

**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Worship, in-person and Online

Morning Prayer Mon, Wed, Fri at 9:30 a.m.

@Gracelutherandm

Office & Open Building Hours

9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday - Thursday

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

Pastor Michael Schmidt
mike@gracedm.org

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

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Richard Snyder
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Minister for Administration
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Custodian
Todd Haugen 1-515-520-4450

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Sending Hymns

There can be a tangible energy in the Sanctuary during the sending hymn. I have noticed this a few times recently. One such occurrence was on June 12th as my family and I were in rural LeMars for the 150th Anniversary of Christ Lutheran Church. I served there as an interim pastor and was invited back to take part in the festivities. We sang "On our Way Rejoicing" and there was a feeling of celebration in the air as we departed the worship space and move toward fellowship over a shared meal.

I felt a similar energy on June 19th as we sang "Sent Forth By God's Blessing." There was a noticeable energy as Vicary Bunny was blessed, and an eagerness to welcome her as people were leaving the worship space. There was excitement in the air, and beautiful welcome that followed.

There is something beautiful about the Sending Hymn. Growing up, I would often rejoice at the Sending Hymn, largely because it meant that we could head home for Sunday lunch. We would start to put the hymnals away during the last stanza, trying to memorize enough of the words that we could keep singing while preparing to leave. If one packed up too early and had to stop singing, there would be a disapproving look coming from Dad.

In these examples, what followed the Sending Hymn was a time of food and fellowship. These are important tasks of the church. It is important to build relationships and find ways to strengthen one another for the journey. It is also important to gather over food. There is something spiritual about the sharing of a meal. In the Gospel according to Saint Luke, the theme of fellowship and food runs through the whole of the Gospel. The encounters with the risen Christ are also centered around food. That is the place where the risen Christ is made known. This is important work, but not the only work of the church.

As I get older, I find a deeper appreciation for the Sending Hymn. It is less of a close to our time in worship as it is the start of the work of the Church. The measure of a congregation is not about what happens on an hour or two on Sunday morning. It is about what we do when we are sent out into the world through the Sending Hymn. That is when the real work of the church begins.

Continued on page 3

Happy July Birthday

- 1 - Carl Feilmann
Michael Nizzi
- 3 - Dale Bordt
Marilyn Anderson
- 4 - Sawyer Shiffler
- 5 - Levi Wilner
- 8 - Donna Trickle
- 9 - Carleigh Ridnour
Henry Jordahl
- 11 - Rebecca Lewis
- 12 - Melissa Petty
- 13 - Amy Westercamp
Joshua Sherer
- 14 - Amador Medina-Ruiz
Eric Selander
Heather Honnold
Bailey Woodruff
- 15 - Hannah Jensen
- 16 - Tracy Justice
- 17 - Lucille Krauss
Jayne Mortenson
Christie Rosheim
- 18 - Anders Nelson
Adam Friesth
Eric Friesth
- 19 - Deanna Snyder
- 20 - Krista Nelson
Martha Kalewoun
- 21 - Christian Culp
- 22 - Kathryn Schaller
- 23 - Linda Biegger
- 24 - Declan Holst
- 25 - Justin Anderson
- 26 - Morgan Mortenson
- 27 - Jeff Robbins
- 29 - Genaro Ruiz
- 30 - Gary Denton
- 31 - Emily Stowell



Happy July Anniversary

- 8 - Ashley and Josh Lund
- 15 - Jenie and Michael Schmidt
Rhonda and Bill Jensen
- 21 - Loree and Tim Nelson
- 22 - Cathy and Dean Watson



With Sympathy, we pray for the families and loved ones of:

Virginia Naney

Stephen Nizzi (brother of Michael Nizzi)

Thrivent Action Teams

Thrivent Action Teams are a great way to make a positive impact on our congregational life and in our community. Thrivent offers the resources to help support a project – a fundraiser, an educational event or a service activity. Most recently, a Thrivent Action Team grant of \$250 was applied for and received to support the Car Show and Member Care.

Is there a project you'd like to see happen at Grace or in our community?

Is there one of our current ministry teams that you'd like to support with a grant?

Applications are available by logging into your Thrivent Account at Thrivent.com. It's easier than you think!! If you have questions, please contact Denise at Denise@Gracedm.org or 515-276-6873

Grace Online Directory and App

Have you moved? Updated your phone number? Added family members? Then it's time to update the Church App! Go to members.instantchurchdirectory.com and log in using your email address: Once you are in the system, look to the upper right hand corner of the screen and tap "edit my Family". There you will be able to upload a photo/new photo, edit family members, current address, phone number, anniversary, etc.

