

# The Friendly Visitor August 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.*

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**Submission deadline for the September newsletter:** August 22

### Office & Open Building Hours

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

### Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Worship: In-person & Online  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee

### 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](http://gracedm.org)

### Water, Baptism, and Faith

I have learned more about nitrate levels in the last month than I ever imagined. News stories highlight the levels in rivers and in the drinking water. For many people in Des Moines metro (shout-out to you who live in Grimes who have avoided all of this), these nitrate levels have come with a lawn watering ban. There have also been concerns as the nitrate levels have come close to the limit for drinking water. And as one might imagine, a trip to the store was home to the witness of people buying enough bottled water to stay hydrated for a year.

The image of scarcity propels a sense of fear. What if we don't have enough? Is it worth planting flowers? Will the grass die? I know that I had all of these concerns in early June. I wondered how long the watering ban would last. I worried the drinking water would no longer be safe. I thought about our garden and whether or not we would have any vegetables.

At the same time, I thought a lot about baptism. Some places have full immersion baptism. A pool is filled, and it is quite an experience. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther spoke of this as a drowning of the old self, and the new person is pulled back to life by the sponsors. There are places where this is still the practice today. It made me wonder if such baptisms are part of the watering ban. It had me thinking about how baptism evolved into the need for just a little bit of water. The action is in the Spirit more than the water itself. All you need is a little and God will take it from there.

Ultimately, life is about faith. It is about taking that first step, even when you do not know what will come next. So, we watched as the flowers and garden grew. This was not because of any watering that we did. It was because God provided. In a year when a watering ban was in place, we had far more rain than normal in the middle of the summer.

*Continued on page 2*

### ***Water, Baptism, and Faith, continued from page 1***

The garden has grown. The flowers are beautiful. The grass has grown faster than I can cut it.

It makes me think of Jesus responding, "You of little faith." That was me. God proved my fears to be wrong. And now, as the watering ban is lifted, I am thankful for the lessons learned about water, baptism, and faith.

In Christ,  
Pastor Mike

### **Happy August Anniversary**

- 1 Stuart and Martha Mitchell
- 4 Paul and Melissa Kallenbach  
Howard and Alice Kulzer
- 11 Donald and Bonnie Jo Swanson
- 12 John and Sharon Schwemler
- 13 Gary and Marion Nehmer
- 14 Lathrop and Sally Preston  
Ralf and Inga Hoifeldt
- 19 Kenneth and Eleanor Carlson
- 21 Ernest and Cheryl Weatherington
- 25 Bruce Mumm and Christie Rosheim  
Scott and Julie Honsey  
Courtney and Hans Vander Plaats
- 26 Jerry and Diane Westercamp
- 31 Martin and Kari Dostalík  
Kurt and Kathy Bowermaster



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**Piano Accompanist and**  
**Music Ensemble Coordinator**  
**Kathy Bowermaster**  
[kathybowermaster17@gmail.com](mailto:kathybowermaster17@gmail.com)



### **Happy August Birthday**

- 2 - Kevin Drury  
Deborah Helt
- 4 - Matthew Trickle
- 5 - Rev. Ro Zimany  
Donald Swanson  
Jolee Feeney  
Kayleigh Medhurst
- 6 Riannon Brown
- 7 - Layne Weber
- 8 - Teri Koch
- 9 - Ross Lewis  
Katherine Lenhart
- 12 - Brian Gerling
- 13 - Josefina Ruiz
- 15 - Adam Dostalík
- 16 - Cheryl Weatherington
- 18 - Jeanne Drury  
Beverly Russell
- 20 - Patrick Thompson  
Brent Ridnour  
Cooper Mortenson
- 21 - Tom McCleary
- 23 - Jason Galle  
Janice Nordeen
- 24 - Grace Schroeder  
Janet Trentmann  
Linda Gronert  
Brady Bogue  
Cris Hidalgo
- 25 - Scott Honsey
- 27 - Tim Nelson
- 28 - Philip Snyder
- 29 - Joan Fumetti  
Todd Prescott
- 30 - Leonard Ringgenberg
- 31 - Eleanor Carlson  
Gary Nehmer



### Meet Our New Vicar!

My name is Lotegeleuaki Ole L. Lengai, and I am honored to serve as an intern at Grace Lutheran Church. I was born in Arusha, Tanzania, and was baptized as an infant at Olkokola Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT). Today, I live in Burlington, Iowa, where I am a member of Messiah Lutheran Church, part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). I am currently pursuing a Master of Divinity (MDiv) at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa, as I respond to God's call to ordained ministry. It is truly a blessing to walk alongside the Grace Lutheran Church community and to participate in its rich and vibrant ministry of faith, service, and fellowship.

