



**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Worship with Holy Communion
Sundays at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.
Education Hour and coffee at 9:30 a.m.

Office Hours
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

3010 52nd Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50310
515-276-6873
www.gracedm.org

Pastor Michael Schmidt
mike@gracedm.org

Minister for Youth and Family
Ellen Rothweiler
ellen@gracedm.org

Minister for Worship and Music
Emma Stammer
emma@gracedm.org

Organist
Richard Snyder
rvdlsnyder@centurylink.net

Grace Kids' Care Director
Brooke Howsare
Brooke@gracedm.org

Minister for Administration
Denise Friesth
denise@gracedm.org

Minister for Communications
Michelle Voelker
michelle@gracedm.org

Office Assistant for Worship
Jessye Flannery
Jessica@gracedm.org

Custodian
Todd Haugen 1-515-520-4450

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- 10.. Altar Guild, Hospitalized? New Member Class

Insert: Council Members and Bios

For the saints who from their labors now rest...

Jacquelyn Holmes
Lillian Prickett
James (Dwayne) Holmes
Marlin (Moe) Nielsen
Jeanette Ziesman
Ardis Olson
Mary Johansen
Ardis Schmelzer
Einar Christianson
Jack Donnenwerth
Betty Hirschauer
Dorothy Duleepsingh
Bonna Oldson

As I look through this list, I cannot help but be filled with so many warm memories with these saints. This same experience happens every year. There are so many amazing people that flow in and out of our lives, impacting and inspiring us in our journey here on earth. It reminds me of the lament of some of my mentor pastors that would be emotionally drained at officiating services for so many people over the years. The truth is that it takes a toll on each one of us as we say our "goodbyes" to these good and faithful servants. The following quote is one that helps keep me centered.

"As we grow older we have more and more people to remember, people who have died before us. It is very important to remember those who have loved us and those we have loved. Remembering them means letting their spirits inspire us in our daily lives. They can become part of our spiritual communities and gently help us as we make decisions on our journeys. Parents, spouses, children, and friends can become true spiritual companions after they have died. Sometimes they can become even more intimate to us after death than when they were with us in life. Remembering the dead is choosing their ongoing companionship." From Bread for the Journey, by Henri Nouwen

Pastor Mike

Happy November Birthday

- 1 - Remington Anderson
Zelma Wilson
- 2 - Mike Peterman
- 3 - Tara Royster
- 4 - Gabriella Artzer
Bradley Nelson
Aubrie Stickrod
- 5 - Sally Thielking
- 6 - Benjamin Gronert
Laura Grotheer
- 8 - Austin Schaller
- 9 - Beverly Petty
- 11 - Emily Dungan
Yaritza Marquez
Gary Scholten
- 12 - Zoe Lawson
Randy Taylor
- 13 - Kurt Bowermaster
Jason Bradwell
Zachary Jensen
- 14 - Larry Buell
Carol Mattes
Linda Moravec
Kristene Shortelle
- 15 - Gary Batten
John Justice
Mark Ridnour
- 16 - Haley Dostalík
Joseph Kennebeck
Emma Mattes
- 17 - Jeremy Israel
Gloria Moon
Madison Robbins
- 18 - Richard Hirschauer
Susan Johnson
- 19 - Nick Medhurst
- 21 - Kelley Riordan
- 22 - Zachary Kulzer
- 23 - Ashley Lund
- 24 - Renee Dingman
Harriett Pearson
Jon Rissman
- 25 - Dorothy Jensen
Kerry Riordan
- 26 - Peter Kiefer
Jessica Rissman
Paul Thielking
Laura Wangerin
Virginia Wangerin
Carol Woodruff
- 29 - Karinne Harmon
Angie Hidalgo
Ed Ridnour
- 30 - Joshua Cline

