

# 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

Pastor Eric Obermann 563-321-0032



## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE - May 31<sup>st</sup>- May 7<sup>th</sup>



PLEASE REMEMBER TO CONTINUE  
GIVING TO YOUR CHURCH  
DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME

Our Gifts, Tithes & Offerings for 5/24/2020	Amount
Tithes and Offering \$	3,775.00
Simply Giving	1,115.00
Capital Improvement	45.00
Preschool	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,955.00</b>

## GRACE LUTHERAN 2020 DAY CAMPS

In conversations with the Grace Camp Board and individuals who oversee other camps, we've made the decision to cancel all 2020 Day Camps. This was not an easy decision to make but was directed by our overall desire to care for the needs of our campers and their families - in faith, in body, and spirit.



**Baptized on May 24, 2020** — Lincoln Marie Mueller, daughter of Keaton & Shalyn Mueller. Her sponsors are Kendra Mueller, Ashli Veach, Hunter Crist and Isaac Crist.

Drake Andrew Maass, son of Andrew & Justine Maass. His sponsors are Stephanie Rohling and Weston Maass.

Logan Claus Maass, son of Andrew & Justine Maass. His sponsors are Will Maass and Alex Maass.

## WELCOME TO GOD'S FAMILY!

**GRACE LUTHERAN SUMMER CAMP 2020 – “SAVED”** - The dates for this year's summer camp are July 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>. When registration is open you will receive an email. Please note the early bird registration date of July 1<sup>st</sup>. **Any registrations received after that time will pay the higher registration fee and will NOT receive a T-Shirt.**

**SUMMER CAMP T-Shirts**—The dates for this year's summer camp at July 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to volunteer during camp or just stop out and would like an official Summer Camp 2020 T-Shirt, please contact Kerry Good or Mark Sperry. The cost is **\$10** and must be submitted by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Sunday School Teachers** are a very important part of our church. As we look ahead to the 20/21 Sunday School year we begin to look for teachers to help spread the Love of God to our children. Currently, we need for a 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th grade Sunday School Teacher. If you would like to volunteer to be a teacher please speak with DCE Mark Sperry or Kerry at the church office.



**Masks** — We have had some of our members making masks for us to distribute to those that may need them. If you are in need of a mask please stop by the church office or give us a call at 563-659-9153.

Dear Saints of Grace Lutheran Church,

Over the last two and a half months, we have been worshiping online-only trying to keep our congregation, our community and out of Christian love, our neighbor, safe from the effects of COVID 19. While we practiced this safeguard, we also knew that we needed to be prepared for when the time came to resume in-person worship services. Therefore, on June 7th, 2020 we will resume our in-person worship services.

In the excitement of resuming our normal Sunday practices, we also realize that we cannot at this time truly resume our normal Sundays. We realize that we need to implement a phased approach as we resume our worship services.

The first phase of resuming in-person services will consist of offering three worship services. On Sunday mornings we will offer services at 8 am at Grace Church, and 10 am at Grace Camp, and on Wednesday at 7 pm at Grace Church. All three of these services will be the same.

The two church services will be restricted as to how many seats we can safely offer while following the social distancing guidelines. While picturing the sanctuary we can safely offer 20 pews per service that is held at church, or to put it differently we can safely sit 20 family units. Family unit means the people who live in your home. Regardless if you are a family of 1 or a family 6, your family unit will get between one or two pews. If your family unit has more than 4 adults, adult being older than 8th grade, your family will need two pews. Therefore, we are asking if you plan on coming to a service held at Grace Church, that you call the church office 563-659-9153 to reserve a slot.

However, if you plan on attending a service at Grace Camp, we are going to follow social distancing measures if you choose to sit in the chapel benches. We also are highly encouraging you to bring your own lawn chair/s so that we can keep your family unit six feet apart from other family units.

Please, remember that camp services are effected by the weather. If the camp service has to be canceled a decision will be made by 8 am. We will notify everyone of this change via Facebook, the church website, and the use of the yellow sign.

If you are not comfortable in returning to in-person worship services, we will record our 8 am service on Sundays which will then be posted to YouTube no later than 11 am on Sundays.

### **General Guidelines**

- Stay home if you are sick.

### **Social Distancing**

- We will practice Social distancing which includes:
- No handshaking or other physical contact.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from other people.
- We are asking you not to congregate before or after services. (It will be difficult, but this is just phase one in returning)
- We strongly encourage you to wear a mask.
- Hand sanitizer will be given to you as you come in and as you leave.  
We recommend you wash your hands when you get home for at least 20 seconds.

### **Seating**

Seating will be spread out throughout the sanctuary. Please be flexible regarding where you are asked to sit.

- The elders will seat you.
- Family units will be seated together.
- After the service, please stay seated until the elders dismiss you

Please be patient with the elders as they do their best to seat you quickly and safely.

### **Pews**

- Pews are partitioned off and the elders will seat you. Do not seat yourselves
- Bibles, hymnals, and registration cards have been taken out of the pews.
- You may bring your own Bible or use a Bible phone app.
- There will be no bulletins.
- You will be able to follow along via PowerPoint on the screen, as you do from home.

### **Communion**

- No communion will be served at this time.

### **Offering**

- We will not be collecting the offering as we have in the past. The offering plates will be in the back or you may give electronically or by mail.

### **Elevator**

- The elevator is available. Please no more than one family at a time.

### **Live Broadcasting**

- We are continuing to record our service for those staying home.

### **CAMP GUIDELINES**

- If you are sick stay home
- If there is rain, the service will be canceled. Please, check Facebook on Sunday morning if the weather is bad
- We will follow the social distancing guidelines the same as if we were in Grace Church
- The services will be held at the current outdoor chapel area
- The bathrooms are currently closed and may remain so during the season.

Looking forward to returning on June 7th!

In the service of Christ,

Pastor Eric

**Please, remember to call Kerry at the church office, 659-9153, if you plan to attend worship services at Grace Church on Sunday or Wednesday. Thank you.**