

The Friendly Visitor June 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 July newsletter: Monday, June 22

Office & Open Building Hours

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

Sunday Worship Schedule - Summer

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

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

Grace Hall Wall

If you have not yet noticed, there is a new wall in the Northeast corner of Grace Hall. I want to start with a word of thanks to everyone who brought that wall into fruition. I have hoped to have a wall there for many years as a way of partitioning off the area where the extra chairs and tables have been kept. Now, there is a wall that forms a closet for the extra items. There are even hangers for artwork. It looks beautiful.

I have thought about this wall a lot lately. In many ways it has become a bit of a metaphor to me. The wall does hide all of the unsightly items and makes the place look more welcoming. It does not rid the space of obstacles or the need for intentionality. It simply masks them. Those who rarely visit the space see a beautiful space, void of clutter. Those who use the space often see the need for structure on how to maintain the space so that it is both efficient and welcoming.

I find myself thinking about the modern Christian church. For decades, the church has relied on programming. It has functioned like the wall in Grace Hall. These new programs grab people's attention and focus. They can make the church feel welcoming. All they really do is distract or hide the mess. Without the attentiveness to building a deeply rooted community, it is just a mask.

We are heading into the Season after Pentecost, or the Time of the Church. This is a season dressed in green to symbolize growth. It is a time centered on the church's response to hearing the Good News of Christ Jesus. For centuries, this growth has meant trying to grow numerically, often through new programming.

What would happen if we focused on growing in the depth of our faith? What if we focus on building authentic community? We all have wounds, bits of brokenness that we try to hide from the world. We try to put forward the image that we have it all figured out. We don't. Maybe that is the most beautiful part of the human experience.

Wall, continued on page 2

Wall, continued from page 1

We are all broken and loved at the same time. May we lean into these truths during the Season after Pentecost. The wall in Grace Hall is beautiful. It still takes work. May we never tire of working together and building authentic community, centered in worship, held in grace, strengthened in love, and sent forth in mission, in Jesus' name.

In Christ,

Pastor Mike



Happy Birthday

- 2 Dean Watson
- 4 Leslie Denton
Virgil Olson
- 5 Molly Riordan
Natasha Voelker
- 6 Debbie Curry
- 7 Livia Ocken
- 8 Matt Radermacher
Samuel Ruiz
- 10 Brian Riordan
- 13 Elijah Ocken
Stacy Speck
Michele Turner
- 14 Joel Holst
Melissa Lawson
- 15 Zoe Volius
- 16 Joseph Honsey
- 17 Matthew Jordahl
Rita Stackhouse
- 18 Arbor Calahan
Marilyn Nizzi
Cecelia Stammer
- 21 Paul Kallenbach
Jay Lounsberry
Zayden Appenzeller
- 22 Martha Mitchell
- 23 Sharena Curry
Megan Riordan
Delmar Vernia
- 27 Donald Schouten
- 29 Elizabeth Gronert
- 30 Steve McCann

Prayers and Sympathies

We hold the family and friends of these loved ones in prayer:

Lenora Iverson

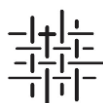


May Plant Sale Fundraiser Update

The Goode Greenhouses Fundraiser earned \$243.00 for Grace Youth Programming! Thank you and enjoy your gardens!



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Custodian Todd Haugen
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Happy Anniversary

- 1 Donald and Patricia Schouten
- 8 Bruce and Barbara Bergman
- 9 Matthew and Kara Jordahl
- 10 Kevin and Jeanne Drury
Jon and Jeanine Rutter
- 13 Greg and Jill Boeschen
- 14 Robert and Rita Stackhouse
Rick and Emma Stammer
- 15 Brian and Theresa Gerling
- 19 Nick and Kristin Medhurst
- 24 Leonard and Helen Ringgenberg
- 27 Jeff and Nancy Robbins



Vicar's View

Dear siblings in Christ,

This has been another blessed month, and I have witnessed God's grace in my life, my family, and this congregation. A great deal has been happening around us, and it is a sign that God's work of creation and transformation continues among people.

This month, I had the opportunity to meet with the bishop, where we discussed my next steps following my internship and graduation. I remain grateful for God's guidance throughout this journey and for the prayers and support of this congregation.

We also have every reason to give thanks. God continues to nourish our church and strengthen our ministry to our neighbors both locally and internationally. Even in times of transition, we can see God faithfully at work in our community.

