

The Friendly Visitor May 2025

Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church and Community



Grace Lutheran Church:

- *A community of faith, centered in worship, held in Grace, strengthened in love, sent forth in mission, in Jesus' name.*
- *Home of the Being New Spirituality Center.*

Pastor Michael Schmidt
Vicar Jesse Hershberger

In This Issue ...

- 2 Staff Contacts, Plant Sale, Celebrations
- 3 Vicar's Voice, Dessert Buffet Celebration, 2025 Graduates
- 4 Little Free Pantry May Request, Reconciling in Christ Essay
- 5 Annual Garage Sale, Annual Car Show
- 6 May Text Readings and Summaries, New Member Classes, Sunday Opportunities
- 7 Worship Volunteers, Finance Report, Online Resources
- 8 Contemplative Corner, Grace Garden Needs
- 9 Being New Center Offerings
- 10 Council Highlights, Council Members
- 11 Lydia/Martha Circle, Little Free Pantry Photos
- 12 Easter and Service Project Photos

Office & Open Building Hours

9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday – Thursday
Or by appointment

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 on Facebook

Mondays & Fridays at 9:30 a.m.

Search for Grace Lutheran Des Moines

Grace Lutheran Church
5201 Urbandale Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50310
515-276-6873
gracedm.org

Spirit, Open Our Hearts

Yesterday, I was part of a meeting in preparation for the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly, which will take place May 17. The theme is "Spirit, Open Our Hearts." This theme is centered around a hymn in the All Creation Sings hymnal named "Spirit, Open My Heart." As I spent time in the hymn, I was struck by the words. It captures the world in which we are living, while also casting a vision for what could be. I encourage you to look at the entire hymn sometime. It is hymn #1043. Here, I will include the first verse and refrain:

1. God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender.

Refrain:

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.

I find this hymn and theme for Assembly to be the same as my prayer for myself, Grace Lutheran, and the greater community. We live in a divided world. What was once a simple difference of opinion has become home to a growing chasm between differing views. Lines are drawn. People are called names and vilified. All because of ego, fear, and a lack of kindness and compassion. Our hearts are growing "stony." We experience fear and coldness. To the grace of God, we surrender. We bring our hurts, our pain, our shortcomings, and failures, and our best attempts at doing the right thing. We place it before God and receive grace upon grace. It is truly amazing that God looks at our brokenness, our stony heart, our coldness and fear, and responds with grace and love.

Continued on page 2

Spirit, Open Our Hearts, *continued from page 1*

God only asks that we remain present, with one another, and with God.

That is a difficult task. There is indeed joy and pain in living. There is hurt and brokenness in the world. May we lean into the love and grace of God. May our prayer be "Spirit, Open My Heart."

Peace,

Pastor Mike

May Plant Sale Fundraiser May 5 – 11

Shop at Goode Greenhouses (address on flier) between May 5 and May 11 to support Grace youth programming.

10% of all pre-tax purchases made when using the form will be donated to Grace Youth. The form **must** be present; cashiers are not able to look up the code at the register. This can be used for hanging baskets, trees, garden art, vegetable or flower plants, birdfeeders, tools – anything purchased at Goode Greenhouses, except for giftcards.

Find the form in the entryway at Grace and the newsletter pockets on the wall outside Grace Hall. Or, find it online [here](#). Make sure to share with family, friends, and neighbors!



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Des Moines, Iowa 50310
515-276-6873



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Piano Accompanist and
Music Ensemble Coordinator
Kathy Bowermaster
kathybowermaster17@gmail.com

Custodian Todd Haugen
1-515-520-4450



May Birthdays

- 2 Joshua Meadows
- 3 Helen Ringgenberg
- 4 Todd Haugen
- 5 Dylan Rutter
- 6 Karla Swanson
Hannah Honsey
- 12 Charlotte Nielsen
- 13 Sally Preston
- 15 Dmitri Woodruff
Laurie Helton
- 16 Ashley Ocken
- 17 Carol Krause
- 18 Tim Nehmer
Inga Hoifeldt
Kimberly Fenimore
- 19 Megan Jensen
Chuck Denton
Bruce Bergman
- 21 Barb Zimany
Kaylee Ringgenberg
Jacob Nordeen
Kenneth Carlson
Mike Hilsabeck
- 23 Jonay Trentmann
- 25 Hal Turner
- 26 John Schwemler
Devin Ashton
- 27 Courtney Brandsfield
Sue Anderson
- 28 Linda Vernia
- 29 Kira Nehmer
Ralf Hoifeldt
Cal Wilner
- 30 Loree Nelson
Torry Henderson
- 31 Lindsey Nelson
Barbara Bergman

