



December, 2023

GRACE GLEANINGS

Grace Lutheran Church Newsletter

202 2nd St SE ~ Watertown, SD 57201

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Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m Monday—Thursday

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~ Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, Pastor ~

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Children's Christmas Program 2 pm December 10th

"Love Came Down" is the theme of this year's children's Christmas Program set for 2 pm on Sunday, December 10th. Wednesday and Sunday school children plus those from Grace's Preschool will tell the Christmas story, reminding us of the good news that God sent Jesus to be our Savior that special night in Bethlehem. We celebrate that message still today as the children presenting the story and song with the congregation adding in their voices. A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the service. The program is directed by Kat Anderson

Children's Christmas Program Practice Schedule

Children will be practicing for the Christmas Program on December 6th during Wednesday school and December 10 during Sunday school. Children should be at both practices. Parents should have their children to church no later than 1:30 pm on December 10th to prepare for the 2 pm program.



Blue Christmas Service Wednesday, December 20th for those who Mourn

A special Blue Christmas service, or what is called "longest day" will be held on Wednesday evening, December 20th at 6 pm for any who are grieving someone or something.

Those who have shared past Christmases, may have an intense feelings of loss, loneliness and sadness during this time of year. You are encouraged to come to this service to honor your loss, and embrace God's Hope for the future.

This joyous time of year can be very painful for those who suffer due to death, divorce, health issues, unemployment, business loss, broken relationship, life altering operations, family trauma or any type of loss .

A Blue Christmas service creates a safe place for those who struggle with loss or mourn a loved one to honor those feelings. It is a time to join together with others burdened by grief for emotional encouragement and receive spiritual support. Any who have suffered or continue to suffer from years gone by are welcome to come to this nondenominational service and hear God's word of hope and healing shine through the darkness calling you forward to the bright shining light of spring when new life returns.



We Thank God for Our Volunteers!

Each year a display is put up at the annual Winter Wonderland drive-through lighted park put on by the Watertown Optimist Club's. Larry Picht, Gary Rukstad, and Darcy Raethz have faithfully set the up the display, pictured at left, each year and check on it regularly through out the season.

The drive-through part is open in the southern half of the City of Watertown's Stokes-Thomas Lake City Park on Lake Kampeska from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. each weekend through Dec. 20. Starting on Wednesday, Dec. 23 and continuing through Sunday, Dec. 27, the displays will be illuminated every night for viewing.

Thank you Larry, Gary, and Darcy for your efforts.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
 "Tis the Season!"

The phrase comes from a Christmas song you may remember, *Deck the Hall*, and can be seen often at this time of the year. "Tis the Season" for Black Friday sales, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday savings. These all come on the heels of Thanksgiving and seem to take away from the concept of giving Thanks.

For our Thanksgiving service, and for Wednesday and Sunday school, each person received a small note card to write what they were thankful for, inviting them to hang the note on the rail in the hallway next to Fellowship Hall. (pictured below) I invite you to stop by and read those that have been hung up and take a note card to add your thanks to

those hanging there.

The main theme appears to be thanks for family and friends. It's true when we think about Thanksgiving and Christmas, we most often think about how good it is to be together with our families. Paul understood this saying, *"I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers."* (Ephesians 1: 16) and *"We give thanks to God always for you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,"* (1 Thessalonians 1:2)

We of course are thankful for many things, but family and friends are truly important in our lives. There are of course all the traditional needs a family provides such as food, clothing, and shelter, but research tells us there is an important social connection that family provides, a sense of belonging and acceptance, especially in difficult times.

Children learn about family from the experience they have growing up. After basic needs are met, they realize that social connection through the support and encouragement they receive to overcome difficulties, face new challenges, and obtain various skills to have a successful life.

All things the church family does for one another.

God knew we needed people as we read in Genesis 2: ¹⁸*Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."* Our need to belong and have a relationship is in our make-up. The church plants the seed, but our church family is there to help that seed grow through faith-based relationship and a sense of belonging as a child of God.



Our church family is where we receive the support and encouragement to grow in Christ through faith formation at all ages and to teach us the importance of being responsible to love and care for one another.