Happy November Anniversary

- 2 - Richard and Deanna Snyder
- 5 - Howard and Rachel Welty
- 7 - Paul and Alexson Calahan
- 10 - Larry and Joan Johnson
- 13 - Gary and Ellen Batten
- 20 - Gary and Melinda Scholten
- 22 - Marvin and Lorna Johns
- 26 - Todd and Barb Burley
Frank and Colleen McKinney
- 27 - Anthony and Tara Royster
- 28 - Neal and Sandra Meyer



Our Sympathy and prayers go to:

Barry Briggs and his family on the loss of his mother, Millie Briggs

The family of Dorothy Duleepsingh

Donna Trickle and her family on the loss of her father, Glen Bauer

The family of Bonna Oldson

Norm Iverson and his family on the loss of his sister, Elvida Hack



Thank You

Thank you for all your prayers and cards – they are much appreciated,
Linda Rundle

Dear Friends at Grace,
Thank you so much for your prayers and concern for healing. It has been such a joy to receive cards, calls, and visits from you. I am grateful for all these expressions of love and thoughtfulness. I truly do miss worshipping with you and coming to the other gatherings at Grace.
In Christ, Joanne Johnson

Thank you all for the beautiful quilt, you are very thoughtful!
Pat Bordt

Time Change November 5

Don't forget to roll your clocks back before bed on Nov 4.

Enjoy the extra hour of sleep and sunlight!





First Circle Friends Volunteers

First Circle Friends is a ministry of Lutheran Services of Iowa, hosted and run by volunteers at partner churches, serving as a day of renewal, friendship and support for people with memory loss and their family caregivers. You can find out more at LSI's webpage, or by contacting Cannady Fritzjunker at 515.271.7408 or cannady.fritzjunker@LSIowa.org.

However, our spotlight this month is on the Volunteers of the First Circle Friends at Grace. There are others who would gladly talk to you about their experiences, but they each receive as much as they give. Here is what they had to share.

Kate

First Circle Friends (FCF) is a unique and special time held here at Grace Lutheran Church (GLC) on the first and third Thursdays. As with any successful volunteer program, hours of planning, praying and preparing are the building blocks for these two days of the calendar month. LSI screens the potential participants and their family caregivers. This is a time for the caregivers to run errands, shop, go to appointments, or do self-care (take a nap, or pamper themselves) while their loved one is safe, fed, engaged and having fun.

The two leaders, which are rotated from a group of trained volunteers (many from GLC), choose meaningful activities which include movement & motion, wonderful lunches, group development opportunities, crafts, games, themed presentations and guest speakers. We are truly blest to have two faithful musicians, and FCF has a group singalong each time we meet.

A basic agenda is as follows:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| * Coffee and chit chat | * Music |
| * Sing "Thank you for being a friend" | * Lunch |
| * Presentation of "Theme for the day" | * Chair exercises |
| * Group sharing and relationship building | * Table Games |
| * Simple active games or challenges | * Awesome Group Building Smorgasbord |
| * Craft time | * Sing "thank you for being a friend" |
| * "Think Tank Time" | |

Yes, the FCF group is a respite for the family caregiver, however the connections go far beyond that goal. I feel that the love of Christ is visible with hugs and smiles, sounds of laughter and song.

Bev

It is a joy and privilege to volunteer in First Circle Friends, I do love being there. We meet two days each month on the first and third Tuesdays, from 10:00 AM until 3:00 P.M. Snacks and nutritious lunches are served by some of our volunteers.

We plan many varied activities for each day with a theme for the day. They include crafts, stories, music and exercises. Our volunteers and participants have lots of fun....I enjoy taking part and look forward to each meeting.

Marion

I started volunteering with First Circle of Friends almost 2 years ago. I was looking forward to working with families who are living with dementia because of my experiences with my mother who also had dementia. What I have found is a wonderful group of loving, considerate individuals who find pleasure and joy in being together. While there are roles that each of us take, we really are one group who respect each other for our strength and individuality.

