



Grace Newsletter

December 2018

Holiday Schedule

Wednesday Advent Services

7:00 p.m. Advent Worship
Dec. 5th, 12th & 19th

Christmas Cantata

8:00 a.m. - December 9th @
Grace Lutheran Church

10:00 a.m. - December 9th @
Immanuel Lutheran in
Grand Mound

6:00 p.m. - December 12th @
Grace Lutheran Church

Children's Sunday School Christmas Program

3:00 p.m. - December 16th

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m. - December 23rd

Christmas Eve

6:00 p.m. Worship/Communion
December 24th

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

10:00 p.m. Worship/Communion
December 24th

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Communion Service
December 25th

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m. - December 30th



CHRISTMAS CANTATA

The Christmas Chorale, including members of Grace and Immanuel Lutheran-Grand Mound proudly present, "**Come and See, Go and Tell!**" which will be performed on Sunday, December 9 at 8:00 a.m. at Grace and 10:00 a.m. at Immanuel-Grand Mound.

You are invited to come and know that this is your King, born to bring light and salvation to a people lost in darkness. Once we have seen, we can do nothing else but go and tell the Good News: the Savior is born! Plan to join us and let our new dynamic musical kick off your Christmas season!



Children's Christmas Program Practice Times

Saturday, December 9th

12:00-1:00 pm (3rd & 4th grade)

1:00-3:00 pm (5th-8th grade)

Saturday, December 15th

1:30-5:00 pm (5th-8th grade)

2:30-5:00 pm (3rd & 4th grade)

2:45-5:00 pm (3S-2nd)



CHRISTMAS TREES are available for sale at the Grace Camp Christmas Tree Farm. We will be open all of the Saturdays and Sundays through December 16th. A large selection of trees are available and camp

board members will be available to assist you with tree purchases. If no one is there to help you, you can slide your cash or check in the mail slot by the door at the tree shed.

Grace Lutheran Church
Sunday School Children present

Hurry, Listen!

Jesus is Born!

Join us for a Children's Christmas Program
brought to life through the eyes of a child!

Sunday December 16, 2018 @ 3:00pm

Grace Lutheran Church, DeWitt, IA



Our Sunday School Children will have the "Little White Church" decorated for a free will offering. We will also have a collection basket for the Referral Center.

Following the Christmas Program, we will have a
Happy Birthday Jesus Party downstairs in Grace Hall.
Please come down and join us.

There will be **NO** Sunday School classes on Sunday, December 23rd or 30th.
Regular classes will resume January 6th.

SERVING THIS MONTH:

The Elders:	8:00 AM	Clint Albrecht
	10:30 AM	Jon Betz
	Dec 5th - 7:00 PM	Jim Harroun
	Dec 12th - 6:00 PM	Jon Betz
	Dec 12th - 7:00 PM	Jon Betz
	Dec 19th - 7:00 PM	Dave Wold
	Dec 16th - 3:00 PM	Clint Albrecht
	Dec 24th - 6:00 PM	Lauren Hansen
	Dec 24th - 10:00 PM	Clint Albrecht

Organist: Diana Baetke

	The Acolytes	A/V Tech.
2-Dec-18		
8:00 AM	Carleigh Tobey	Steve Butler
10:30 AM	Owen Tucker	Steve Butler
5-Dec-18		
7:00 PM	Kamryn Albrecht	Need Volunteer
9-Dec-18		
8:00 AM	Adalyn Appleby	Steve Butler
10:30 AM	Hannah Grantz	Steve Butler
12-Dec-18		
7:00 PM	Lilyan Gruntorad	Need Volunteer
16-Dec-18		
8:00 AM	Benson Hill	Rich Matzen
10:30 AM	Caitlin Proctor	Rich Matzen
19-Dec-18		
7:00 PM	Remi Ruggeburg	Need Volunteer
23-Dec-18		
9:00 AM	Lauren Walker	Rich Matzen
24-Dec-18		
6:00 PM	Elyce Burzlaff	Need Volunteer
10:00 PM	Matthew Diercks	Need Volunteer
25-Dec-18		
9:00 AM	Carter Drury	Need Volunteer
30-Dec-18		
9:00 AM	Tobey Griem	Need Volunteer

The 2019 Chancel/Altar Flower sign up sheet is available at the Welcome Center.