The early church wrote of this in Acts 2: ⁴⁶*And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,* ⁴⁷*praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved."*

At this time of year, and always, be thankful for your family, including your church family. Like building school spirit and closely tied support of your college team, it builds a sense of community and encourages each other through a positive environment.

Paul writes to the Romans, ¹¹*For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to*

strengthen you-- ¹²*that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine."*

As you join together as family for the holidays, be Thankful for the gift God has giving to you in that baby in a manger. And remember... "Tis the Season" to be thankful for your family, including your church family, as we come to celebrate and give thanks for greatest gift of all.

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful." (Colossians 3: 15)

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to you All!

Pastor Cheryl

Minutes of the Grace Lutheran Council Meeting on Thursday, November 9th, 2023

The Grace Lutheran Church Council meeting was held on Thursday November 9, 2023, at 6pm with Mark Briley presiding. Also present: Adam Wientjes, Dylan Jordan, LeRoy Bullis, Terra Koistinen, Travis Schulz, Sherry Jongeling, Ted Frost, Ronda Lorenz, Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, and Kat Anderson. Absent: JoAnn Spartz Lindsey Moeller, Kelly Evjen, Gena Urvig, and Steve Schlenner

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Rhonda Lorenz and seconded by LeRoy Bullis. Motion carried. Sherry Jongeling motioned to approve the minutes with a revision to last month: Gena was not listed; Dylan Jordan seconded. Motion carried.

Items:

Financial Report – Kat Anderson reported the total monthly income to the general fund was \$20,500.90, the weekly giving average was \$4,090, and the average weekly worship attendance was 82 for the month of October. A motion to accept the financial report and pay the bills was made by Dylan Jordan and seconded by Travis Schulz. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report –Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett continues to visit care centers and assisted living homes. She had 2 home visits, 1 Baptism, 1 funeral, 2 committal ceremonies, 1 wedding, and continues to teach confirmation and do the opening for Wednesday and Sunday School.

Old Business:

Open Council Seats-There is still an open council seat. We also need to start thinking of those whose term ends in January to fill their seats.

Upcoming Budget- The council agreed upon the presented budget. Rhonda Lorenze made a motion to accept this version of the budget and present it to the congregation for vote at the annual meeting. Seconded by Adam Wientjes. Motion carried.

New Business:

1. Head Usher/Ushering Duties – We are looking for a head usher to take responsibility for contacting and scheduling ushers, backup ushers, communion assistants, and readers. We also need more adults to volunteer to be with the youth that are ushering to help them.

2. Youth Gathering Funds- The GLC Youth Group is going to New Orleans with the ELCA Youth Gathering in July 2024. They have had one fundraiser so far but need to raise more funds. The goal is to raise all the money so that families do not have to pay out of pocket for their kids to experience this wonderful opportunity.

Committee Reports:

Education, Youth, & Family – Christmas program practice and NOLA Trip Fundraising

Foundation- Foundation Sunday on November 12.

Fellowship & Outreach – Trunk or Treat on Oct. 29th went well. Ran out of candy and quit early. Planning on participating in the lighted parade and a chili cookoff in January.

Finance & Stewardship – RaiseRight has an app to purchase SCRIP. Individuals and families can purchase SCRIP and have instant access digitally on their phone. Ask Kat for more information.

Preschool – Going well. They will join the church kiddos at the Christmas program.

Property – LeRoy called Mack Concrete to make sure we are still on their list, they are looking at the 2nd week of December.

Safety – An accident on the property has been reported.

Worship & Music- All is well.

Dylan Jordan motioned to adjourn the meeting; Rhonda Lorenz seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Anderson

Grace Lutheran Financial Report

Contribution Report

Posted Contributions For Period: 01/01/2023 to 10/31/2023

<i>Fund Description</i>	October	Year-to-Date <i>Amount</i>
1 General Fund	18,404.27	189,397.57
3 Christmas Supper	-	30.00
5 Initial Envelope	3.00	280.00
7 Lent	-	2,437.00
8 Easter		710.00
10 Christmas	-	57.00
11 Building Maintenance Donation	85.00	135.00
12 Missionary Sponsorship	50.00	100.00
13 World Hunger	15.00	1,015.00
17 Altar Flowers	220.00	1,525.00
18 Radio Broadcast	160.00	1,700.00
20 Misc. General Fund	50.00	9,055.00
21 Loose Offerings	670.50	3,558.71
26 Lutheran Outdoors		120.00
27 Grace Lutheran Preschool		410.00
31 Postage Donation	-	5.00
35 Emergency Assistance Fund	150.00	1,005.00
76 REFUGEE	700.00	7,051.50
77 Mission of the Month		85.00
Education		40.00
Wednesday Night Meals	1,238.50	1,438.50
*** Facility Use Donation		2,875.69
*** Thrivent Choice Dollars		1,722.00
*** Misc Fundraising	2125.74	6,626.70
	23,872.01	231,379.67