There are many parts of each day that I look forward to, but my favorite is during the light banter that we exchange, usually during a table activity. This might seem like something that would naturally happen, however with someone with dementia, to me it shows the person is relaxed, comfortable and feeling secure with their surroundings. Their laughter becomes infectious. That is the best part of each day.

Continued on page 5

Finance Report – September Results

Financial results for September YTD are as follows:

- Pledged Offerings – Actual \$317,396, Budget \$297,962
- Other Income – Actual \$21,564, Budget \$21,375
- Expenses – Actual \$325,662, Budget \$345,680
- Net activity – Actual \$13,299, Budget (\$26,342)



Actual net activity was favorable to budget by \$39,641. This was due to increased pledged and unpledged activity and also due to many expense areas under budget. Certain large projects around the church are being funded from Malmin funds, including bathroom remodeling/construction of \$42,055.

The full year budget was a deficit of \$26,300, but actual results should be positive due to the favorable results experienced to date. The one-time gifts given as part of the stewardship appeal will be recognized in the income statement evenly throughout the fiscal year.

Church Council Highlights From the September 26th, 2017 Council Meeting

At the September 26th Church Council Meeting:

- **The Council was informed by the Property Committee that:**
 - The large tree in the playground area was removed to make the playground safer for the children.
 - The new restrooms are completed except for floor treatment and the vinyl base.
 - The storage room is completed except for painting the walls.
 - Additional work is underway in the Chapel to convert it to rehearsal space for the choirs.
 - The committee is considering relocating the A/C unit north of Grace Hall to enable drainage improvements.
- **The Council authorized the following expenditures from the Malmin fund:**
 - \$10,300 to purchase rubber floor tile for the gym.
 - \$1,689.48 to purchase locking storage for choir robes (from Memorials and/or Malmin Fund).
 - An amount not to exceed \$3,000 to retain Dickinson Interior Consulting to advise on improvements to the Gathering Hall, kitchen, and classrooms.
 - An amount not to exceed \$32,000 to purchase and install a new digital sign to be located on the south lawn near the sidewalk.
- **The Little Free Library/Little Free Pantry:** The Council authorized use of \$3,608 to be used in the construction and stocking of the Little Free Library/Little Free Pantry. These funds were donated to Grace Lutheran Church by the Boy Scout Troop when they disbanded in thanks for long time use of the church facilities.
- **The Finance Committee** reported that both the church and daycare budgets are currently “in the black”, year-to-date (\$13,911 and \$4,693 respectively).
- **Stewardship Committee** reported they are beginning the stewardship drive mailings, with Commitment Sunday scheduled for October 22nd, 2017.
- **The Council was informed that** the Thrivent Choice Dollars reserve fund balance is almost \$7,000. **First Circle Friends** receives \$400 annually from these monies to pay for the LSI franchise fee for this outreach program.

Dave Gronert
Council Secretary

First Circle Friends Volunteers, continued from page 3

Deanna

When I think about First Circle Friends, I am always humbled by the bright spirit of our participants: their smiles, their willingness to play our silly games, and their care for each other. Last week, a volunteer talked about having been gifted with 45 yellow roses from her husband on their 45th anniversary! She was saying, "WOW! What do you DO with all of that?!" And her Friend said quietly, "Kiss him." FCF makes me smile!

Mary

I am involved because my best friend's mother died of Alzheimer's Disease, as did her grandmother; another couple of friends had relatives with the disease. I witnessed amazing, caring and dedication of relatives in our congregation. In their honor, I began serving as a volunteer.

There seems to be a huge need for a stimulating environment for those afflicted and time-off for the caregivers. I find it a privilege and an honor to share time with these wonderful people. I have said in the past, if you didn't know, you probably wouldn't be able to tell who are clients or volunteers, as we sing, laugh, make jokes, and have fun together.

Several of our volunteers were former teachers, so we planned days similar to some of our school experiences. We became acquainted with our clients and their caregivers ----and fell in love.

