

**Morning and Welcome to Grace!
Announcements for January 26, 2024**

Immediate Prayer Needs

Ongoing Prayer Needs

Ellen Batten, Amy Batten, Sandy Briggs, Lonnie Jessen, Dee Johnson, Brad Lint, Livia Ocken, Barb Powers, Ed Ridnour, Dana Roby, Tony - son of Linda Rundle, Karen Taylor, Deb Ubom

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 as you leave today, or in the locked office mailbox. You may also choose to simply call 515-276-6873, or email Pastor Mike mike@gracedm.org or Vicar Jesse jesse@gracedm.org.

Happy Birthday: Patricia Allen, Valerie Culp, Haley Honnold, Norman Trentmann, Elizabeth Prescott, Nayeli Rodriguez, Carter Bigg, Maryena Petty-Lee, Larry Cramer

Flowers on the altar glorify God and are given in honor of my mother. Happy heavenly birthday! *Mary Jo McCleary*

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

Education Hour for Sunday, January 16 10:15 a.m.



The Annual Congregational Meeting and Potluck will be held in Grace Hall

The meeting will take place in Grace Hall after worship.

We will be voting on the amendments to the Grace Lutheran Church Constitution and Bylaws as well as electing new members to the Church Council and Endowment Committee. The proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws are highlighted on a bulletin board across from the office. We also have a few copies of the entire document and the proposed changes in the office if you would prefer to flip through that. The Annual Report is also available on the website or by calling the office for an electronic copy.



The Potluck lunch will be right after the meeting – If you are reading this online in the days before the meeting, know that you can still bring a main dish or a side without signing up. At time of printing we have 7 main dishes and 7 sides on their way. Staff have ordered desserts but are unable to pick them up, so we're looking for someone who can pick them up from Sams on Saturday. (If you are reading this on Sunday – we're good!)



We would also love some help before the meeting and after the lunch: getting set up for the potluck (dishes, napkins, utensils, lemonade, etc.) while everyone signs in, grabs their coffee, and gets settled, and then help in cleaning up the kitchen and serving tables after. **THANK YOU.**

You will also have the opportunity to update directory information, have your photo taken (ask Vicar Jesse after the meeting) for the photo wall and/or directory, and to sign up for the email newsletter.



February 2nd All Ages Service Project

On Feb 2nd, we will work together to make Blessing Bags to support the work of the Urban Bicycle Food Ministry of Des Moines. We will learn about the vital work this group does every week to practice "radical hospitality" with people in our community who are cold, hungry and marginalized.

We are also collecting new or used blankets, and XL or larger winter coats, sweatshirts, sweatpants, boots, hats and gloves. Please bring these items to the display in the Gathering Hall before February 10th.



Bible Study has resumed, open to everyone!

We are currently working our way through Genesis.

We offer two options: Tuesdays in Grace Hall at 9 a.m., and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in room 102 downstairs.



Important notes from the Finance Committee

- **If you have recurring online gifts** remember to update the amounts in tithe.ly if your 2025 pledges have changed.
- **2024 annual giving statements** are available for pickup in the Gathering Hall on the remaining Sundays in January. We will mail those remaining at the end of the month.



Worship Volunteer Needs: All February dates have been added to the signup

Each week we are need of a Greeter, Lector, Communion Assistant, and Coffee/Donut Server.

A little unsure what each duty entails? The names of the volunteers are listed in the bulletin – reach out to them through the directory, or call the office during the week – we’d be happy to provide a little training.

Sign up using the clipboard found on a Gathering Hall table, or go to gracedm.org, and click on the word “Volunteer” in the upper right corner of your screen, then follow directions on the page. If reading this online just click here! [Online Worship Volunteer Signup.](#)



Update your information!

- **Addresses & Phone Numbers:** We want to make sure we can reach you! If you have moved or changed emails or phone numbers, please help us update our information! If you are listed in the online directory, you can go in and update your information. However, staff are also happy to update this (and our internal office systems) for you.
- **Birthday/Anniversary List:** We publish birthdays and anniversary celebrations in our monthly newsletter as well as the weekly e-newsletter and announcements. If you would like to be included, please let Michelle know. Likewise, if you’ve added a new family member, changed names, or just want to be taken OFF the list, please let us know that as well. Thank you!
- **Photos: For the directory and/or photo wall.** We will have a backdrop available at the Budget Forum on January 19, and at the Annual Meeting on January 26. We will update your photo for you! OR you can send a photo directly to michelle@gracedm.org. ***If you are willing to help take photos with your phone, especially on January 26, please contact the office.***



January Little Free Pantry Request of the Month

This month, we are collecting breakfast food for the Little Free Pantry: cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, and pancake/muffin mixes. You can also provide donations online through the [GIVE](#) page or check payable to Grace Lutheran Church with "Little Free Pantry" in the memo. Thank you for your donations. There is also an [Grace LFP Amazon Wish List](#) available where items will be shipped directly to the church.



Grace Lutheran Church Logo Pens are back! Introduce others to Grace and the work we do in the community, share kindness and a smile, and see what happens!

When you are in the building, stop by the Gathering Hall to pick up a handful of our lovely logo pens. Then hand them out to friends and neighbors, or leave at a grocery checkout lane. With smooth black ink, printed with our logo and our website address, they are perfect for handing to a stranger looking for a pen, or to leave behind for someone else to pick up.

We also now have **Grace Logo Bags** for members and to hand out at Grace events. Red and black, with the Grace Logo on the front pocket for files or notes, and two pen holders. We will have these available at the Annual Meeting.

