

The Friendly Visitor April 2026

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

April newsletter: April 22

Office & Open Building Hours

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

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. Worship: In-person & Online
10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee
10:15 a.m. Education Hour

Grace Lutheran Church
5201 Urbandale Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50310
515-276-6873

April

April is around the corner. What does that mean? Some may start to think about rain showers, planting flowers, and starting yard work. Others may think about the way that the school year is starting to wrap up. Yet others may think about the season of Easter and the liturgical procession it brings. This year, I find myself thinking about the mystery of its origin.

The journey to the name April is somewhat uncertain. Some connect it with ancient gods of Greek and Roman mythology. I find myself drawn to the theory that it derives from the Latin for “to open,” or “aperire.” That is a beautiful thought. As I write this piece, the windows are open for the first time in a long while. Fresh air comes indoors, and it brings a sense of life with it. The birds are singing. The geese are flying. Nature itself seems to be opening up again.

This is such a beautiful reminder for all of us. As the Spring weather comes around, we find ourselves outside more. We open our windows. We take walks. After the cold winter months, we embrace the change. It even feels joyous.

Why do we view other things so differently. We have become a society that prefers the cold rigidity of a political winter. People stay closed off to the perspectives of others. We stay inside with our own thoughts, refusing to stray from this place that feels safe. We imagine the blizzard around us, as the politicians and others convince us that we don't dare go to the metaphorical outdoors. We must stay closed off, inside where we feel safe in the illusion of danger.

We are not meant to live like this. April is a good reminder. As we begin to go outside and enjoy the warm weather, may we also dare to venture out in other ways.

April, continued on page 2

April, continued from page 1

May we let go of the divisions that are placed upon us and find ways to join together, neighbors and siblings, and work for a better tomorrow. May we open our hearts, eyes, ears, and hands, to truly know the journey of others. May we be vulnerable enough to admit when we are wrong. May we have the courage to speak when we know we are right.

April is almost here. May we see that as an invitation. May we be open to God and the flow of the Spirit.

In Christ,

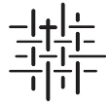
Pastor Mike



Prayers and Sympathies

We hold the family and loved ones of Frank McKinney in our hearts and prayers.

Grace Lutheran Church Staff
5201 Urbandale Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50310
515-276-6873



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Custodian Todd Haugen
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Happy Anniversary

- 7 Kathy Piltingsrud and Paul Nelson
- 10 Deanna and Eric Weber
- 12 Sandra and Barry Briggs

Happy Birthday

- 3 Ellen Batten
Dolores Johnson
Colleen McKinney
- 6 Roy Hanson
- 7 Carolyn Andersen
Ben Nelson
Maya Uehling Lint
Emily Woodruff
- 8 Jennie Wonderlin
- 9 Kelley Brown
- 10 Jared Nelson
Cherie Rissman
Mark Stumme
DeVee Trickle
- 11 Mira Voelker
- 12 Kyler Medhurst
- 13 Mary McCann
- 14 Denise Friesth
- 15 Michael Flannery
- 16 Ernest Weatherington
- 17 Alton Calahan
Cynthia Gronert
- 18 Justin Fenimore
- 19 Jill Boeschen
Emma Stammer
- 20 Jenny Rehder
- 24 Charla Preston
- 25 Amy Wonderlin
- 26 Howard Kulzer
- 27 Bill Jensen
Cathy Watson
- 28 David Gronert
- 29 Kathy Piltingsrud
- 30 Kylie Radermacher



God's peace be with you all.

March is a wonderful, fast-moving month full of growth, hope, and meaningful ministry. So much has already happened and continues to unfold. As Lent moves quickly, we're reminded that God remains the same—heaven and earth will pass away, but His Word will remain, and He is still doing something new today: Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Matthew: 24:35.

Skills: Quilting Ministry Visit: On March 12, I had another wonderful opportunity to visit the quilting group. Not only did I learn more about the beautiful and meaningful work they do, but I was also able to see the blanket I helped design. The group graciously showed me the almost finished product.

