The Friendly Visitor

April 2023



Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Worship, in-person and Online 10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee 10:15 a.m. Adult & Youth Education

Morning Prayer Tues & Fridays 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

Vicar Bunny Stoutes Bunny@gracedm.org

Minister for Worship and Music Emma Stammer <u>emma@gracedm.org</u>

> Organist Richard Snyder rich@gracedm.org

Minister for Administration Denise Friesth <u>denise@gracedm.org</u>

Minister for Communications Michelle Voelker <u>michelle@gracedm.org</u>

Office Assistant for Worship Jessye Flannery Jessica@gracedm.org

Custodian Todd Haugen 1-515-520-4450

Inside This Issue...

- 2... Celebrations & Sympathies, Holy Week Schedule, April Adult Education
- 3... Vicar Bunny's Greeting, Paint Party!4... Meet Adam Barden, 2023 Intern
- New Member Class dates 5... Notes from Rich
- 6... LSI Update. Schedule changes
- 7... NCAA Update, List of Charities
- 8... Easter Prayer Breakfast, Easter
- Volunteer Needs, Mission Action Fund 9... Council Highlights, Finance Report
- 10..Endowment Report, Worship Schedule & online access
- 11... Meet Greg Boeschen, Thank Yous, Little Free Pantry mission update
- 12... Photos and All Grace Service Project

Seeking

We have spent the last several weeks diving into the question: what are you seeking? This journey has taken several twists and turns in our journey through Lent. We have talked about belonging, loss, healing, grief, hope, weariness, and a lot of other things along the way. It all comes full circle as we look at the original question at the end of the journey: what are you seeking?

The question sounds easy until you stop and think about it. I find most of my seeking to be congregation related these days. The "normal" ways of being church sort of imploded three years ago. We scrambled to find new ways of being church, and in some ways were more relevant in what was deemed the "closing of the church" than we were before. We found ways to reach new people online and in print. We became more accessible than before. There was no "old way" or tradition for what was happening. It was all new.

This was also a demanding time for church staff around the world. It was draining. Like much of the world, we were learning to adapt and make thousands of decisions that impact others. It was not easy and took a toll. I can see that toll in myself, the other staff members of Grace, and other pastors.

It makes sense that there is gravity back to the old "normal" within congregations. It took so much time and energy and there is comfort in returning to what once was. As much comfort as that may bring to some, it is important to note that the old "normal" was not working for many. Mainline denominations have been on the decline for well over a decade to the point that some question long term viability.

What am I seeking? A revival. An awakening. A church that takes up the challenge of learning to reach out and speak the Good News of Christ Jesus in new ways. This is what I seek. This is my dream: A church where all know the radical welcome and hospitality of Christ. A church that moves away from quotas and other ways of numbering people toward the impact made through service. A church that preaches more through action than words. A church that moves from knowledge of Scripture to the experience of the Holy Spirit.

Our hope is that you have been pondering and praying over the same question: what are you seeking? If you feel comfortable, we would love to hear from you. What are the ways that the Spirit has spoken with you during this Season of Lent? What are you seeking?

In Christ, Pastor Mike

Happy April Birthday

- 2 Rev. Bill Kallestad
- 3 Ellen Batten Dolores Johnson Colleen McKinney
- 6 Roy Hanson
- 7 Carolyn Andersen Bradley Moon Ben Nelson Maya Uehling Lint Emily Woodruff
- 8 Jennie Wonderlin
- 9 Kelley Brown
- 10 Jared Nelson Cherie Rissman Mark Stumme DeVee Trickel
- 11 Mira Voelker
- 12 Alex Davik
- Kyler Medhurst
- 13 Mary McCann
- 14 Denise Friesth15 Michael Flannery
- Matt Speck
- 16 Ernest Weatherington
- 17 Alton Calahan Cynthia Gronert
- 18 Justin Fenimore
- 19 Jill Boeschen Emma Stammer
- 20 Kevin French Jenny Rehder
- 24 Charla Preston
- 25 Amy Wonderlin
- 26 Aden Artzer Mike Carney Howard Kulzer
- 27 Bill Jensen Fletcher Reynolds Cathy Watson
- 28 David Gronert Anna Shea
- 29 Kathy Piltingsrud30 Alysse AdamsKylie Radermacher



Prayers and Sympathies

We hold the families and loved ones of the following people in our hearts and prayers:



