# **The Friendly Visitor**

# June 2019





Worship with Holy Communion Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship & coffee time at 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Monday-Thursday, closed Friday

5201 Urbandale Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50310 515-276-6873 www.gracedm.org

Pastor Gregory Davis Temporary

Pastor Michael Schmidt On Sabbatical

Minister for Youth and Family Ellen Rothweiler <u>ellen@gracedm.org</u>

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

> Organist Richard Snyder rich@gracedm.org

Grace Kids' Care Director Mary Edwards <u>mary@gracedm.org</u>

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#### "Who is My Neighbor?"

This week at Grace in the very same space on the very same day we have Preschool children rehearsing for their graduation just hours before we hold a funeral visitation. I am struck by the profound range of human experience that is shared by the church, right along all the beautifully mundane day to day living. A television needs to be hooked up for a video display. The floor needs vacuuming. The dishwasher needs fixed. There are donations of toilet paper rolls hanging on the handle of my office door. The church is the place where we celebrate and observe sacred rites of passage and special things are honored, but also, the things that are shared here are sacred even if they aren't particularly special.

The church is one of the only remaining institutions where all the generations are in the same space at the same time on a regular basis. In my mind this is one of our greatest gifts and challenges. How do you meet the spiritual needs of those in their 80s and those who are in there first years of life? The needs of these groups seem to be so very different, but I actually think that at the most basic level they aren't. The church is a place of belonging, and all humans crave some sort of belonging. It is in the church that we are told we belong to God in baptism, and that through that shared belonging we come together and belong in this place.

As we move into the next two weeks of Vacation Bible School participants will ponder the question "Who is My Neighbor?" Using the parable of the Good Samaritan as our scriptural lens, the ELCA World Hunger VBS material will help us to explore the life of our neighbors in four countries; Japan, Malawi, Colombia and the United States. Even as I am struck by how profound the local life of the church can be, I am making connections to our Global community and wondering how we might come to understand what daily life is like for our neighbors across the world. During these same weeks and days we will be doing some local service learning with DMARC and Hope Ministries. Those who serve with and are served by the service dog organizations Puppy Jake Foundation and The Seeing Eye will share their stories with us. All under the umbrella of "Who is My Neighbor?"

#### **Happy June Birthday**

- 1 Danielle Russell
- 2 Marvin Simonsen Dean Watson Viloa Welty
- 4 Leslie Denton Virgil Olson Erica Schwarz
- 5 Molly Riordan Natasha Voelker
- 6 Debbie Curry
- 7 Livia Ocken
- 8 Elijah Lund Matt Radermacher Samuel Ruiz
- 10 Brian Riordan Stephanie Shepard
- 11 Jacob McCann
- 13 Abby McNichols Stacy Speck Michelle Turner
- 14 Joshua Habick Joel Holst Melissa Lawson
- 15 Joseph Gutman Allison Hofman Peter Mattes Sandra Meyer Kenneth Schwartz Zoe Volius
- 16 Joseph Honsey Donald Schroeder
- 17 Curt Johansen Matthew Jordahl Eugene Krauss Rita Stackhouse
- 18 Arbor Calahan Marilyn Nizzi Vivian Swanson Cecelia Stammer
- 19 Luis Reaza
- 21 Paul Kallenbach Jay Lounsberry Zayden Appenzeller
- 22 Martha Mitchell
- 23 Sharena Appenzeller Megan Riordan Terin Stanfley Delmar Vernia
- 25 Barbara Tussing
- 27 Donald Schouten

## June Birthdays Continued!

- 28 Joann Pierce Amber Trimble Dana Roby
- 29 Leann Davis Elizabeth Gronert
- 30 Steve McCann

