

**Morning and Welcome to Grace!  
Announcements for March 15, 2026**

**Immediate Prayer Needs**

**Ongoing Prayer Needs**

Amy Batten, Ellen Batten, Sandy Briggs, Ken Carlson, Linda Gronert, 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, Alan Schmidt – brother of Pastor Mike, 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](mailto:mike@gracedm.org) or Vicar Lotegeluaki [lotegeluaki@gracedm.org](mailto:lotegeluaki@gracedm.org)

**Happy Birthday:** Lydia McCleary, Rachel Miller, Phoebe Volious, Kathy Bowermaster, Lisa Friesth, Benjamin Honsey, Emma Ashton, Tom Selander, Haley Turner Bluto, Diane Westercamp, Angela Allen

**Happy Anniversary:** Edward and Jane Ridnour

**Welcome** to the Rev. Sarah Trone Garriott! Thank you for sharing your time and wisdom with us!



**Coffee & Fellowship**

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



**Sunday Education, 10:15 a.m.**

- Students K – 5 will meet in their classroom, across from the elevator on the office level
- **Adults:** Today’s topic: Faith and Politics with the Rev Sarah Trone Garriott **All ages included,** from middle-school and older. **Meet in Grace Hall.**



**Wednesdays in Lent**

- **Soup Supper in Grace Hall begins at 5 p.m. and ends at 6:15 p.m.** Come when you can during that time. *Everyone is welcome.*
- **Choir will rehearse** at 5:30 p.m. in the music room, unless otherwise noted.
- **Worship** will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary with Holden Evening Prayer.
- **Confirmation** will not meet during Lent
- **First Communion Class** meets Wednesday, March 18, from 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. in room 102



**SPONSOR AN EASTER LILY – Order deadline is March 22**

We invite you to purchase an Easter lily to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. The cost is **\$17.00**, and you will be able to pick up your lily after Easter. You can include a message to honor or remember loved ones.

Find forms in the Sanctuary, entryway, and on the church website. Return forms to the church office (mail slot by the office door), mail it in or drop it in the offering plate. You may pay using Grace's online giving site, mail a check to church or drop off your check/cash when the church office is open.



**Worship Volunteer Needs for upcoming worship.**

- **Sunday, March 22:** Greeter, Poetry Reader, Lector, Communion Assistants, Coffee/Donut set-up.
- **All volunteer needs for March and Holy week have been added to the online signup.**

Sign up using the clipboard found on a Gathering Hall table, or go to [Online Worship Volunteer Signup](#).



**Save the Date!** Spring Cleanup at Grace! Saturday, April 11, Details to come!



**A Community Grief Tending Ritual – this afternoon, Sunday March 15, 2026: 1–4 p.m. Grace Hall 2 To Care without Carrying: Tending to Our Collective Sorrows**

We desire to be able to care and be connected without shutting down. In a world where hearts are growing heavier under the weight of the sorrows of collective experience we warmly invite you to a community gathering to grieve. Here we can be with the hurt, anxiety, fear, outrage, numbness and heartbreak we may be feeling. We are not here to fix or solve anything. We come together to help each other remember how to hold grief in one hand, joy in the other, and expand our being large and steady enough to hold both. What to expect: We will tend to our collective grief through guided practices of community song circle, writing exercises, chanting, prayer, sharing of poetry, gentle body movement, breathing, and grounding exercises. There is no right or wrong way to grieve. This interactive experience invites you to participate as you are able in whichever way is suitable for you. \*\*For Additional Information and to RSVP, email [hannahwhetston@gmail.com](mailto:hannahwhetston@gmail.com)\*\*



**Prayer for Peace (Hybrid) Monday, March 16, 10:00-11:00 a.m. Being New Center**

Contemplation is not withdrawal from action, but the source of it. —Thomas Merton Following a 20-minute sit of Centering Prayer or other silent meditation, we will watch and discuss a video relevant to what is happening in this world of dire need. All are welcome. Bring your prayers, your grief, your hope, your wisdom. This hybrid event, with Zoom available, is a collaboration of Being New and COCI.



**Men's Basketball NCAA Fundraiser 2026** The Annual NCAA Basketball Tournament is back! Selection happens on Sunday, March 15. We will hold the church pool again this year. There will be a \$5 entry fee, and the winner will choose which charity will receive the pool monies. If you do not want to fill out a bracket and would like to contribute to the pool, that is OK too! Last year, Todd Haugen won and was able to give the \$155 pool to Arthritis Foundation. So far, we have given away more than \$2,000 through this annual charity!

To enter, simply fill out a bracket and turn it in to the church office between Sunday, March 15, and 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 19, with the \$5 entry fee. You should also note your chosen charity when you turn in the bracket. Brackets will be available in the church office or you can print your own. Please either include cash or make the check payable to Grace Lutheran Church with NCAA in the memo field. You could also scan your bracket and send it to [mike@gracedm.org](mailto:mike@gracedm.org). Additional details can be found in the March issue of the Friendly Visitor, available in the entryway, hallway outside Grace Hall, and on our website.



**Aebleskiver Brunch - Sunday, March 22, 2026 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 pm.**

Luther Memorial Lykke Center, 1201 Grandview Ave, Des Moines  
Aebleskiver will be served with sausage, applesauce, fruit salad, juice, and coffee. \$10 or donation. WELCA Bazaar featuring hand crafted home goods, treats and knick knacks. Proceeds fund Danish Brotherhood Charitable Giving

**Donation Drive for Lutheran World Relief, through March 29**

On March 29, Palm Sunday, we will have both a kit and quilt blessing and an All Ages service project to benefit Lutheran World Relief. We will be accepting donations during Lent to support kit and quilt making through Mar 29. Yellow donation envelopes can be found at the back of the Sanctuary near the entrance, or you may use our secure online giving portal at <https://gracedm.org/give-to-grace/>. Join us as we continue to minister to our neighbors in the US and around the world who are experiencing disasters, deep poverty, hunger, conflict, and displacement.

**March LFP Request: Beans and Rice**

We are collecting beans and rice for the Little Free Pantry in March. 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.



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