilts are also **made**. These items are taken to the distribution center in Minneapolis. Items are sorted and distributed as needed.

When LWR distributes **Personal Care kits** it is often to people who have lost everything either through a natural disaster or violence. "They clasp a towel from a faraway place, with a bar of soap, a toothbrush...and washing up, they know that they have not been forsaken by the world."

**Baby Care kits** "help more babies in rural, poor areas receive a healthy start in life." They are distributed during emergency and relief efforts as well as through LWR health initiatives.

The receipt of a **School kit** may "mean the difference between getting an education or not." Although the public school may be free the family may not be able to purchase required supplies.

The majority of the **Fabric kits** are "used in vocational training programs to teach young men and women useful and marketable sewing skills." Having a marketable skill will provide income with the possibility of a family no longer living in poverty.

A **Quilt** may be utilized in many ways. It may be a "cozy, clean new bed cover; a baby carrier tied around a mother's back; a market display, spread on the ground and piled with vegetables; a sack for transporting those goods to market; a sunshade or a shawl."

**Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting**  
**7-22-14 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Kevin Drury, Pastor Mike, Don Peterson, Eric Weber, Cathy Barks, Mary Helt, Sandy Briggs, Kristin Medhurst, Ardis Schmelzer, Stacie Holst, Jay Wangerin and Karri Brandsfield

Meeting was called to order by Kevin.

Opened the meeting with a devotion – “Taking up our Crosses” and prayer led by Pastor Mike

Agenda was accepted as written.

Minutes from the May 27, 2014 council meeting and the June 8, 2014 congregational meeting were accepted as written.

Staff reports and financial reports were accepted as written.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Review “The Difference between Independents and Mainline” churches handout. Discussion ensued regarding some of the key points the author made and how they may pertain to Grace. Pastor Mike handed out two handouts that had census information on the demographics of the neighborhood within a two mile radius of church. Has some very interesting statistics in that information.
- Update on the Burmese Community of Faith is that they have found another church to use for worship space. However, pastor was approached by a young gentleman this week about four families that are looking for a space to worship. These four families all speak Swahili and it would be a self-lead worship. They are looking for just one room to use at Grace on Sundays. Kevin will give this person a call to learn more details and send out an e-mail to the council to get the council’s input on how to move forward.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Sandy Briggs asked to have a pet food fundraiser for The Furry Friends Refuge (a no-kill shelter with an overflow of cats) the months of August and September. There will be a box to put donations of cat food or cat litter in or if you prefer you may make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church with Furry Friends Pet Food Fundraiser in the memo line and place them in the offering plate or send them to the church office.
  - A motion was made and seconded to approve this fundraiser. The motion carried.
- Refocusing update – Mike Wagner with the White Rabbit Group will be meeting with the council, Grace staff and committee chairs for four sessions. Each session will be between 2 to 3 hours each. He will help us define the four areas of refocus – worship, education, fellowship and outreach and how we address them. He will help us personify our target demographic which will allow us to keep that personification in mind when planning events with our committees. These sessions will take place this fall. There will be a meet-and-greet session with Mike from 6:30 to 7:00 on August 12<sup>th</sup>, committee night, for council members, Grace staff and committee chairs.
- Update on staffing at Grace. Jennifer Bloomberg is now working full time at Drake, which in turn means she will only be able to perform the duties of organist going forward. We do have an interview/audition on 7-23-14 with a really good candidate that could fill the role of director of music ministry. Pastor Mike will send out an e-mail after the interview and audition to the council so we can vote by e-mail if we want to hire this candidate.
- Update on youth and family ministry position. The job description is ready to post for the half- time opening. The council gave the go ahead to post the position and get the process going. Pastor will form a search committee once we are to that point in the process. Karri Brandsfield has volunteered to be the council representative for this committee.
- Review of facility fees was discussed. It has been about 10 years since these fees have been reviewed and updated. The council has agreed to look at these fees and make changes as necessary.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. with the Lord’s Prayer. The next meeting will be held August 26, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karri Brandsfield, Secretary

## Men in Mission

**Men in Mission will meet at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, September 4th, at Grace.** The program will be presented by Jane Ridnour, a volunteer at the Ape Cognition and Conservation Initiative. ACCI is the only place in the world where humans can share the English language with members of another species. ACCI programs aim to enrich the lives of the five bonobos, increase understanding of great apes, and promote the conservation of bonobos in the wild.