I am joyfully married, and God has blessed my wife and me with nine wonderful children — six daughters and three sons. I have a deep love for music, especially church and gospel music, and I enjoy playing soccer and volleyball. One of my favorite ways to relax is spending time with my family at the park, enjoying cookouts, and simply being together. As a family, we also love to worship by reading Scripture and singing in both Swahili and English. I am passionate about youth mentorship, spiritual growth, and building strong, faith-centered relationships through ministry. My favorite Scripture is Psalm 23, a daily reminder of God's unwavering presence and guidance. I look forward to continuing this journey of learning, service, and spiritual growth with the Grace community.



### 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 Amy Schmelzer.

I serve on Team GRACE as a means of showing my faith. My faith that the grace of God doesn't come with strings attached.

When Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the church and launched the Protestant Reformation, it was to ignite a discussion about the Catholic Church's practice of selling salvation to the highest bidder. Luther's entire point can be summed up in a classic insurance commercial. "That's not how this works! That's not how any of this works!"

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus is shown to be breaking down his examples into parables, stories that we can understand and easily remember. Stories that provide us a means to reconcile the teachings of Christ with the reality of everyday life.

Standing up and reminding others that God takes us all as we come is a tangible thing that I can do for people who have been deliberately hurt in the name of Christ.

For me, Reconciling in Christ means reconciling my own shortcomings with the parables and helping others to follow the New Testament's only commandment: to love others as Christ loves me. As I am.

### Recent Actions of the Mission Action Fund

In May, the committee that oversees the Mission Action Fund issued an invitation to congregation members to apply for \$2,000 awards to charitable causes. We were delighted by the response of receiving 13 applications, 6 from within our congregation and 7 from places as far away as Florida and New Hampshire. We approved all 6 from our congregation and 2 of the others, each for \$2,000. The 6 initiated by congregational members are

1. From Courtney Brandsfield to support the continuation of a University of Iowa health care program that was defunded by the legislature.
2. From Marilyn Nizzi to the Greater Greenfield Community Foundation helping with continuing recovery efforts after their tornado.
3. From Brian Gerling to Joppa to help homeless people get off the streets and into stable housing.
4. From Cathy Watson to the DMARC Food Bank.
5. From Jennifer Rehder half to the Interfaith Alliance of Iowa and half to the YSS, Youth Opportunity Center, both of which work with the LTGBQIA+ community.
6. From Jill Boesch to the Trevor Project, a suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization.

The 2 approved from outside our congregation were

7. To the Community Learning and Family Resource Center of Tampa Bay, Fla., which will be used to purchase learning equipment and supplies to assist the literacy education of K-3 students in an inner-city elementary school which has been identified as the lowest performing in Florida.
8. To Grow It Forward Community Food Center of Manitowoc, Wisc., which will be used to help purchase tables and chairs, allowing them to expand the services they provide.

The applications we denied were similar to causes we have supported within the metro area and we chose to help those local needs first.

As a committee, we are grateful to you for your suggestions for using the Mission Action Funds. While we oversee the use of the funds, we are not aware of all the needs that are out there. You are welcome to submit requests to the fund at any time.

### Little Free Pantry Request: School Supplies

During the month of August, the Little Free Pantry will collect school supplies: spiral notebooks (wide and college ruled), plastic 2-pocket folders, 3"x3" sticky notes, 3-ring 1" white binders, washable markers, #2 standard yellow pencils, and ball point pens (blue and black ink). 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.



You are invited to celebrate with Adam, in person or online!

BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND THE CALL OF THE CHURCH,

**ADAM CONNOR BARDEN**

WILL BE ORDAINED TO THE  
MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT  
IN CHRIST'S ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC,  
AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH

**AUGUST**

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**SATURDAY 9 AT 2 PM CST**

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**2025**

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1402 EAST AVE. C BISMARCK, ND 58501  
LINK TO WATCH THE SERVICE:  
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FAITHLUTHERANBISMARCK](https://www.facebook.com/faithlutheranbismarck)

ROSTERED LEADERS ARE INVITED  
TO VEST AND PROCESS IN RED;  
THERE WILL BE TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.

ADAM HAS BEEN CALLED TO SERVE  
AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH IN MANDAN, ND.

**During Worship on Sunday, August 17**



Students of all ages, teachers, school employees, and parents: bring your backpacks with you — or just yourselves if you prefer — as we prepare to bless those headed off to a new school year.

A graphic with the word "Welcome" in a green, cursive script font on a white background.