Our friends are hard-working, interesting, contributors who have become ill and are losing themselves. Most have been highly creative, bright, generous, good people. Their spouses or relatives care deeply for them. Both learn to trust us and recognize a safe place. Even when they do not remember having been here before, they sense a comfortable, safe, happy place with friends.

Connie

Although this program brings me much joy all of the time, this was one of the most significant days. For our Flag Day theme, we had boy scouts come and do a flag folding presentation. One of our participants in particular just loved that and told them what a good job they are doing and that they should realize not everyone is doing what they do. He was a coach in his past, and that memory seemed to be coming out. I had tears of joy in my eyes at his excitement. And just earlier in the day, he had trouble remembering how to use a fork. When his wife came to pick him up she said they had just gone through their worst 3 days ever and that he wasn't willing to do anything for her. She was thrilled at our news about what a great day he had. That's when I feel our work is well worth the effort.

The Sunday Schedule will soon change, and we would like your input!

The Congregational Council and Staff agree that with "Community" as one of our core values at Grace Lutheran Church, our Sunday morning schedule should reflect our values. The Council voted on Tuesday evening to shift the Sunday morning schedule to include one worship service and one education hour beginning on January 7th. We look forward to this opportunity to live out our values together. As we formulate plans, we are asking for input on what time worship and education should be held so that we can communicate a confirmed schedule by the start of December. Please feel free to talk with any staff member with your thoughts and recommendations.

DMARC Donation of the Month:

Thanksgiving Dinner! Turkey, Potatoes, stuffing, vegetables

DMARC Packets: We have new donation envelopes available, both at Volunteer Central and on the bulletin board. There are also packets of information to share with your coworkers and friends, or for you to learn more about who DMARC serves, where, and when.

Fall Youth Ministry

Contact Ellen@gracedm.org for more information or to volunteer

Sunday School 0-5th grade

We continue to meet with

Frolic – age 0-3 with their parents in room 104. No need to sign-up, come join us when you are here.

Ages 4-5th grade begin in room 101 for rotations in music, library, and the classroom.

Worship Times and Education

Beginning January 7, there will be one worship service preceded or followed by Education hour. (see article on page 5). Staff is asking for your input on what times of both worship and education should be. Please consider what your preferences are, understanding they will be different for each family and the ages of your children and their activities, and communicate that with staff. We thank you for your recommendations!

Children's Sermon during worship

The Sunday morning children's sermon is back to worship! It will be offered: November 26, December 24.

Grace Christmas Program

We will be using [A Very Whirl Christmas](#) from Sparkhouse. Steph will be directing and is hoping for the following rehearsal schedule:

Sundays in November-teach and rehearse the Christmas program music during Sunday morning music time

Nov. 26 and Dec. 3-full Sunday School hour to teach and rehearse the story and script

Dec. 10- final rehearsal between services and the program during the 10:45 service.

Middle School Hangout

Room 301, upstairs across from the Gym with Michelle Voelker and Tammy Denton. We've been enjoying time to check in and catch up, talk about school, life, and to work on some study materials, all while drinking hot chocolate, of course! November will begin with a service project the kids have been planning.

High School Hangout

Room 302, with Aaron Brandsfield, Eric Weber, and Ellen Rothweiler.

Confirmation

Confirmation is off to a great start this Fall!

We have added parent small group leaders to our Wednesday night Confirmation class structure, and there have been great conversations and discoveries in these groups each week. We also had the opportunity to go to Boone Y-Camp for our joint Confirmation Retreat with St. Peter Lutheran in Grimes, Oct. 14 and 15. While we were there our students learned about all the parts of worship and then had the opportunity to plan one of those parts for our Sunday morning worship service. The youth took this task seriously and gave their piece a lot of thought. We didn't do much sleeping, but overall the weekend was a success as we were able to learn and grow in fellowship. We ask you for your continued prayers for these students and families and this Grace Confirmation ministry.

