

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church (LCMS)

News & Notes

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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE - September 7th— September 14th

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Setting: Divine Service, Setting 4 beginning on page 203

Hymns: 427 918 783 618 685

Readings: *Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Philemon 1:21 Luke 14:25-35*

Sermon: "Choices" - *Luke 14:34-35*

Praying for: Allen Anderson, Liz Niemann, Brad Birtell, Jill Jepsen, Dick Block, Kathi Lieving, Elaine Schoening, David Edens, and David & Jeremy Thomas, Randy Lange, and Barb Wold.

We lift up Rev. Ratcliffe, his family, and the congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran, as he prayerfully considers his two Calls. We pray that both congregations take comfort in knowing the God has a plan for us all.

We offer our prayers and condolences to the family of Liz Niemann whom the Lord called to Himself this past week.

We will be hosting a Meet & Greet for Rev. Ratcliffe and his wife on Sunday, September 7th in between worship services. Please, join us in Grace Hall for a Coffee Fellowship.

Join Us! For Our 100 Year Celebration!

Sunday, September 14th
10:00 am for a Worship Service

Celebration meal to follow in Grace Hall

Members are asked to bring a side dish according to their last name.

Vegetables (A-J)
Salads (K-Z)

Each dish should serve at least 15 people.
Main dish and dessert will be provided.

You can drop off your food Saturday, September 13th from 9-11 or before the 10 am service on Sunday, September 14th.

Pastor Rafferty and Carol will be with us next week to celebrate Grace's 100th anniversary; Pastor will be our guest speaker and is looking forward to being back in the pulpit here at Grace. Carol and Pastor are both looking forward to spending time with their old church family and catching up a little. They hope that many of you are able to attend the worship service and stay for the luncheon.

Gifts, Tithes & Offerings for 08/31/2025
To fully fund our church budget we need \$7,481.00 per week.

| | Amount |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Simply Giving | \$ 1,331.00 |
| Tithes & Offering | \$ 4,892.00 |
| Total | \$ 6,223.00 |

Weekly Shortage \$1,258.00

Attendance for the week of 8/31/2025

Sunday Worship

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| 8:00 a.m. | 69 |
| 10:00 a.m. | 65 |
| Total | 134 |

THOSE IN SERVICE **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th**

8:00 a.m. Service

Organist: Diana Baetke

Elder: Duane Hansen

Acolyte: Gavin Birt

10:00 a.m. Service

Music: Praise Band

Elder: Scott Steffens

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th

10:00 a.m. Service

Organist: Diana Baetke

Elder: Alan Ruggeberg

Acolyte: Cade Converse &
Kitt Converse



Altar flowers were given in loving memory of Malcolm Schroeder.

Landscaping Help—Join us today, September 7th at 1pm. We will be installing the new land-scaping around the church and could use your help.

Grace Camp will once again be hosting the Concordia Christian Education Retreat, September 12-14th. They are expecting around 60 students in attendance. We are asking for food donations. There is a complete list of items needed on the table in the foyer. We ask that all donations be in the church basement by noon on Thursday, September 11th.

Calendar

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 9/7/2025 | "Mites" Sunday |
| | 8:00 AM Traditional Worship w/Comm Followed by a Coffee Fellowship |
| | 10:30 AM Traditional Worship w/Comm |
| 9/8/2025 | 6:00 PM Council Meeting |
| 9/10/2025 | 7:00 AM Board of Finance Meeting |
| | 6:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting |
| | 5:30 PM Confirmation |
| | 7:00 PM Glory Bound Choir |
| | 7:00 PM High School Bible Study |
| 9/11/2025 | 9:00 AM Tops Meeting |
| | 9:30 AM Stay Active Senior Exercise Group |
| 9/12/2025 | Concordia Students at Camp |
| 9/13/2025 | Concordia Students at Camp |
| 9/14/2025 | Concordia Students at Camp |
| | 10:00 AM Worship |
| | 11:00 PM 100 Year Celebration Dinner |



Women's Bible Study

**Sunday mornings at 9:15 am,
Starting September 21st
In Grace Hall.**

Join us for coffee, fellowship &
a study of "Promised Hope" with
the author, Michelle Diercks.



SENIOR HIGH DISTRICT GATHERING

The Iowa District West sponsored youth gathering will be held November 21st-23rd in Des Moines. This is open to all 9th-12th graders. Registration forms are available now. Please stop by Mr. Sperry's office to pick one up. The cost per person is **\$250**, which covers four meals, two nights' lodging, a t-shirt and all programming costs. Completed forms and payment are due by September 14th. Please contact DCE Mark Sperry if you have any questions.

Victory Center - We will be hosting a Victory Center Meal on September 18th. We need volunteers to prepare maid-rites; bring salads, buns, milk and desserts; and volunteers to help serve and deliver the food. The sign-up sheet is located on the Welcome Center.



Class - God Connects

Everyone at some point, asks the question, "God are You there?" It can come at moments of reflection or in times of deep despair. "God, if You are there, why don't You show Yourself to me?" In this confusing world where authenticity is so elusive, it sometimes seems like we cannot connect to God.

On our own we cannot connect to God, but the good news is that God connects with us. He has been doing this from the beginning in amazing ways. This Bible Class will share the story of how God connects with us.