



Grace News

Sunday Services

8:00 am & 10:30 am
Pastor Kent Umbarger
1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays

Pastor James Batchelor
2nd & 4th Sundays

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study

Sundays at 9:15 am

Adult Bible Study in Grace Hall
Women's Bible Study – Mtg #1

Office Hours

M-Th 8:00 am to 3:00 pm
Closed on Fridays

Office Ph: 563-659-9153
Email: kgood@gracedewitt.org

LCMS Stewardship

As a kid, I remember my Grandma and Grandpa Diepholz' home with extraordinary joy. Family fun. Great food. A legacy of faith. One of my lasting memories of that house was the table that sat between their twin beds. It contained a lamp, a Bible, a catechism and a hymnal. These were well-worn, as Grandpa read to Grandma every night before they went to sleep! What a treasure these tools of faith are! Let us spend some time this month in the hymnal to help us better understand our life as Christian stewards! To do this, we will use LSB 785 "We Praise You, O God."

We Praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tributes we bring.
We lay it before You, and kneel and adore You;
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

Stewardship is an act of worship. It flows from the grace and mercy we have received in Jesus! Faithful stewardship can never start with us. Our sinful nature will make us and our desires the center of our worship. Our tributes, our giving and our serving only flow from how the Lord Jesus has given of Himself for our sake! When we have this in clear view, our knees bow and our praises flow freely! All this flows from the Name that has been placed on us in Holy Baptism!

We worship You, God of our Fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

Our stewardship that flows from what God has done for us in Jesus Christ is rooted in history. Passed from one generation to the next, stewards of the Gospel connect God's provision in the past to His continued care in the present.

So often, the struggles we face are self-inflicted. While there are indeed perils that can shake us from outside of ourselves, we are more likely enduring the suffering that comes because of our own choices that are outside the Word and will of God! But even in these situations, the Lord who loves us will never forsake us. When we become selfish, self-serving and self-destructive, the Lord NEVER abandons! The Lord helps us to overcome the struggles in faith and win the victory the steward rejoices in!

With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

Stewardship is more than just an individual thing. There is a corporate nature to our steward life. We see this in the Divine Service. There, stewards of all ages, all economic strata and all languages are joined in the singular task of praise. This

continued on page 3

SERVING THIS MONTH:

The Elders: Sunday's 8:00 am Paul Kirby
10:30 am Jon Betz
Lent Worship 11:00 am Scott Steffens
7:00 pm Lucas Rickertsen

The Organist: Diana Baetke

The Acolytes

March 1st	
8:00 am	Adelynn Williams
10:30 am	Brynlee Dies
March 4th	
7:00 pm	Emmett Rickertsen
March 8th	
8:00 am	Ryleigh Spain
10:30 am	Dennis Wold
March 11th	
7:00 pm	Kinley Albrecht
March 15th	
8:00 am	Zanyel Barys
10:30 am	Gavin Birt
March 18th	
7:00 pm	Cade Converse & Kitt Converse
March 22nd	
8:00 am	Brady Dies
10:30 am	Leo Hill
March 25th	
7:00 pm	Ava Johnson
March 29th	
8:00 am	Cameron Miller & Larry Oronzio
10:30 am	Austin Nolin & Isaiah Sunday



Lenten Worship

11:00 am & 7:00 pm
March 4th 11th, 18th, & 25th

Maundy Thursday

April 2nd @ 7:00 pm

Good Friday

April 3rd @ 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday

April 5th – 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Special Gifts Given Include:

In loving memory Todd Telin \$20 was given to Grace Preschool and \$50 was given to Grace Camp.

In loving memory of Verlene Reid \$20 was given to Grace Preschool and \$545 for the Grace Camp Kitchen.

A memorial gift was given by Elaine Schoening, Hazel Laine Carlucci, and Maria Casad for the Grace Presence Candle. The gift was in memory of Henrianna (Anne) Soenksen Herman, and Esther & Edwin Soenksen, who donated the candle to honor their 40th Wedding Anniversary in 1971.