May Anniversaries

- 7 Jon and Cherie Rissman
Justin and Carolyn Andersen
- 11 Carter and Carol Woodruff
- 14 Steve and Mary McCann
- 15 Ro and Barb Zimany
- 21 Mike and Tina Meadows
- 22 Wayne and Debbie Curry
- 23 Richard and Michelle Voelker
- 25 Mason and Melissa Berg
Harlan and Jayne Mortenson
- 30 James and Kimberly Fenimore
- 31 Duane and Linda Ulrick

Vicar's Voice

Dear Friends,

It seems impossible that my time here at Grace is almost over — it feels like I just arrived. It has been a tremendous joy to serve as Vicar here over the past year. I have grown so much through the care and support this community has shown me. You all have gone above and beyond to make me feel welcomed and encouraged.



I know that being an internship site is not an easy task. There is a level of uncertainty and change that can feel constant. Bringing in new people with different gifts and backgrounds, who are only meant to stay temporarily, is difficult. Please know that the sacrifices this church makes in order to host an intern do not go unnoticed.

This is a community with tremendous gifts. I am extremely blessed to have been able to learn from you all this past year. I am grateful for the ways in which you have invited me in with open arms. I have felt fully embraced by this community. Thank you for allowing me into your lives and for the level of trust you have shown me. I cannot wait to see the ways in which Grace will continue to lean into its missional calling — to be centered in worship, held in grace, strengthened in love, and sent forth in mission.

I do not yet know what my next steps will be after my time here is over, and I ask for your prayers as the next part of my journey plays out. I hope to soon be approved to continue with the first call process in the Midwest (and hopefully ordination) soon. Until then, I will be here at Grace until the end of May!

In Christ,
Vicar Jesse

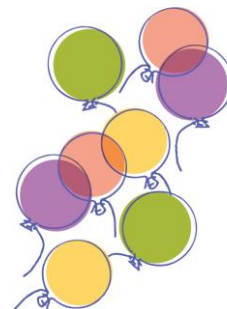
Let's Celebrate Vicar Jesse!

We are planning a dessert buffet celebration after worship on Sunday, May 18.

Bring your favorite cake, cookies, bars, rolls, pies, fruit, puddings ... Write your name and treat on the sign-up in the hallway, email the office, OR just show up with your goodies.

We'll set up the tables and provide plates and napkins, serving utensils, coffee, juice, and lemonade.

If you would like to help set up Grace Hall or help with the little bit of cleanup after the party, you can sign up on the Worship Volunteer online sign-up sheet.



High school and college graduates, let us celebrate you!

Send us a photo and/or a bio no later than Tuesday, May 13. Tell us about what you've been doing, your achievements, and what your current continuing education or career plans are. We'll celebrate you during worship on May 18, and we'll share your information with the congregation!

May Little Free Pantry Request of the Month:

We are collecting snacks and individual food items this month for the Little Free Pantry: applesauce, pudding, fruit cups, granola bars, fruit & grain bars, trail mix, or beef sticks. 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.



Reconciling in Christ

Each month, TeamGRACE members will be sharing what drew them to the work of guiding Grace through the Reconciling in Christ (RIC) process. Members of TeamGRACE include Amy Batten, Kelley Brown, Jessye Flannery, Mary Freimuth Helt, Isaac McCleary, Jenny Rehder, and Amy Schmelzer. If you have questions about the RIC process, please reach out to any of the team members. This month's essay is from team member Kelley Brown.

I am a straight, married, motherly white woman who is employed, has a supportive family, and has not had to deal with a lot of oppression. Yet, I have always considered myself an ally. A friend. I strive to be open-minded and accepting of all people. I make a point to try and see every view before making my judgements, and I do my own research before asserting my opinion. I have never understood why rights need to be taken away based on something a person cannot change about themselves and furthermore, when what the fight is about hurts NO ONE. I have no idea exactly when that started, but it's been my whole life. I have always had the desire to stand up for the oppressed. Just because I have never been in the shoes of an LGBTQ+ person, why would I want their rights taken away? Just because segregation doesn't directly affect me, why would I be okay with it? Just because I won't benefit from financial assistance programs, why would I be upset that all kids can eat school lunch without racking up debt?