Upcoming Events

By the grace of God, I graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary on May 17, 2026, with a Master of Divinity (M.Div.). The graduation ceremony took place at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church.

I am also excited for the upcoming Synod Assembly, which begins on May 15 at First Lutheran Church.

I look forward to continuing this process of formation as a prospective Minister of Word and Sacrament. I also believe that God has a plan for this congregation, and with everything taking place, we are reminded that God is still moving among us.

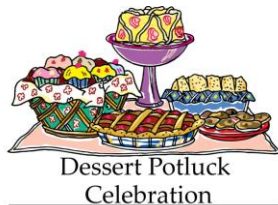
Let us continue to trust in God and remember that we are not left as orphans. Jesus says:

"I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper." John 14:16

May God continue to bless and sustain each of you.

In Christ,

Vicar Lotegeluaki Ole L. Lengai



Send Off Celebration for Vicar Lotegeluaki

It is difficult to believe that our time with Vicar Lotegeluaki is coming to an end. We are planning a sendoff dessert potluck on Sunday, June 14th after worship. There will be a "Rite of Sending" during the 9:00 a.m. worship service and then a congregational dessert potluck and a short presentation of appreciation for Vicar Lotegeluaki's journey with us at Grace Lutheran Church.

Please join us, and let us know in the office if you plan to bring a dessert!

Beaverdale Bluegrass Festival July 11, 2026, Tower Park

Grace is once again a sponsor for this free community celebration filled with live bluegrass music, cold drinks, local vendors and food trucks, and good neighbors. It's a laid-back summer tradition built around the kind of community spirit that makes Beaverdale feel like home. Music begins at 2:30 p.m. Go and look for our logo and banner! Learn more at the link: <https://www.beaverdalebluegrass.com/>



Meet our 2026-2027 Vicar

My name is Apou Aderbuk, and I am a seminarian at Wartburg Theological Seminary. I am originally from South Sudan, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as an intern at Grace Lutheran Church.

I am passionate about pastoral care, multicultural ministry, chaplaincy, and walking alongside people in their everyday lives of faith. As someone shaped by different cultures and communities, I care deeply about creating spaces where people feel welcomed, valued, and connected, and I continue to learn how God works through relationships, listening, and shared community.

My family is also part of this journey, and together we are excited to become part of the Grace Lutheran family. We look forward to getting to know the congregation, sharing in worship and fellowship, and growing together in faith and community.

One Bible verse that continues to guide me is Romans 12:12: "Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer." I look forward to learning, serving, and walking alongside you all during this season of ministry together.

Mission Action Fund Applications 2026

It is Christ's call to care for others. That is one of the essential elements of being a community of faith. The Mission Action Fund would like to help with the causes that you care about. Thanks to the overwhelming response last summer, the Mission Action Fund is asking for applications for support. We are asking that applicants be connected with Grace Lutheran Church through activities hosted here or through membership.



We are asking for applications, including:

- Your contact information,
- A short essay about why this is important to you.
- And some basic budget information and/or how the donation would be used.
- If there are other funds available in support of the project/ministry

It's that easy! The deadline is June 30, 2022, and donations will be awarded in July. The applications can either be mailed to Grace Lutheran Church, 5201 Urbandale Ave, Des Moines, IA 50310 in care of the Mission Action Fund, or emailed to mission@gracedm.org

The Mission Action Fund was established with the goal to respond quickly to needs in the immediate neighborhood and beyond (statewide, nationally, and internationally), and not to be used for the Congregational Budget. This is not a one-time request for applications. Our hope is that this second round of donations will lead to increased applications and requests in the future.



Little Free Pantry Request: June

We are collecting personal care items during the month of June, such as toothpaste, deodorant, soap, and feminine products. 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.

TeamGrace



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.

Our June verses: _____

Isaiah 7:9 If you do not stand firm in faith, you shall not stand at all. Therefore, strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. **For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.**

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for **all peoples** a feast of rich food. A feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, ...

¹Corinthians 5:10-11 ...thieves, the greedy, drunkards, revilers, robbers---none of these will inherit the kingdom of God. And this is what some of you used to be. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the spirit of our God.

Takeaway:

There is an abundance available to those who are faithful; even if you have not followed the Law and sinned, you can return to the community of saints. If you fall away from good behavior, no matter who you are, you can be forgiven, if you regret, seek Grace, and change your behavior to follow love and justice and show hospitality to those in need.