If you are new to Grace or have trouble logging in, please email Denise@gracedm.org with the email you would like to use and we will get you added!

If you are not online and have information to update, please call the office @ 515-276-6873.

Sending Hymns, continued from page 1

There is an excitement in the air as we look to this next chapter in the life of Grace Lutheran Church. It is also time, after two years of a global pandemic, to explore the work of the Sending Hymn, as we are fed in this place and sent out for God's mission in the world around us. I am excited to explore this work with you all.

In Christ,
Pastor Mike

Greetings, Friends!

Thank you for the warm welcome to Grace Lutheran! While I have only been here for a short time, the way in which this community has made me feel welcome is outstanding. From setting up my apartment with furniture, food, and even surge protectors, to the greetings from each and every member so far, the care you have shown me is meaningful and deeply appreciated. I cannot thank each of you enough.

During my time at Grace, I will serve in a myriad of roles, working alongside Pastor Mike, the staff, and the congregation as I learn practical ways to grow my pastoral identity. This will eventually include everything from worship, steering committee accompaniment, stewardship, adult education, biblical literacy, administrative, cross-cultural and inclusiveness studies, and so much more! Grace has many thriving ministries and members. I hope to be able to spend time in each of these ministries as I gain an understanding of the gifts of each of you and of the culture here.

In addition to the people of Grace, I would also like to get to know what makes Des Moines unique. What are your favorite places to eat? Is there anything interesting about the geography here? Sports events that I can't miss? Fairs? Concerts? Annual events? What makes this place, Grace, Merle Hay/Beaverdale, and Des Moines special for you? Let's set up a time to chat! Email me at Bunny@gracedm.org; I would love to get to know the people and the place that has already shown me exceptional hospitality.

Peace, today and always,

Vicar Bunny Stoutes

Thank you!

"Home after a very special trip for me, visiting the 4 churches I was honored to serve as Pastor. Was fun for me to connect with a few of the remaining Saints of Grace. May God Bless you and the continuing ministry of Grace Lutheran!

Ernie Pihl

And Thank you, Pastor Pihl, for your kind contribution!



Worship, written materials, and other resources.

Sunday Worship now in person at 9:00 a.m. (every Sunday)

Livestream online will continue to be available on our webpage and Facebook:

- **On our website:** On the home page, in the "Welcome to Grace" section on the www.gracedm.org homepage, you will see a red button "Online Worship". Click on that button to be taken to our permanent Live Player. If you see our logo, know you are in the right place and worship will begin shortly.
- **On Facebook:** Find worship on our Facebook page – type @GraceLutheranDM into your search bar to find the page. The service will not appear as a scheduled live feed. The service will appear as live shortly before 9:00 a.m. as the stream begins. There may be a couple of minutes where you see the logo without sound. If you see that, know that you are in the right place and the service will begin shortly. Thank you for your patience.

Written materials and Announcements can be found in the Resources section of the website. Click on the word Resources at the top right of any page of the website and go from there! Or, follow this link <https://gracedm.org/resources/>

Missed a worship service? [Find and watch them here.](#)

Worship videos are usually posted on the website within 24 hours. The video is usually available on Facebook within a few minutes of the end of worship.

Sunday Fellowship You are welcome to use the Gathering Hall for fellowship after worship.

Weekday Prayers are 9:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on Facebook. If you are not on Facebook, you can still access it by typing @GraceLutheranDM into your browser, or through this link <https://www.facebook.com/Grace-Lutheran-Church-626637384050683/>



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

Contact Pastor Mike if you are interested in becoming a member of Grace!
Mike@gracedm.org or 515/276-6873

Worship Volunteer Signup

Greeters, Ushers, Lectors and Communion Servers! Sunday worship at 9:00 a.m.

<https://www.volunteersignup.org/3YPK9?classic> or contact Emma, emma@gracedm.org

Altar Flower signup

Sponsor flowers for the Altar during worship!

Currently there is one arrangement provided, and the cost is \$25. You will be able to pick up the flowers after worship. Sign up here, and you will be contacted by Kathy Bowermaster regarding the wording you prefer for the weekly announcements

<https://volunteersignup.org/7LBAC>

You can choose to send a check to the church, or pay online using the online donation form on our website.