<i>Reconciled Account Balance-Gen Fund</i>	
Beginning Balance	\$ 7,898.09
Income	\$ 22,756.85
Expenses(General)	\$ (19,500.90)
Ending Balance 10/31/23	\$ 11,154.04

Thank you



YOUR SUPPORT *Counts*

**The next Grace Council meeting is
6:00 pm Thursday,
December 14th**

You are always welcome to come in to
the office or call to review
or discuss our church budget.
Thank you, Kat 605-886-5737

Expense Report

For Period: 01/01/2023 to 10/31/2023

<i>Description</i>	October	Year-to-Date <i>Amount</i>	Budget
Benevolence	209.08	1,881.72	2,508.96
Payroll	14,272.64	165,686.10	241,041.25
Office Expenses	608.01	10,310.44	18,200.00
Worship	840.00	8,106.48	33,970.00
Alter Guild	-	230.28	1,100.00
Education, Stewardship & Management			
	1,801.45	43,383.17	67,100.00
Property	1,451.76	10,704.20	13,000.00
Designated Gifts	317.96	32,887.66	
Total Expenses	19,500.90	273,190.05	



Quilting is threaded with
SEW many pieces
of love and good designs to
join you together with cutting
edge creations all tied up
with strings of Blessings.
Join Dorcas Quilters—every
Monday from 1 to 4 pm in the
basement of Grace Lutheran.
*Come for the Fun! Stay for
the delicious snacks!*

“Got it at Grace” Fall Craft/Vendor Fair 2023



The Spring Craft/Vendor Fair is set for March 9

Pictured are some of the booths set up by over 30 vendors at the “Got it at Grace” Fall Vendor Fair.



Fall Craft & Vendor Fair Grace Lutheran Church November 2023

Concessions:

Drawer total	\$ 1,385.50
Beginning drawer	\$ (150.00)
Total Income	\$ 1,235.50
Expenses	
Chili Ingredients	\$ (24.67)
Total Profit	\$ 1,210.83

Craft Room:

Drawer total	\$ 573.00
Beginning drawer	\$ (150.00)
Total Income	\$ 423.00

Grandma's Attic:

Drawer total	\$ 607.00
Beginning drawer	\$ (150.00)
Total Income	\$ 457.00

Vendor Booths:

Income	\$ 1,420.00
Online Processing fees	-5.97
Returned check and fee	-45
Total income	\$ 1,369.03

Combined total income:

\$ 3,459.86

Memorials and Gifts

To the Flower Fund: In memory of her dad, David Johnson's birthday on November 10th from Darcy Raethz; From Kat Anderson in honor of what would have been her grandparents anniversary, Bill & Mildred Gregerson. From Will Morlock in memory of his wife Pat who passed away 6 years ago

To the Radio Fund: In loving memory of Roy & Doris Schmeling" from the Schmeling Radio Fund; From Will Morlock in memory of his wife Pat who passed away 6 years ago.

To the Memorial Fund: In memory of Dorothy Schooley from Family and Friends; A memorial for Nanette Argabrite from Marilyn Nipe; .

To the Preschool: From Fran Schaefer in memory of Randy Resick, Joan Merony, Ardell Johnson, Larry Peterson, Marcine Haugen, Lincoln Stahe, & Dorothy Schooley.

To the Building Fund: A gift from TOPS;

To the 140th Quilt Materials: A gift from Tracy Ronke.

Grace Lutheran Church Foundation Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 6, 2023

The Grace Lutheran Church Foundation Board of Directors met on November 6, 2023, 5:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church.