Southeast Iowa Synod Assembly – May 15-16, 2026

Approximately 300 church members and clergy from approximately 150 churches in the Southeast Iowa Synod (SEIA) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) gathered at First Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for the annual synod assembly. The purpose of the assembly was to conduct required synod business, to receive and accept reports and greetings, to worship, to elect a bishop and members of synod councils and committees, and to engage with each other in fellowship and Bible study. Pastor Mike Schmidt, Julie Honsey, and Richard Snyder represented Grace at the assembly. Others present with historical connections to Grace included Pastors Phil Hougen, Bunny Dillard, and Jesse Hershberger. Vicar Lotegeluaki Lengai attended as an observer.

The six year term of the current bishop of the synod expires in 2026, and the first election at the assembly was for bishop. Names of approximately ten persons ordained in word and sacrament were submitted on written ballots by those assembled, and on this first valid ballot, the name of the current bishop, Pastor Amy Current, appeared a sufficient number of times that she was declared elected to the position of bishop. Her current term will run until 2032. Other votes were held for positions on the Synod Council, Synod Secretary, Nominating Committee, Consultation Committee, and the Committee of Discipline. The assembly adopted a budget developed by synod staff and the treasurer. The compensation recommendation guidelines for the next year were adopted, and these should result in an increase of 2-3% for most clergy if their churches follow the recommendations.

Synod Assembly, continued on page 6

Synod Assembly, continued from page 5

The final business of the assembly was approval of proposed changes to the synod constitution which were a mixture of required changes dictated by the national headquarters and changes developed within the synod.

Members of Grace would have found the worship service on Friday evening familiar. The service was preceded by two organ preludes (composers W. Held and J. S. Bach) played on the 2023 Parsons pipe organ (tracker action, 54 ranks, three manual) and ended with an organ and brass postlude. During the service, hymns were sung; communion was shared; and choir, brass, and hand bell music accompanied the service. The message was given by the Right Reverend Betsey Monnot, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa. In contrast, the worship service on Saturday morning was accompanied by a praise band (piano, bass guitar, rhythm guitar, electric bass, drum set, and vocalists). (Personal observation: Just about an equal number of people seemed to ignore the prelude music at each service with their persistent conversations.)

Recognition was extended by Bishop Current to her staff, synod committees, the host congregation, and many others who have contributed service to the synod. The Executive for Worship from the ELCA, John Weit, described the extensive and wide ranging services that the ELCA directs and supports during the past year by serving those affected by natural disasters, inadequate nutrition, and diseases. He emphasized that none of that would have been possible were it not for the continuous and generous support from the local congregations to either their synod (that passes monies along), or directly to appeals from the ELCA. A prerecorded message from the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Rev. Yehiel Curry, described the multiple relationships between the ELCA and the constellation of Lutheran expressions of the Christian church in the world.

Within the 13 hours that the assembly lasted, at least one hour was committed to Bible study. The Gospel of St. John 20:19-21 was used as a basis for four discussion sessions between pairs of attendees following prepared reflections by Rev. Dan Kuckuck and Rev. LeAnn Stubbs on fear, peace, rejoice, or sending. Each of these was the center of each of the four discussions that were much like the conversations held during the Wednesday evening services in Lent at Grace.

Submitted by Rich Snyder



Endowment Fund Report

The purpose of the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Endowment Fund is to promote faithful Christian stewardship by providing a congregational plan to receive grants, gifts or bequest of money to be used to enhance the total program and mission of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church beyond that supported through regular giving and apart from the general operation of the congregation. The Endowment Fund Committee acts as custodian of the Fund.



The Endowment Committee approved the following distributions of 2025 income:

- \$273.84 to **Grace Lutheran Church** Brass for music stand lights to utilize when performing during church services
- \$675 to **Grace Lutheran Church** Little Free Pantry for a heavy-duty box cart to transport items from vehicles in the Grace parking lot to the backstock room located in the lower level
- \$500 to **Grace Lutheran Church** for a digital piano trolley so that the donated digital piano to Lutheran Lakeside can be moved and used without damage
- \$8,995 to **Lions Club/University of Iowa Kidsight Program** for an iScreen Vision Screener G5 to screen preschool children's eyes in the Des Moines metro area
- \$5,000 to **Lutheran Lakeside** to build a garage to store tractors, mowers, gators, cars, trucks, boats and golf carts as part of their "Returning the Rec Barn to its Glory" project
- \$1,925 to **Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI)** for technology to assist staff in the intake paperwork as well as small, portable scanners for insurance cards, photo ID's, etc.
- \$1500 to **Wartburg Seminary** for additional diverse worship resources including but not limited to hymnals, lectionaries, liturgies, etc.

