

**Morning and Welcome to Grace!
Announcements for August 10, 2025**

Immediate Prayer Needs

Ongoing Prayer Needs

Amy Batten, Ellen Batten, Sandy Briggs, Ken Carlson, Lonnie Jessen, Delores Johnson, Brad Lint, Joyce Lewis, Darrel Mixdorf – father of Karri Brandsfield, Shyril Nelsen – Deanna Weber's Mother, Livia Ocken, Barb Powers, Ed Ridnour, Dana Roby, Tony - son of Linda Rundle, 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.** These cards will be placed in a private envelope for the pastor to go through on Monday mornings. You may also choose to simply call 515-276-6873, or email Pastor Mike mike@gracedm.org*

Happy Birthday: Brian Gerling, Josefina Ruiz, Adam Dostalík, Cheryl Worthington

Happy Anniversary: Bonnie and Donald Swanson, Sharon and John Schwemler, Sally and Lathrop Preston, Inga and Ralf Hoifeldt

Flowers on the altar

Welcome Vicar Lotegeluaki Lengai, we are looking forward to getting to know you!



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



Blessing of the Backpacks next week 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.



Preparation for Worship is back Sunday Mornings

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.



Worship Volunteer Signups

Signup for July using the clipboard in the Gathering Hall or if online, find dates through the end of August at this link [Worship Volunteer Signup](#).



August Little Free Pantry Request of the Month: 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.



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 Iowans.

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>




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* 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.



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 or Mike@gracedm.org. We will plan another meeting in late August or early September.



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