Notes from Rich

In conversations that I've had regarding the pipe organ, one question often asked is, "Is playing the organ the same as playing the piano?" Or, "How does playing the organ differ from playing the piano?" This edition of Notes will provide some answers to these questions. The simple answer is, "Yes, they are similar, but no, they are not played the same way." While the motions with the fingers are similar in playing the two keyboard instruments, the skills necessary to control those motions in order that good music is produced are quite different.



Confused? Consider the following analogy. The differences between playing a piano and an organ are similar to the differences between playing a violin and a banjo. Both instruments employ the fingers on the left hand to select the pitch of the sound by pressing down on the strings against the fingerboard. But the right hand draws a bow across the violin strings to make them vibrate while the banjo strings are plucked or strummed to produce its sound. The violin and banjo are string instruments with four strings (usually), but from that similarity the methods to produce music with them are quite different.

There are three fundamental characteristics of musical sounds: pitch, volume, and timbre. Pitch is highness or lowness of a sound, volume is the loudness of the sound, and timbre is the distinctive characteristic of the sound. A brief discussion of the techniques used to control each of these three characteristics for organ and piano follows.

Pitch

Selecting the musical pitch is similarly controlled on organ and piano: pressing down on a key (and a pedal for the organ). The piano has 88 black or white keys and thus 88 different pitches. The organ generally has 61 keys on each of its keyboards (manuals) and 32 pedals on the pedal board. However, the organ, as a result of the wide variation in the size of its pipes in different ranks may produce pitches that are higher and lower than the limits of the piano keyboard. Just as a symphony orchestra has instruments in the soprano, alto, tenor, and bass ranges, the pipe organ has ranks of pipes that also can be classified as occupying one or more of these pitch ranges.

Volume

For the piano, the volume of the sound is determined at the moment the finger presses down (strikes) the key. The key movement forces a felt-covered hammer to hit from one to three strings. The harder the force of the finger, the harder the hammer impinges on the strings and the louder the sound. But immediately, the volume of the sound will decrease and be terminated when either the finger is removed from the key, or if the damper pedal is depressed, when the pedal is released. The volume can also be affected by depressing the soft pedal which for a grand piano shifts the keyboard such that only two of the three strings are hit by the hammer. (For an upright piano, a felt damper lays across the strings reducing the volume.) The effective or comparative volume of a piano note is enhanced by the fact that the sound decreases immediately, so the next note, even if struck with an equal force on the key, will sound louder than the preceding note which has already decreased in volume. In the most basic terms, the volume of the sound from a piano is predominantly controlled by the attack of the fingers on the keyboard. By striking some notes harder, certain pitches can be emphasized and be heard as the melody within the music.

For the organ, the volume of the sound is determined before the key or pedal is depressed. The rank(s) of pipes selected by the organist to sound when the key is depressed determines the volume. In some cases, the sound can be modified by closing or opening the shades of the box enclosing the pipes, but exposed pipes make only one sound at only one volume. Some ranks of pipes are louder than others, so rank selection affects the volume.

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Notes from Rich, continued from page 5

Adding more ranks adds to the volume. The perceived volume of the organ sound can be affected by the length of time the note is held. Just as the sound of a crying baby becomes more irritating and seems louder the longer the child cries, notes from the pipe organ seem to get louder the longer they are held. On the other hand, holding notes for a shorter time than indicated in the musical score brings out the next note, a practice called articulation. This happens because the short break between successive notes causes the new note to sound against a softer background of sound and thus be perceived as louder to the ear. Thus at a fundamental level, piano music is most affected by the attack on the keyboard while organ music is greatly dependent on the release of the key. My organ teacher once quoted one of her instructors as saying, "Any fool musician can mash down a bunch of keys; it takes a true artist to know when to release them."