### Welcome our New Property Manager

Our new Property Manager, Lee Cline, started on July 22nd. His role is to oversee the physical building and grounds. This work includes investigating the daily maintenance needed to keep the church properties and grounds maintained as well as schedule any repairs, estimates, and delivery of supplies. He will work part time with a flexible schedule. Lee's main work is as the owner of a stump removal business. Help us welcome Lee to Grace.

### Property Needs at Grace

It is hard to believe that the Grace Hall addition is now more than 20 years old, but there are places where the whole building is showing its age:

- The boilers that heat the building have reached their end of life, and just made it through the 2024 heating season
- The egress walls on the south and east sides are starting to buckle, and we are having recurring water issues in the ground level
- The roof is more than 20 years old and in need of replacement.

To help fund these large needs and other improvements to our building, be on the lookout for a capital campaign starting this fall. Please contact me or any members of the council if you have questions or concerns.

Greg Boesch  
Council President



### Finance Report – June Results

Financial results for June YTD are as follows:

- Income – Actual \$202,785, Budget \$212,075, Prior Year \$212,938
- Expenses – Actual \$221,760, Budget \$217,875, Prior Year \$230,857
- Net activity – Actual (\$18,975), Budget (\$5,800), Prior Year (\$17,979)



Activity was \$13,175 below budget compared to \$2,581 below budget last month.

This was primarily due to lower pledged offering than budgeted. If you want to know if you are current on your pledge, please contact the office. During the year significant expense has occurred for repairs of the boiler and the elevator. Additionally, Capital Campaign monies were used to fund \$11,200 for gutter replacement and \$42,400 for tuck pointing of brickwork.

## Worship Volunteer Needs

Each week this summer we are need of a Greeter, Lector, Communion Assistant (two for August 3), and Coffee/Donut Server. Anyone can help — if you have questions about what is involved, just ask! We'll be happy to walk you through each position so you can decide what you feel comfortable doing.

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



## New Name for Lydia/Martha Circle – Grace Lutheran Ladies Group

We will meet Thursday, August 28, at 9:30 in Grace Hall. Consider this your invitation to join us for a lovely light brunch, program, and fellowship.

## Preparation for Worship Returns Sunday Mornings Beginning August 3

This opportunity to center and prepare for worship is open to all.



**When:** Sunday mornings, 8:30 a.m.

**Where:** 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.

## Bible Study Returns in September With a Focus on Exodus

Led by Pastor Mike and Vicar Lotegeluaki.

Any and everyone is welcome – friends, neighbors, members, drop-ins.



We offer two options:

- Tuesday mornings at 9 a.m. Meet in Grace Hall. First meeting September 9.
- Thursday evenings in Room 102 on the lower level. First meeting September 11.

## Dear LSI Supporters,

Exciting news - As a result of our community's support over the past several months we have achieved our goal of helping **every family impacted by the federal government's refugee resettlement stop work order** to find employment and become self-sufficient! At the end of June our team celebrated as the final family found work and is now self-sufficient.

**Now we'd like you to join us as we celebrate our donors and community partners. Please register for an in-person event or virtual event so we can share our gratitude with you and you can meet some of the LSI team members who translated your investment into success for hundreds of new lowans.**

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 – 4:45 p.m.-5:30 p.m. 3200 University Ave., Des Moines, IA 50311

**[Register Here!](#)**

Or, copy this link: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/yk5ykaw/lp/6d592c45-d7d6-42e0-a8ed-2c69b67468ae>





## A Year of Becoming: An Invitation to the Journey Ahead

Last July, we shared a vision with Central Iowa. Grace Lutheran Church had opened not only its doors but its heart, offering a place of welcome and possibility. And you — our community — responded with open hearts of your own. You filled *Being New's* open houses with your presence, your hopes, and your dreams, blessing the vision of what we might become together.

This vision is rooted in the **gift economy** — an economy not of scarcity, but of abundance. An abundance made visible through our sharing, kept alive through reciprocity, and deepened through gratitude. Gratitude for one another, and for the Presence that flows through all things.

We are not naïve. We see clearly that the dominant cultural narrative often runs counter to this way of being. It feeds on fear and teaches scarcity. But through the gift economy we are cultivating together, we stand — not as victims, but as subtle activists — embodying a new way forward. We are living into the “not-yet — and even now.” We are *being new* together, not waiting for permission from systems in disarray.