## Happy June Anniversary

- 3 Larry and Judy Cramer Rick and Becky Harmon
- 4 William and Kristen Marberry
- 6 Rick and Lori Fry
- 7 Leonard and Delores Larsen
- 8 Bruce and Barbara Bergman
- 9- Matthew and Kara Jordahl
- 10 Kenneth and Barbara DeBolt, Kevin and Jeanne Drury Jon and Jeanine Rutter
- 12 Conrad and Jean Thompson
- 14 John and Linda Gronert Robert and Rita Stackhouse Rick and Emma Stammer
- 16 Tim and La Vonne Mitchell
- 19 Nick and Kristin Medhurst
- 21 Donald and Grace Schroeder
- 24 Leonard and Helen Ringgenberg
- 25 Curtis and Sarah Chenoweth, Eugene and Lucille Krauss
- 27 Andrew and Allison Hofman, Jeff and Nancy Robbins
- 28 Jeffrey and Patricia Anderson

## Our Sympathies are with:

The Family of Randy Taylor

The Family of Gayle Olson



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## Pentecost – wear Red!

Sunday, June 9 is the Day of Pentecost, wear Red to church on Sunday!

**Thank you** to Pastor Gregory Davis for serving as our pastor during Pastor Mike's sabbatical. Sunday, June 16 (Holy Trinity Sunday) will mark Pastor Gregory's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination.

## **Our Seniors and Graduates!**

**Robert Briggs** graduated from Roosevelt High School. My plan after high school is to go to DMACC and study 3D Mechanical Design, so I will be using computer programs to design objects like car parts and assembling them in the program. After doing 2 years of DMACC I am unsure if I will continue studying at DMACC or go into the workforce.



**Sierra Carney** graduated from Roosevelt High School and will attend University of Northern lowa in the fall. She plans to study Spanish and study abroad! Along with Spanish, Sierra would like to study Psychology or Exercise Science. During Sierra's years at Roosevelt she was part of the swim team and Best Buddies. She participated in Silver Cord and was on the Honor Roll. The past two summers she has been a lifeguard/ swim instructor at Northwest and has life guarded at the downtown YMCA, she also worked at Grace Kids Care in 2017. Sierra enjoyed attending the youth gathering in Detroit in 2015 and continues to volunteer with the church community and her family. She is excited for next year at UNI!

#### Anthony Garcia Hannah Jensen Yaritza Marquez

**Kyler Medhurst** Graduating from Waukee HS, I will be attending Concordia College in Moorhead, MN; I plan to study Biology/Pre-Medicine. I will be playing football in the fall and maybe add track and field, lacrosse and a choral ensemble. Thank you for supporting me in my faith journey here at Grace; I'm sure that it will carry me through whatever the future brings! Go Cobbers!

**Ben Wonderlin** graduated from Roosevelt High School and Central Academy. While in high school, he played trombone in band, competed in numerous math competitions, and worked at La Mie bakery. Ben plans to attend Yale and study applied mathematics.

#### Sage Speck

In high school I enjoyed being on the tennis team and working at Waveland Golf Course. After high school I am tentatively planning to study at Iowa State. Other than this, things are wide open for me. I haven't yet decided what exactly I want to do after college, or even an exact major yet. I am however excited for the future, and the many possibilities it holds as I continue to find out where life will take me.

**Sarah Voelker** is the daughter of Rich and Michelle Voelker, and graduated from Theodore Roosevelt High School and Central Academy. She has been in band for four years and was section leader of the drumline for the 2018 Roughrider Marching Band season. She has been involved in theater for the past four years and has been in the pit for two. She joined Revelation show choir for the 2018-19 season as a pianist and instructor. She has been accepted into the 2019 NYU Summer Broadway Percussion Seminar. Sarah will be attending the University of Iowa as a Percussion Performance major.

#### **Recent College Graduates**

Tanner Peeler from Grand View University in Finance

**Christina Anderson** from Kirkwood Community College/University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics – Department of Neurology with an A.A.S. degree as an END Technologist **Natasha Voelker** from University of Iowa with degrees in Social Work and Human Relations and a Writing Certificate.