**Our October meeting will be our joint meeting with Immanuel Methodist on October 9 starting at 6:00 p.m.** Our guest speaker will be Jack Lashier, who is in charge of the Iowa Hall of Pride and will be speaking on the Hall of Pride and Iowa trivia. Plan to be there and bring a guest.

## Stewardship Thought

### “Are you a good driver?”

Over the years I've asked many people that question and well over 90% of them said “Yes”. I find that interesting given the large number of traffic accidents that occur every year. Clearly, 90% of us are NOT good drivers even though we claim to be!

I then follow up by asking another question. Sometimes I ask “Are you a good parent?” Other times I ask: “Is there an instrument that you play well (when I know they play the piano or the flute or something else)?” Remarkably, a large percentage of responses are less confident. Usually I hear things like: “Well, I'm probably not the best parent but I guess my kids are doing OK” or “I've been playing the piano for years but I'm mediocre at best”. Why are we so timid about admitting that we are quite good at things like these? Perhaps it's because we fear people will think we're bragging. Or perhaps we know that while we are adequate as a parent or a musician we can surely continue to get better with practice and experience.

But acknowledging that we're doing pretty well still leaves room for us to continue growing. It just means we can celebrate what we've accomplished as we move forward – and the joy of this impels us to grow even more.

I've met very few people who will say “I'm a good steward of the things God has entrusted to my care”. But I've met a lot of people who ARE good stewards – and many of them are here at Grace Lutheran. As we approach our fall stewardship campaign those of us on the Stewardship Committee want to thank all of you for your growth in stewardship. And we want to encourage you to acknowledge and celebrate the ways in which you are sharing your time, talents and financial resources with others.

As part of our program during late September and early October we will be sharing a video presentation each week following the two Sunday worship services. Each presentation will be an interview with an individual member or a family from among us. We hope you will join us in the Gathering Hall each week to celebrate our stewardship as we hear from our fellow members. And we know we will all be inspired to continue our own growth in generosity.

Join us in celebrating as we continue the lifelong journey of stewardship!

The Stewardship Committee

## Remembering Your Story

A new educational opportunity is opening up this fall at Grace. Deanna Snyder will lead the discussion about writing our life story so that we can begin to see how God has been working in our lives. She has presented her own life story to a couple of our women's circles and to Men in Mission, and had been asked to consider leading a class on this subject. Then, Pastor John Chadwick spoke at Lydia circle in August, telling his own life story and how the Holy Spirit had been working in his life. So, this topic keeps coming up! **The class will begin on Sunday morning, September 21, during the Education Hour and will go for ten weeks in the Conference Room.** The book we will use will be *Remembering Your Story* by Richard Morgan. It is available on amazon.com. Please contact Stephanie in the church office of your intent to attend. We look forward to sharing with you!

## Finance Report – July Results

Financial results for July YTD are as follows:

- Pledged Offerings – Actual \$249,900, Budget \$259,463
- Other Income – Actual \$9,666, Budget \$9,475
- Expenses – Actual \$273,753, Budget \$277,437
- Net activity – Actual (\$14,186), Budget (\$8,499)

Actual net activity was unfavorable to budget. This was primarily due to offerings (both pledged and unpledged) below budget. While expenses are comparable to budget, large overages in utilities and property maintenance were offset by numerous areas under budget due to timing.

## Adult Education Hour

We are currently in the process of forming a new Adult Education Committee that will provide oversight, guidance, and visioning to the adult education opportunities at Grace. Until we have that group in place, the Sunday morning hour from 9:30-10:30 will be a combination of times of fellowship and occasional activities or small groups. If you are interested in being a part of this new committee, please contact Stephanie Johnson in the church office or at [stephaniejohnson@g.com](mailto:stephaniejohnson@g.com).