Over the past year, people from across the community have offered book groups, workshops, and healing practices. Each month brings opportunities to engage with Soul Collage, Reiki, and Sound Healing. Our partnership with Contemplative Outreach of Central Iowa continues to be fruitful, and our growing relationship with Wisdom Waypoints invites deep engagement with the teachings of Cynthia Bourgeault. We've also welcomed groups such as *Boundless Compassion*, each gathering further blessing the space. Connections with Grace continue to strengthen as well: Deb Richards met with the Martha/Lydia Circle and has also met with a few congregation members in Spiritual Direction. Preparation for Worship in the Upper Room on Sunday mornings is open to all, to not only prepare ourselves but pray for our time together as a congregation.

So today, we pause to celebrate what the Spirit has done among us in this brief time—and to extend our gratitude and a heartfelt invitation:

Let this celebration grow. Let it reach beyond the walls of the building—into the neighborhood, into the land, and into the deeper rhythms of Creation.

We believe that our shared commitment to *being new together* is already making a difference — in our lives, our communities, and our world. We are deeply grateful to Grace Lutheran for their extraordinary hospitality, and to each of you for the spirit, wisdom, and presence that have made this first year such a remarkable joy.

There is more unfolding. Stay tuned.

With gratitude and joy,  
**The Being New Team**

## Labyrinth and Meditation Garden

A labyrinth and meditation garden is being planned for the grounds of Grace Lutheran Church, in the space of the former playground.

For centuries, labyrinths have beckoned seekers of all traditions into stillness and presence. Unlike a maze, a labyrinth offers no wrong turns — only a gentle, winding path to the center and back, inviting reflection, prayer, and renewal. This labyrinth will be **fully accessible**, welcoming people of all ages and abilities. While this significantly increases the cost, both Grace Lutheran and *Being New*...



*Labyrinth, continued on page 9*



### ***Labyrinth, continued from page 8***

are committed to radical hospitality and inclusivity in all we offer. The labyrinth will be surrounded by a meditation garden—a space of quiet beauty and spaciousness. A place to rest and reflect, and to remember that the journey itself is sacred.



A devoted group from both the Being New Center and Grace has been meeting to shape this vision and guide its realization in phases, as funds allow. The first phase — the labyrinth itself — is hoped for this fall.

### **Presence and Attention**

***As we celebrate a year of the Being New Spirituality Center at Grace, we thought this article from May of 2024 worthy of reprinting, as both a celebration of and re-introduction to what Being New is about ...***

One of the fruits of the Being New group is the “Contemplative Corner” where each month one of our team will write about an aspect of a “contemplative” approach to faith. So it seems timely to write about what we even mean by that term!

While we hope these offerings will give you something to ponder (to contemplate in the ordinary sense of the word), we actually mean something quite different. A contemplative approach to faith seeks not just to think about God, but to open ourselves to an experience of Presence, a gut sense of the Divine Reality in which we live and move and have our being. As contemplative Christians we seek to be open to the presence of the Risen Christ with us and in our midst when we gather.

In *He Is Risen*, Trappist monk Thomas Merton wrote, “True encounter with Christ liberates something in us, a power we did not know we had, a hope, a capacity for life, a resilience, an ability to bounce back when we thought we were completely defeated, a capacity to grow and change, a power of creative transformation.” (<https://cac.org/daily-meditations/a-true-encounter/>)

We see this transformation in the disciples. Most of them don’t really “get” Jesus when he is with them in his earthly form, and after his crucifixion they hide in fear. But in our Easter Season readings they meet Christ in his resurrection body and something shifts in them in a profound way. Jesus breathes on them; they receive his Spirit, and fear loses its grip. A power is released in them that they didn’t know they had.


Pentecost comes and that Spirit is poured out far and wide, and here’s the deal ... we can get in on that too. The Holy Spirit is still pouring out trinitarian life, encountering us wherever we are and doing a new thing within us. Sometimes, like for Paul on the Damascus road, that encounter comes like a bolt of lightning that can’t be ignored. But more often it comes as it did to John Wesley, founder of the Methodist Church, who found his “heart strangely warmed.”

This happens, not at our bidding, but by the gift of grace. What we *can* do is pay attention. Not poo-poo the notion that the Spirit is showing up in our life and giving us a nudge, a wake-up call. We can suspend judgment and see where that leads us. And we can fold spiritual practices into our daily life, letting go of what no longer serves, making space for the Spirit, making ready. We’ll know we are on the right track when we find ourselves growing in the fruit of the Spirit...love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (Galatians 5:22-23).

### Ronald McDonald House Charities Pop Tabs!

I (Joie Gronert) have been saving pop tabs in a mug for several years. When the mug is full, I start a small baggie or add to a partial one. Others participate because every so often baggies of tabs appear on the counter in the pop machine room. I deliver the baggies to the Ronald McDonald House when I am nearby.