Present: Bonnie Oletzke, Becky Knadle, Larry Picht, Rich Dunn, Will Morlock, Krisma Dewitt and Gena Urvig. Also present was Peggy Hulscher, and Kat Anderson.

Will Morlock called the meeting to order.

Approve Minutes: There was a correction made to the October 2nd, 2023 meeting concerning a name. The correction has been made on the October 2, 2023 minutes. It was instructed not to send out the corrected minutes to the members on the board because it was a minor correction. A motion to approve the minutes from the October 2nd, 2023 meeting was made by Becky Knadle, seconded by Larry Picht, motion passed.

Krisma Dewitt reported on Nordfest. She stated that the turnout weeks before Nordfest preparing the lefsa, donuts, etc. was excellent. Krisma was happy with the turnout and the number of sales. Krisma Dwitt also stated that she is retiring from all boards at Grace Lutheran Church. Thank you, Krisma, for your leadership. The position, GLW, will remain open on our board until they nominate a new person for the position.

Peggy Hulscher reported the financial summary for month ending September 30, 2023. A motion to approve the treasure report was made by Becky Knadle, seconded by Larry Picht, motion passed.

Rental Property:

Larry reported that City Wide stated that one unit did not pay their rent but, are working on it. All the property taxes have been paid. The property insurance has been cancelled. Becky Knadle is checking on our options for property insurance. All the units are rented.

Church Update:

The confirmation kids will serve the Banquet the Monday before Thanksgiving. The Christmas Program will be December 10, 2023. Waiting for a "rain day" to fill in the choir room floor. There was another fall while setting up for Nordfest.

Foundation Sunday will be November 12th, 2023. Larry will bring the cookies. Someone will make the coffee. Will is going to report concerning Grace Lutheran Foundation during each service.

Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July, 2023.

The kids going to New Orleans are starting to raise money for the trip. It was report that they had a good turnout serving breakfast between services on November 5, 2023.

Our next meetings will be Monday, December 4th, 2023, 5:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church. Will is going to invite Mike with American Bank & Trust to report on our investments.

A motion to adjourn was made by Becky Knadle and seconded by Rich Dunn, motion passed. Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Remembering

Robert "Bert" Lenning

November 9,
2023



Welcome to the Family of God!

Oakley Lynn Tchida

November 18, 2023

Kenneth Wayne Bucholz

November 18, 2023





Receiving his first communion on All Saints Day, November 5th, was Jasper Wientjes pictured above with his family, Adam and Amanda Wientjes and Jensen.

YOU ARE NEEDED on Grace's Committees

Grace Lutheran Church is overseen by the church council but there are several committees to handle specific activities of its mission and ministry. These committees include council representative as well as members at large from the congregation.

As we approach the end of the year and the annual meeting, it's time to look at the needs for council and/or committees.

Committees include: Youth, Family & Education; Finance & Stewardship; Memorial; Mission; Fellowship & Outreach; Pre-school; Property; Staff Support; Worship & Music; Nominating; and Safety.

Your help is needed for this very important work of Grace Lutheran. If you are able to fill one of these spots, please contact pastor or stop at the office. Thank you!

49th Annual Christmas Meal

Grace Lutheran is offering their annual Christmas meal for Deliver and Carry-out only from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm on December 25th. There will be NO sit down meal at Grace.



Dish up for delivery will start after the 10 am Christmas Worship Service is over on Christmas Day.

If you would like to donate to the Christmas Meal, we need Pies, Monetary Donations and Volunteers. We will start the prep work at 8:00 am, which will include cooking the meal, cutting pies, bagging buns, setting up the serving lines for preparing the to-go containers for delivery and carry-out, setting up the delivery area, and then we will be cleaning up when we are finished.

If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact one of the Chair-people: Julie Stock, Denise Biller, Darcy Raethz, Becky Knadle and Gena Urevig.

Approximately 500 meals will be prepared and served this year to shut-ins, for pickups or delivery. Volunteers are needed to donate food and/or WORKERS to continue this successful annual event of Grace Lutheran.

Below is a check-list of Needs. Please fill in the quantity or activity:

☐ Pies (75 needed) ☐ Money donations (are needed & appreciated)
☐ Meal Prep 8 am ☐ Deliver meals ____ am/pm to ____ am/pm
☐ Cleanup at 1 pm ☐ Set up the serving line/to-go containers
☐ Cut Pies ☐ Bag Buns

Name: _____ Cell #: _____

To order for delivery

please call # 605-657-2985

and leave your Name, Address, Phone Number
and Number of Meals.

