

Installation of Rev. Alex Bjoraker - Everyone from Grace is welcome to attend the installation of Rev. Alex Bjoraker on Sunday, August 4 at 4 PM at Zion Lutheran Church, Tobias, Nebraska. He will be installed as the new pastor for Zion-Tobias and Immanuel-Daykin.

Join us on a motorcoach ride to **MISSION CENTRAL** in Mapleton, Iowa on **Saturday, August 17**. Old Missionary Gary invites us to a tour of the Creation Theater, the Barn Museum, the Tractor Museum, and a free lunch. To top off the day, we get to hear Rev. Charles St. Onge, missionary to Canada. He will tell us about the work of sharing the Gospel to the Canadian people. The bus is limited to 52 passengers, as we already have nearly 35 people signed up. The cost is \$60 per person. Call the office and reserve your seat today!

Join Nebraska Family Alliance for an inspiring evening with special guest Tim Tebow! The 2024 Life and Liberty Gala is scheduled for **Thursday, August 29** at the CHI Health Center in Omaha. Come celebrate recent victories for life and liberty and partner with us in advancing Biblical principles, defending the unborn, and preserving religious freedom for future generations. Capacity is limited, so purchase your ticket today. Individual price is \$65. Go to nebraskafamilyalliance.org to purchase your ticket today!

Christian Education Weekend Events

Please join us **September 6-8** for a weekend of fellowship to kickoff the new season of children, youth and adult education at Grace. Join us for any or all of these activities:

<u>Friday-Sunday</u>: Bring your camper or a tent and fellowship with other campers! Rumor has it that campsites are selling quickly, by our folks and the general public. We are in the new campground, toward the east end. No special events happening on Friday night, so just come and hangout by the fire with your friends! Or make new friends!

Saturday: Formal activities begin at 5 PM with devotions and singing. After that, we will gather around the big screen and watch our beloved Huskers defeat those pesky Colorado Buffaloes in a 6:30 PM primetime matchup! Bring gametime snacks to share so we can graze all game long! Don't forget your lawn chair and favorite beverage!

Sunday: NO CHURCH SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT CHURCH. We will have an outdoor service at the campground, beginning at 10 AM. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy worshipping in God's Creation, outside! Following the church service, we will have a potluck meal. Details will come in the September newsletter. Please watch for them! After the meal, children will gather for games.

We will also hold a meeting for Midweek and Confirmation Parents at this time, so it is important that all parents plan to attend!



High School Fundraiser at Fairbury Country Club providing lunch for the tournament on August 2 and 3. **Kids and parents watch text messages for details.**

Young Adults Evening - Please join Pastor, Vickie, and Leslie on Saturday, August 3 at 6 PM at Pastor & Vickie's home. Please bring your own drinks and lawn chairs - food will be provided. Please RSVP to Pastor to let him know you are coming 402-358-0932. Hope you all can make it!

Pastor Emery has services at Cedarwood on Sunday, August 11 at 1:30 PM, at Heritage on Thursday, August 15 at 10 AM and at Gardenside on Thursday, August 15 at 10:45 AM.

WE NEED SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS: Preschool - 2nd Grade for <u>August</u> and Grades 3 - 8 for <u>August</u>. Please contact Krystal Schroeder (402-587-0387)

Orphan Grain Fish Boil will be on Sunday, August 18 at 12 Noon here at Grace.

LWML wants to make Christmas gift boxes this year for Orphan Grain Train. Christmas gift boxes will be sent internationally to recipients who will deliver them to children that may not receive any other Christmas package. Completed boxes must be completed by September 1 so that shipments can be made for delivery prior to mid-December. Boxes will be categorized for "boy" or "girl" with items appropriate for either age 2-7 or 8-12. **Our goal is 50 boxes! We are asking for donations by August 15:**

Coloring books, Crayons (24 count box), Plastic or Rubber Balls (Tennis Ball is okay),
Small stuffed animals (Beanie Baby Size) and Lip balm (Non-liquid) & hair clip/bow for girls age 8-12

PLEASE DO NOT VARY FROM THIS LIST AS GUIDELINES MUST BE FOLLOWED. It could result in all of the packages being confiscated and no child receiving any gift.

FROM THE DESK OF LESLIE DREES

It's time for my first message as your new DCE. I am so excited to be here. It's been a fantastic couple of weeks, and we are busy! We've had meetings, bible studies, assisted living visits, and a youth campout, and we are already planning for the upcoming church education year.

Before I get into our church activities, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself. I know many of you have seen me around church. You may know me as one of the trumpet players upstairs or have a connection with my family from the area, but you might not know how I made it back to Fairbury.

Here's what's happened...

- 1. Born in Fairbury
- 2. Grew up in Waverly
- 3. Attended Lutheran school for K 12th grade in Lincoln
- 4. 4th graduating class from Lincoln Lutheran in 2001
- 5. Graduated from Concordia, Seward in 2006
- 6. Received first call to Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Cedar Rapids, IA, in 2006
- 7. Moved to Daykin to teach music and band at Meridian in 2018
- 8. Received Masters in Ed. Leadership from Doane in 2022
- 9. Served as interim principal at Meridian for the 2023 spring semester
- 10. Served as Meridian's band director and elementary principal for the 2023-2024 school year

Be watching next month for more fun facts, and if you can't wait, you can find me at church. I love visitors, coffee, walks, and talking about Jesus!

Now, for the church activities update, we had a great turnout for the Tri-church campout at Lonestar. We had 13 kids and five adults who enjoyed God's creation and learned about his marvelous works! Thank you for sharing your campers with us and to everyone who helped with coolers, food, and tents.

Many things are still in the planning stages, but please mark your calendars for September 6-8. This will be our rally/education weekend at Crystal Springs, and we will share information on midweek, confirmation, and Sunday school. Be watching for times and more details, but we want to see everyone at Crystal Springs for church on Sunday morning, Sept. 8th! As things come up, I'll get more information to you, but please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions or just want to visit. I'm looking forward to starting things up this fall and can't wait to keep getting to know everyone! God's doing great things at Grace!