Then, I became a mom, and that argument and fight took on a different form for me. It turned into conversations about love and kindness and hate and hurt feelings with other kids. It turned into questions like "Why does that person look that way?" or "Is that a boy or a girl?" and I started having to dig deep into how I wanted to answer those questions. It also made me pay much closer attention to how OTHERS answered those questions.

I have a son and two daughters, and my husband and I were very intentional to be as "gender neutral" as possible with clothing, toys, shows, etc. If my daughters want to play with monster trucks, awesome! If my son wants to play dress up, fantastic! But then the comments from school start coming in. My son started coming to us and saying that people were calling him a girl because of his long hair. He didn't like that, and it spurred a whole other conversation about why that would bother him. My daughters have been asked if they have "boyfriends" at school and, along with that being odd to ask a 4-year-old, I find myself wanting to say, "maybe she has a girlfriend!" We have had challenging talks when another kid at school tells my daughter she can't play with her because of the color of her skin. Suddenly, the ally conversations have shifted into "parenting" conversations, and I needed to figure out a way to be involved differently. I need my kids to grow up seeing me involved.

The climate of our society has shifted drastically recently, and I feel it is a time where we can't sit silently if we think things are wrong. I'm not one for protests. Who's going to watch my kids? Will it be dangerous for my children? But I have decided that a quiet, peaceful, welcoming committee for a cause that is extremely important to me is a good place to start speaking up. Maybe it's a good place for you to start, too.

That's why I decided to be an active member of TeamGRACE!

~Kelley Brown



Grace Lutheran Church



Saturday, June 7 | 8:00 am to noon

Freewill donation | All proceeds go to support the Grace Little Free Pantry

DONATE

Drop off donations at Grace Hall on Friday, June 6, from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm.

Items not accepted: children's car seats, Christmas trees, console TVs, mattresses, strollers, high chairs, play pens, used window blinds, humidifiers, major appliances, air conditioners.

VOLUNTEER

Sort and set up donations, check out or assist shoppers, or help with cleanup.

Sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F49A5A62BA1FF2-56451361-garage>



Grace Annual Car Show, June 18, evening, Grace Parking Lot.

Food (hot dogs and chips) and drink (water) will be available for a freewill offering. The main purpose of this event is to raise funds for Grace Member Care but also to have fun and socialize while we're at it. Some of the vehicles that have been shared in the past: muscle cars, electric vehicles, teardrop campers, kid cars, electric tricycles, hoverboards.

Registration: \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. Contact the office to register! Exact time (usually 6 – 8 p.m.) plus rain date to be announced in June.

Sunday Text Summaries

If you are someone who likes to ponder the texts in advance, we've provided a short summary of each week's readings as well as the specific verses.



May 4: Acts 6:1-7:2a, 44-60 (Stephen's Witness)

Stephen is among seven men chosen to attend to the daily needs of the growing Christian Community. When members of the Synagogue falsely accuse him of blasphemy, he delivers a daring speech and is stoned to death for his witness.

May 11: Acts 8:26-39 (Ethiopian Eunuch Baptized)

Philip was called by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to meet an Ethiopian eunuch. When the eunuch learned from Philip that Jesus was the Messiah that Isaiah was talking about, he asked to be baptized.

May 18: Council at Jerusalem (Acts 15:1-18)

A meeting was called in Jerusalem to solve the dispute among believers about whether circumcision was necessary for the Gentiles to become true believers of God.

May 25: Living by Faith (Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21)

Paul condemned Peter for separating himself from the Gentiles for political reasons. Paul taught that justification came only by putting one's faith in Christ, not by the works of the law.



New Member Classes with Pastor Mike: May 25 and July 20

Welcome! A New Member Class with Pastor Mike is where you can get answers about us and find out about what being a member of Grace means.

The next two opportunities will be held on Sundays May 25 and July 20. Choose one, enjoy coffee and a donut hole after worship; then at 10:15 a.m., meet in the Office on the main floor: just up the stairs and to the left from the main entry.