- Sept. 14 – Time of fellowship
- Sept. 21 – LWR kit packing (Sunday school classes and adults)
- Sept. 21-Nov. 23 – “Remembering Your Story” small group class (see article above)
- Sept. 28 – Time of fellowship
- Oct. 5 – Time of fellowship
- Oct. 12 – Breakfast casseroles service project for Hope Ministries (Sunday school classes and adults)
- Oct. 19 – Breakfast casseroles service project for Hope Ministries (Sunday school classes and adults)

## Registration for 2015 National Youth Gathering Participants

We will have a registration event at **5 p.m. on Sunday September 21** in the Gathering Hall for both parents and attendees. Pizza and games will follow the registration. Watch your mailbox for more information and what to bring.

## Did you know...?

On September 29, the **Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC)** will once again be providing five days of food to pantry clients instead of the previous three or four-day supply in recent years. This is good news because pantries face a 20% increase in use since cuts to federal SNAP benefits were made last November. Do you ever wonder if there *really* could be that many hungry people in a state that has such a large farming community? Here are some visuals to help us grasp the enormity of the task that food pantries face in Polk County alone:

- **Imagine 114 school buses lined end-to-end, each filled with 50 students.** Then consider that the buses represent over 5700 children and youth assisted through the DMARC Food Pantry Network *each month*.
- **Did you recently catch a show at the Civic Center?** Sadly, even with 2700+ seats, the Des Moines Civic Center would not have capacity for everyone who receives emergency food through DMARC pantries *each week*.
- **Have you attended a ball game at The Principal Park when it was filled to capacity?** If so, it may be hard to believe that the 11,500-seat stadium would not hold all Polk County residents who need help in meeting their basic food needs *each month*
- **Were you on hand for a Menace Soccer Club home game this summer?** Does it make sense that the team's 8000-seat home field would need to be four times bigger to hold the 36,000 non-duplicated individuals who receive help through DMARC *each year*?

For more information about DMARC, the Food Bank of Iowa, or the Food Bank's Backpack Program that provides food for students on weekends and school holidays, see the following websites: [www.dmreligious.org](http://www.dmreligious.org)  
[www.foodbankiowa.org](http://www.foodbankiowa.org) (The Backpack Program information is found under the Programs tab on the homepage.)  
(Above statistical information taken from the Aug/Sept/Oct edition of DMARC's newsletter, *The Voice*)



## Furry Friends Refuge

### Cat Food and Kitty Litter Drive

Summer time is "Kitten Season". The cute little fur balls are showing up in animal shelters all over. The good news is that the shelters are adopting cats and kittens out as quickly as they can. The bad news is that new cats and kittens come in just as fast. Not all of the shelters in town have large budgets to handle all of the needs of the cats they are called to care for during this time of the year.

The Social Ministry Committee would like to support the Furry Friends Refuge in caring for the hundreds of cats in their custody with a cat food and kitty litter drive. In January, Grace members donated about 150 lbs. of pet food for all types of pets. Our goal for August and September is to donate 300 lbs. - that's 2 months to do twice as much as we did in January.

The Social Ministry Committee has volunteers to take any cat food and kitty litter donations to the Furry Friends Refuge on a regular basis throughout the drive. We will keep track of our progress by weight of the donations on a chart by the donation box.

Donated money or grocery store gift cards are very welcome also. If you do donate in this way, make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church with Furry Friends Pet Food Fundraiser in the memo line. Put checks, cash or gift cards in an envelope and put in the offering plate, mail to the church office or place in office mail slot. Each \$10.00 donated will equal a 16 lb. bag of food.

The Furry Friends Refuge is a non-profit humane animal shelter located at 1211 Grand Avenue in West Des Moines. Furry Friends Refuge is committed to creating the first no kill community in our state.

The donation box is in the Gathering Hall for cat food and kitty litter. All donations will be taken to Furry Friends Refuge from now until **November 1**. The Social Ministry Committee thanks you on behalf of the kitties for your help.