We are asking members to donate bouquets in honor of or in memory of persons or events. Each bouquet is \$25 and there will be two bouquets each week. Please sign up for your preferred dates on the flower calendar, put your payment in the envelope provided, and slide the envelope through the mail slot in the secretary's door. You may purchase one or both bouquets.

PSSST!

Following the Worship Services on Sunday December 2nd, 9th, and the 16th the Elders will be collecting contributions for a Christmas Offering for Pastor Rafferty and Mr. Mark Sperry/DCE 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 on December 24th. The Elders will have a collection box in the narthex during these services for everyone wishing to contribute. 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 Rafferty" or "Mr. Sperry."

Offering Envelopes for 2019 will be available in the foyer after Thanksgiving. Please take a minute following services to pick up your envelope box. Please do not use these envelopes until January!

IMPORTANT

Deadline for submitting articles for the January Newsletter is December 15th at 9 a.m.

Special Gifts Given Include:

In loving memory of Alice Moeller \$10 has been given to Glory Bound Choir.

REFERRAL CENTER MONTH

Grace Lutheran will once again be collecting items for the Referral Center. The Referral Center is in need of peanut butter, hamburger helper, cream soups, tomato soup, tuna, potatoes, pasta and sauce. If you would like to help out financially you can make a check directly to the Referral Center. Your donations can be placed on the display in the foyer.

In Memory of:

Alice Verna Moeller, 93, of DeWitt, Iowa, passed away Saturday, October 27, 2018, at Wheatland Manor in Wheatland.

Alice was born October 22, 1925, to Carl and Lydia (Buenger) Traetow in rural Waverly, Iowa. After graduating from Waverly High School she worked as a secretary for a local law firm. She married Wilfred "Bill" Moeller on May 30, 1946, in Waverly. The couple resided in Logan and then settled in DeWitt, where she was a homemaker and raised four children. Alice later worked at Iowa Mutual, DeWitt Observer, as secretary to the principal at DeWitt Central Community High School, and the Clinton County Extension Office, where she retired. Bill preceded her in death on April 12, 2013.

Alice was a member of Grace Lutheran Church, DeWitt. She loved playing cards, walking, and biking. Alice and Bill cherished time together dancing, traveling and attending Iowa Hawkeye football and basketball games. She always enjoyed family gatherings and spending time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Surviving are her children, Julie (Mitch) Krukow of DeWitt, Rick (Dianne) Moeller of Springfield, Oregon, Jane (Mike) Buege of Lisle, Illinois, and Joel (Maureen) Moeller of Coralville; grandchildren, Cory (Rachael) Krukow, Ryan (Larissa) Krukow, and Kellie (Scott) Backes, Dustin

(Carla) Bengston and Eiron Moeller, Steve (Megan) Buege and Nick Buege (Laura Wingate), Devin (Emily) Moeller, Bryon Moeller, and Andy Moeller; 18 great-grandchildren; a sister, Viola Wittenburg, sister-in-law, Frieda Traetow; nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by her brother, Edgar Traetow, and sister, Lucinda (Alvin) Meier, brother-in-law, Arlin Wittenburg, and nephews, James and Kendall Wittenburg.

Joy A. Smith, 79, of Papillion, Nebraska, passed away on Thursday, November 15, 2018. A celebration for friends will be in Spring 2019 followed by a private graveside service in DeWitt, IA.

Joy was born on October 26, 1939 to Herman and Desyle Goetz Koch in Moline, IL. Joy graduated from Geneseo High School in 1957. She was united in marriage to Donald Smith on December 2, 1961 in Geneseo. She was a member of Grace Lutheran Church and Ci-Ed Club. Joy moved to Nebraska to be near her daughter, Kay in 2017. Joy loved working with needlepoint, playing cards, traveling, caring for her dog and spending time with her granddaughter, Tess Muñoz.

Joy was preceded in death by her husband and parents.



Baptized on November 17, 2018 — Oliver Emerson Stearns and Blaine Lee Stearns, sons of Joshua Stearns and Kortney Postell. Their sponsors are Andrea Suhr and Jacob Stearns.