## Church Council Highlights From the April 23rd, 2019 Council Meeting

At the April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 Church Council Meeting:

- Property Committee Report:
  - It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the proposal from Modern Mechanical to install air conditioning equipment for two rooms in the daycare area, at a cost of \$7,829.00
  - The Council discussed the formation of a committee to oversee the capital needs projects.
- Malmin Committee:
- Don Peterson reported that the work of the Committee is basically completed. After deducting the final costs of the organ project the remaining balance will be determined.
- The Council held discussion concerning employee health insurance cost and projected income for Grace Kids Care. It was moved, seconded, and passed to authorize Grace Kids Care to proceed in securing health insurance for up to twelve full time employees through Kingston Life and Health, keeping within the amount budgeted in the 2019 annual budget for this purpose.
- Staff Reports:
  - Staff reports were received and reviewed.
- Other reports, new business
  - Pastor Mike shared a book list and other information about coursework he'll pursue during his sabbatical.

Respectfully, Dave Gronert, Council Secretary

## Finance Report – April Results

Financial results for April YTD are as follows:

- Pledged Offerings Actual \$146,791, Budget \$138,100
- Other Income Actual \$9,637, Budget \$9,500
- Expenses Actual \$169,942, Budget \$147,433
- Net activity Actual (\$13,515), Budget (\$167)

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Actual net activity was unfavorable to budget by \$13,682. Pledged and unpledged offerings were both above budget. Expenses were significantly above budget due to boiler repairs, flooring repairs, higher insurance and snow removal costs.

## **DMARC June Donation Request**



## Who is my Neighbor, continued from page 1

This is the church; Local and Global, old and young, birth, life and death.

So as Minister for Youth and Family at Grace Lutheran Church how do I answer the question "Who is My Neighbor?" ? The children in the Grace Kids Care Preschool are my neighbors. The grieving friends and family are my neighbors, The kids who are coming to Vacation Bible School are my neighbors. Those who are fed by DMARC and Hope Ministries are my neighbors. Those who are served by the Puppy Jake Foundation and the Seeing Eye are my neighbors. Those who live in Japan, and Malawi and Colombia are my neighbors. I belong to these and they belong to me and we are called to show love, mercy and compassion to one another in the body of Christ that is the Church. What a blessing it is to belong.

Ellen Rothweiler Minister for Youth and Family

## Grace Car Show

Grace will hold its first annual car show on Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup> (with a rain date of June 27<sup>th</sup>) in the Grace parking lot. This is being designed to be a family affair with things to do for the kids and as well as food for the family. A free will offering will be available. Our main purpose of this event is to raise funds for Grace Member Care but have fun and socialize while we're at it. More particulars will be forthcoming but here are the details to date:

**Entry fee:** \$20 per vehicle. You do not have to own a show car or sports car to bring a vehicle. If you have any kind of vehicle (car, motorcycle, pickup, SUV, minivan...yes, even minivans) that is special to you, please feel free to bring it. Be prepared to talk about it with the folks that are there.

**How to Enter:** Contact Kevin Drury <u>kdrury@hedlinag.com</u> Kevin Krause <u>kevinjk29@msn.com</u> or Denise <u>denise@gracedm.org</u>. Even though this is not a contest with no prizes being awarded, we do need to have an idea of how many vehicles to expect so that enough of the parking lot can be roped off for the car show vehicles.

**Who Can Enter:** Grace Church members and their immediate families. We really don't know how many vehicles to expect so for the first year, we will be limiting entry to Grace members and their immediate families.

**Time:** 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Food will be available during the early part of the evening. Watch for details!

Grace Kids Care families will be picking up children between 5:30 – 6:00 when you may be arriving, so please keep the first few stalls by the doors open. Thank you!

Who Do I Talk to with Questions? Feel free to call or text Kevin Drury (515.681.2770) or email kdrury@hedlinag.com with any questions or thoughts that you have at this time. More details will be forthcoming closer to the event.