Ronald McDonald House Charities collects pop tabs from cans (soda, soup, pet food, etc.) to raise money for programs that support sick children. The collected tabs are taken to a recycling  center where they are weighed and sold for their aluminum value. It takes approximately 1000 tabs to equal a pound. 1 pound sells for approximately 50 cents. That doesn't sound like much unless many participate.

### Wanted! New Member Guides/Mentors

We are beginning to build a group of volunteers with an aim to gently welcome visitors and to support new members. You would be a friendly face: offering introductions and insight into the kinds of activities available at Grace, helping to answer any questions they might have, or steering them toward the person who has the answers. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please contact [Michelle@gracedm.org](mailto:Michelle@gracedm.org) or [Mike@gracedm.org](mailto:Mike@gracedm.org). We will plan another meeting in late August or early September.

### Little Free Pantry and Grace Garden Working Together!

Thanks to the recent rains, the Food Pantry Garden is doing very well. This year most of the produce is being placed directly into the Little Free Pantry using the takeout and berry containers you have been donating. The Little Free Pantry backstock crew has been keeping an eye out for any produce that has been left too long in the heat; however most of the produce has been claimed quickly. Extra produce can be placed in the refrigerator at Grace to be put out on another date, or taken to the community refrigerator at St. Andrews down the street.

Something new for this year: We have designated the first two raised beds and snap pea fence as “Pick your own”. Carol Woodruff made these signs to let patrons of the Little Free Pantry aware that they can pick their own, as well as what is ready to be picked at any time. The signs work, as there were people in the garden within minutes of installation.

If you are interested in helping with the garden, or occasionally harvesting produce to fill a container or two for the Little Free Pantry, please contact the office. Thank you!



## **GRACE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes**

Meeting June 24, 2025, came to order at 6:12 P.M.

Members in attendance – Val Culp, Tom McCleary, Brian Gerling, Pastor Schmidt, Pam Palmer

Call to order

Adoption of agenda: Tom moved, Val seconded, Council Approved

Devotions - Val

Approval of previous meeting's minutes – Brian moved, Pam seconded, Council Approved

“Ideas that will get you fired”

Staff Reports

Review/Accept Finance report Brian moved, Val seconded, Council Approved

Unfinished business

- Boiler Replacement - Accept the proposal from Excel Mechanical for boiler replacement. Val moved, Brian seconded, Council Approved. Passed with no dissent. Brian will follow up with them.
- Elevator Repair Update work has been completed. Came in a bit higher for additional parts. Grace now has a full-service contract.
- Capital Campaign – organize/next steps – still in progress
- Intern Update (if any) - Internship committee at Wartburg Seminary was meeting to determine pairings.
- Property Manager Update – currently in limbo, person hired has some family business to work through. May need to look at another candidate. Tabled until further notice
- Discussion about handling large memorials/bequests – tabled until further notice

New business

- Issue with HVAC Actuators – Need to replace one and possibly have Excel keep one on hand. Waiting on one to come in. We had one replaced.
- Egress Windows on east & south sides of building - Obtaining estimates and further discussion needed.
- Start conversation on 2027 100 yr Celebration – next steps – table for July meeting
- Grant for Vicar Jesse – To give a grant for first call expenses to Vicar Jesse Hershberger in the amount \$2,115. Pam moved, Brian seconded, Council Approved

Adjournment

- Pam motion, Val seconded, Council Approved

Next meetings 7/22/25 Meal – Mike H, Devotions – Mike H

## **GRACE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

Members can always request a copy of the minutes from a member of council.

### **Your 2025 Grace Lutheran Church Council members are:**

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

#### **Exec. Team**

Greg Boeschon – President; Tom McCleary – Vice President; Mike Hilsabeck – Secretary;

Brian Gerling – Member at Large

### New Member Class With Pastor Mike: August 24



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 opportunity will be Sunday, August 24. 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 515-276-6873 or by emailing Pastor Mike [Mike@gracedm.org](mailto:Mike@gracedm.org). If this date doesn't work for you, Pastor Mike is happy to meet with you at another time — just email him or contact the church office to set up a time to meet during the week.



### Library Reminder

We have set aside the books you have donated and are offering you the first opportunity to take them home. **Children's books have been set aside on the small children's table; all other donated books have been tagged and are on one of the tall shelves in the corner and will soon be moved to tables in the library.**

If there is a book in the library that is a favorite or has special meaning, you are also welcome to take it home with you. If you would like your donated book but cannot make it to Grace, please email or call us to make other arrangements.

### 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](http://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 general church budget, the Little Free Pantry, the Mission Action Fund, youth, etc. Make a one-time donation or set up a recurring gift.