Baptized on November 18, 2018 — Bryant Allen Martens, son of Anthony & Kayla Martens. His sponsors are Luke Dohrmann, Kyle Parkinson, Melissa Shady and Katie Minick.

Grace Lutheran Preschool is collecting Milk Moola Caps from Kwik-Star milk jugs and juice containers. Milk caps can be left in the container located on the Welcome Center. Thank you for your continued support of Grace Lutheran Preschool.



Verlene Reid is turning 90! Please join us at the Dewitt Community Center on December 16, 2018, from 1 - 4 for cake reception. No gifts please, your presence is all that is needed to make Verlene's birthday celebration even more special.

Attention Knitters & Crocheters

You are invited to the united Manor Social Room, in the office building of United Manor (707 14th St, DeWitt), on Wednesday Mornings at 9:30 am to work on prayer shawls or personal projects. Coffee will be on. Everyone is welcome!



ADVENT GIFTS: Brighten someone's holiday by contributing gifts for the Advent Gifts Drive, sponsored by the LWML Mission Guild. Gifts are taken to the Davenport Lutheran Home (a nursing home facility for Lutherans) and University of Iowa Children's Hospital where children are treated for various illnesses. The drive will take place starting at the end of November! All members of the congregation are invited to participate in this annual mission project.

Davenport Lutheran Home – nail polish, nail polish remover, fingernail files, hair spray, hair brushes, jewelry, perfume, boxed tissues, watercolor paints, crayola crayons, hand lotion, aftershave, men's cologne, glue sticks, felt-tip markers, acrylic paints for crafting, foam/felt sheets, non-skid slipper socks, beads with large holes for jewelry making, men's/ women's cardigan sweaters/fleece (size medium to extra large), lip balms/chap stick, hot glue sticks (large and small), ladies headbands/hair clips, thermal gloves, handkerchiefs and Crayola colored pencils.

University Children's Hospital – crayons, coloring books, story books, stationery, tapes and stuffed animals.

Please leave your unwrapped gifts in the totes on the stage in Grace Hall. Please note that the gifts must be brought to the church by Thursday, December 13th. Thank you kindly.

DeWitt Referral Center

The DeWitt Referral Center provides emergency assistance, food, and referral services to residents of the Central DeWitt Community School District of Clinton County while operating a thrift store and donation center open to the public.

The Referral Center is a non-profit entity spending what it brings in to assist those in need. Please consider donating food, monetary donations and by shopping the thrift store to add to the centers mission.

Another way to donate is to set up an automatic withdrawal directly from your bank account. Look for the brochure and form on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Thank you



A big thank you to everyone who donated baked goods and crafts for the LWML Bazaar. Also to those who baked pies and donated supplies for the luncheon. Especially a big thank you to all the volunteers who helped setup and serve the day of the bazaar.

The Committee

Dear Grace Church,
Thank you so much for your sweet card. Just seeing all the names of people I don't know, cheered my day!

Just taking the time to do a card—shows me a lot. I know my son Jeremy and his wife Jessica love their church family. We have been there a few times while visiting Iowa! With this being my second go around with cancer—I know the power of prayer.

Gods Love, Thank you, Sincerely
Pam Sunday

On behalf of Humility of Mary Homeless Housing, thank you for your generous donations of toasters, crock pots, pans, dishes, silverware, towels, sheets, blankets and much more. The need continues for home furnishings and warm clothing. Call Maria Casad, 515-528-1843, to schedule a pick up.

Board of Elders Needs Your Help!

Every year here at Grace Lutheran Church we have more than 120 church services! That does not include weddings and funerals and private baptisms and other special services... With only 7 or 8 elders to cover all of these services it becomes very problematic....**Please consider visiting with Jon Betz or myself if you even have an inkling of an interest. Then pray that the Holy Spirit will direct your final decision. The Board of Elders needs your help!**

Pastor Rafferty

CHRISTMAS CAROLING & PIZZA PARTY

Attention all 6th-12th graders. It's time for our annual Caroling & Pizza Party. Please join us Sunday, December 9th @ 4:30 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 gift in the \$5-\$10 price range. Please contact Mr. Sperry if you have any questions.