## **Summer Youth Ministry**

Contact ellen@gracedm.org







#### VBS and The Puppy Jake Foundation (PJF)

The Puppy Jake Foundation was founded in February of 2013 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping wounded military veterans with the assistance of well-bred and professionally trained service dogs. PJF service dogs are trained to assist with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and mobility impairments. The service dogs may be trained to block, watch, interrupt flashbacks and navigate crowds for those suffering from PTSD. For mobility impairments, the service dogs may be trained to turn on/off lights, open/close doors and drawers, pick up items and retrieve items. PJF purchases puppies from reputable breeders and are picked up around eight weeks of age as well as working with the Animal Rescue League to identify rescue dogs that would make good service dogs. Most of the breeds PJF uses are Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers and German Shepherds. These three breeds are the right size for service dog work (not too big nor too small) and they are guite smart, are easily trained and have wonderful temperaments, are loving and loyal. As of right now, 35 dogs are currently being trained for service and 25 have been placed with Veterans. One puppy costs the Foundation about \$20,000 to train before being assigned to a veteran.

**One of our teachers, Kayleigh, (Grace's Kayleigh Medhurst!)** is a foster mom and is currently training a 5 month old Labrador Retriever named Ray. She attends weekly training sessions as well as many outings, travel, homework and evaluations. The money collected through VBS this year will go towards toys, food, leashes and collars for the dogs.

During a VBS session when Kayleigh introduced Ray to the students, they learned about how to tell when a service dog was working, whether/when they were allowed to pet a service dog, how Kayleigh reinforces good habits using a clicker and treats. Ray will train for two years before he is assigned to a veteran, and he goes everywhere with Kayleigh so he can learn how behave, as well as be comfortable, in any situation. They also learned that Ray has several brothers and sisters, and there are times when he will go work with their trainers, and they will work/live with Kayleigh to learn to be flexible and comfortable in different environments.

Thank you Kayleigh for your hard work and for sharing with us!



#### 2019 Annual Youth Garage and Plant Sale results!

After final expenses (cost of plants, cinnamon rolls, pizza to feed volunteers), we earned just under \$4000.00! Thank you to everyone who donated items for this event! Grace Kids Care also donated some items to the sale. As Ellen wrote in her article, GKC is one of our many neighbors, and their children part of our community, and we are excited to share that the Youth are tithing 10% to GKC.

## <u>Every Week (not listed in calendar at right)</u> Sundays

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship, Gathering Hall

#### Tuesdays

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Centering Prayer in the Upper room, led by Julie Honsey
11:00 a.m. Staff meeting, Innovation lab
Tuesday Bible Study with Pastor Mike will continue in September

#### Wednesdays

9:00 a.m. Willing Workers work & coffee time

## Thursdays

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Quilters Msindo Quilting Room, beneath the Sanctuary. If you need directions, just stop in the office! Please note: this is a no food space: water is allowed in closed containers only. This is also a no perfume space. Please consider any source of extra scent, such as lotions - what may seem like a small amount can be overwhelming in an enclosed space, and worse for those who are allergic. We thank you!

## **Other Grace Groups**!

**Men's Work Group,** Saturday, June 8 We meet on the second Saturday of each month, 8:30 a.m. – noon. We welcome you to join us.

#### Altar Guild Meeting, meal, and fellowship: Saturday, June 22, 10:00 a.m. Saints in Beaverdale

Offsite for coffee, meeting, fellowship. Please join us! Contact <u>anderson.sue.a@gmail.com</u>

## **Grace Stitching & Needlework Group**

We meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month in Grace Hall. Contacts: Helen Ringgenberg or Carol Krause

## First Circle Friends – Note date changes

LSI Respite Program for those in early stages of memory loss. Meeting at Grace on the 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays in June. Cancelled July 4<sup>th</sup> Contact <u>https://lsiowa.org</u>