**PALM SUNDAY
PANCAKES BREAKFAST**
MARCH 29TH 8:30AM-10AM

PANCAKES, SAUSAGE, FRUIT AND MORE

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
YOUTH FUNDRAISER

FREE WILL DONATION TAKEN AT THE DOOR

The 2026 Altar Flower calendar is on the Welcome Center. Bouquets can be donated in honor of or in memory of persons or events. Each bouquet is \$30 and there are two bouquets available each week. Please sign up for your preferred dates and place your payment in the secretary's door. You may purchase one or both bouquets.

The following Altar Bouquet dates are available:

April 12th, 19th, 26th
 May 17th, 24th
 June 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
 July 26th
 August 2nd, 16th, 23rd
 September 20th, 27th
 October 4th, 18th
 November 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
 December 13th, 20th, 27th

We hope to have flowers every week, but we know that there are Sundays when the arrangements will be spoken for. It is these Sundays when you will not see arrangements on the altar. To assist the church in having arrangements, there is another way you can help. Donate money to our flower fund. We will then use the money in the flower fund to cover the cost of flowers when they have not been spoken for.

***** Remember,** we can only provide flowers when there is money in this fund. If you do not see flowers on a Sunday flowers were not spoken for and the Flower Fund does not have money in it.

**Lenten Meal Schedule
 Wednesday's @ 5:30 p.m.
 Free Will Offering**

Wednesday	Board	Serving
March 4th	Outreach/Choir	Maid-rites
March 11th	Elders/Preschool	Spaghetti
March 18th	Youth Board	Turkey & Dressing Sandwiches
March 25th	Finance/Trustees	Tacos

Greeters & Ushers

Greeters are needed to extend a warm welcome to members and visitors before worship services. Greeters are asked to be at church 20 minutes before service begins.

Ushers are needed to assist the Elders during worship services.

Please, look at the sign-up sheet located on the Welcome Center and sign u for a date you are available to help.

Continued from page 1

stewardship of praise flows from the altar to us, out into the world and then back to the altar! God's strong arm leads us in this stewardship 24/7. This makes stewardship, in all times and places, a matter of worship. We praise our Redeemer who has entrusted us with this great stewardship of the Gospel which forgives our sins, grants us new life and salvation. And this treasure we freely share for God's glory and the benefit of our neighbor!



Set your clocks forward. Daylight Saving Time Begins Sunday, March 8, 2026.

THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE for Grace Lutheran Church will be accepting grant applications through March 15, 2026. Applications for projects which provide support to missions, education, youth, worship, and music and/or capital projects will be considered.

LWML Mites

Mites Collection
 Sunday, March 1st

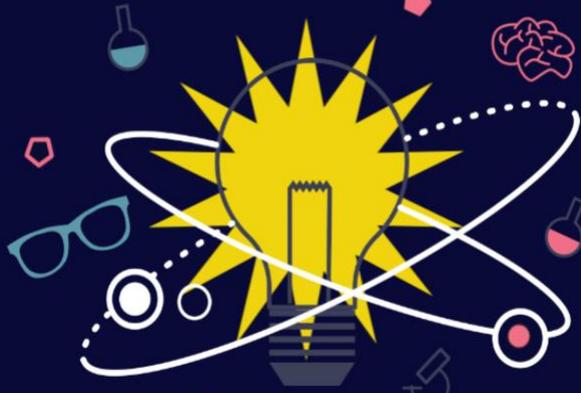
Please leave your donation inside the box located on the foyer table.



We want to say thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the first Lenten meal this year. It was so good to be together with our Grace family. Thank you, too, for the generous donations you gave towards VBS. We are so thankful!

The Board of Christian Education
 Amy, Audrey, Barb, Janeen, Jill, Nicole,
 Mark, Mike, & Shanna

GRACE LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL



TRIVIA NIGHT & RAFFLE

SATURDAY
MARCH 28TH

MURPHY'S EVENT CENTER
2430 12TH ST COURT, DE WITT

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM TRIVIA STARTS AT 6:30
PM \$80 PER TABLE / TABLES OF 8 PLAYERS
BRING YOUR OWN SNACKS/CASH BAR AVAILABLE

Reserved for teams of 8 players (18+ YEARS)
Contact KERRY: phone 563-659-9153 /preschool@gracedewitt.org

RAISING FUNDS FOR GRACE LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES
Made with PosterMyWall.com

Please join us for a fun night of Trivia on March 28th at 6:30 pm. You still have time to get a table for the Preschool Trivia Night Fundraiser. \$80 per table of 8 players. Doors open at 5:30 pm.