Mission: Strengthening Our Partnership:

This month, we held several meetings with the Msindo committee and will continue meeting as we seek better ways to communicate and support one another across both churches. The committee is working diligently to help both sides support each other and strengthen our relationship as one body of Christ.

Ministry: Confirmation & Bible Study: The Bible study continues to progress steadily as we explore the book of Exodus—a powerful account of God's law, His protection, and His rescue of the Israelites from Egypt. In Exodus 31:18, we see that God gave Moses the covenant law on Mount Sinai, written on stone tablets by His own hand, revealing both the divine authority of His commandments and the sacred nature of His covenant with His people.

Accusation, Grace, Forgiveness, and a New Begging: In this Lenten season, we are reminded of the mercy and wisdom of Jesus as He teaches in the temple after returning from the Mount of Olives, where He had gone to pray. Despite attempts by the authorities to arrest Him, many were struck by His words, saying, "Never has anyone spoken like this!" (John 7:46).

As Jesus was teaching, the scribes and Pharisees brought before Him a woman accused of adultery, seeking to trap Him. Yet in this moment of judgment, Jesus reveals the heart of Lent: mercy over condemnation, grace over shame, and the call to "go and sin no more." During this season, we are invited to listen to His voice, receive His forgiveness, and walk in new life.

Vicar Lotegeluaki Ole L. Lengai.



Graduates!

We plan to recognize and celebrate you on May 17. Please send your bios to the church office – a photo, a little bit about your current plans after graduation and hopes for the future.

College Scholarship Applications, due June 1, 2026

Members of Grace Lutheran Church who have been accepted by a Lutheran seminary, college, or university may apply for a grant each year.

Applicants should submit the application found in the Resources section of our website (see link address below), along with a one page essay as described in the application form.

Scholarships shall consist of a grant of up to \$500.00 per recipient per year and will be paid directly to the seminary, college, or university, along with appropriate notification of the grant. Grants shall be distributed in July or August preceding the Fall semester. <https://gracedm.org/content/uploads/2018/04/Scholarship-Application.pdf>

Easter Sunday Pancake Breakfast All are welcome!

Easter Morning, April 5
Serving from 7:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m.

There will be a basket for free-will offering.
Proceeds from the breakfast help support the Grace Lutheran Church
Member Care Ministry, which provides meals and other forms of support for families
during times of stress or need.



Menu: Pancakes, Eggs, Ham, Bacon, Fruit, Milk, Juice, Tea and Coffee



Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 2

6:30 p.m. worship –
Sanctuary and online at
<https://gracedm.org/live/>

Good Friday, April 3

Seven Sacred Pauses – a.m. – 6 p.m.
Description at right.
6:30 p.m. worship – Sanctuary and online

Easter, April 5

Sunrise worship 6:30 a.m. – Sanctuary
Pancake Breakfast – Grace Hall 7 a.m. –8:45 a.m.
Worship 9:00 a.m. – Sanctuary and online

Monday, April 6 – The church office will be closed

Seven Sacred Pauses

Good Friday, April 3, in the Upper Room

*Hosted by Being New and Contemplative
Outreach of Central Iowa*

We will share in 20-minute silent prayer
pauses at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., noon, 1:00
p.m., 2:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m.

Come at the times that work for you or
come for all. Enter through the main door,
into the Gathering

Hall, and up the
stairs at the far end
of the room. In-

person or on Zoom.
Contact [Julie
Honsey](#) for more
information.



TeamGrace April

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we all have stories that give meaning to our lives and decisions. If you have a story you would like to share, please let us know. We, in the Team, have shared how our experiences led us to our understandings and beliefs.



Several members of Grace requested Bible verses to support acceptance of LBGTQ+. We will be sharing information from Biblical scholars throughout 2026.

Old Testament Genesis 1:26-27

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

27 So God created humankind in his image,

In the image of God he created them;

Male and female he created them.

Dominion does not mean "dominate" or "bully"; it means humans are responsible to care for all God's creation. To appease loneliness was an important reason given for creating man and woman.

New Testament Ephesians 5:21 (Husbands and wives)

Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:32-33

This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the church. Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself, and a wife should respect her husband.