WINTER CAMP

Our annual Winter Camp for High School Students / Young Adults is December 29th – January 1st. You can register online at www.gracedewitt.org. Deadline to register is: Sunday, December 16th. Cost \$40. This is open to all 9th – 12th graders and their friends.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Please check the list of items needs for this year's Winter Camp and consider donating to help keep the costs down. All items should be dropped off at the Grace Kitchen by Thursday, December 27th.

POP CANS — Thank you for your continued donations of pop cans. Please remember to drop your clean pop can donations off in the Sunday school wing. We ask that you put the cans or bottles in the marked boxes provided, as this will eliminate clutter and keep our Sunday school wing looking nice. Thank you for all your support.

Grace Endowment Fund

With December 31, 2018, approaching, it is a good time for everyone to review your financial position and make adjustments in preparation for Federal and State income taxes. Charitable contributions can reduce tax liabilities. The Endowment Committee is asking everyone to include the Endowment Fund in your year-end contributions. Each year the requests that the Endowment Committee receives for funds far exceed the amount available. If the Endowment Fund grows, more money becomes available for distribution. This fund will provide income year after year for projects supporting missions, education, youth, worship, music and capital improvements that help our church run and grow.

ADVENT IS PREPARATION FOR CHRIST'S COMING – HIS SECOND COMING! THE BABY OF BETHLEHEM WILL COME AGAIN, THIS TIME IN GLORY!

“At the name of Jesus every knee [will] bow, in Heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”
(Philippians 2:10-11).



2018 Capital Improvements

The following are capital improvements that Grace needs to complete in the near future, and we are asking for donations to help fund the cost of these improvements. We are sincerely thankful for everyone who has graciously donated already and who will be donating in the future. If you would like to make a general donation for both of these projects, please put your donation in the Sunday offering plate in an envelope labeled for "Capital Improvements" or drop it off at the Church office. If you wish to contribute solely to a specific project, also include the name of the project on the envelope. Questions may be addressed to Melissa Riedesel, Business Manager, or Randy Lange, Board of Trustees.

	Project	Total Cost	Funds still needed	Comments
1	Replace Flooring in Lower Level of Preschool/Sunday School Wing	\$ 21,921	\$ 12,906	The 54 year old deteriorating epoxy floor coating has been cracking/peeling. Propose covering the existing floor with a heavy-duty vinyl laminate product and replacing the worn carpeted steps and entrances with a durable commercial carpet.
2	Replace two overhead projectors in Sanctuary and install one projector in Grace Hall	\$ 7,000	\$ 5,412	One of the two projectors in the Sanctuary is beginning to go out. Grace Fellowship Hall is also in need of a projector for presentations and educational events. Plans include replacing both of the Sanctuary projectors and relocating the one good Sanctuary projector to Grace Hall.



Our Save Around Fundraiser was a success! We raised enough money to purchase some items for our playground area. We are looking forward to celebrating Christmas! Preschool

Registration for the 2019-2020 school year will go live on Monday, Jan 7th.

Currently the Preschool is seeking volunteers that enjoy spending time with young children to assist when a teacher is unable to attend class. Volunteers help to watch over the children and assist the other teachers when needed. If you would like more information on how to become a Preschool Volunteer, please contact Mrs. Christine at 563-659-9193 or email preschool@gracedewitt.org.



Merry Christmas!



POINSETTIAS

Order Form

Poinsettias for Christmas are being ordered through the Church Office this year. If you would like a poinsettia to be placed in the sanctuary, please complete the form and return with your payment by December 10th.

