

**Morning and Welcome to Grace!  
Announcements for March 16, 2025**

**Immediate Prayer Needs**

Ken Carlson

**Ongoing Prayer Needs**

Amy Batten, Ellen Batten, Sandy Briggs, Lonnie Jessen, Dee Johnson, Brad Lint, Shyral Nelsen-Deanna Weber's Mother, 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 or the locked office mailbox. These cards will be placed in a private envelope for the pastor to go through on Monday mornings. If you prefer, contact Pastor Mike or Vicar Jesse directly.*

**Happy Birthday:** Kathy Bowermaster, Lisa Friesth, Benjamin Honsey, Melissa Swanson, Emma Ashton, Tom Selander, Haley Turner Bluto, Diane Westercamp, Karen Taylor, Angela Allen, Louie Anderson

**Happy Anniversary:** Ed and Jane Ridnour

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

**Visits with Pastor Mike or Vicar Jesse: we are available to meet, listen, support, and pray with you.**

Please don't hesitate to reach out - the best way to reach us is directly by phone or email as we may not see messages on Facebook or Messenger in a timely manner. Call 515-276-6873, ext. 203 for Pastor Mike or ext. 206 for Vicar Jesse. Emails are [mike@gracedm.org](mailto:mike@gracedm.org) and [jesse@gracedm.org](mailto:jesse@gracedm.org)



**Enjoy Coffee, juice, donut holes, and fellowship** in the Gathering Hall immediately following worship.



**Every Sunday morning: Preparation for Worship:** 8:30 a.m. in the Upper Room. **What to expect:** A prayer, a short Centering-Prayer sit, and a reflective reading of the lyrics for one of the day's hymns. The practice will end with the chanting of a Psalm before heading down to the Sanctuary for worship.



**Education Hour for all ages: 10:15 a.m.**

- **Adults and Middle/High School students** meet in Grace Hall, and are currently studying the Book of Acts.
- **Elementary Sunday School.** Meet in the Sunday School room across from the elevator on the office level.



**Lenten Wednesday Schedule**

If you are reading this, you are invited, and welcome to join us.

- **Soup Supper in the Gathering Hall: 5:00 - 6:15 p.m.** Free-will offerings will be accepted to help offset the cost for those providing the soups.
- **Choir Rehearsal in the Music Room (below Grace Hall): 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.**
- **Hymn Sing in the Sanctuary: 6:20 - 6:30 p.m.**
- **Holden Evening Prayer Worship** in the Sanctuary: 6:30 p.m.



**Sacred pauses with Taize – Saturday, March 22**

Contemplative Outreach of Central Iowa is celebrating 20 years

Saturday, March 22 9:00-3:00 at Grace Lutheran Church, followed by Taize worship at 6:30 p.m.

Come spend the day relishing the gifts of our contemplative community, gathering with those who have led us over the years and envisioning a future animated by a shared love of Centering Prayer. Featuring a panel discussion with all the Coordinators of COCI, and time of visioning with Stephanie Haskins. Register at [centeriowa.org](http://centeriowa.org). Free-Will offering of loving support.



### First Communion Classes

Open to all in 2nd grade or older!

Meet in room 102, Wednesdays March 26 and April 2 and 9, at 5:30 p.m.

Please contact Pastor Mike if you plan to attend or if you have questions. See you there!



### Lydia/Martha Circle

This is your invitation to join us! We will meet on Thursday, March 27, 9:30 a.m. in Grace Hall. Come with ideas for the year!



### April Friendly Visitor Newsletter Deadline

Please send any news or articles for the Friendly Visitor to [michelle@gracedm.org](mailto:michelle@gracedm.org) by Friday, March 21.



### Worship Volunteer Needs

Greeter needed for Wednesday, March 19 and Sunday, March 23

Sign up using the clipboard found on a Gathering Hall table. Or, go to [gracedm.org](http://gracedm.org), 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](#).



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

This month, we will collect any items you would like to donate for the Little Free Pantry, even if the "best buy" has expired. Most of these items are still safe to consume. Find a list of "Best By" date guidelines in the March Friendly Visitor in the wall holders in the entryway and outside Grace Hall, or on our website.

You can also provide donations online through the [GIVE](#) page or provide a check payable to Grace Lutheran Church with "Little Free Pantry" in the memo. There is also a [Grace LFP Amazon Wish List](#) available where items will be shipped directly to the church. Thank you for your donations.



### Women's Basketball NCAA Fundraiser 2025 – Selection begins today, Sunday, March 16

We will be following the WOMEN'S Bracket for our fundraiser again this year.

There will be a \$5 entry fee, and the winner will choose which charity will receive the pool monies. If you do not want to fill out a bracket and would like to contribute to the pool, that is OK too! So far, we have given away a total of over \$2,000 through this annual charity!

To enter, simply fill out a bracket and turn it in to the church office between Sunday, March 16, and 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 20, with the \$5 entry fee.



### Bible Study on Genesis, open to everyone!

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



### Sponsor an Easter Lily

We invite you to purchase an Easter lily to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. The cost is **\$16.00**, and you will be able to pick up your lily after Easter. You can include a message to honor or remember loved ones if you choose (optional). Find forms at the end of each pew or in the entryway. If reading online, follow this [link to a downloadable PDF](#). Fill out all information and follow payment instructions on the form. **Order deadline: Monday, April 7**



### Easter Sunday Prayer Breakfast

Easter Morning April 20, 2025, we'll be serving from 7 to 10 a.m. Help is also needed for some setup Saturday, cooking early Sunday, and cleanup.

Help is needed for the breakfast to be successful. All members of Grace (adults and youth) are encouraged to participate. Ross Peeler will be helping us coordinate all the moving parts. For more information or if you would be willing to help before, during, or after the breakfast, please contact the office at 515-276-6873.