At this time, it appears, marriage, more commonly, has become a partnership of two. In the Old Testament, polygamy was the method to protect, provide, and respect powerless, such as marrying your dead brother's widow or wife's sister--- or for political alliances. Jesus encourages individuals and the community to care for the poor, weak, and orphaned.



April LFP Request

We are collecting breakfast items for the Little Free Pantry in April: cereal, pancake mix, muffin mix, peanut butter. 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.



Education and Service Projects for All Ages

Elementary Sunday School at 10:15 a.m.

K-5 students meet in the Sunday School room, across from the elevator just up the stairs from the Gathering Hall. Thank you to volunteers Rich Snyder, Val Culp, Courtney Brandsfield, Deanna Weber, and Jenie Schmidt.

Adult Education: Middle and high school are welcome and encouraged to participate too!

We meet in Grace Hall at 10:15, after worship and coffeetime.

- **April 12:** Prayer Garden & Being New Spirituality Center.
- **April 19:** Companion Congregation
- **April 26:** All Ages Service Project an Exploring Grace
- **May 3:** Conversation with Pastor Mike and Vicar Lotegeluaki

Confirmation Classes

We will resume meeting on April 15.

Weekday Bible Study: The Ten Commandments

Led by Pastor Mike and Vicar Lotegeluaki. Anyone and everyone is welcome — friends, neighbors, members, drop-ins. You do not have to be there at every meeting to be welcome and find meaning. We offer two options:

- Tuesday mornings at 9 a.m. Meet in Grace Hall. This group will NOT meet on either April 7, or April 21
- Thursday evenings in Room 102 on the lower level.

All Ages Service Project April 26

On April 26, we have our last service project of the program year. We are going to spend time in discussion about how we care for creation as individuals and as a congregation. To that end, we have engaged speakers from the Iowa Faith and Climate Network to come and lead our discussion and tell us about their experience. Their names are Rita and Kenan Bresnan. They live in Indianola, and lead a climate care team at their church, St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church.

Exploring Grace With Pastor Mike

A warm invitation to learn about our community, faith, and life together.

Welcome! **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.

April 26 after worship

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. **Questions? Contact the office at 515-276-6873 or by emailing** Pastor Mike Mike@gracedm.org. If this date doesn't work for you, just call the office to make an appointment at a time that works for you!





Spring Cleanup at Grace! Saturday, April 11, 8 a.m. – noon

The focus this year will be preparing our building and grounds for the work ahead as we begin upcoming campaign projects and look forward to celebrating Grace’s 100th anniversary.

There will be a variety of tasks available throughout the morning, both inside and outside the building. Task boards will be set up in the Gathering Hall with each job listed on individual notes. When you arrive—at any time during the morning—you can simply stop by the board, choose a task that fits your time and interests, and take the note with you so we can keep track of what has been completed and what still needs attention. Some of the projects will include preparing spaces for upcoming improvements, organizing and cleaning interior areas, refreshing common spaces, and taking care of some outdoor cleanup. Whether it’s light maintenance, tidying up a room, or helping outdoors, there will be something for everyone.



Mark your calendars for these big events!

Grace Lutheran Church will be 100 years next June!

We have set the date of the celebration for Sunday, May 23, 2027

Grace Annual Garage Sale, Saturday, August 1, 2026

Set-up and donation drop-off will take place on Friday July 31. Save your stuff for us! All proceeds support the Grace Little Free Pantry. Times, and volunteer needs will be announced at a later date.

Envelope Options



Weekly Envelopes

You may now request packets that contain only the special days – such as Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, etc. without the weekly Sunday envelopes. This is helpful for those who typically tithe using the secure online system, or who prefer to write one check a month vs. weekly. Please contact Mike Hilsabeck if you would like this packet. Mike.h@gracedm.org

Worship Volunteer Needs

We have some amazing volunteers, but we’d love to increase our volunteer pool!

Greeter: Stand by the doors, smile, say “Good Morning” or “Welcome!” Hold the door if needed.

Lector: Are you comfortable reading in front of people? Bulletins are published in advance so you have time to practice if you like.