Name: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Happy Birthday

2 nd	Jay Dies Chuck Goddard Gary Paarmann Bridget Henningsen Faith Ketelsen Grace Ketelsen Hollie Appleby Tessa Stevens Kourtney Postell	16 th	Scott Jacobsen Kim Haring Carolyn Lane Carly Small Dylan Azinger Emilie Butler	26 th	Sharri Block Jenny Marlowe
3 rd	Cathy Youngers	17 th	Judy Hartmann Shelby Schroeder Tyler Erps	27 th	David L. Mangan Jennifer McCormick Lori Olson Melisa Knight
5 th	Dick Broadfoot Skylar Henningsen	18 th	Nathan Keeney Matthew Scott Matthew Diercks Miranda Franklin	28 th	Gayle Fuller Kimberly Burzlaff
6 th	Stephanie Pillers	19 th	Alyvia Stevens Luke Hill Jill Johnson	29 th	Kolton Goddard
7 th	Kristi VanLaere Brooke Paasch Trenton Weimerskirk	20 th	John Gisel	30 th	Travis Ketelsen Chad Tobey
9 th	Jim Owen Laura DeLarm Carol Rafferty	21 st	Verlene Reid Sara Suhr		
10 th	Joel Kirby Katelyn Good	22 nd	Carol Anderson David J. Hansen Steven Butler		
11 th	Bailey Garrity	24 th	Tammy Mickelson Robert Mundt Jason Mork		
13 th	Leon Roseland Christina Galloway	25 th	Lauren Walker		
14 th	Makayla Shores				
15 th	Dean Marlowe Todd Hughes				



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

3 rd	David & Stephanie Pillers	20 th	Daniel & Dona Bark
5 th	Dave & Tracy Paarmann	22 nd	Kody & Shoni Hoffmann
6 th	Allen & Brooke Barnes		
8 th	Lucas & Nicole Rickertsen		
9 th	Louis & Cathy Ingwersen Sr. Donald & Connie Havener		
15 th	Ronald & Betty Jo Ketelsen		
18 th	Jamie & Jennifer Griem		

DECEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 9:00 AM Traditional Worship	26 6:30 PM Board of Christian Education	27	28 5:30 PM Confirmation Classes 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Glory Bound Choir 7:45 PM Cantata Rehearsal	29 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting	30	1 9:00 AM Cantata Practice 9:00 AM Meeting Room #1 Reserved
2 "Mites" Sunday 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Communion 9:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 10:30 AM Traditional Worship/Communion	3 1:00 PM 500 Card Club 6:00 PM Council Meeting	4	5 5:30 PM Confirmation Classes 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Advent Worship 7:00 PM Glory Bound Choir 7:45 PM Cantata Rehearsal	6 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting	7	8 9:00 AM Cantata Practice 9:00 AM Meeting Room #1 Reserved
9 8:00 AM Cantata - "Come and See, Go and Tell" 9:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 12:00 PM S.S. Christmas Program Practice (3rd & 4th grade) 1:00 PM S.S. Christmas Program Practice (5th - 8th grade) 3:00 PM NYG2019 Meeting 4:30 PM Youth Caroling & Pizza Party	10 6:30 PM Board of Discipleship Meeting 6:30 PM Elders Meeting	11	12 Preschool - No 4s Class 5:30 PM Confirmation Classes 6:00 PM Cantata - "Come and See, Go and Tell" 7:00 PM Advent Worship 7:00 PM Glory Bound Choir	13 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting	14	15 Hall Rental Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM LWML Cookie Packing 9:00 AM LWML Cookie Packing 1:30 PM S.S. Christmas Program Practice (5th - 8th grade) 2:30 PM S.S. Christmas Program Practice (3rd-4th grade) 2:45 PM S.S. Christmas Program Practice (3s-2nd grade)
16 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Communion 9:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 10:30 AM Traditional Worship/Communion 3:00 PM S.S. Christmas Program	17 1:00 PM 500 Card Club	18 3:30 PM West Wing Communion 6:30 PM Camp Board Meeting	19 5:30 PM Confirmation Classes 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Advent Worship 7:00 PM Glory Bound Choir	20 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting	21	22 Hall Rental
23 9:00 AM Traditional Worship	24 Office Closed/No Preschool 6:00 PM Worship 10:00 PM Worship	25 Hall Rental Office Closed/No Preschool 9:00 AM Worship	26 Office Closed/No Preschool	27 Preschool - Christmas Break 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting 6:00 PM Family Promise Board Meeting	28 Preschool - Christmas Break	29 Winter Camp 2018 - IGNITE
30 Winter Camp 2018 - IGNITE 9:00 AM Traditional Worship/Communion	31 Preschool - Christmas Break Winter Camp 2018 - IGNITE	1 Preschool - Christmas Break Winter Camp 2018 - IGNITE	2 Preschool - Christmas Break 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Glory Bound Choir	3 Preschool - Christmas Break 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting	4 Preschool - Christmas Break	5