Helen Fanning Piper Preston - mother of Lathrop Connie Beall – mother of Carli Stee Kenny Zimmerman – brother Mary Weaverling,

Happy April Anniversary

- 7 Kathy Piltingsrud and Paul Nelson
- 10 Deanna and Eric Weber
- 12 Sandra and Barry Briggs
- 29 Curt and Kathy Johansen



Holy Week Schedule

<u>Maundy Thursday</u>: 6:30 p.m. worship – Sanctuary and online

<u>Good Friday</u>: 6:30 p.m. worship – Sanctuary and online



<u>Easter</u> Sunrise 6:30 a.m. – Sanctuary 7 a.m. - 10 a.m. – Easter Breakfast in Grace Hall. More information below! Worship 8:15 a.m. – Sanctuary and online Worship 10:00 a.m. – Sanctuary only *

*The 8:15 worship will be live on our website. This service will be recorded and uploaded to our Facebook page and available to watch at any time during the day. The 10 a.m. worship will **only** be live/recorded if there is an issue with the early service.

April Education Hour - Adults

April 2: Holy Humor Sunday

You are invited to Grace Hall on April 2nd for an adult education hour with Vicar Bunny. The Sunday after Easter was known to early century christians as "Holy Humor Sunday!" Our time together will dive into scripture, embracing joy as a part of our lives as we celebrate Holy Humor Sunday. Bonus points if you bring one Bible verse with you that brings you joy!

April 16: We will begin s series on The Holy Spirit.

Greetings, Friends!

How in the world did April arrive so quickly? Holy Week is upon us and we soon enter into the joyful season of Easter, celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!



Our Lenten series, "Seeking," asked hard questions. All le

What are you seeking? What is God seeking?

Some opened up our curiosity, others were hopeful, and others felt like a challenge:

Who will you listen to?	How do we begin again?	Will you give me a drink?
Who sinned?	Can these bones live?	Where are you headed?

I invite you to sit with these questions throughout the upcoming season of Easter and even beyond. These questions allow an opportunity for deep reflection and centering of ourselves. Visit and revisit them. With each season of our lives, our answers will differ. Each moment of growth in our lives allows us to reflect differently with new perspective as we think about our struggles, hopes, dreams, and fears.

What resonated with me the most during Lent was a few words for the communion liturgy: So first and foremost, we come to you in prayer to say thank you, for when we're seeking beauty, you give us mountains and freckles, green eyes and brown eyes. When we we're looking for reason to hope, you give us rainbows after the storm and candles flickering in the window. When we're seeking peace, you give us three-part harmony and the sound of the rain. And when we're seeking justice, your life reminds us that *everyone* is welcome at your Table, and none shall be turned away.

For me, creativity in worship fills my cup. It takes us out of our comfort zones and challenges us to embrace different ways to grow in our faith. As much as I love it though, there's something beautiful returning to historical traditions. There's comfort in using the same confession and forgiveness that has crossed our lips and the lips of our ancestors for hundreds of years. Reciting the Apostles' Creed together as spoken during worship beginning in the 8th century and now a shared statement of faith with the Catholic, Lutheran, Anglican, Presbyterians, Moravians, Methodists, Protestant, and congregational churches. It's a beautiful balance between the comfort of tradition and the creativity of something new as we move from season to season.

Thank you for embracing the journey and allowing something new and different into your hearts. I hope you found moments of joy, glimpses of what could be, and pondered the path God is seeking for you.

Peace, today and always,

Vicar Bunny

Cleanup Project

We have moved on to phase two of our project, the "Clean Up!" Some walls in the lower classroom level have been patched, sanded, taped, and even a few painted! But there is more work to be done to finish freshening the space.



Helpers are needed to tape and then paint the hallway and classrooms to get them ready for prime time! Bunny has a list of rooms – would you take charge of one or two rooms to help this project come to completion? Grab your paint brush and a roller – we can do this!

Meet Adam Barden, our 2023 Intern

Grace and peace to you all! My name is Adam Barden, and I am blessed and excited to serve as Vicar for Grace Lutheran Church starting this summer! I was born and raised in Bismarck, North Dakota. I was baptized into the Lutheran Church as an infant at my home congregation of Faith Lutheran Church. My father, Dwight Barden, recently retired from working at a housing authority. My mother, Connie, works at an optometrist's office helping patients pick out and order frames. I have one brother, Nick, who works as a truck driver. He and his wife have two children, Bentley and Annabelle. I graduated from High School at Bismarck High School and I attended undergrad at Minot State University. I graduated with a bachelor's degree in General Studies with focuses in History, Sociology, and Philosophy.

