

# Grace Ev. Lutheran Church (LCMS)

## News & Notes

415 10th Street, P.O. Box 156  
 DeWitt, IA 52742-0156  
 563-659-9153 Church 563-659-9154 Fax  
 563-659-9193 Preschool



Office Hours: M-Th 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. & Friday 8:00 a.m.- Noon

Pastor Eric Obermann 563-321-0032

### THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE - December 15<sup>th</sup>- December 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### THOSE IN SERVICE TODAY - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

<b>8:00 a.m. Service</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. Service</b>
Organist: Diana Baetke	Organist: Diana Baetke
Elder: Clint Albrecht	Elder: Scott Steffens
Reader: Mark Sperry	Ushers: Engelkes Family
Acolyte: Adalyn Appleby	Reader: Mark Sperry
A/V: Steve Butler	Acolyte: Noah Sunday
	A/V: Steve Butler

#### Third Sunday of Advent

**Setting:** Divine Service, Setting 3, pg. 184  
**Hymns:** 352 353 357 355 335 342 338 849  
**Special Music by Rich Matzen, Julie Matzen and Abbey Swanson**  
 "And Love Was Born"  
**Scripture:** *Isaiah 35:1-10 James 5:7-11 Matthew 11:2-15*  
**Sermon:** "Marks of Christ"

#### Third Wednesday of Advent

**Setting:** Evening Prayer, pg. 243  
**Hymns:** 357 370  
**Scripture:** *Matthew 28:16-20*  
**Sermon:** "All Authority"

#### IN SERVICE —WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH

<b>11:00 a.m. Service</b>	<b>7:00 p.m. Service</b>
Organist: Diana Baetke	Organist: Diana Baetke
Elder: Allan Anderson	Elder: Dave Wold
A/V: Need Volunteer	Acolyte: Margie Alger
	A/V: Need Volunteer

#### THOSE IN SERVICE NEXT WEEK - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

<b>8:00 a.m. Service</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. Service</b>
Organist: Diana Baetke	Organist: Diana Baetke
Elder: Clint Albrecht	Elder: Scott Steffens
Acolyte: Isaac DeHaven	Ushers: Stearns Family
Reader: Mark Sperry	Acolyte: Karley Erps
A/V: Rich Matzen	Reader: Mark Sperry
	A/V: Rich Matzen

#### PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

M-W - 8:00 A.M.—NOON  
 TH - BY APPOINTMENT  
 FR - OFF

**COMMUNION POLICY** — If you are a member of a Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod Congregation, you are welcome to partake of Communion when offered. If time permits, please identify yourself to the Pastor prior to worship. Those who are members of other denominations are encouraged to use this time of Communion as an opportunity for personal prayer and praise. If you have any questions or concerns about this practice, please ask the Pastor for additional information that will explain the Scriptural foundation for this policy.

#### Our Gifts, Tithes & Offerings for 12/08/2019

	Amount
Tithes and Offering	\$ 6,179.00
Thanksgiving	75.00
Advent	1,161.00
Capital Improvements	30.00
Endowment	25.00
Glory Bound Choir	45.00
Preschool	260.00
Envelope Fund	6.00
Sunday School Offering	53.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,834.23</b>

#### Attendance for week of 12/08/2019

In Worship		In Study	
Sunday Service		High School	4
8:00 a.m.	197	Sunday School	60
10:30 a.m.	35	Bible Study	27
Wed. Cantata	151	Staff	<u>13</u>
Wed. Advent		<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>
11:00 a.m.	27		
7:00 p.m.	<u>51</u>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>461</b>		

**REFERRAL CENTER MONTH** - Grace Lutheran will be collecting items for the Referral Center during December. Your donations can be placed on the display in the foyer through December 29th.

# Calendar



12/15/2019	Newsletter Deadline
	8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm
	9:15 AM Sunday School/Christmas Program Practice
	9:30 AM Adult Bible Study
	10:30 AM Traditional Worship/Comm
	3:00 PM S.S. Christmas Program
	5:00 PM Youth Caroling & Pizza Party
12/16/2019	1:00 PM 500 Card Club
	6:30 PM Board of Elder's
12/17/2019	6:30 PM Camp Board Meeting
12/18/2019	7:00 AM Staff Meeting
	11:00 AM Advent Worship
	5:30 PM Confirmation
	6:00 PM Bell Choir
	7:00 PM Advent Worship
	7:45 PM Glory Bound Choir
12/19/2019	9:00 AM Tops Meeting
	5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting
12/21/2019	Hall Rental
12/22/2019	Hall Rental
	8:00 AM Traditional Worship
	9:15 AM Sunday School
	9:30 AM Adult Bible Study
	10:30 AM Traditional Worship

A heartfelt thank you to Grace Lutheran Women for baking, decorating, packaging, and delivering dozens and dozens of cookies to our OWLs over 80, shut ins, care facility residents, and Referral Center families. We were able to "sweeten" the Christmas season for 236 individuals and 40 families in our congregation and community. It takes many volunteers to make this happen. May God bless you and your families this Christmas season as you prepare for the birth of the Christ child.

Friends in Christ,  
Val Betz and Michelle Diercks

If you know of congregational members who may have had a recent change of address or living situation or who may be in need of a visit, please contact the church office at 659-9153. Updates to our lists are helpful so we do not overlook someone who may benefit from our service projects. Thank you!

## Worship SCHEDULE

**Children's Sunday School  
Christmas Program**  
3:00 p.m. - December 15<sup>th</sup>

**Advent Worship**  
11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>

**Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Services**  
6:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.  
Worship/Communion

**Christmas Day**  
9:00 a.m.  
Worship/Communion

### **CHRISTMAS CAROLING & PIZZA PARTY**

Attention all 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders. It's time for our annual Caroling & Pizza Party. Please join us Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 4:45 pm at church. We will be caroling at United Manor and possibly one or two other places along the way. Afterwards, we will return to church for our pizza party and gift exchange. Everyone is asked to bring a wrapped, non-White Elephant gift in the \$7-\$10 price range. Please contact Mr. Sperry if you have any questions.

Following the Worship Services on Sunday December 1st, 8th, and the 15th the Elders will be collecting contributions for a Christmas Offering for Pastor Eric and DCE Mark Sperry as an expression of congregational gratitude for their dedicated service to the Lord and His church. The gifts will be presented to them during the 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. The wooden collection box will be available in the narthex during these services for everyone wishing to contribute or for your own personal Christmas greetings. Proceeds will be equally shared by the Pastor and DCE, unless anyone wishes to designate specific amounts to each. If so, please place your gifts in separate envelopes marked for "Pastor Eric" or Mr. Sperry."