You don't need to RSVP, but you can by contacting the office at 515-279-9283 or by emailing Pastor Mike Mike@gracedm.org. If neither of these summertime dates works for you, Pastor Mike is happy to meet with you at another time — just email Pastor Mike or contact the church office to set up a time to meet during the week.

Sunday Opportunities

Preparation for Worship weekly through May 25*,

Sunday mornings 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. in the Upper Room. Starting with a prayer, they follow with a short Centering-Prayer sit and a reflective reading of the lyrics for one of the day's hymns. The practice ends with the chanting of a Psalm before heading down to the sanctuary for worship at 9 a.m. **The practice will be on hiatus over the summer and will resume on Sunday, August 4.*

Education Hour: 10:15 a.m. through May 11. Resumes in September

Adults and Middle/High School students, meet together in Grace Hall for a shared bible study.

Elementary Students meet in the Sunday School room across from the elevator on the office level.

Worship Volunteer Needs:

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

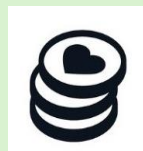
A little unsure what each duty entails? The names of the volunteers are listed in the bulletin each week – reach out to them through the directory or call the office during the week and we'd be happy to answer your questions so you can decide where you feel most comfortable.

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.](#)

Not looking for such a visible role? Altar Guild and Tech Crew are also happy to share what they do each week.



Finance Report – March Results



Financial results for March YTD are as follows:

- Income – Actual \$97,288, Budget \$108,113, Prior year \$104,332
- Expenses – Actual \$109,638, Budget \$110,925, Prior year \$99,584
- Net activity – Actual (\$12,350), Budget (\$2,813) Prior year \$4,478

Activity was \$9,537 below budget – an improvement from last month. This was primarily due to lower pledged offering than budgeted. During the year significant expense has occurred for repairs of the boiler. If replacement is needed, the cost will be significant. Additionally, Capital Campaign monies were used to fund \$11,200 for gutter replacement and \$42,400 for tuck pointing of brickwork.

Bulletins, announcements, and sermons are all online!

For those of you who look for Grace worship materials online, we've now moved everything onto the Bulletins Resource Page. Go to the website www.gracedm.org.

- Find the word [Resources](#) – on a laptop or desktop screen it is in the upper right-hand corner. If on your phone, click the 3 lines in the upper right corner, then find Resources, Give, and Volunteer at the bottom of the drop-down menu that appears.
- Once on the Resources page, look for the red bubble that says Bulletins, Announcements, Sermons. Click to open that page.
- Once you have the [Bulletins](#) page open, locate the date of the worship you are looking for. You can now open any of the bulleted links related to that date. You may read these online, download to your device, or print as you wish.

Videos currently remain available on a separate page in the Resources section here: [Worship Videos](#). Sermons and Worship videos are posted approximately 24 hours after each worship. We tend to only keep between three and six months' worth of worship material and video links on our pages.

Other helpful Links:

[Altar Flower signup](#) - Sign up to sponsor flowers for the Sunday altar at

<https://volunteersignup.org/ADMHD>

[Online Giving](#) Use our secure site and decide where you want to donate: The church, the Little Free Pantry, the Mission Action Fund, Youth, etc. Make a one-time donation or set up a recurring gift.

Amy Schmelzer recently gave the following address to the congregation of Grace Lutheran Church. She speaks about the work of TeamGRACE on becoming a Reconciling in Christ Congregation: a congregation that is a welcoming, affirming, and accepting place for LGBTQIA+ folks. She put in clear, simple language why she feels it is important to make the extra effort to welcome our siblings in Christ as equally beloved of our Creator.



“A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
- **John 13:34-35**

Almost every day, we put the phrase, “all are welcome” outside on the digital sign, but do we practice that in this room? I would argue that yes, we do.

However, for many LGBTQIA people, that cannot be taken alone because too many of our brothers and sisters in Christ have been hurt or discarded by individual churches and individual people.

Even though we’re taught as Lutherans that God’s grace comes through faith alone and that human works assure nothing, sometimes we need to do the work to show our inclusion to overcome the exclusionary work of those who would cast aside anyone who they see as lesser or undeserving. None of us are lesser or undeserving because of how God made us. To me, that is what the Reconciling in Christ process is about.