I began to have a sense of call to ministry in middle school. I had a strong sense of belonging in the church and I wanted to explore that. My Pastor and other mentors encouraged me to explore that. This lead me to assist with teaching Sunday School, participate in youth group, and attend discernment events. At one of these events, I met the registrar of Camp of the Cross Ministries, a bible camp I went to for a couple summers. After speaking with her, I took it as the Holy Spirit at work, and I applied to work at camp. I spent a total of seven summers working at Camp of the Cross as a maintenance worker, camp counselor, and worship leader. During my first summer, my call to ministry was solidified. I new I was going to go to seminary to become a pastor.

In college, I participated in Lutheran Campus Ministry. LCM opened the door to exploring my call further through organizing internship opportunities at local congregations. I was able to get some first hand experience in worship leadership as well as teaching confirmation. It was during this time that I began to explore what seminary I wanted to attend. Through discussion with advisors and friends, and visiting campuses, I felt called to Wartburg Theological Seminary.

During the second half of my final year at MSU, the pandemic started. I finished the semester online back in Bismarck. After graduating, I took a year between undergrad and seminary to get some work experience. I was an activities assistant for a Lutheran nursing home in Bismarck. This nursing home served as the site for my Clinical Pastoral Education last summer.

Some other facts about me: I am an Eagle Scout. I play the guitar and viola, though more the guitar lately. I enjoy playing tabletop games with friends, watching movies, and going for a drive. I am excited to be with you all soon! Peace and Blessings!

New Member Classes with Pastor Mike

If you are interested in becoming a member of Grace, the next new member classes will be held: Sunday, April 2 Sunday, April 28 Sunday, June 11 A Sunday in August

If you are interested, call the office to R.S.V.P, or find Pastor Mike after worship on the dates noted!

Notes from Rich

Recently during the celebration of communion, a daughter and father were returning to their pew when the young girl slowed her walk and pointed toward the organ console. She spoke to her father, and I would guess, like many others before her, she asked, "What are all those things?" This issue of Notes will name and describe the "things" on the organ console. Please refer to the included picture for the appearance and location of the "things."



The organ console serves the organist in three ways: 1) it allows the organist to select pitches (notes) by pressing down on keys and pedals; 2) allows the organist to select stops which control the sounds (timbres) that will be heard when the keys are depressed; and 3) allows the organist to save or store combinations of stops for quick access when immediate changes are desired.



The console has two sets of keys, each arranged like a piano keyboard, and are called manuals. The upper one is called the swell manual, and the lower one is called the great manual. There is also a pedal board, played with the soles and heels of the feet, arranged like a piano keyboard but larger (seen at the bottom of the picture).

Above the swell manual are three sets of rocker tabs called stops. These stops are on-off switches that activate and deactivate sets of pipes called ranks. Each stop generally controls one rank. The stops controlling the pedal pipes are on the left side (within the yellow box in the picture). The stops controlling the swell manual pipes are in the middle (within the purple box), and the stops controlling the great manual are on the right (within the blue box). The sounds that the organ produces are controlled by moving the rocker tabs on or off, and in most cases, multiple rocker tabs are in their "On" position at any one time. The unused rocker tabs are then in their "Off" position. Any combination of rocker tabs can be stored in an electronic memory and subsequently recalled instantaneously by pressing one of the round white buttons (called pistons) or toe studs. The toe studs are just above the pedal board inside black or green box in the picture and are activated by a foot. Pistons and toe studs within the black boxes in the picture can control any stop on the organ (great, swell, and/or pedal). Toe studs within the green box control only the pedal stops. Pistons within the blue box control only the great stops, and pistons within the red box control only the swell stops. *...continued at the top of page* 6

Notes from Rich, continued from page 5

While the console may appear complicated, the arrays of rocker tabs, pistons, and toe studs are similarly functioning switches and controls that are logical in position and function. Once an organist becomes familiar with the tonal varieties of an instrument, the facile use of the console controls follows with minimal additional practice. If this presentation has generated more questions, feel free to stop by the console after worship and ask.

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

At LSI, we work tirelessly to provide crisis childcare, in-home visits and parenting classes to families across lowa through our Early Childhood Services. In these services, we provide lowa parents the support they need to provide a healthy, stable home for their children.