A total of \$18,868.84 was awarded. Requests for grants totaled \$34,468.

Since inception, the Endowment fund has awarded a total of **\$536,385** to **217** projects.

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 the readings for the week.

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.](#)

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. Pastor Mike offers this opportunity through the year, and we will resume in the fall. **However, that doesn't mean you must wait until September! If you are interested in learning more about Grace and how you fit in, please contact the office at 515-276-6873, or email Pastor Mike Mike@gracedm.org.** We welcome you!



Grace Annual Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, August 1, 2026, 8 a.m. – noon.

Set-up and donation drop-off will take place on Friday July 31 from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Save your stuff for us! All proceeds support the Grace Little Free Pantry.

New Wall/Storage Closet in Grace Hall!

The Willing Workers, Saturday Work Group, and others did an amazing job, putting in about 87 hours of work! The cost of building and painting came to just under \$900.



Tom McCleary, Richard Snyder, Greg Boeschen, Carter Woodruff, Brian Gerling. Not pictured: Chuck Benton, Kurt Bowermaster, Paul Nelson and Matt Catrenich (son-in-law of Brian Gerling).



The Welcoming Practice, Julie Honsey

*I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want,
but I do the very thing I hate.*

-Romans 7: 15

What you resist, not only persists, but will grow in size.

-Carl Jung



What do we do with the challenging thoughts and feelings that arise within us, those persistent inner movements we cannot simply will away?

The Welcoming Practice is a contemplative discipline that invites us to meet inner experiences with awareness, welcoming and accepting whatever arises within us. This includes befriending our upset while seeing clearly the tendencies of the judgmental mind. Welcoming what arises does not mean giving in, overlooking, or agreeing with what is there.

Through openhearted acceptance—rather than trying to fix, suppress, or escape what we are feeling—we gently welcome the experience, allowing it to be just as it is. In doing so, we create the conditions to explore more deeply the meaning, wound, or motive beneath the reaction.

Welcoming creates inner space while softening our inner posture, allowing thoughts and feelings to move through us, which brings on a subtle shift from being caught “in them as identity to consciously being “with” them. In the pause created by this welcomed inner space, self-inquiry can be conducted to discern what may have triggered the experience.

At its heart, the Welcoming Practice is an embodied “yes” to life in the moment. It rests on the understanding that our habitual reactions—grasping, resisting, controlling—keep us bound in patterns that create suffering in ourselves and strain relationships.

The practice unfolds in three movements:

- First, through awareness, we accept what is arising within us, focusing attention on how it feels in our body, naming the thought or feeling without judgment.
- Second, we inwardly welcome the thought or feeling just as it is.
- Third, we release our desire for the experience to be different while praying for guidance to help in letting go of the need for security, approval, or control, whatever condition that triggered the challenging thought or feeling.

In this way, the Welcoming Practice becomes a prayer and a form of inner surrender—not passive resignation, but conscious participation in reality as it is. Over time, it cultivates a deeper freedom: the capacity to remain grounded, openhearted, and responsive even in the presence of difficulty.

Prayer for Peace, Monday, June 15, 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.

Upcoming Offerings from the Being New Spirituality Center

Sound Healing

Monday, June 8 at 6:00 p.m. and Monday, June 29 at 4:00 p.m. in room 108

Yoga mats are provided for those who wish to lie down. 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.

Church of the Wild Book Group

Starting Wednesday, July 1 at 6:30 p.m. at Being New. Weather permitting, bring a chair and we will meet at the labyrinth. Questions? Contact Mary Ann Koch at 515-230-8410.

First Friday Summer of Love!

9-11 a.m. in Grace Hall

Co-sponsored by Contemplative Outreach of Central Iowa and Being New

Do you remember the 60's and The Summer of Love? It's back in a brand-new incarnation as the theme of **First Fridays in June, July, August, and September.**

Spiritual maturity offers an invitation to move beyond the societal understanding of love as something reserved for romantic relationships or family and those close to us. Instead, what does it mean to love in an expansive, more inclusive way - humankind, creation, the marginalized, our country, the cosmos, God? [Details here!](#)

Summer School at the Center, 9-11 a.m. in Grace Hall, dates listed below

Kathy Reardon, spiritual seeker and spiritual director, will be offering **Summer School at the Center!**

- **Thursday June 25, Session I: Taking a Long Loving Look at the Real**, a gentle exploration of the origins, meaning, work, and invitation of contemplation, both from the Christian and perennial traditions, and the contemplative path arising out of it.
- **Thursday July 9 and 23, Session II: The Wisdom of Not Knowing**, based on the [book](#), will consider the difficulty of the unknowns, uncertainties, and uncontrollables of life and how releasing our tight hold on our "need" to know can usher in a refreshing freedom.
- **Thursday August 20, Session III: A Spiritual Potpourri.** Participants will decide what wants to be talked about.