It is about providing a pathway for this congregation to walk the walk of Jesus’ ONLY commandment. TeamGRACE would like to invite anyone who might have questions about the Reconciling in Christ process or goals to stop by the library after service to look over our materials or chat with members of the team about what the process and goals mean to them and to answer questions you might have.

I know many of us are squeamish when it comes to talk about anything related to sex or gender identity, so we do have a few cool booklets that can help explain the spectrum of what is referred to as SOGIE*: Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression. We would appreciate it if you’d even stop by to express your support of the process.

Thank you.

Grace Garden needs your:

- Fruit containers and clamshells
- Berry baskets/punnets (pint sized or larger)
- Cardboard flats from produce or greenhouses, cardboard shipping boxes
- Washed and dried plastic takeout containers with lids

Place the clean items neatly under the table in the entryway. We will use these to place produce in the Little Free Pantry and to take to local food pantries through the summer. **Thank you!**

Planting at the garden is underway! The garden is a lovely place to spend an hour away from the world while helping to provide fresh produce for those who need to make tough budget choices. If you would like to help us harvest vegetables to place in the Little Free Pantry once in a while, or know of someone who wants to help in the garden, please contact Michelle Voelker at michelle@gracedm.org and we’ll get you set up!

Upcoming events at the Being New Spirituality Center

New hybrid book group: April 23–May 28, 1:00-3:00 p.m..

The Wisdom Way of Knowing: Reclaiming an Ancient Tradition to Awaken the Heart by Cynthia Bourgeault provides an excellent foundation for further work with the many Wisdom resources that are available and that we are exploring at Being New. Interested? Contact [Julie Honsey](mailto:Honsey.julie@gmail.com).
Honsey.julie@gmail.com

Praying for Grace and Guidance: Wednesday, May 7, at 11:00 a.m. in Grace Hall 2

On May 7 the Conclave will begin in Rome to select a successor to Pope Francis. His encyclical *Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home* was addressed not just to those of the Roman Catholic faith but to all who share life on Earth. In doing so he invited us all to have a stake in global spiritual leadership. He reached out to other faith traditions and to those who had been marginalized by church and society. He called protection of migrants a “duty of civilization” and called us to be our best selves in creating a world that eliminates poverty, a world that works for us all.

And so it seems fitting to gather in silent prayer and meditation as the Conclave convenes, that grace and a spirit of all-embracing love might guide the cardinals in their discernment. Join us Wednesday May 7 at 11:00 in Grace Hall 2 at Grace Lutheran Church or contact [Julie Honsey](mailto:Julie.Honsey@gmail.com) for the link if you would like to join on Zoom. Sponsored by Contemplative Outreach of Central Iowa and Being New.

Hatha Yoga instruction Tuesdays at Grace Lutheran from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Hatha Yoga followed by Yoga Nidra meditation with Linda Garcia. \$15 per class, paid only when you attend. Linda’s advanced training includes assisting and modifying poses so that you can fully enjoy the benefits. Text Linda at 515-371-6296 if you are interested in attending.

SoulCollage® is offered on the **first and third Mondays each month at 6:30 p.m.** The fee is \$15.00 to cover supplies and materials. Cindy Schloss-Calhoun is our new SoulCollage Facilitator at the Center. For more than 35 years, Cindy has worked as a therapist with children, families, and adults. Her gentle, welcoming presence is a beautiful addition to SoulCollage! Please contact [Cindy Schloss-Calhoun](mailto:Cindy.Schloss-Calhoun@gmail.com) for more information.

Energy and Sound Healing Monthly Gatherings. Bask in a loving space through crystal tuning bowls and Reiki healing energy at **6:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month.** Contact Julie Good, juliegood03@yahoo.com or 515-306-4864 so she can plan for your presence. Instead of a fee, participants are invited to make a donation to the Being New Center.

Recovery Cafe: Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at noon at Being New. Recovery Circle is for anyone navigating challenges like addiction, depressions, life transitions — or simply seeking a healthier lifestyle or deeper sense of purpose. The circle offers a safe space to share without judgment, set goals, celebrate steps of progress, and move forward. Questions? For more information, contact patrick.dahlen@recoverycafedm.org, 515-608-0913.

Spiritual Direction is available through Deb Richards. You can reach her at deb carrigerrichards@proton.me.

