

Morning and Welcome to Grace!
Announcements for December 14, 2025

Immediate Prayer Needs

The Johansen family, John, Kendra, and Jennifer, Barb Zimany, Linda Gronert
The family of Thomas Moravec – sister of Linda Moravec.

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, Shyral Nelsen – Deanna Weber's Mother,
Livia Ocken, Barb Powers, Ed Ridnour, 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.** Cards left in the offering plate 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 or Vicar Lotegeluaki lotegeluaki@gracedm.org*

Happy Birthday: Anthony Garcia, Stacie Holst, Payton Lawson, Ember Brown, Shirley Shiffler

Happy Anniversary: Gregory and Darlis Honnold

Flowers on the altar glorify God and are given in memory of my father on his birthday today.

Marla Gowdey



Most Sundays we enjoy coffee, juice, donut holes, and fellowship in the Gathering Hall immediately following worship. This week, however, we will have coffee in Grace Hall as we enjoy our Annual Christmas Dessert Potluck together!

What if you didn't bring a treat? Trust us, there will be PLENTY. Please come and enjoy the treats and fellowship with us. You deserve it!



Grace Endowment Fund Applications are Open

Endowment grants are awarded each year to groups both inside and outside of Grace. A certain percentage of the funds given each year must be awarded to community groups outside of the Grace community, so please share and promote this opportunity widely. Requests for specific, finite projects are preferred. The Endowment does not fund operational expenses. Applications are due January 31, 2026. Additional details and examples of projects can be found on our [website https://gracedm.org/support-of-others/grace-endowment-fund/](https://gracedm.org/support-of-others/grace-endowment-fund/)

2025 Pledges: Final contribution date

As we get close to year-end, we encourage members to be sure they are current with their pledge commitment. If you are unsure of your status, please contact the church office. The Final deposit for 2025 will be made on Tuesday, December 30. Please have your contributions in by noon on the 30th to count toward 2025. Anything received after the 30th will count toward 2026. Thank you!

2026 Stewardship Pledges

It's still not too late to turn in your pledges! We know this is a busy time of year, and some families are still working on their own budgets. However, if there is an amount you know you plan to give, please let us know so the budget team can start working on the budget for next year.

Christmas Star Tree

Thank you to everyone who participated this year. Your willingness to shop for a stranger will bring joy to so many LSI and Mosaic participants. If you forgot to bring your gift back to church today, please contact Joie by phone or text at 515-210-2057 to make arrangements to get that to her.





TeamGRACE Welcome Statement

One step in the process of being recognized as a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Partner is crafting a welcome statement that affirms our support of people regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression and our commitment to racial equity. Team GRACE is presenting this statement for consideration in advance of the annual congregational meeting in January 2026. This statement is not intended to replace our current prayer or mission statement. It is a statement of our values as a community of faith.

Please remember this is a process: we discussed what we believe, considered Jesus' message of hospitality, and how to be welcoming; we held educational meetings; we contributed to the well-being of some of our sacred siblings who are in need. We challenge ourselves to understand the myriad ways we are created and how we can live in community.

“Grace Lutheran Church commits to welcoming and celebrating all people; those in the LGBTQIA+ community, Black, Indigenous, People of Color, and their allies.

We commit to the work of anti-racism, liberation, social and environmental justice for all of God’s creation. We affirm the sacredness of all people, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

We affirm the sacredness of all those who have experienced exclusion because of race, ability, age, or culture. We affirm the sacredness of those who wrestle with addiction, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us.

No matter the labels others may place upon you, or the labels you may place upon yourself, here at Grace you will find a home among friends in need of a Savior. You are welcome here.”



Annual Reports: Will be due in the office on January 7, 2026. Our intention is to have the Annual Report ready to you by the Budget Forum on January 18, but we can only do that if we have all your reports in. Thank you!



December Little Free Pantry Request:

We are collecting personal hygiene items for the Little Free Pantry in December. As the weather gets colder, we need items that won't freeze overnight. The [Grace LFP Amazon Wish List](#) is also available to have items shipped to the church. Donations can also be made online through the [GIVE](#) page or send a check payable to Grace Lutheran Church with "Little Free Pantry" in the memo. Your donations are greatly appreciated.



Worship Volunteer Needs for December & Christmas

Greeters, Lectors, Poetry Readers, multiple Communion Assistants, Coffee/Donut Server

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](#).



Exploring Grace With Pastor Mike, January 4 after worship

A warm invitation to learn about our community, faith, and life together. **Exploring Grace** is an opportunity for you to get answers about us and find out about what being a part of Grace might look like for you. 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. If this date doesn't work for you, there will be another opportunity in February. Or, just call the office to make an appointment at a time that works for you! **Pastor Mike at 515-276-6873 or Mike@gracedm.org**



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