**Do NOT call the church for delivery, as all orders
are handled by this provided phone number ONLY!**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MEAL

Merry Christmas!! The 49th Annual Christmas Meal planning is underway!! This year we will be doing Delivery and Carry-Out only. We will start following the Christmas Day service. We will serve the meal from 11:00 am -1:00 pm.

If you would like to donate to the Christmas Meal, we need Pies, Monetary Donations, and Volunteers, who can help with the preparations, cutting pies, bagging buns, setting up the serving lines for preparing the to-go containers for delivery and carry-out, setting up the delivery area, serving, delivering, and/or clean-up. See information above.

To order for delivery, please call 605-657-2985. Leave your Name, Address, Phone Number and Number of Meals. Please do not call the church for delivery, as this is handled only on this provided phone number.

If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact one of the Chair-people: Julie Stock, Denise Biller, Darcy Raethz, Becky Knadle and Gena Urevig.

34th Annual Nordefest Plus Slated A Huge Success!

The 34th Annual Nordefest Plus was considered a huge success following weeks of preparation and good weather.

Pictured at right is Joyce Ruesink of Castlewood who has come to entertain the guest for several years with her accordion. We thank you for sharing your musical talents all these years.



Choir room pit is filled in to refurbished for Multi-Purpose

Work began on the former Choir Room to fill in the pit on Tuesday, November 28th. The cement work should be completed by the end of the week. The pit is being filled due to liability issue as two persons have slipped over the edge and fallen over the last two years. Leveling the floor



will make the room safer and more user friendly to be utilized in other ways.

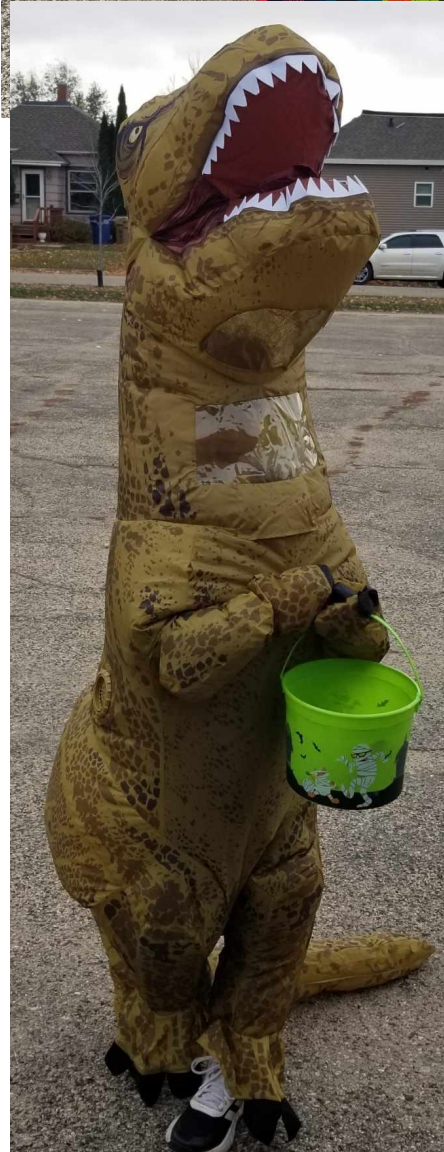
Funding for the cement work has been designated from the Grace Foundation and a monetary donation for lighting by GLCW. Donations are being sought for flooring of the room to complete the project. Please designate your donation to Repurpose the Choir Room.