There is no fee for the offerings that come from the Center. Donations to cover our expenses are thus received with special gratitude! There is a basket in the Center. Checks may be made out to Grace Lutheran Church with Being New in the memo line. You may also donate online through the church’s website. Follow this link and choose Being New from the drop-down menu:
https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe/give-one-time/2854737

The Center is located in the lower level of Grace Lutheran Church.

GRACE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL Minutes for April 22, 2025, 6:00 P.M.

In attendance: Pam Palmer, Vicar Jesse Hershberger, Valerie Culp, Stuart Mitchell, Brian Gerling, Pastor Mike Schmidt, Greg Boesch

Call to order at 6:07 pm

Adoption of agenda

Val moved, Pam second, approved

Devotions - Pam

Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Val moved, Brian second, approved

"Ideas that will get you fired"

See how many people take bulletins if we have announcements separately (to save paper, reduce printing costs)

Staff Reports

Finance report

Pam moved, Brian seconded, report accepted

Unfinished business

- Council retreat: April 27, 1-4 pm Johnston Public Library meeting room
 - Agenda: Property needs and how to fund
 - Materials:
 - o Building valuation
 - o Capital improvement list with estimates
 - o Financial Report (all assets)
 - o Capital Campaign Planning (talk to Tami Denton, Aaron Brandsfield)
- Church building insurance changes – Will address at council retreat

Tabled until further notice

- Discussion about handling large memorials/bequests
- Staff Support Committee formation (In-progress)

New business

- Elevator repair/maintenance (approved by email vote)
- Council will be at adult education on May 4 for a conversation with the congregation (no formal agenda)
- Time Banking Network

Contemplative Network of Iowa and Being New interested in Grace being a hub for a Time Bank Network (<https://www.timebanks.org/>)

Minimal costs

Volunteer insurance \$350 a year

Software to coordinate volunteers (Our World)

Volunteers sign a waiver to participate.

Would probably take a year to launch

A separate board would run the TimeBank under Being New

Submit reports to Grace council?

Potentially a separate checking account for their expenses

The council sees that the idea has merit and would like more information on the infrastructure required from Grace.

- Iglesia Camino De Emaus funding effort

Stuart moved that we fund \$1000 with Thrivent funds and Pastor will communicate the effort with other congregations in the conference.

Pam second, Approved

- Adjournment

Stuart moved, Brian seconded, passed

Next meetings

4/27/25 1-4pm Council Retreat

5/27/25 Meal – Greg, Devotions - Linda

Your 2025 Grace Lutheran Church Council members are:

Valerie Culp, Mike Hilsabeck, Linda Moravec, Stuart Mitchell, Pam Hellman-Palmer

Exec. Team

Greg Boesch – President, Tom McCleary - Vice President, Emma Stammer - Secretary
Brian Gerling - Member at Large



Lydia/Martha Circle

We will meet Thursday, May 22, at 9:30 in Grace Hall. Mary Freimuth Helt will explain and discuss Reconciling In Christ.

You are invited to join in! “We have the best bakers” — a direct quote heard at the April meeting. They are the kindest, most welcoming bunch of ladies you will ever meet! Here are a few photos from their latest meeting where they made May baskets for a local care facility.



Part of the group enjoying conversation during the April meeting.



Assembling the May baskets.



The finished baskets.

Family + Food + ❤️ = Little Free Pantry

Children love helping others, especially when it involves mac and cheese and chocolate pudding! Next time you're grocery shopping, consider buying a few extra items for the pantry and taking an excursion with a youngster to drop them off. Here, Theodora Brown (4) helps stock the shelves with Grandma Kathy.



Easter Prayer Breakfast

Barry and Kate, two of our many kitchen helpers who rotated through the morning to serve and cook! Thank you to ALL who helped prepare, decorate, serve, and clean up on Easter morning!



Ross and Dean, pancake experts, manning the pancake griddle. Leftover batter was prepared, and ziplocks of cooled pancakes placed in the Little Free Pantry at the end of the morning.



Carter and Eric on cleanup duty



A full Grace Hall on Easter Morning



April All-Ages Service Project:

Assembling Flood Relief Buckets. Given the frequency of storms the Midwest has experienced in the past several years, we've assembled Flood Cleanup Buckets, filled with bleach, laundry detergent, trash bags, and so many more useful items that are in high demand during an emergency. This will allow us to act quickly to help those in need.