Communion Assistant: Enter the Chancel from the “hidden side door”, receive the bread and wine from Pastor before assisting with the wine or juice. Say, “The Blood of Christ, shed for you” as you pour.

Coffee/Donut set-up: All the directions and supplies are in the little kitchenette in the Gathering Hall.



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](#).



Men's Basketball NCAA Fundraiser 2026 Congratulations Sue Anderson and Child Serve!

The NCAA is down to the Final Four, but we are down to our winner. No matter the outcome of the Final Four (and the fact no one picked Connecticut, Illinois, or Michigan to win) the result is the same. This year's winner is Child Serve through Sue Anderson's bracket. Child Serve will receive the \$100 in donations.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING



Regarding rezoning church property.

In 2000, Grace Lutheran Church purchased the property at 3024 52nd Street immediately north of what was the existing church property. The property has been used as a residence for the church custodian, as well as other church uses. Last year, Grace installed a paver labyrinth and a concrete slab with a picnic table. The ultimate plan is to extend the walkway to the west and transform this area into a prayer/meditation garden that can be used by the entire community. As a part of this, a free-standing columbarium is planned to move the existing columbarium that is inside of the church building to this prayer garden. This will allow better access to families of loved ones since the church is not accessible 24/7.

The City of Des Moines is requesting that this property be rezoned from N3B to P2 to be consistent with the remaining church property. This will allow this property to be combined with the remaining church property into one tax parcel. In addition, the construction of a columbarium and for the site to be used as a place of worship, a Conditional Use Permit is required by the City.

An optional neighborhood meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 5:30 PM in the Grace Hall portion of Grace Lutheran Church at 5201 Urbandale Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa to answer any questions or concerns that you may have.

Please feel free to contact me at 515-276-6873 or e-mail at mike@gracedm.org, or contact Marty Dostalík at Civil Engineering Consultants with any questions prior to the meeting at 515-276-4884 ext. 224 or e-mail him at dostalík@ceclac.com.



Altar Flowers

The opportunity to sponsor Altar Flowers returns after the Easter lilies have been taken down. Find the 2026 altar flower signup sheet online: <https://volunteersignup.org/7RXMJ>

We invite you to sponsor a bouquet of flowers for the altar. You can include a special message in the bulletin, and the flowers are yours to take home after the worship service on Sunday. The cost is \$25 and you can pay through Grace's online giving site (<https://gracedm.org/give-to-grace/>) or by check or cash to the office. Please put your first AND last name(s) in the first name field and type a special message (optional) in the last name field (in memory of ... in honor of). Contact Kathy at kathybowermaster17@gmail.com with questions or to sign up if you are not online. Thank you!

Contemplative Corner – Easter: The Living Presence



At Easter we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. But what does that mean?

Contemplative teacher Cynthia Bourgeault reminds us that the resurrection is not simply a return to ordinary life. The risen Christ appears in a new way—sometimes recognized, sometimes not, suddenly present and just as suddenly gone. These mysterious encounters suggest that something deeper has happened: Christ is no longer bound to a single physical form.

Instead, the resurrection reveals a new mode of presence.

After Easter the disciples begin to experience Jesus not only beside them but **within and among them**. The risen Christ becomes a living presence encountered in stillness, in community, in the breaking of bread, and in acts of love.

In **The Wisdom Jesus**, Bourgeault writes, “The disciples do not recognize Jesus with their ordinary seeing. It is only when their hearts begin to burn within them that recognition becomes possible.” Recognition of the risen Christ happens through the awakened perception of the heart, not merely through the analytical mind.

In contemplative practice—whether [Centering Prayer](#), silent meditation, or a [slow walk on the labyrinth](#)—this “seeing with the heart” gradually deepens. The mind quiets, the heart becomes more receptive, and we begin to notice the subtle ways Christ’s presence appears in our lives.

This is deeply good news. In silence and prayer we begin to awaken to the same living presence that met the first disciples. Easter is not only something that happened long ago. It is an invitation to discover the risen Christ alive in our midst—and within our own hearts—today.