NORDEFEST PLUS Wrap Up

INCOME	
LEFSE	\$3,820.00
LEFSE ON SITE	\$542.50
DONUTS	\$277.00
ETHNIC DELICACIES	\$754.00
BAKERY	\$799.25
GIFT SHOP	\$975.00
JEWELRY ANEW	\$469.06
GRANDMA'S ATTIC	\$1,384.50
COFFEE BAR	\$866.25
LUNCH	\$1,622.60
COOK BOOKS	\$70.00
DONATIONS/MEMORIALS	\$145.00
THRIVENT ACTION TEAM CARD	\$250.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$11,975.16
EXPENSES	
COUNTY FAIR	\$447.25
HYVEE	\$222.70
KAREN KASPERSON (HyVee)	\$127.14
WALMART	\$148.78
ADVERTISING	
RICH DUNN/DANNY BREKKE	\$100.00
JOYCE RUESINK (music)	\$150.00
THRIVENT ACTION TEAM CARD	\$250.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,445.87
NET PROFIT	\$10,529.29

THANK YOU, AGAIN, FOR A
SUCCESSFUL NORDEFEST PLUS!



The evening was very cold due to wintry weather and cold winds and after one hour had to end their event because of running out of candy to pass out. The Fellowship and Outreach Committee hosted the event.



Trunk or Treat Cold but a huge Success!

Several members of Grace decorated their vehicles and filled them with candy for the October 29th Truck or Treat. Approximately 300 came through for treats.



Dried Fruits, Nuts & Candy

are available anytime in the office at Grace from 9 am to 4 pm Mon—Thurs & Wed evening until 7 pm with a wide variety of fruits, nuts, munchies and several kinds of candies. They will be set up at the December 2nd & 3rd Vendor Fair at the Watertown Extension Bldg. Now available for sale are Christmas Gift boxes of candy. Sunday, December 17th they will be set up in Fellowship Hall for your last minute fruits, nuts and candy Gift Boxes for Christmas baking. We now have a credit card machine for your convenience.

Watertown Fruit by Grace proceeds go to General Fund

Notes and News from Grace Lutheran Preschool

We have had another awesome month learning at Grace Lutheran Preschool!

I can't believe that our year is almost half way over already. We have been learning about the farm this month! We have also been practicing hard to learn all of our songs and the words for our Christmas program! The Christmas program is scheduled for December 10th at 2pm, we would love to see you there!



Here are a few class photos from our Halloween Parties! We had so much dressing up, playing games, and watching a short Halloween movie! November 1st they were already telling me that it was Christmas time, so its safe to say we are all super excited for the holidays!



If you would like to donate to the preschool, we are always in need of cups, plates and snacks. I will also post the link for our Amazon Wishlist!

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2QY6LBAC1WBG-T?
ref_=wl_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2QY6LBAC1WBG-T?ref_=wl_share)

We still have spots in all of our classes! If you or someone you know is interested in starting preschool for the second half of the year please reach out to Kat or Miss Maia for more information!



Ushering Needs for worship services at Grace

Grace Lutheran is looking for a head usher for either or both Sunday services. In years past there has been a person or people who have held this volunteer position. A head usher is someone who helps train new ushers, schedule them, and ensure things run smoothly during the church service. All things needed for services at Grace.

Congregations generally have a head usher and list of volunteers to serve. At this time, we are working on creating a list of ushers, communion assistants, greeters, and readers for Sunday services. Volunteers can sign up in advance for a specific time or month and/or for the service they prefer. The benefit is to save time each week in "finding" someone to fill these needs and allow members to select a month and time convenient for them rather asked when they arrive at church. Our young people in confirmation also need the guidance of adult ushers to learn the proper service they are to provide and so they don't feel taken advantage of.

There is no age limit. If you can fill these needs, please complete a Stewardship event request or let the pastor know so your name can be added to the list. Thank you.

Confirmation Students fulfilling service project requirements

Each year the confirmation students are required to complete 10 service project, two of those projects are required. The first is to serve as waiter and waitresses at Nordefest Plus and the second is the Monday night Wassertown Banquet, hosted by Grace Lutheran Church.

Picture at right above are those who attended the Nordefest Plus activities, l to r: Alex Ruiz-Raigoza, Soren Bisgard, Jensen Wientjes, Brom Koistinen, Jannier Ruiz-Raigoza, Kyler Schulz, Melody Schulz, Olivia Anderson, Bryn Koistinen, Allison Henrichs, and Vanessa Anderson.

Serving 107 meals at the Wassertown Banquet November 20th at right are l to r: Olivia Anderson, Allison Henrichs, Jensen Wientjes, Brom Koistinen, Melody Schulz, Vanessa Anderson, Maria Lima, Kyler Schulz, and Soren Bisgard.