Through our Family Centered Services, we help children and families already involved in a crisis or abuse situation to become safer and more stable. We also provide therapy services to adults, children and families to help build healthier, more secure homes.

You can make a direct impact on these children and families through your support of LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Senior Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at <u>Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org</u> or 563-676-2065.

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.

Thanks to the support from faith-based organizations across lowa...

...a young mom now has the education and resources she needs to create a better life for her and her family,

...a person with a disability learned to be a little more independent,

...a former refugee found a new home in Iowa and has found new ways to successfully support their family.

All of these successes are possible with the support we receive from congregations and people like **you**! LSI is proud to provide these essential services to people all across lowa.

Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!



The week after Easter:

Office Closed The office will be closed on Monday, April 10 Bible Study Break There will be no Bible Study on Tuesday, April 11

NCAA Update

The tournament may be heading into the Final Four, but we are down to our Final Three participants and Final Two charities. If South Carolina wins the Championship, or loses to Virginia Tech, Sue Anderson will win. If Iowa wins the Championship, Dean Watson will win. If Louisiana State University wins, Carol Woodruff will win.

On to the charities! Sue Anderson and Carol Woodruff both chose the ALS Association of Iowa. Dean Watson chose Lutheran Services in Iowa.

The ALS Association is the only national not-for-profit health organization dedicated solely to the fight against ALS. It covers all the bases - research, care services, public education, and advocacy - in providing help and hope to those facing the disease.

Their vision is to create a world without ALS. And the Iowa Chapter serves this vision by raising funds to provide local care services and support national ALS research and advocacy efforts...until we find a cure!

Lutheran Services in Iowa is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA and a member of Lutheran Services in America. Their mission is to respond to the Iove of Jesus Christ through compassionate service.



Charities & Missions to know

We invite you to check out the many charities championed by our members. We highlighted the Urban Bicycle Food Ministry in the enews last week, and have included that here in case you missed it.

The Urban Bicycle Food Ministry - Des Moines is an interfaith and nondenominational organization. Anyone and everyone is welcome to be a

part of this ministry. We do not preach, proselytize or try to convert. Since 2014 we have been serving radical hospitality one burrito at a time. Each Thursday of the week all year long we prepare and deliver hundreds of food and personal items by bike and car to those most in need in the greater Des Moines Area.

The ALS Association of Iowa – as detailed in the article above.

Grace Little Free Pantry, Wartburg Seminary Food Pantry, and other local Food Pantries as selected by no less than 8 of our participants! There are food pantries all over Des Moines serving those who need assistance.

Animal Rescue League

Furry Friends Refuge - helping animals in need

Lutheran Services of Iowa – another popular organization with Grace Members

Ruth Harbor – provides a safe home, food, medical care, life coaching, a loving team, and hope for those who are pregnant and struggling.

Engineers Without Borders - building a better world through engineering projects that empower communities to meet their basic human needs.

Dorothy's House (championed by 3 Grace Members) – a supportive safe space providing resources and love for those recovering from human trafficking.

Orchard Place – Providing Mental Health treatment for kids.

The Supply Hive – a local organization focused on mutual aid and advocacy to meet the changing needs of local communities.



Annual Easter Prayer Breakfast Update – after 3 years hiatus, it's happening!

Breakfast will be served in Grace Hall for a freewill offering with eggs, bacon, pancakes & syrup, fruit, juice, and coffee!

All proceeds after costs will be used to support the Grace Member Care Team.

Breakfast will be available after the sunrise service, from 7:00 a.m. and 10 a.m., so you can stop for a relaxed meal any time between the end of the Easter Sunrise service, and before the 10 a.m. worship begins.

Self-led children's activities will also be available.

Volunteers: we have a really good crew on board, THANK YOU to everyone who has stepped in to make this possible! As always, extra hands are always appreciated. The more the merrier! If you would like to help, contact the office and we'll put you in contact with the crew.

Easter & Holy Week Volunteer Needs! Good Friday

At time of publication, there are just a few spots that remain open for Good Friday – see Volunteer signup <u>https://www.volunteersignup.org/3YPK9?classic</u> (Or click on the word Volunteer at our website)



Easter

We plan to have **two Communion lines** for both the 8:15 a.m. and 10 a.m. service, so we need several more communion servers for each service than we usually have on a Sunday. If you have not below with communion in the past. Emma or one of the other yolun

Sunday. If you have not helped with communion in the past, Emma or one of the other volunteers will happily fill you in. You will be able to sit with your family before and after communion.

