

Grace Greetings

September 2018

Grace Lutheran Church, 208 1st Street SW, P.O. Box 522, Tripoli, IA 50676

Pastor Scott Duffus: 507-390-4306
Church Office: 319-882-3579
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Grace Annual Church Supper is scheduled for Sunday, September 23rd. The supper is a significant outreach of the congregation and are asking those who feel passionate about the supper to volunteer to serve on the Church Supper committee. Please call or come to the church office if you are willing to volunteer.

Electronic giving!

The stewardship committee along with the council are pleased to announce the introduction of an electronic option for making regular offerings. For anyone interested in moving to electronic giving, here is the link to our electronic giving page www.eservicepayments.com

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Scott or Jocie Moeller.



The annual men's grill out/potluck will be Saturday, September 15, 2018. It will be held at Jim Rathe's house (605 1st Street SE) at 5:30 pm. Meat will be provided and freewill offering will be taken. You should bring a potluck dish, drinks and plates, etc. All men of the church are invited to attend, along with their spouse or guest. Please reserve your spot by calling the church office or contacting Jim Rathe (319) 231-5749 by Wednesday September 12. There will not be a men's breakfast or pizza night in September.



Grace Lutheran Church Outdoor Worship and Fall Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 16 on the parsonage yard. The worship service will begin at 10:00 am with the picnic to follow. Please bring plates, silverware, and lawn chairs for your family and also a dish or two to share with everyone! The fellowship committee will provide the hog, buns, fixins, along with water or lemonade to drink.

Come on Wednesday night for a light meal at 5:30 and a worship service at 6:30 pm.

New Worship Time at Grace @ 9:00 am

News & Upcoming Events

Christian Sympathy is expressed to the family and friends of Marge Axon, mother-in-law of Don Buls and grandmother of Brent (Laura) Buls, Rhonda (Kent) Davis, Kristie (Scott) Leistikow, great-grandmother of Leslie (Brad Jones) Davis, Luke (Rachele) Davis, Alex Davis, Justin Ramthun, and great-great grandmother of Elise and Grace Mowatt, and Wyatt and Morgan Davis. Funeral services were held at Faith UCC. May the God who reigns over life and death be with you. There were flowers from this service.

Christian Sympathy is expressed to the family and friends of Darleen Watson, mother of Annita (Rich) Rettig and grandmother of Garrett (Denise) and Taylor (Jessica) Rettig and great-grandmother of Reece, Tate, Trey, Roman, and Jovi Rettig. Funeral services were held in Stockton, Iowa. May the God who reigns over life and death be with you.

Christian Sympathy is expressed to the family and friends of Donna Patrie, sister of Roger (Jana) Stumme and aunt to Shelley (Jon Groves) Stumme, Shawn (Sarah) Stumme, Connie (Jay) Reynolds, and Jared Stumme. Funeral services were held at St. John's Lutheran Church, Western Douglas. May the God who reigns over life and death be with you.

Christian Sympathy is expressed to the family and friends of Ray Bloem. Funeral services were held at Grace with burial at Fremont Cemetery. May the God who reigns over life and death be with you. There were flowers from the service.

Christian Sympathy is expressed to the family and friends of Larry Vogt, husband of Shirley, and father of Craig (Michelle) and Barry (Lisa) Vogt. Funeral services were held at Grace with burial at Grace Cemetery. May the God who reigns over life and death be with you. There were flowers from the service.

Mission Cross Items Needed

Your donations of Baking Products –Flour, sugar, brown sugar, powdered sugar, PAM, cooking oils, etc.—are needed for the Helping Hands Food Bank during September. Thank you for your contributions!

Quilt Tying will be September 10th. We will begin at 9:00 am. Please bring a sack lunch. Treats will be furnished. Come when you can and leave when you must.

Update on Cemetery Plots

If you are interested in purchasing a cemetery plot in Grace Cemetery, please contact **Kathy Fink** at **319-231-4155**. The price per plot is \$200 for members of Grace, and \$400 per plot for non-members.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for those who are ill:

Bill Kuker, Bob Bremner, Esther Oberheu, Tracy Anderson, Ron and Nancy Fowlkes, Logan Liddle, Hollis Niemeyer, Paul Bremer, David Bremer, Betty Johansen, Madeline Figanbaum, Jean Bremer.