Thank you

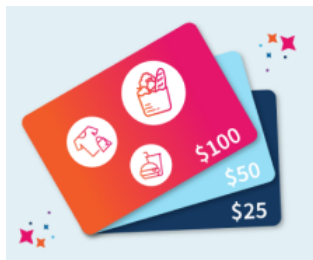
Thank you so much to **EVERYONE** who helped make Nordefest Plus a success this year! We could not have done it without you!

-The Nordefest Plus Committee

Christmas Shopping made easy with Scrip Gift Cards can now be purchased Online

If you regularly purchase Gift Cards for Birthdays or Christmas, you can purchase them through Grace Lutheran and support Grace. Each time your purchase Scrip – Grace receives between 3 to 5% or more which goes for the general fund.

Currently available at Grace are gift cards available for Walmart, County Fair, Hy-Vee, Target, Applebee's, Buffalo Wild Wings, Pizza Ranch and Starbuck. There are over 100 others available online at RaiseRight.com that can be order and shipped to your home or the church. Use this code for Grace: 7B7977AD26LL5 when you order. Kat will be happy to order them for you if you need assistance.



RaiseRight

Scrip is a great fundraiser for the Grace Lutheran mission plan. Please consider using them for your next purchases. The cards can be bought after the service or 9 am to 5 pm Monday to Thursday and Wednesday until 7 pm.

THANK YOU

from "Got it at Grace" Craft/
Vendor Fair Chairs

What a wonderful group of people who helped with the I Got it at Grace Vendor Fair! The workers at the concession stand, the Gift Shoppe, Grandma's Attic, Dried fruit & nuts, the kitchen, Rich & Danny who cleaned up after us, and anyone else who I may have forgotten! Together, it was a lot of work, but it was also a big success! Thank you to everyone, including the youth who helped us!

God Bless all of you!!
Bobbi & Darlene

THANK YOU

from the Youth and families!

A huge thank you to all who came out to support the Youth and their families at the Breakfast Brunch last Sunday. It was a great success and good start to fund raising for the trip to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July.



All Youth grade 7th thru 12th are encouraged to gather each Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the Youth Room
 Come early for a meal 5:30—6:15 pm—Dinner Church at 6 pm
OR Just Hangout from 6:30 to 7:30
No Youth group 13th thru Christmas Break

Youth working toward Trip to Youth Gathering in New Orleans

Eleven young people from Grace Lutheran have registered for a trip to the Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2024. The gathering provides a week of faith formation with high school youth from across the the ELCA in America.

The theme for the 2024 Gathering, is "Created to Be," centered on Psalm 139:14. We have been created by the Holy One to be ourselves. The mission of faith formation is central to the Gathering with goals to create environments and opportunities through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service and fellowship.



The youth from Grace Lutheran held a successful fund raiser breakfast brunch in November netting over \$806.35. On Sunday, December 10th baked good will be available for sale in the Narthex between services, following the services, and prior to the Childrens' Christmas Program at 2 pm. A sign up sheet for people to donate to the bake sale is available in the office.

Youth are asking for donation of baked items to sell. Items should be delivered to Grace between 2 and 4 pm on Saturday, December 9th to be prepared for the bake sales.

Christmas Bake Sale - Dec 10th



Between services
 ~ After Service ~
 & before the
 2 pm Children's
 Christmas Program



The Grace Jewelry Store will be open

Shop for hand bags,
 watches, necklaces,
 bracelets, rings, belts,
 brooches, earrings,
 scarves, neckties, lovely
 jewelry of all kinds
 and more.



*Check out the Jewelry Store
 for your special Christmas Gifts*

**Gift Shoppe items will
 ALSO be available for your
 Christmas Shopping**



*Luscious Caramel rolls at the
 9:30 am coffee fellowship -
 To stay or to Go!*

*Proceeds of this fund raiser go to the youth fund
 Grace Lutheran Church 202 2nd St SE Watertown, SD*