Call the church office at 563-659-9153 or email preschool@gracedewitt.org to reserve your table.

Thank you, thank you to everyone who provided items for our Trivia Night Raffle Baskets. We appreciate your generosity and continued support of the Preschool Program.

The Preschool Board and Staff



3's Spring is here, and our three-year-olds are loving this weather! Our classroom is feeling the warmth with our ocean and beach themes! The kids will be smiling big for their spring pictures this month, too! Our Bible stories this month are about washing the disciples' feet, the last supper, the true King, and Jesus is Risen! Preschool will be closed for spring break from March 13th - 22nd.

3's March is here! This month we will celebrate St. Patrick's day. We continue to work on our letter recognition, learning our letter sounds, writing our name and working on numbers. As we welcome Spring in March we look forward to teaching a unit on Dr. Seuss, St. Patrick's Day, Spring, and Easter.

Grace Lutheran Preschool 2026-2027 Class Schedule

Class Schedule 2026-2027

4s M-F 8:00 - 11:00 am (16 spots)
M-F 12:00 - 3:00 pm (16 spots)

Please note that there is NO 4s classes on Fridays.

3s MWF 8:15 - 10:45 (4 spots) \$160 monthly
T&TH 8:15 - 10:45 (3 spots) \$120 monthly

Please note that all 3s must be potty-trained. There is a \$40 registration fee due with the registration form, which is non-refundable.

The 3s Registration form is now available on the Preschool page of the website (www.gracedewitt.org). The registration form, along with the registration fee, may be dropped off at the church office or mailed to PO Box 156, DeWitt, IA 52742.

Registration for the 4s Preschool Program is available on the Central DeWitt Community School District Website.



Peace Beyond Measure

A Christian Women's Retreat

Saturday, April 25

9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Doors open at 9:00 AM

Grace Camp at the Peter Retreat Center
2675 242nd Street • DeWitt, Iowa

Cost: \$20

Lunch & Beverages Included

*Join us for a day of renewal, encouragement,
and Christ-centered connection.*

Open to all women.

Organized by the Women of Grace.

To register, call or text Kristy
563-210-2462



Speaker:
Michelle Diercks
Author/Christian
Life Coach

March 19th Victory Center Service Event

Once again, thank you to everyone who contributed to the meal, helped serve and prayed for our February service event at the Victory Center in Clinton. Our next service event meal will be on March 19th. We are planning to serve up to 60 people and allow for seconds. If you haven't volunteered to help with some part of one of these meals, please prayerfully consider being involved in some way. Men are encouraged to join us in this mission, especially with serving the meal.

All food needs to be prepared and brought to the church by 4:00 PM on Thursday, March 19th.

Main Dish – Soup 5 Volunteers

Each volunteer is asked to prepare a crockpot of soup to serve 15 people.

Desserts 3 Volunteers

Prepare a dessert that serves 15 people.

Soup Crackers 1 Volunteer

2 boxes of soup crackers.

Salads 4 Volunteers

Prepare a salad to serve 15 people.

Drinks 2 Volunteers

- ❖ 1 gallon of white milk
- ❖ 2 gallons of chocolate milk

Deliver & Serve 5 Volunteers

Needed to help deliver and serve the meal. We meet at Grace at 4 pm. Meal is served from 5pm to 6pm.

A sign-up sheet is located on the Welcome Center. Please, contact Kristy Engelkes at 563-210-2462 or the church office if you have any questions

Referral Center Donations

We continue to collect monthly donations for the Referral Center as the need is great. The referral center can always use pasta, Hamburger Helper, kid-friendly cereal, condiments, and toothpaste. All donations can be left in the shopping cart located in the foyer.