Please remember to also pray for: **Hans Schult, Marilyn Schult, Leisa Nolte, Carol Johnson, Kurt Schult, Loretta Mahlstedt, Gertrude Dettmering, Gloria Siggelkov, Ordella Freyholtz, Dick Marvets, Tony Lechtenberg, Trent Pavelec, Christine Bush.**

We also pray for those in the Armed Services: **Michael Bush** with AFRICOM/U.S. Army in Germany, **Michael Dombusch** stationed in the U.S., **Brian Krueger** in Kuwait, **Matthew Krueger** in Tennessee.

God Bless Our Shut-ins

- At Home: **Ruth Bergmann, Ordella Freyholtz**
- Bartels (Waverly): **Gloria Siggelkov, Gladys Rettig**
- Cedar Falls Care Facility (Cedar Falls): **Vernon Kirchhoff**
- Cobblestone (Sumner): **LaVerne & Pauline Lobeck, Joyce Nuss**
- Crestview Sunshine Area (Charles City): **Dane Frahm**
- Hillcrest Home (Sumner): **Gertrude Dettmering, Hans & Marilyn Schult**
- Tripoli Nursing Home: **Luella Harns, Elna Kuecker, Loretta Mahlstedt, Dale Petersen**

August Church Council Meeting Highlights

The monthly Church Council meeting was called to order on Sunday, Aug. 12, at 6:35 pm by Vice President Lawain Judisch. Meeting opened with prayer.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's report was approved after a motion was made by Mary Jo Rathe and seconded by Bruce Mowatt.

Financial Report: Cash flow is improving and payroll and other bills have been paid. We have not had to use the line of credit at the bank. About \$1500-\$1600 a month is being given electronically.

Pastor's Report: Confirmation camp went well, which allowed Pastor to begin to get to know the children. Council is also continuing to look at clarifying church office duties.

Old Business

Website progress is continuing and the link for people to enroll electronically for automatic giving is being included on the website. The Council reviewed a sample card indicating people gave electronically; these will be placed in the pews so they can be put in the offering plates.

Quotes and plans for bathroom remodeling are being compiled. Once reviewed, these will be presented to the congregation for consideration/approval.

The down spouts on the church are currently dumping into the sanitary sewer system. The city has sent a letter to the church stating we have until the end of the month to get this fixed. We will be doing a temporary fix to comply, and before winter, will be hooking up a tile that runs down to the creek.

New Business

Council approved the membership transfer of Eric and Kimberly Sommermeyer and family to St Paul's, Waverly.

The Executive Committee presented a standard operating procedure, written job description, and an agreement between the secretary and the church. Mary Jo Rathe made a motion to approve the documents, Jocie Moeller seconded the motion, and motion carried.

The Parish Education Board's proposal to change traditional Sunday School to cross-generational Sunday School was presented. There will be activities such as music, crafts, and coffee/treats, and will begin after worship on the first Sunday in October. Mary Jo made a motion to approve, Dave Shinstine seconded, and the motion carried.

Discussed holding a simple Wednesday night worship service to enable members to attend a worship service during the week if their weekends are busy. A simple supper will be from 5:30-6:20 pm, and a worship service from 6:30-7:00 pm. Barb Bush made a motion to approve, Jane Peterson seconded, and motion carried.

The Confirmation program is also being reworked. Given that students respond better with activities vs. classroom study, the plan is to meet approximately 5 of the scheduled days off from school for Confirmation. Some adult assistance will be needed to transport students. Dave made a motion to go forward with this plan, and Jocie seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Fellowship: Outdoor worship is planned for Sunday, Sept. 16, with a hog roast to follow. Committee is also planning to have bonfires in the church parking lot on home football game nights.

Adult Ed: Planning a night to watch the Martin Luther film.

Cemetery: Working on getting plot maps to match up.

A motion was made to adjourn by Jocie Moeller, seconded by Mary Jo Rathe, and motion carried. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

To All Veterans: If you are interested in a single size quilt made of patriotic service emblems, please contact the church office. The quilters cannot send any quilts overseas with any of the patriotic emblems. The ladies would love to make these quilts for our veterans here at Grace. Please call the office if you would like one-882-3579. Thank you.