Grace Lutheran Church

Pastor Cheryl: (605) 237-1501
Office Phone: (605) 886-5737

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> Pastor Cheryl Works on Monday from Home and can be contacted at 605-237-1501 or E-mail: cherylgrace@midconetwork.com Office Hours at Grace ~ Tuesday through Thursday ~ or by appointment. You are welcome to Contact Pastor directly anytime </div>						
3 8:30 – Hanging of the Greens Service 9:45-10:45 am Sunday School 11 am Hanging of the Greens Service 1 pm Service at Edgewood	4 1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm BANQUET 5:30 pm Grace Foundation meets	5 4:30 Tops/ Basement 5:30 pm Fellowship & Outreach Committee meets	6 10:30 am Service at Avantara 11:00 TOPS meets 5 pm Executive Committee meets 5:30 – 6:15 Wednesday Meal 6 pm Dinner Church w/communion & Wed Opening 6:30 pm Wednesday school 6:30 pm Confirmation 7:30 Youth Group	7 10:45 – 1 pm Home Schoolers Meet in Grace	8 OFFICE CLOSED Cub Scout Troup 8 Overnight Campout in Basement	9. Bake Sale Items due 2 pm to 4 pm
10 BAKE SALE FUND RAISER FOR YOUTH 8:30 – Service of the Word w/ Nancy McClanahan supply NO Communion 9:30 am – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 – 10:45 Sunday School 11 am Service of the Word w/ Nancy McClanahan supply NO Communion 2 pm Christmas Program Jewelry store & Gift Shop items available for sale	11 1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm BANQUET	12 Noon – WTN Ministerial Meeting 4:30 Tops/ Basement Blood Drive 11 am to 5 pm 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	13 10:00 am Service at HIRise 11:00 TOPS/ Basement NO Wednesday school NO Confirmation No Dinner Church	14 10:00 am Service at Stonebrook 10:45 – 1 pm Home Schoolers Meet in Grace 5pm Finance and Stewardship committee 6 pm Grace Council meeting	15 Cleanings Deadline OFFICE CLOSED	16
17 8:30 – Traditional Worship 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship w/ 11 am Contemporary Worship Watertown Fruit by Grace fruit, nuts, candy available for sale	18 1 – 4 pm Dorcus Quilters 5:30 pm BANQUET	19 4:30 Tops/ Basement	20 10:30 am Service at Jenkins 11:00 TOPS/ Basement 3 pm Service at Town View 6 pm Blue Christmas Service NO Wednesday night activities	21	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23
24 Christmas Eve NO morning Services	25 - Christmas Day 10 am Christmas Service w/ Communion Annual Christmas Meal w/ Noon Delivery	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27 NO Wednesday school NO Confirmation No Dinner Church No Youth Group	28	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30
31 New Years Eve ONE Service ONLY: 10 am Worship Service						

Grace Lutheran Church
202 2nd St. SE
Watertown, SD 57201-4308

Please Expedite - Time Dated Material

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Watertown, SD
PERMIT NO. 537



December 2023

Blue Christmas Service at 6 pm December 20th - No Dinner Church

Important Upcoming Dates

December 3 – Hanging of the Greens Sunday
December 6—Christmas Program Practice during Wednesday school
December 8—15 Pastor Cheryl on Vacation
December 10—Christmas Program Practice during Sunday school
December 10—No Communion—Nancy McClanahan supply
Bake Sale, Jewelry Store and Gift Shop items available for sale
Bake Sale fund raiser for Youth
Children's Christmas Program at 2 pm followed by a reception
December 13—27: Christmas Break for Wednesday school &
Confirmation. Class Resumes January 3rd
December 17—31: Christmas Break for Sunday school
Classes resume January 7th
December 24th – NO morning service.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 4 and 6 pm w/Communion
December 25th – 10 am Christmas Service w/Communion
Volunteer for Annual Christmas meal need beginning at 8 am
Annual Christmas meal by delivery 11 am to 1 pm
December 31st—One Service at 10 am.
January 21st—Annual meeting and potluck

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Services**
Sunday December 24th
4 and 6 pm w/communion
*No morning worship service on
Sunday December 24th*
Christmas Day Worship
Monday—December 25th
10 am w/communion
New Years Eve Service
December 31st—10 am
One service only.

**Darlene will be on hand
on Wednesday afternoons
to make available for sale
fruits, nuts, & Gift Boxes of Candy.
Proceeds of Watertown Fruit by
Grace go to the General Fund of
Grace Lutheran.**

Grace Lutheran Church: God's Grace Experienced Daily