Sign up online Worship Volunteer Signup link at the end of this email and on our website, or contact Emma <u>emma@gracedm.org</u> or 515-276-6873



Grace Lutheran Church Mission Action Fund Application

The goal of the Mission Action Fund is to be able to respond quickly to needs in the immediate neighborhood and beyond (statewide, nationally, and internationally), and not to be used for the congregational budget. The fund is ideally meant to be used in one of two ways:

- 1. Instances where a Grace Member is involved in direct or indirect service to others by being engaged in a community or service activity.
- 2. Instances where a need exists outside of the Grace community. An example may be any time the Lutheran Disaster Response is mobilized for an emergency (statewide or nationally).

To find out more, and how to apply, please visit the Resources section of our website at gracedm.org or direct to the Mission Action Fund page https://gracedm.org/resources/mission-action-fund/

Grace Council Meeting Highlights - March 21

- 1. Call to order Meeting called to order at 6:07 P.M. following dinner.
- 2. Devotions Pastor Mike Isaiah 58. If the church closed, would the neighbors notice?
- 3. Adoption of Agenda Aaron moved, Greg seconded, motion approved.
- 4. Approval of Minutes from 2/21/2023 Jenny moved, Aaron seconded, motion approved.
- 5. "Ideas that will get you fired". Try something different from Holden for Lent evening services.
- 6. Staff Reports
 - a. Need to revisit the list of current/previous ushers and work with them to define the duties and training. Once ushers are in place, discuss security plans including locking the main door after the church service starts. Tom will initiate an email chain.
 - b. Bathroom signage updates. Need a new door handle that locks to make the restroom across from the library gender neutral. Pastor will talk to Willing Workers about getting the door handle. Easter Breakfast is still in the works, starting to get volunteers.
 - c. Great news! We have been assigned an intern starting in June after Vicar Bunny finishes her internship with Grace. In the planning stages.
- 7. Finance Report financials lagging behind more than usual and will continue to monitor.
- 8. New Business
 - a. Endowment: Kevin reviewed the loan agreement between the Endowment Committee and the church. Proposed increase rate to 4.5% for a 1-year note, principal only, and start planning for 2024 to increase again. Greg moved, Aaron seconded. Discussion: will add ~\$4000 to budget for 2023. Motion approved.
 - b. Mini-capital campaign need to get updated quotes for A/C units for the sanctuary.
 - c. Notes from council Q&A from 3/5/2023. Status and plans for first floor space usage? Msindo companion congregation revival? Review past programs and gauge interest and support for them. Good opportunity to use some mission action funds. Quarters for Msindo or other charity get a clear receptacle and encourage people to put quarters in. More discussions to come.
- 9. Old Business
 - a. Gutter and Downspout, Flashing repairs Estimate received for \$2600. Jenny moved, Greg seconded. Recommend getting more bids when time is not critical. Motion approved.
 - b. What is the spending limit for Pastor between meetings that does not require council approval? Tabled until the next meeting due to limited attendance.
 - c. May meeting rescheduling due to Synod Assembly; Pastor Mike, Carter and Jenny will be absent. Propose to move to May 23 at 6 P.M.
- 10. Adjournment Carter adjourned the meeting at 7:40 P.M.
- 11. Next meeting April 18, 2023 6:00 P.M.

2023 Congregational Council Members

Term ends 2024: Aaron Brandsfield, Tom McCleary, Linda Moravec, Dean Watson Term ends 2025: Carter Woodruff, Mike Hilsabeck, Kevin Drury, Jenny Rehder Term Ends 2026 Valerie Culp, Greg Boeschen

Finance Report – February Results



Financial results for February YTD are as follows:

- Income Actual \$51,778, Budget \$70,958
- Expenses Actual \$85,804, Budget \$76,367
- Net activity Actual (\$34,026), Budget (\$5,408)

After a strong finish in 2022, activity for January & February is below budget by \$28K. Offerings were below budget \$19K and expenses were over budget by \$9K due to needed work on the furnace.

Endowment Fund Report

The purpose of the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Endowment Fund is to promote faithful Christian stewardship by providing a congregational plan to receive grants, gifts or bequest of money to be used to enhance the total program and mission of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church beyond that supported through regular giving and apart from the general operation of the congregation. The Endowment Fund Committee acts as custodian of the Fund.