Again and again the Easter stories remind us that the disciples recognized Jesus in unexpected ways—in a spoken name, in the breaking of bread, and in the quiet dawning of understanding. Perhaps the invitation of Eastertide is simply this: to walk attentively through our lives, learning to recognize the risen Christ who continues to meet us along the way.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

Being New Center Offerings

How Do We Find Hope in Hard Times?

Wednesday, April 10 at 10:00 AM-Noon on [Zoom](#)

Join us in watching this video replay, hosted on Zoom by Celeste and Jim Egger. Following the 90 minute video we will have time for discussion.

CAC Dean of Core Faculty [Carmen Acevedo Butcher](#), New York Times Best-Selling author [Cole Arthur Riley](#), and GRAMMY Award-winning musician [Jon Batiste](#) will guide us through teachings and practices for finding hope during times of personal loss, social unrest, and collective uncertainty. Resources available [here](#)

Prayer for Peace

Monday, April 20 | 10:00-11:00 a.m. | [Zoom](#) only

Contemplation is not withdrawal from action, but the source of it. —Thomas Merton

Following a 20 minute sit in Centering Prayer or other silent meditation we will watch and discuss a video strengthening our compassionate presence in action.

All are welcome. Bring your prayers, your grief, your hope, your wisdom. This is a collaboration of Being New and COCI.

Offerings from Contemplative Outreach of Central Iowa

First Fridays

9-11 a.m., April 3 in Grace Hall

These monthly gatherings are open to anyone wishing to explore contemplative spirituality as a path to living deeply, purposefully, even joyfully in these times – times in which we are experiencing pervasive breakdown in our social, economic, ecological, political, and religious systems.

To be the stable, present, engaged, and loving servants needed by a world in chaos, many people are seeking inner lives grounded in a recognition of the presence and the guidance of a Divine Indwelling and are desiring to learn what it means to live from this source. Our conversations focus on various aspects of the counter cultural way of the contemplative tradition.

[More on the April gathering.](#)

Ongoing Gatherings at Being New

- **Centering Prayer/Silent Meditation for Peace (Hybrid)**—3rd Mondays at 10:00 in the Center.
- **Group Energy & Sound Healing, 2nd Sunday 3:00 p.m. and 4th Monday at 4:00 p.m.** We meet in room 108 (across the hall from the Center) to allow those who wish to lie down. Yoga mats are provided. Bring blankets, eye pillows, etc. There are also comfortable chairs for those who prefer to sit.
Space is limited. Contact [Julie Good](#) or 515-306-4864 if you plan to attend. Julie is generously offering her time and suggests that instead of a fee, participants may wish to make a donation to the Center.
- **SoulCollage®** – 1st & 3rd Mondays | 6:30-8:30 p.m. | \$15
Join facilitator Cindy Schloss Calhoun and learn to create your own SoulCollage deck with images: a story deck that is yours. It is a powerful way to discover your inner wisdom and find answers to life's questions from within. Email [Cindy](#) or text 515-238-8828 to find out what it is all about.
- **Recovery Café Des Moines** – Fridays at noon and Tuesday at 6:30pm in the Center. Recovery Circle is for anyone navigating challenges like addiction, depression, life transitions—or simply seeking a healthier lifestyle or deeper sense of purpose. The circle offers a safe space to share without judgment, set goals, celebrate steps of progress and move forward.
Contact [Patrick Dahlen](#) 515-608-0913

The Way of the Rose: Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary – 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in Room 108 (lower level, across from the Center)

The Way of the Rose is an open-hearted, inclusive community dedicated to the forgotten Earth wisdom of the rosary. We are not affiliated with any religious institution. This circle will be praying 5 decades of the rosary centered on the story of the Mexican mother Tonantzin, the miracle attributed to her, and how she became known as Our Lady of Guadalupe. Traditional and non-traditional prayer, chant, and song forms welcome and no prior knowledge of the rosary is needed. Each meeting is a stand-alone circle that makes space for prayer, reflection and connection. Join us in the calming support available to all in the garden of prayer. Use the main entrance of the building and you'll find us in the lower level across from the Center.