Timbre

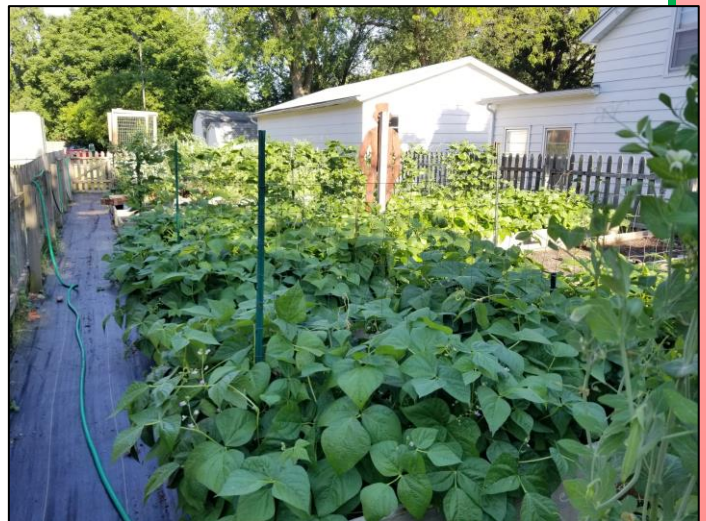
The timbre of a piano depends on the builder, and it is affected by the size (length) of the piano, the bridging (single or double), and the size of the strings, the tension on the strings, the sound board construction, and the key action. Other than changing the firmness of the felt hammers, not much can be done to change the voice of the piano once it has been constructed.

The organ can produce a wide variety of sounds (timbres) which are controlled by the ranks selected to sound when the instrument is played. Sounds described as bright, calm, smooth, nasal, breathy, hollow, flute-like, or reedy are available to the organist. Once a group of pipes has been selected, the organist is stuck with that sound until a different group of pipes is selected (called changing the registration). The methods to change the registration on the fly (i.e. while playing the instrument), will be a good topic for a future Notes article.

The motions of the fingers when playing a piano keyboard or an organ manual are similar, but the skills necessary to control the fingers in their attack and release from the keyboards are quite different. The joy in this situation is that one technique does not supplant the other. A few minutes might have to pass to remind the fingers which instrument is being played, but fortunately they soon remember.

Grace Garden is so lush right now!

The Garden crew has been taking radishes, carrots, snap peas, and onions to the food pantry, now the Swiss Chard, beets, broccoli, yellow squash, peppers and beans are coming in! Take a minute to check it out next time you are at the building!





God's work. Our hands.

As a social ministry organization of the ELCA, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) is so thankful for your partnership in ministry! Thanks to you, we are able to provide education to parents of young children, empower Iowans with disabilities, and offer critical mental health care to community members of all ages.

This month, we would like to give special thanks for those of you who have made LSI a focus on your congregation's "God's work. Our hands." project.

On a planned day in September, each congregation is encouraged to reach outside of the church and do good deeds in the community by participating in a project for "God's work. Our hands." This is a perfect opportunity to combine community projects with a special project for nonprofits like LSI, whether it's raising money or contributing in-kind gifts.

We thank you for your service! If you are interested in supporting the Iowa children and families served by LSI or would like to get involved in a "God's work. Our hands." project with LSI, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

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 LSI (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.

Restoring Hope

Over the last year, LSI and its many community partners across Iowa have come together in a time of need. When hundreds of Afghan evacuees needed a place to call home in Iowa, LSI rose to the challenge to provide crucial resettlement services.

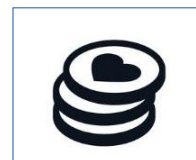
Supporters from across the state rallied together to provide financial support; they put together almost 600 welcome boxes so every individual had what they needed when they arrived; and they volunteered their time to provide assistance with transportation and housing during a distressing time.

In our offices in Des Moines and Sioux City, LSI was able to hire additional staff who speak 14 different languages. In December 2021, for the first time in 10 years, LSI began welcoming new arrivals to Iowa, and we have since welcomed more than 165 individuals – including many families – to their new home in Iowa. Thanks to the support of our partners, Iowa continues to be a space of welcome, a place where individuals can find safety, security, and a community where they can rebuild their lives.

Finance Report – May Results

Financial results for May YTD are as follows:

- Income – Actual \$173,503, Budget \$182,558
- Expenses – Actual \$167,613, Budget \$168,517
- Net activity – Actual \$5,890, Budget \$14,042



Actual net activity was below of budget by \$8,151. Pledged offerings are the primary reason for the difference. We are hopeful that we close the difference with summer worship services.

The 2nd Annual Grace Car Show was a success!

We had a beautiful evening in the shade, with a nice breeze and a variety of fun vehicles! Over \$400 was collected at the show (not counting registrations sent prior to the event). Watch for updates with a final tally in upcoming announcements. All funds will go to support our amazing Grace Member Care and the work they do. Thank you Kevin Drury for organizing this event, and to Carter, Lon, and Aaron for manning the grill!



