

Morning and Welcome to Grace!
Announcements for February 8, 2026

Immediate Prayer Needs

Linda Gronert, Alan Schmidt – brother of Pastor Mike

Ongoing Prayer Needs

Amy Batten, Ellen Batten, Sandy Briggs, Ken Carlson, Lonnie Jessen, Brad Lint, Joyce Lewis, Darrel Mixdorf – father of Karri Brandsfield, Shyral Nelsen – Deanna Weber’s Mother, Livia Ocken, Ed Ridnour, Tony - son of Linda Rundle, Deb Ubom, Barb Zimany

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! Nancy Robbins, Bonnie Swanson, Lenora Iverson, Tyler Peeler, Timothy Hummel

Flowers on the altar glorify God and are given in loving memory of my father, E.W. Bud Steffen, in gratitude for his spiritual guidance over the years. *Cindy Mackey*

Please welcome Bishop Amy Current as she joins us today in worship. Thank you for sharing your time with us!



Coffee & Fellowship

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

Sunday Education, 10:15 a.m.

K - 5 students will meet in the Sunday school room across from the elevator.

Adults (ages middle school and older)

- **February 8:** Bishop Current will join us in Grace Hall after worship for a discussion.
- **February 15: All Ages Service Project**
Join us on February 15 after worship for an All Ages Service Project. This time of year, we are limited in what we can provide for hungry neighbors in our Little Free Pantry because of freezing temperatures. No cans, bottles, fresh fruit or vegetables are safe. Instead, we will make cups of instant soup using dried ingredients. Just by adding hot water and waiting a few minutes, a nourishing meal will be ready to warm a hungry soul. See you there!
- **February 22:** Genesis 19, discussion on the story of Sodom and Gomorrah



Worship Volunteer Needs for February are now posted online.

- **Sunday, February 15:** Greeter, lector, 2 communion assistants
- **Ash Wednesday, February 18:** Greeter, 2 communion assistants

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](#).



February LFP Request: Pasta, macaroni & cheese, skillet meals

We are collecting pasta, macaroni & cheese, and skillet meals for the Little Free Pantry in February. The [Grace LFP Amazon Wish List](http://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2NI8R8TTW7UK7/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2) www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2NI8R8TTW7UK7/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2 is also available to have items shipped to the church. Donations can also be made online through the **GIVE** page <https://gracedm.org/give-to-grace/> or send a check payable to Grace Lutheran Church with “Little Free Pantry” in the memo. Your donations are greatly appreciated.



Lenten Soup Supper and Signup!

Thank you to the three groups that have signed up! We're half way there!

We are looking for individuals, families, or committees who are willing to provide a crockpot or two of soup for one of the Lenten Wednesday soup suppers – find the signup on the office hallway bulletin board. Everything you need will be in the kitchen: ladles, bowl, napkins, spoons, and the dishwasher, should you prefer to use non-disposables. The coffeemaker is always on and ready to brew.

Supper begins at 5 p.m. and runs until 6:15 p.m.. Worship will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Dates still available: Ash Wednesday, February 18; March 18, 25



Lutheran Day on the Hill, February 26, 2026

[Registration is now open](https://lsiowa.org/ldh/), <https://lsiowa.org/ldh/> to join LSI at the Capitol.

This is a powerful opportunity to connect with fellow advocates, meet with lawmakers, and make a meaningful impact. Come together to raise your voices, share your stories, and advocate for issues that matter to your community.

The 2026 Legislative Priorities are:

1. **Investing in a sustainable Model for Food Access**
2. **Support for Iowa's Mental Health System**
3. **Support for Services that Empower Refugees and Immigrants**

 **You are invited to a Fat Tuesday Celebration Party!**

Here at Grace on February 17, 5:30 p.m.

Come for snacks, a King cake, music and fun!

Now that the Welcoming Statement has been voted on and accepted, the last task of becoming a Reconciling in Christ Church is to celebrate completion of the process and commitment to become a fully welcoming community.

Traditionally, people used up fats and meat to prepare for the time of Lent, when sacrifices were made to mark the life and death of Jesus in the Christian church. Mardi Gras translates to Fat Tuesday in English. It celebrates life and abundance. Other names and traditions focus more on purifying oneself and offering penance, such as Shrove Tuesday. The tradition of Pancake Tuesday evolved from those looking for ways to use up egg and dairy items prior to the beginning of Lent. These are just a few of the traditions connect to this holiday season, beginning January 6 and continuing through the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday.



Ash Wednesday Schedule, Wednesday, February 18

Drive-up Ashes: We will once again offer drive-by Ashes from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Simply drive into the parking lot, and up to the main entrance. Vicar Lotegeluaki or Pastor Mike will be watching from the Vestibule, and will come out to meet you. You may stay in the comfort of your vehicle.

Soup Supper: A simple soup supper in Grace Hall, between 5 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.

Soup is supplied by volunteers. Freewill offerings will be accepted to offset the cost of supplies.

No Choir Rehearsal: Choir will NOT meet to rehearse on Ash Wednesday.

Worship: Ash Wednesday Worship will begin in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.



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