Ellen Rothweiler
Minister for Youth and Family

Affirmation of Baptism

The following Students affirmed their Baptism on Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2017. Prior to the 10:45 worship with their families, there was a cake reception celebrating this rite of passage. Thank you to all who have been there for these students along the way.

Emma Ashton
Elizabeth Lewis
Kayleigh Medhurst
Laria Preston
Sam Speck
Cal Wilner



Adult Education and Study

Sundays Adult Education

Grace Hall, 9:30 a.m.

- **November 5**

CPR/AED Training – Mary Weatherly and Alice Kulzer
Whether your CPR/AED skills are new or you simply need to be refreshed, please join us November 5th in Grace Hall during the education hour. Nurses Alice Kulzer and Mary Weaverling are CPR/AED certified and will lead us through these important emergency skills.

- **November 12**

Endowment and Memorial Committees Presentation

Come learn about the Endowment and Memorial Funds. How and where the funds are distributed and how a gift to the Endowment can be part of your Stewardship.

- **November 19**

Bruce Anderson – Tanzanian Experience

Please join us as we gather to hear Bruce Anderson (son of Bev Anderson) share his experiences as he traveled and worked in Tanzania this past year.

- **November 26**

Under Wraps – Advent Video Series

Expectant. Dangerous. Jealous. Faithful. These are the themes used in the Old Testament to describe the layers of God's character, but then Jesus—God under wraps—took on human flesh and came to live among us to reveal to us what God is really like. Under Wraps will help us understand what we can find when we open the true gift of Christmas.

Centering Prayer at Grace

Upper Room, Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Led by Julie Honsey

One Year Bible Discussion

Sundays 9:30 a.m. in the Gathering Hall.

Tuesday Bible Study

Led by Pastor Mike in Grace Hall

8:45 – 10:15 a.m.

Religious Discussion Group, Sept 20

Wednesdays 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. conference room.

Led by The Rev. Ro Zimany or Rev. Bill Kallestad

- Nov. 1 "How Is Luke's Gospel Different from the Other Gospels?"
- Nov. 8 Psalm 70; Micah 3:5-12; Matthew 25:1-13; I Thessalonians 4:13-18
- Nov. 15 "Why Christians Say Jesus Was Both Human and Divine"
- Nov. 22 no meeting
- Nov. 29 "Paul's Life and Thought" (Part 1)

November Calendar

Find an updated calendar www.gracedm.org, and printed in the entrance hall each week.

Every Week (not listed in calendar below)

Sundays

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. Holy Communion Worship

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship

9:30 a.m. Bible discussion group, Gathering Hall

9:30 a.m. – Adult Education and Sunday School

Tuesdays

11:00 a.m. Staff meeting, library

Tuesdays

8:45 – 10:15 a.m. Bible Study, Grace Hall

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Centering Prayer Group, Upper room.

Wednesdays

9:00 a.m. Willing Workers

Music rehearsals, continuing ed, confirmation.

Thursdays

9:00 a.m. Quilters, Msindo Hall

November Dates

2 – First Circle Friends, GHI & II 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Staff/2020 Team

4 – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Private Event

5 – Daylight Savings Ends

9:30 a.m. Altar Guild Meeting, Grace Hall

1:00 p.m. New Member Class – Gathering Hall

7 – Polling Place for Polk Co. Special Elections

9:00 a.m. – noon GKC eye testing, Library

6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Knitters Guild, GH I

9 – 8:30 – 3:30 p.m. LSI Training - GH

10 – 5:30 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal

11 – 8:30 a.m. – noon, Men's Work Group

4:30 p.m. Wedding

14 – 5:30 Sunday School Team Meeting, Library

6:30 p.m. Executive Team Meeting

16 – First Circle Friends, GHI & II 10 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

18 – Altar Guild meeting offsite

19 – 2:00 p.m. Mid Iowa Cactus & Succulent Society – Café

6:00 p.m. Ladies Night Out. See page 9

21 – 7:00 p.m. Hunger Team, Conf. room

22 – No evening activities or rehearsals

23 – Thanksgiving, Office Closed

24 – Office Closed

28 – 6:00 p.m. Lydia Circle

29 – 2:00 p.m. Organ Tuning

Festival of Trees set-up in Gathering Hall

Dec 1 – 7:30 p.m. SWICC Concert, Sanctuary

Dec 2 – 9:00 a.m. – noon, Advent Centering Prayer Retreat, GH & 3 additional spaces.

