

**Morning and Welcome to Grace!  
Announcements for April 7, 2024**

**Immediate Prayer Needs**

Holly Honsey - wife of Ben, Charlotte Lenhart

**Ongoing Prayer Needs**

Karen Bandy, Ellen Batten, Gary Batten, Haley Turner Bluto, Sandy Briggs, Steve Dyson - brother of Sandy Briggs, Joanne Johnson, Gene Krauss, Brad Lint, Barb Powers, Vera Richardson - sister of Patty Allen, Dana Roby, Tony - son of Linda Rundle, Marlene Schossow - mother of Beverly Russell, Karen Taylor, Deb Ubom

**Happy Birthday!** Carolyn Andersen, Bradley Moon, Ben Nelson, Maya Uehling Lint, Emily Woodruff, Jennie Wonderlin, Kelley Brown, Jared Nelson, Cherie Rissman, Mark Stumme, DeVee Trickel, Mira Voelker, Alex Davik, Kyler Medhurst, Mary McCann

**Happy Anniversary!** Kathy Piltingsrud and Paul Nelson, Deanna and Eric Weber, Sandra and Barry Briggs

**Communion** – All communion wafers are gluten free. Find directions for communion in the bulletin margins.



**Lilies** decorating the sanctuary were sponsored by many families for Easter – please see insert. Families who purchased a lily may pick them up after worship today.



**Lutheran World Relief Kit and Quilt Blessing today in worship**

Join us as we continue to minister to our neighbors around the world who are experiencing deep poverty, hunger, conflict, and displacement. We are still accepting donations to support our ongoing kit and quilt making - find yellow envelopes in the Sanctuary as you enter. Those can be placed in the offering plate during/after worship, or in the secure office mailbox. You may also utilize our secure online giving site at any time if you prefer.



**10:00 a.m. Sunday Fellowship:** After worship we meet in the Gathering Hall to share coffee, donuts, juice, and fellowship between worship and the education hour.

**Education Hour resumes today at 10:15 a.m.**

- K-5 Sunday School Students meet in the Sunday School room by the elevators.
- 6-12 Grade Sunday School meets in the High School Room upstairs by the gym.
- Adult Education meets in Grace Hall: The study on Mark will continue with Mark 15:22-39 “Were You there When They Crucified My Lord?”

**Sunday, April 14:** Please join us next weekend when Deacon Jodi Schuman, Assistant to the Bishop, will be with us during worship and adult education.



**Visits with Pastor Mike**

Please call the office at 515-276-6873, or Pastor Mike directly (extension 203) to set up a time. You can also directly email [mike@gracedm.org](mailto:mike@gracedm.org)

**Praying for one another is an important part of the life of a community of faith.** Share your prayer needs or update your personal contact information with us by using the white Prayer Cards in your pew. Place the folded card in the offering plate or the locked office mailbox. These cards will be placed in a private envelope for the pastor to go through on Monday mornings. Information that is not confidential will be passed to the appropriate people. You may also choose to simply call 515-276-6873, or email Pastor Mike [mike@gracedm.org](mailto:mike@gracedm.org) or Vicar Adam [adam@gracedm.org](mailto:adam@gracedm.org) directly.

**New Member Class, Sunday, April 28**

If you are interested in becoming a member of Grace, or just curious about what that means, meet with Pastor Mike in the conference room/Innovation lab at 10:15 a.m. Call the office 515-276-6873 to R.S.V.P., or contact Pastor Mike directly at [Mike@gracedm.org](mailto:Mike@gracedm.org)





### April Little Free Pantry Request of the Month:

This month, we would like to request personal hygiene items for the Little Free Pantry: soap, toothpaste, deodorant, and shampoo.

You can also order items from the Grace Wish List on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), which will be shipped directly to the church, or you can donate through our secure [GIVE](#) page where these funds will be used to purchase items to stock the pantry. Thank you for your donations.



### Thank you to ALL of our wonderful volunteers!

We have added April and May dates to the signup: each week we are looking for a greeter, lector, communion assistant, and someone to start the coffee and set out the donuts and cups.

<https://volunteersignup.org/3TKR7?classic>



### Altar Flowers

There are a few dates available yet for each of the following months: April, May, June, July, August, with most of the Fall open as well. We invite you to sponsor a bouquet of flowers for the altar. You can include a special message in the bulletin, and the flowers are yours to take home after the worship service on Sunday. The cost is \$25 and you can pay through Grace's online giving site <https://gracedm.org/give-to-grace/> or by check or cash to the office. Please put your first AND last name(s) in the first name field and type a special message (optional) in the last name field (in memory of ... in honor of). Contact Kathy at [kbowerma@hotmail.com](mailto:kbowerma@hotmail.com) or 971-6360 with questions.

[2024 Altar Flowers signup sheet](#) (Click if online, or call the office during open hours so we can check that the date you want is still available) Thank you!



### The Annual NCAA Basketball Tournament Fundraiser is in full swing - We are following the WOMEN'S Bracket for our fundraiser again this year.

We are down to the Final Four teams and 5 potential winners of our annual NCAA Tournament fundraiser. The possible winners are Todd Haugen, Kayleigh Medhurst, Kristin Medhurst, Carter Woodruff, and Allison Olson. The charities represented include: The Arthritis Foundation, Project Heal, Rogers Behavioral Health, Food Bank of Iowa, and Hope Ministries Women's Shelter.



### Medical Debt Relief Campaign

The Mission Action Fund Team is partnering with RIP Medical Debt to relieve lowans of the burden of medical debt. Our goal is to lead the way on a campaign with other ELCA congregations in the Southeastern Iowa Synod. More than 100 million U.S. adults struggle with healthcare debt. There is more than \$195 billion owed nationwide. RIP Medical Debt has access to \$16 million of medical debt within the state of Iowa.

The Mission Action Fund has already allocated \$10,000 for this campaign. This will relieve \$1,000,000 worth of debt within Iowa.

### How can I help?

Grace raised an additional \$2,000 that will be added to the original \$10,000. We are now challenging other congregations within the Southeastern Iowa Synod to raise additional funds. The campaign went live on [www.ripmedicaldebt.org](http://www.ripmedicaldebt.org) and will continue until May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Please consider contributing. Donations can be made online, mailed to the church office, or placed with worship offerings. Please write checks to Grace Lutheran Church and include "Medical Debt Relief" in the memo field. Together, we can make a lasting impact for lowans struggling with medical debt.



Grace Lutheran Church  
5201 Urbandale Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50310  
Office hours: Mon- Thurs 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Pastor Michael Schmidt  
515-276-6873  
[mike@gracedm.org](mailto:mike@gracedm.org) [www.gracedm.org](http://www.gracedm.org)