- 3rd David & Kay Hall
- 13th Paul & Kathi Lieving
- 14th Larry & Tonia Oronzio
- 22nd Barry & Patty Anderson
- 23rd Jon & Val Betz

Newsletter Deadline

If you would like to submit articles for the April Newsletter, they will need to be emailed to kgood@gracedewitt.org by March 15th.



- 1st Kevin Becker
- 2nd Jered Birt
Ronald Steward
- 3rd Danette LaBarge
- 6th Randy Lange
Gary Smith
Marriah Diercks
- 7th Brody Proctor
Hattie Rickertsen
- 10th Kevin Marik
Mark Paarmann
- 12th Eric Paarmann
- 13th Ezra Onken
Laura Swanson
- 15th Kristy Buhl
Jennifer Miller
- 17th Erin Suhr
- 20th Verda Scott
Jasmine Carter
- 21st Cole Hoseman
Norma Jean Soenksen
Austin Nolin
- 22nd Dale Greve
Casey Walker
- 23rd Jake Williams
- 24th Mallory McMahan
- 25th Sandy Burken
Sandra Kirby
Levi Diercks
- 28th Darin Suhr
- 29th Rachael Vopatek
Alice Jans
- 31st Arwin Petersen



Grace Camp Day Camp Schedule

Registration Opens April 1st!

June 9 – “Cooking @ Grace” – Open to 1st through 3rd Graders - Cost \$15 **Register by May 27th**
We will meet from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. [Limited to 16 participants.] [Please meet at Grace Church.]

June 9 – “Cooking @ Grace” – Open to 1st through 3rd Graders - Cost \$15 **Register by May 27th**
We will meet from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. [Limited to 16 participants.] [Please meet at Grace Church.]

June 10 - “Fishing Camp” – Open to 1st through 6th Graders – Cost \$15 **Register by May 27th**
Please bring your own fishing pole and tackle. Bait will be provided. [Limited to 30 participants] 9am – 12pm
[Please wear old clothes and close-toed shoes. NO Sandals]

June 11 – “Cooking @ Grace” – Open to 4th through 6th Graders - Cost \$15 **Register by May 30th**
We will meet from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. [Limited to 16 participants.] [Please meet at Grace Church.]

June 11 – “Cooking @ Grace” – Open to 4th through 6th Graders - Cost \$15 **Register by May 30th**
We will meet from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. [Limited to 16 participants.] [Please meet at Grace Church.]

June 16 – “Arts & Crafts” – [Open to 1st through 3rd Graders] – Cost \$15 **Register by June 2nd**
We will meet from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. [Limited to 24 participants.] [Please wear old clothes that can get dirty.]

June 16 – “Arts & Crafts” – [Open to 4th through 6th Graders] – Cost \$15 **Register by June 2nd**
This is a half-day camp. We will meet from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. [Limited to 24 participants.]
[Please wear old clothes that can get dirty.]

June 17 - “Fishing Camp” – Open to 1st through 6th Graders – Cost \$15 **Register by June 3rd**
Please bring your own fishing pole and tackle. Bait will be provided. [Limited to 30 participants] 9am – 12 pm
[Please wear old clothes and close-toed shoes. NO Sandals]

June 18 – Little Kids – Open to 4 & 5 Year olds – Cost \$15 - 9am – 12pm **Register by June 6th**
(Each child registered must have their own helper – at least 12 years old that attends with them.)

ONLINE REGISTRATION

www.gracedewitt.org

**GRACE LUTHERAN YOUTH'S
FAMOUS LASAGNA DINNER**

We're back and can't wait to serve you. Our Youth Lasagna Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 8th. We will be taking reservations, until March 1st, at the table in the foyer here at church, or you can call the church office to make a reservation. There will be only one reservation time @ 5:30 pm.

PALM SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The annual Youth Group Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 29th. Please join us in Grace Hall from 8:30 am – 10:00 am. A free will donation will be collected with proceeds going to offset costs for future Youth Ministry events.