Dec 3 – 5:00 p.m. Grace Fellowship Holiday Dinner see page 9



National Adoption Month

November is National Adoption Month, and LSI is proud to announce our newest service, LSI Foster Care and Adoption. Through this new service, LSI recruits, supports, and empowers foster and adoptive families across western Iowa.

Nationally, there are more than 101,000 youth waiting to be adopted from foster care, and thousands of teens age out of foster care every year without a permanent family. We know there are no unwanted children, only unfound families! To learn how you or someone you know can make a difference, visit LSIowa.org/Foster, or contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Opening Your Heart and Home

Phillip and Ruth remember the day they decided they wanted to adopt.

It was the late 1950s, and the couple was shocked to learn abandoned babies in a local hospital were being neglected, didn't receive the attention or care they needed, and were not developing properly because of it. Phil and Ruth knew they wanted to do something.

"We decided we would adopt as soon as we could," Ruth says.

Phil and Ruth became adoptive parents through what was then called Lutheran Social Services of Iowa (LSS). The couple already had three biological children, Carol, Eric, and Peter, but they had more room in their home and in their hearts. They were ready for a fourth child. That's when baby Rachel entered their lives.

A few years later, the couple adopted 4-year old girl, Paula, and their family was complete. The seven traveled the country for work and vacations, went camping everywhere, and remained a close-knit family even as each child left home for college.

Now, all of Phil and Ruth's children have lives of their own, and Phil and Ruth have added grandchildren and great-grandchildren to their legacy.

Paula graduated from the Naval Academy, received her Ph.D. in Computer Science, and now works for the IRS. Rachel, a graduate of Luther College and the University of Wisconsin Medical School, became a doctor and practices in New Orleans, Louisiana. She has a weekly syndicated health tips show on her local ABC television station, and has been awarded two regional Emmys.

Through it all, Phil and Ruth have been advocates and supporters of adoption in Iowa. For them, it was a way to make a difference in the world, one child at a time. Today, Phil and Ruth continue to support vulnerable children in Iowa as faithful donors to LSI.

"Not everyone can adopt," Phil says, "but everyone can afford to support LSI. Even a small amount, given monthly and automatically, is remarkably helpful."

Lydia Circle

Meets the Third Tuesday of each month for supper and a program.

Martha Circle

Meets the Fourth Thursday of each month.
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Ladies Night Out

Meets the third Thursday evening each month for various activities.

Friendsgiving

Noun

1. A Thanksgiving feast held by and for someone's friends.

Origin Blend of Thanksgiving and friends

Where: HyVee in Urbandale (86th & Douglas) in the restaurant area (Market Grille)

When: Sunday, November 19th, at 6 p.m.

What: Enjoy each other's company! You can help yourself to the Grand Buffet for \$15.99, or you can order off the menu. Everyone will pay for their own meal plus any drinks & tip.

Benefit: As a gesture to help friends we haven't met for their Thanksgiving dinners, please bring one or more items for the food pantry. Kathy Bowermaster has graciously offered to deliver the items.

RSVP: To Connie by Thursday, November 16th. Email or text 515-229-2035. Thanks!

The Men's Work Group

invites you to join them for a morning of breakfast, fellowship, devotional study, and work around the church. Come hungry and bring your tools!

They meet every second Saturday of the month, - beginning in the kitchen, of course - from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Occasionally they meet for some goofy fun offsite too.