February Newsletter submissions: June 21

#### June Calendar

- 2 2 p.m. Grace Kids Care Preschool Graduation
- 3 9:00 a.m. noon Preschool VBS
  4:30 p.m. AA Groups GH & Café
  6:00 7:30 p.m. Girl Scouts room 301
- 4 9:00 a.m. noon Preschool VBS 6-30 – 9:00 p.m. Des Moines Knitters Guild, Grace Hall
- 5 9:00 a.m. noon Preschool VBS 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Food Pantry Training

Grace Hall

- 6 9:00 a.m. noon Preschool VBS 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. First Circle Friends, GH
- 7 5:30 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal
- 8 8:30 a.m. noon Men's Work Group 4:00 p.m. Wedding (in building noon-6 p.m.)
  9 – 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. – Elementary VBS Kickoff!
  10 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Elementary VBS
  11 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Elementary VBS
- 12 9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. Elementary VBS
- 13 11:00 a.m. Funeral & Luncheon 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Stitching Group
- 17 4:30 p.m. AA Groups GH & Café
- 20 10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. First Circle Friends, GH
- 21 June Newsletter submissions due
- 22 10:00 a.m. Altar Guild meeting off site
- 24 4:30 p.m. AA Groups GH & Café
- 26 6:00 8:30 p.m. Grace Car Show. See pg 5
- 27 9:30 a.m. Martha/Lydia Circle Grace Hall 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Stitching Group, GH Car show rain date

## **July Calendar**

1 – 4:30 p.m. AA Groups GH & Café

2 –6-30 – 9:00 p.m. Des Moines Knitters Guild,

Grace Hall

- 4 Fourth of July Grace Kids Care Closed Grace Church Office Closed No First Circle Friends
- 11 10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. Stitching Group, GH
- 13 8:30 a.m. noon Men's Work Group
- 18 10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. First Circle Friends, GH
- 20 10:00 a.m. Altar Guild meeting off site
- 25 9:30 a.m. Martha/Lydia Circle Grace Hall 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Stitching Group, GH

July 28- August 2 Confirmation Camp at Lutheran Lakeside



## Happy Father's Day!

At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we strive to build up and empower Iowa kids and families. For us, Father's Day is a time to celebrate all the fathers and male role models we see every day.

Through our Early Childhood Services, young men are learning to become dads. They're becoming confident and active in their child's life, and they are creating loving, bright futures for their families.

Many of the boys and young men that LSI serves in our Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers have never had a positive male role model in their lives. But our caring volunteers and staff members are there to help guide them.

You are making all of this possible through your support of LSI. Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the Iove 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 LSIowa.org and Facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

## A New Life

A year and a half ago, Kevin was homeless. He struggled with substance use. He didn't have a car. Or a driver's license. Or a job.

Then, his world turned upside down and all at once, his priorities shifted. He found out he was a father to a beautiful baby girl, Willow. Kevin immediately began rehab and fought hard to build a healthy lifestyle. After months of hard work and efforts to get clean, Willow was placed in Kevin's care while her mother received treatment for her substance use disorder. Kevin turned to LSI's Early Childhood Services for support and a community to help him create the best home for his daughter. After starting services last year, Kevin can't imagine life without LSI.

Through regular in-home visits from Lindsay, his LSI worker, Kevin is helping Willow develop her language and speaking, as well as her motor skills.

Now one and a half, Willow is learning to use pens and markers, and loves writing and coloring. Her favorite book is a present from her dad – a picture book of the ABCs. Kevin now has sole custody of Willow, and he works closely with her mother to ensure she gets regular visits. His life has changed for the better, and he credits Lindsay and LSI for walking alongside him on his journey.

"LSI teaches you to think about all the little things we often overlook as parents. And we learn to appreciate those little things more because of it," Kevin says. "LSI is teaching me to be the best father I can be."



#### Fall Adult Education will return in September

Usually in Grace Hall, from 10:15 – 11 a.m. after Sunday Worship, occasionally other smaller groups meet in the library to discuss a book, watch a video series, or meet with Pastor Mike about membership.