## New Sunday School Year — New Program

### The Sunday School program year will resume at 9:30 a.m. on September 14

Once again this year we will be offering Christian education for 3 year old children and up. We are going to use a new program for the elementary kids: Augsburg's Spark Rotation materials. This is an interactive program that will let children explore Bible stories in many fun and interesting ways. It is structured similar to many Vacation Bible School programs but we will rotate through just two stations each Sunday. Children will explore Bible story units for 3-4 weeks. The activities help show how the Bible stories can relate to their lives through different learning styles. The preschoolers will also get to explore the same Bible stories.

#### Needs for the year are:

1. Prayers for faithful adult and teen leaders to share their faith and time.
2. Station Leaders to lead or co-lead 20-minute stations as many times yearly as it works into a person's schedule. Each will be in the schedule once every month or two.

The rotation stations are:

- |                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| - Bible story and games | - Art            |
| - Science               | - Cooking        |
| - Video                 | - Computers      |
| - Music                 | - Creative Drama |

3. Preschool co-leader to partner with Ashley Lund.
4. Shepherds (adults or teens) that assist by rotating with the children from one station to another. No weekly commitment and no preparation needed.
5. Support team to help organize supplies for upcoming weeks, help on Sunday mornings and buy supplies.

#### **Many hands can make for light work!**

Please contact a member of the Youth Education Team if you can help in one of the ways listed above.

Beth Flannery 288-5880 [bdfwannery@gmail.com](mailto:bdfwannery@gmail.com)

Kara Jordahl 633-7083 [kara.jordahl@gmail.com](mailto:kara.jordahl@gmail.com)

Tammy Denton 267-0301 [chastam@mchsi.com](mailto:chastam@mchsi.com)

Deanna Weber 986-0505 [dejo.weber@gmail.com](mailto:dejo.weber@gmail.com)

Stacie Holst 720-0825 [sverschuure@hotmail.com](mailto:sverschuure@hotmail.com)

Mary Helt 255-6433 [mlfhelt@aol.com](mailto:mlfhelt@aol.com)



### **Calling New Lectors and Communion Assistants!**

Have you ever thought about reading the Bible lesson for the day or assisting with Communion? There are two easy ways to sign up: the volunteer book at Volunteer Central, and the electronic signup at [www.volunteersignup.org/BAKWD](http://www.volunteersignup.org/BAKWD). Not sure what's involved in those two volunteer roles? Read through the descriptions below, talk to someone who has done it before, or contact Stephanie Johnson in the church office. We'll be glad to walk you through it. New people are always welcome!

#### **Lectors**

1. Review the reading that is sent to you ahead of time.
2. Announce the reading from the lectern: "The (first/second) lesson is from the \_\_\_th(nd) chapter of (book)."
3. End the reading of the lesson by saying "The Word of the Lord."
4. Remain up front for a second reading if there is one, or return to your seat.

#### **Communion Assistants**

1. Carry up the bread and wine, or meet those who are doing so up at the altar.
2. Receive Communion at the altar before serving the congregation.
3. Take the chalice of wine or grape juice and pour a small amount into each person's cup, saying,
4. "The blood of Christ shed for you."
5. Return the chalice to the sacristy (small room at the left side of the altar) when Communion is done.

### **Got a Crock Pot?**

We are still accepting slow cooker donations for the next few weeks. And if you have a favorite slow cooker recipe that you'd like to share, feel free to include that with your donation. If you have a working slow cooker that you are not using and that you would like to unload, please bring it to the marked table in the Gathering Hall. We are collecting them for a cooking class that Iowa State Extension and Outreach will be offering locally in coordination with the Coalition in Support of Hungry Children. Clean out your pantry and help families learn how to cook inexpensive but healthy meals at the same time! Thanks for your help.



**THRIVENT**  
FINANCIAL®

*Connecting faith & finances for good.™*

### **Two Rivers Chapter Annual Meeting 2014**

Please join us for the 2014 Annual Chapter meeting and election of new board members. You will enjoy a roasted turkey dinner, local entertainment and gifts.

Please plan to attend.

Date: Sunday October 5, 2014

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Where: Airport Holiday Inn, 6111 Fleur Drive

Reservations are REQUIRED.

RSVP phone to 404-825-8970

RSVP Deadline: Thursday September 25th