RANDY'S ROUNDUP

Grace Lutheran Youth will be the recipients of the Randy's Roundup during the week of April 20th – 26th. Proceeds will be used to offset costs for future Youth Ministry events.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us June 22nd – 25th for **Emerald Crossing**, where children will discover the life of the shepherd-king David and learn how to cross from anxiety to peace. In a world filled with worry and confusion, kids need to know the God who cares for them. VBS is for children 3 years old (**potty-trained**) through those entering 5th grade for the 2026-2027 school year. Online registration will open in May. Information on how to volunteer will be on bulletin board in the atrium. Contact DCE, Mark Sperry with any questions.



**REGISTRATION OPENS
MAY 1ST**

Vacation Bible School 2026

emerald crossing

June 22nd – June 25th
5:30 to 8:00 pm
Children 3years – 5th Grade

Join us for Emerald Crossing, where children will discover the life of Shepherd –king David and learn how to cross from anxiety to peace. In a world filled with worry and confusion, kids need to know the God who cares for them.

Looking for cards? There are a variety of cards and napkins available for purchase next to the Welcome Center. Please take a moment to see the wide assortment of cards displayed in the foyer.



RaiseRight™
GIFT CARD PROGRAM





**Youth Fundraiser
Order Due March 1st**

Order forms are located on the Welcome Center.

<p>Kerry Good kgood@gracedewitt.org</p>	<p>Mark Sperry, DCE 563-321-0674 mosperry@gracedewitt.org</p>	<p>Grace Lutheran Preschool PH: 563-659-9193</p>	<p>Grace Lutheran Camp 2675 242nd St, P.O. Box 156 DeWitt, IA 52742-0156</p>
<p>Mark's Office Hours M-Th - 7:00 am to 1:00 pm</p>	<p>Preschool Teacher/Director Christine Greve preschool@gracedewitt.org</p>	<p>Camp Reservations camprentals@gracedewitt.org</p>	

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church - March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 "Mites" Sunday 8:00am Traditional Worship w/Communion 9:15am Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 10:30am Traditional Worship w/Comm	2 1:00pm 500 Card Club 6:00pm Board of Discipleship 6:30pm Elders Mtg	3 6:00pm Preschool Board Meeting	4 11:00am Lent Worship 5:30pm Confirmation 5:30pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Lent Worship 7:45pm Choir Practice	5 9:00am Tops Meeting 9:30am Stay Active Senior Exercise Group	6	7 10:00am Lasagna Dinner Preparation 12:00pm to 1:00pm Lasagna Take & Bake Pick-Up
8 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 10:30am Praise Worship 2:00pm CLUB345 Event 2:30pm Lasagna Dinner Set Up 5:30pm Lasagna Dinner	9 6:00pm Council Mtg	10 10:00am Hospital Auxiliary Luncheon	11 7:00am Board of Finance Meeting 11:00am Lent Worship 5:30pm Confirmation 5:30pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Lent Worship 7:45pm Choir Practice	12 9:00am Tops Meeting 9:30am Stay Active Senior Exercise Group	13 No Preschool	14
15 Newsletter Deadline 8:00am Traditional Worship w/Comm 9:15am Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 10:30am Traditional Worship w/Comm	16 No Preschool 1:00pm 500 Card Club 7:00pm Youth Board Meeting	17 No Preschool 6:30pm Camp Board Meeting	18 No Preschool 11:00am Lent Worship 5:30pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Lent Worship 7:45pm Choir Practice	19 No Preschool 9:00am Tops Meeting 9:30am Stay Active Senior Exercise Group 4:00pm Victory Center Service Event	20 No Preschool	21
22 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 10:30am Traditional Worship	23 6:30pm Board of Christian Education	24	25 11:00am Lent Worship 5:30pm Confirmation 5:30pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Lent Worship 7:45pm Choir Practice	26 Preschool Yoga in Grace Hall 9:00am Tops Meeting 9:30am Stay Active Senior Exercise Group	27	28 10:00am Pancake Breakfast Set-Up 6:30pm Preschool Trivia Night @ Murphy's Event Center
29 PALM SUNDAY 8:00am Traditional Worship w/Communion 8:30am Pancake Breakfast 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional Worship w/Communion	30	31	1	2 9:00am Tops Meeting 9:30am Stay Active Senior Exercise Group 7:00pm Maundy Thursday	3 No Preschool 7:00pm Good Friday	4