DMARC Address Update!

DMARC has moved, if you are in the habit of sending a check, please note their new address. DMARC also has an online giving page [here](#)
100 Army Post Road on the south side of Des Moines

You can take [a virtual tour of their new space here](#).
Find their list of [most needed items here!](#)

Grace Lutheran Church Congregational Council Highlights Council Meeting Highlights – June 21, 2022 Meeting

Called to order at 6:07pm.

Devotions Led by Pastor Mike, NT text: Ephesians 2:11-21

on the theme of “Peace is not the absence of war.”

Adoption of Agenda – Carter moved, Kevin seconded, motion passed.

Approval of Minutes – Carter moved, Tom seconded, motion passed

Financial Report – Operating in the black, which included paying rent on the Vicar’s apartment through December 2022.

Staff Reports – Excitement over growing partnership with Moore Elementary, and concerns over staff workloads.

Old Business

5 Questions Update – Conversation continues toward an updated Mission Statements. We are entering an information gathering stage with the community of faith and neighborhood.

Capital Needs – There is growing need to replace the air conditioning units for the Sanctuary and Msindo areas of the building. There was a request for more information before the July Council meeting. There is growing need to revisit the Capital Campaign that was put on hold in 2020.

New Business

Reconciling in Christ – There was discussion about entering into the process to become a certified Reconciling in Christ congregation. This will be revisited at the July Council meeting.

Church Directory – There is interest in coordinating a new congregational photo directory. Lifetouch is no longer in business. We hope to have an estimate before the July Council meeting.

AED – Our AED is part of a recall. The motion was made to trade in our current AED and purchase a new one. Carter moved, Aaron seconded, motion passed.

General Updates

Car Show has 14 entries.

AA is considering a return to Grace Lutheran Church, and may begin to meet here as soon as August 1st.

There are beginning plans for the development of a Mission Reserve fund at Grace that would allow us to respond to needs quickly.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Council Highlights are the council minutes prior to final comment and approval. Since these are published where the public has access (on our website, Facebook), on rare occasion sensitive information (addresses for instance) have been removed. Members can always request a copy of the final minutes from the council.

Little Free Pantry

The Pantry (and all local pantries) are experiencing higher use right now with the cost of food and personal hygiene items.

Please share the locations of our pantry and others in the area with your friends and neighbors.

- Fresh fruits and vegetables are much appreciated and will be snapped up fast.
- Single serve and shelf-stable or ready-to-eat snack packs.
- Single serve water, juice boxes, and non-alcoholic drinks
- Box mixes that do not require meat.
- Personal wet-wipes, deodorant, dry shampoo, soap, comb, new washcloth and hand towels
- Single use laundry soap packets
- Diapers and wipes
- Tampons, pads, diapers

Local Little Free Pantries - please call the office if you know of others so we can share!

- Merrill Middle School on Grand Ave
- Perkins Elementary School 44th and College
- Monroe Elementary School (on Hickman)
- Des Moines Mennonite Church Madison and 56th Street
- Meredith Drive and 51st Street, across from Life Church of Des Moines & Dogpatch Urban Gardens
- 49th Street and Snyder Ave at Immanuel United Methodist Church
- Drake University Food Forest, 30th Street between University and Forest Avenue



Love Your Neighbor – Des Moines Refugee Support

Dear Friends at Grace Lutheran Church,

Des Moines Refugee Support is excited to host the Second Annual Back to school free store at Drake's Olmsted Center on Saturday, August 6.

On this day we will see hundreds of students and their families all over the metro. The event is geared toward refugees and immigrants, but is open to anyone in need. The goal is to get everyone prepared for the upcoming school year. We will again be providing many services including ear, eye, and teeth checks, sports physicals, and haircuts.

We also aim to provide all of the required THINGS to go back to school:

We are looking for businesses, groups, and organizations to hold a Donation Drive to collect some of our back to school items, and we would be so honored to be chosen as part of your "giving goals" for this year. The attachment (newsletter insert) has the list of items we hope to collect and the link where your organization can sign up for the items you would like to collect.

Due to our storage constraints, we need you to bring all donated items to Drake's Olmsted Center on Friday, August 5, and preferably, a whole bunch of people who can stay to help set up your donations in preparation for the event the following day.

Alison Hoeman, Founder and Director, Des Moines Refugee Support

If you have a group who would like to organize such a drive, or if you have questions, contact desmoinesrefugee@gmail.com