While registration is not necessary, you might text Kathy at 515-776-0439 if you know you'll be attending.

Also available at the Center

- **Enneagram Coaching**, Contact [Julie Honsey](#), Certified in the Narrative Enneagram.
- **Spiritual Direction**, Contact [Deb Richards](#) or [Julie Good](#)
- **Massage Therapy, Reflexology & Reiki** by appointment for those seeking relaxation and balancing. Aromatherapy and guided meditation are included in all session work. Contact [Hannah Whetston](#) 515-505-1878.

Minutes – Grace Congregational Council – May 26, 2026

Meeting came to order May 26th, 2026, at 6:05 p.m.

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

Meal – Linda

Call to Order

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

Devotions – Tom

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

“Ideas that will get you fired”

Review/Approval of Staff Reports – Brian moved, Chuck seconded, reports approved

Review/Acceptance of Finance report – Jessye moved, Carol seconded, report accepted

Capital Campaign Update – Current pledges are \$636,067. Current available funds are \$255,300 (as of 5/26). We've paid the bill for Des Moines Area Roofing - \$66,533. Waiting on the bill from For Sure Roofing. Next priorities are safety (sidewalk concrete repair, outdoor stair railings) and drainage (egress excavation and walls).

Unfinished Business

- Church 100th Anniversary Update – May 22-23, 2027. The following group will help prepare and coordinate activities: Kevin Drury, Carol Woodruff, Jenny Rehder, Kathy Bowermaster, Jane Ridnour and Sue Anderson. Likely others will be involved throughout as well.
- Update on Church Finance Audit – Larry Nordeen is in the process of auditing our 2025 financial records. He will be back next week to continue.
- Recovery Café Facility-Use Update – we are engaging contract firms to provide options and estimates. The bid review group includes Chuck Denton, Jon Rissman, Eric Weber, John Trickel, Mike Hilsabeck and Nichole Aubert. We will be getting 3 Architect bids and 3 construction bids.
- Staff Support Committee – discussed how the committee might operate. We will be looking for new committee members. More discussion to follow.

New Business

- Re-zoning of Prayer Garden Area – update from Pastor Mike. The re-zoning was approved at the May 18th city council meeting. Next, there will be a meeting with the Board of Zoning & Adjustment on May 27th.
- GreenState program for scanning and remote deposits of accounts receivable checks – update. Mike H has revised deposit procedures for both Sunday Deposits and office deposits accordingly. He will talk with the Finance Committee to confirm a couple of policy issues.
- Upcoming Internship – we have been assigned a new intern. Details will be coming in the next newsletter.
- Awareness – possible impacts of City Traffic and Transportation Department (Jeff Wiggins) presentation to Beavertdale Neighborhood Association. Concern was raised that the city may be considering parking restrictions on Urbandale Ave.
- Revision/Rewrite of the Church Facility Use Policy – we will create a task-group to redo policy document. Nichole A, Mike H & Tom M will participate. Need to identify a few more folks.
- Discussed the requested purchase of 2 electric lawnmowers – the discussion expanded to consider what is the best, most cost-effective, model to consider (e.g. using a service). We will get some quotes on options.

Minutes, continued on page 12

Council report continued from page 11

- Discussed replacement of tables for Grace Hall – we agreed it was time to replace most of the current (25-year-old) tables. Pastor Mike & Mike H will bring cost options to our next meeting.

Adjournment – Linda moved, Chuck seconded, motion carried. The council adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, June 23rd. Meal – Tom M, Devotions – Pam

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

Finance Report – April Results

Financial results for April YTD are as follows:

- Income – Actual \$140,796, Budget \$138,733, Prior Year \$135,566
- Expenses – Actual \$150,819, Budget \$150,925, Prior Year \$153,337
- Net activity – Actual \$(10,023), Budget (\$12,192), Prior Year \$(17,771)

Activity was \$2,169 above budget. This is a good trend as the full year budget is a \$12,500 deficit and the goal is to break even for the year.

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.