Contact: [Hannah Whetston](#) for more information

Minutes - Grace Congregational Council – March 24, 2026

Meeting came to order March 24th, 2026, at 6:05pm

Members present – Chuck Denton, Carol WoodruA, Pam Palmer, Linda Moravec, Brian Gerling, Tom McCleary, Pastor Mike Schmidt, Mike Hilsabeck, Vicar Lotegeluaki, Jessye Flannery

Meal – Jessye

Call to Order

Adoption of Agenda – Pam moved, Chuck seconded, agenda adopted

Devotions – Pastor Mike

Approval of previous meeting's minutes – Carol moved, Linda seconded, minutes approved

“Ideas that will get you fired” – discussion of options to do more advertising for the church

Staff Reports – Jessye moved, Chuck seconded, report approved

Review/Acceptance of Finance report – Carol moved, Mike H seconded, report approved

Capital Campaign Update – Current pledges are \$561,067. Current available funds are \$298,766. Roofing project will start April 7th

Council Action Prior to Meeting

The council was asked by Tom M to vote on the following: Approve the contracts from For Sure (flat part) and Des Moines Area Roofing (shingle part) to perform replacement of the roof. - Motion was approved by council via email vote (3/19-3/21).

Unfinished Business

Church 100th Anniversary Update – no update

Update on Potential Church Finance Audit – continued discussion of options. It will be important that we “right-size” an annual audit. We will be talking with some church members

Recovery Café Facility-Use Update – Mike H provided an update. Recovery Café has brought in 3 contractors to review issues and provide possibilities for remodeling the Msindo Hall area. A 4th contractor will be onsite 3/26.

New Business Re-zoning of Prayer Garden Area – On Wednesday, April 8, 5:30 p.m. Grace will host a public meeting for local residence input. More discussions will then follow with the city.

Request to rent additional room for the Being New Center – the BNSC has requested to rent an additional room on the lower level. This would be an issue as the Center is part of the church and as such, we can't rent to ourselves. We determined to instead assign an additional room for their use exclusively. Carol put forward a motion to approve the extension of the BNSC into an additional room on the lower level. Chuck seconded, motion carried.

Adjournment – Linda moved, Pam seconded, motion carried. The council adjourned at 7:35pm.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, 4/28/26. Meal – Carol, Devotions – Carol

Your 2026 Grace Lutheran Church Council:

Exec. Team: Tom McCleary – President, Carol Woodruff – Vice President, Mike Hilsabeck – Secretary
Brian Gerling – Member at Large

Linda Moravec, Pam Hellman Palmer, Chuck Denton, Jessica Flannery

Grace Lutheran Church Endowment Fund,
Thank You for your recent donation to Lutheran Lakeside Camp for materials to build a maintenance garage. This will help us to further our ministry of serving God and his children.

Peace and Blessings, Lutheran Lakeside Camp

Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your generous \$1,500 grant supporting the expansion of diverse worship resources for Wartburg Seminary's chapel. Because of your generosity, future pastors and church leaders will be equipped to lead worship that embodies welcome, hospitality, and the fullness of the body of Christ.

With sincere thanks,
Miranda Hoey
& Wartburg Seminary Community

Finance Report – February Results

Financial results for February YTD are as follows:

- Income – Actual \$57,907, Budget \$68,167, Prior year \$58,055
- Expenses – Actual \$76,628, Budget \$74,225, Prior year \$80,384
- Net activity – Actual (\$18,271), Budget (\$6,058), Prior year (\$22,329)



Activity was \$12,662 below budget. This was primarily due to lower pledged offering than budgeted.

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.

- 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 six months' worth of worship material and video links on our pages.

Other helpful links:

[Altar Flower Signup](https://volunteersignup.org/7RXMJ) — <https://volunteersignup.org/7RXMJ> We invite you to sponsor a bouquet of flowers for the altar. You can include a special message in the bulletin, and the flowers are yours to take home after the worship service on Sunday.

[Online Giving](https://gracedm.org/give-to-grace) — Use our secure site at <https://gracedm.org/give-to-grace> 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.