If you are considering a topic for Fall Adult Education, or if you are using a space at Grace for an event, please fill out the Adult Faith Enrichment Opportunity Form, found in the office, or on the website resources page (under Forms and Applications).

https://gracedm.org/content/uploads/2018/01/Adult-Faith-Enrichment-Opportunityform.pdf

This form helps us understand and coordinate all of your needs: room set-up, technology needs, the audience for the event, and in what manner it should be communicated.



#### **New Member Class**

Sunday, September 15, 10:30 a.m. in the Innovation Lab.

If you are interested in learning more about what it means to be a member of Grace, join Pastor Mike in the Innovation Lab on Sunday, September 15, at 10:30. Contact the office at 515-276-6873 if you have questions.

#### **Member Care Event**

Our Member Care Team provides meals, makes visits, sends cards, and helps make arrangements for other assistance for people in times of need.

On the first Sunday in June, using a grant from Thrivent, Member Care provided, and with the help of many members of our congregation, delivered more than 40 beautiful Gerbera Daisies to members on our current prayer list and those who have difficulties making it to church. Member Care provided baked goods for coffee, and plates of goodies to be delivered along with the flowers. Thank you to all who participated, it was exciting to see how many people were excited for another opportunity to visit with friends.

Member Care is a beautiful ministry, thank you everyone for making this a beautiful and special day. If you would like to be a part of this ministry in any way, your care and time are welcomed! Opportunities include, but are not limited to: writing cards, making meals in advance to be frozen and delivered as needed, making visits, making calls, delivering meals.





## **Pet Project Thank You!**

On behalf of the board of directors and the clients that we serve, thanks to you and the congregation for all the hard work and generosity.

Kim Hanlon The Pet Project Midwest

The items Grace provided to the Pet Project! 43 Pounds of packaged dog food (6 bags total)

40 pounds of individual Animal packed dog food

1 can (12.2 oz) wet dog food 1 box dog treats

43 pounds dry packaged cat food (5 bags total) 48 pounds of individual Animeal packed cat

food

8 cans (5.5oz) wet cat food

8 pounds Parrot food (2-4#bags)

4 pounds Rabbit food (1-4#bag)

2 pounds hamster/gerbil food (1-2#bag)

8 pounds Guinea Pig food (2-4#bags)

2 pounds Parakeet food (1 2#bag)

2 pounds cockatiel food (1-2# bag

A small animal carrier box of litter box liners various toys bird treats

LSI Global Greens Farmer's Market Saturdays 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. LSI Parking Lot 3200 University Ave, Des Moines, IA 50311

This program reconnects former refugee farmers with the land as they build their new life in the U.S. Through Global Greens, farmers can access space to grow food, learn more about U.S. agriculture, and start their own business by selling produce at our Farmers' Market and in our CSA. Find out more at <u>https://lsiowa.org/refugee/globalgreens/</u> **The Beaverdale Farmers Market has returned! The Evangelism Committee** from Grace is once again manning a Grace outreach booth at the market.

The booth will be open Tuesdays, through Sept 10, from 4:30 - 7:00 pm. Stop by and see them! Additional volunteers are always welcome. Contact Nancy Crowfoot, or the office for more information.

# New Art Display in the Gathering Hall!

Nancy Crowfoot began wood-burning and painting old wooden canoe paddles in 2006 when her husband wouldn't let her throw out paddles that hadn't been used in years. Now she and her paddling friends collect old paddles. She hopes her paddle art amuses people while raising interest in water quality, rivers, paddling and wildlife.

Stop by the Gathering Hall displays to read more, and see her wonderful art. Pictured: The Artist in the mirror on one of her paddles, and one of the paddles on display.





#### Request for help writing Funeral /Memorial acknowledgements

**Thank you to Lorna Johns** for your many years of caring help with this important task. We very much appreciate your time and effort.

She is stepping down from this important task, and we are looking for one or more people who are willing to spend a little time writing these important notes to those who contribute. If you can help, please contact Denise at 515-276-6873 or denise@gracedm.org