The Endowment Committee approved the following distributions of 2022 income:

Awards to Grace Lutheran Church:

 \$3,475 to create a path along the back of Grace for Food Pantry volunteers to transport food safely, without navigating stairs

Other Awards:

- \$2,380 to Lutheran Lakeside Camp to support resealing the outside of the Jerusalem cabin
- \$2,500 to Another Child to support "Living Water Mission Network" program, which sends reusable water filters to children around the world

A total of \$8,355 was awarded. Requests for grants totaled \$8,355.

Since inception, the Endowment fund has awarded a total of \$368,318 to 198 projects.

Worship, online access, written materials, and other resources.

We are worshipping in-person and online at 9 a.m. every Sunday on our <u>website livestream</u> page. This is the place where we go live on Sundays, and Wednesday nights in March, during Lent.

To find the worship player on our website, <u>www.gracedm.org</u>, click on our logo to go to the home page. Scroll down to the "Welcome to Grace" section and click on the red "Online Worship" button to go to our Live Stream page. When you see a video player with our logo, know you are in the right place and worship will begin shortly. Many use this time to prepare for worship by gathering a form of bread and & drink for communion, read the announcements and the bulletin margin notes, and prepare quietly for worship when the prelude begins.

Missed a worship service? Watch at your convenience.

- Worship is uploaded to our Facebook page on Sunday after worship, and remains available to watch at your convenience. Please allow our amazing tech team a little time to wrap up worship and upload the video. Find us on Facebook @GraceLutherandm.
- Worship videos are usually posted on the website Videos Resources page within 24 hours.

Bulletins, Announcements, and other written materials 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 direct link <u>https://gracedm.org/resources/</u>

Sunday Fellowship The Gathering Hall is available for fellowship before and after worship, with coffee, juice and donuts available after worship. This and other spaces in the building are also available at other times during the week for your gathering or meeting.

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

Thank yous!

To the people of Grace, Thank you for your compassionate commitment to sharing your love with our vulnerable neighbors around the world.

Grace and Peace, Lutheran World Relief

Dear Grace Lutheran Church Endowment,

Thank you for making the gift of \$2,500. Please know that your gift will be used in ways that will transform the lives of the children God has called us to serve. Your gift provides vital humanitarian aid such as food, clothing, medicine, hygiene training and many other basic essentials. (see full letter on the Office Bulletin Boards)

Tim Oloffson, Executive Director Another Child Foundation

Dear Grace Lutheran Endowment Fund,

Thank you for investing in the future of the church! Your donation to Lutheran Lakeside is helping children, adults, and families strengthen their relationship with God today, tomorrow, and for years to come. We are truly grateful for your generosity and we invite you to visit camp! We'd love to see you and show you how your gifts are at work. (see full letter on the church bulletin boards)

Peace be with you, Brittney Swanson Executive Camp Director

All Things Little Free Pantry!

Little Free Pantry Filler needed!

We have a need for a volunteer to fill the free pantry each Sunday either before or the worship service. Find a partner (or two) to do this in rotation, then email <u>Bunny@GraceDM.org</u> so we can add your name to the rotation. Thanks for your consideration!

Reconnaissance Mission Complete!

You have helped us identify TWENTY-ONE Little Free Pantries in the Beaverdale and Merle Hay Neighborhoods! Make plans to come to the Service Outreach Day currently planned for April 30 to find out what we are doing with that information!

Backstock requests for the month of April:

- Snack foods: Snack packs, granola, pretzels, individual crackers and cheese packs
- Easter treats: bubbles, chalk, jelly beans
- Individual food cups, Peanut butter, beans, pasta, sauce (glass jars are now safe to use), canned vegetables and fruits

Meet New Council Member Greg Boeschen

Greg and his wife Jill have been members of Grace since 2019. They have a son (Josh) and a daughter (Elizabeth), who are both married (but no grandkids yet), Greg participates in the Men's group, and is part of the Tech Crew on Sunday mornings. He works at Principal Financial Group as a Senior Software Engineer and has been with the company over 30 years. In his free time, he enjoys cycling, pickleball, and volunteering at the Civic Center with Jill.



All Church Service Project Results!

We had a wonderful turnout for last Sunday's all ages service project!

We made 8 casseroles, 36 muffins and 12 fruit cups for Member Care to use as needed for our members. We also made 40-some Easter crafts that will be sent in Easter cards to our home bound friends.





