On November 11, they'll be working on prepping the gym floor for the new rubber tiles floor. Your presence and help are welcomed!

Festival of Trees

If your group would like to decorate one of the trees in the Gathering Hall, they will be set up beginning Wednesday, Nov. 29.

Property Committee Progress Report

Recent projects that have been completed or are underway are as follows:

- Removal of the tree stump in the playground and additional tree trimming.
- Purchase of rubber tiles for the gym floor - these will be installed in mid-November.
- Conversion of the Chapel beneath Grace Hall to Choir/Bell Choir Rehearsal Space is underway.

New ceiling has been installed, floor tile laid and walls have been painted.

- A/C unit north of Grace Hall is being moved to a new support frame above grade to improve site drainage.
- New restrooms near the Chapel have been completed and are in use. New floor tile will be laid in these rooms.

Marvin Malmin Fund Task Force

This group continues to meet to make determine appropriate use of the funds remaining in this generous bequest.

A complete list of completed projects will be published later, but current projects funded include:

- Purchase of rubber floor tiles for the gym. This will improve this space for use by Grace KidsCare for indoor play space, as well as continued use for basketball, indoor walking and other sports. It will also help to reduce sound transmission into the Library and other spaces on the main floor.

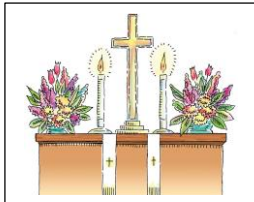
- Purchase of new storage cabinets for choir robe storage in the new choir rehearsal space.

- Design consultation by Mindi Dickinson of Dickinson Interior Consulting, Des Moines for renovation work being planned for the main west entrance (old portico), the Gathering Hall and the Sanctuary.

- New digital sign - this sign is still in planning stages and will require approval by the City of Des Moines with regard to the sign ordinance.

These projects all fall within three "partitions" that the Task Force Established for Capital Improvements/Property, Mission/Marketing/Outreach and Finance. Ideas are still being sought from the congregation for additional projects, especially with regard to potential Mission and Outreach projects. Written suggestions may be placed in the Property Committee Box in the Workroom across the hall from the Church Office.

Altar Guild service opportunities available for 2018!



Please join us at the Altar Guild Planning Meeting on November 5 at 9:30 a.m. in Grace Hall 2.

Altar Guild helps set up the altar prior to each service, assists during communion, and cleans up after the service. Volunteers sign up for two months during the year, one month at a time, serving about an hour each week. Volunteers also help decorate and set up the church for one of the holidays (Holy week/Easter, and Advent Christmas) as part of a larger group working on those efforts.

Training is provided – you won't work alone until you feel comfortable doing so, and instructions are clearly spelled out. Please contact Sue Anderson (279-2690) with your questions or commitment.

Hospitalized? Injured? Unable to make it to church for other reasons? Please, let us know!

If you would like a visit, would like to be added to the weekly prayers, or just want to let us know how you are doing, ask someone to call the office if you cannot.

Hospitals cannot give us your information unless you request they call us, or they may only tell us that you have been admitted, and often we don't receive that information until well after you are home.

In many cases, your friends may know and be helping you, but they assume the church is already aware, or they don't want to infringe on your privacy. Many families don't attend weekly because of frequent travel or other family obligations, so it may not be immediately obvious that you are in need.

We're here for you, all you need to do is ask, or ask someone else to call us. 515-276-6873 Ext. 203 for Pastor Mike



New Member Class

Are you curious about what membership at Grace looks like? Are you considering joining Grace? Meet Pastor Mike in the Gathering Hall at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, November 5, 2017! If this date doesn't work for you, call the office at 515-276-6873



Worship at the 2017 Confirmation Retreat with St. Stephen, Boone Y Camp.



Painting the Chapel for use as the new Bell and Chancel Choir Rehearsal Space.

