Grace Newsletter

April 2020

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DeWitt, IA 52742-0156

Camp Reservations
563-357-0780

Dear Saints of Grace Lutheran Church,

Mark 16:6 says “And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him.” (ESV)

In your opinion, what are the greatest words ever spoken? Or I could ask the question a different way, what is the most important words ever spoken? I will be honest this shouldn’t be a question that we should overthink. While the answer may be simple, it also may not be the answer you are excepting me to say. I assume that you are excepting me to say the answer to be “he has risen, he is not here.” I agree, these are extremely important words, but it is only half of the answer.

In my opinion, the other half of the answer is found in Luke 2:11 “For unto is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” You can’t have one without the other. Its 1 and 1a. Both are needed. We needed the angel to announce to us that God fulfilled his promise. It was our sign, our sign of hope. For as we follow the life of the Christ child, Jesus, we follow his life as the one who is following the will of his Father. This is evident in John’s Gospel, where repeatedly, Jesus, tells those following him, that he came to do the will of the one who sent him. Now, you may be asking what is the will of the father? Jesus answers that question in John 3:17, Jesus didn’t come to condemn the world but that the world may be saved through him!

This takes us then to the other half of this answer, to the angels announcing that Jesus is not here but he has risen from the dead. Because Jesus was the obedient son, doing his Father’s will, Jesus willingly laid his life down. Willing went to the cross for the salvation of the world. But our hope is not found in death. Our hope is found in life. Just as the son laid his life down, the father gave life back to the son. Jesus walked out of the tomb, leaving it empty for you and me. Giving us the ultimate hope that we have, that the son whom the Father sent into this world, born of the woman, who lived, and died according to the will of his Father, was raised from the dead. Showing us that death has been swallowed up by the victory of Jesus, by whose, resurrection from the tomb forever defeated death.

Right now, I don’t know where my Easter celebration will take place. Whether is just at home with my family or if it will be here at Grace with all of you. But I take heart in knowing that we have already heard the greatest words ever spoken, that angels not only announce that Jesus was born but that Jesus was no longer found in the tomb, but he has risen from the dead. What glorious news that we get to share. That Jesus has saved the world by his resurrection! Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

In the service of Christ,
Pastor Eric

Dear brothers & sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you during these unusual times. Please know that you are not alone, even during this time of 'social distancing', the church work continues. Stay tuned for exciting things happening online during this time outside of the church walls. We will be having special music as well as an inspiring message given through YouTube this weekend.“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Ps. 46:1).In challenging times, it's important to maintain our sense of community. We are reaching out today as our habits have changed amid the COVID-19 spread. We hope that you will join us online for interaction on the church website (https://gracedewitt.org) or Facebook to remain plugged into our church and to the Word of God during these trying times. (Ps 121:1) I lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

We also know that supporting Grace Lutheran Church is important to you. Our work supporting members and our community will not stop because of this public health challenge.

The purpose of this letter is a friendly reminder that Grace Lutheran Church uses Vanco eGiving (GivePlus) tools, so you can continue to support our work by using any of the following eGiving options listed below: Download the GivePlus Mobile app on your phone to start giving right away, wherever you are! This is a secure, convenient way to give one-time or recurring donations. Instructions for how the app works can be found here: https://giveplushelp.vancopayments.com/images/GivePlus_Mobile_How_it_work.pdf

Visit our church website and look for the GIVE ONLINE tab (near the top left-hand side) to set up your online contribution. The link to set up online giving can be found here: https://gracedewitt.org/give-online. See the FAQs to learn more about how GivePlus Mobile works. https://giveplushelp.vancopayments.com/images/GivePlus_Mobile_FAQs_for_Donors.pdf.

Contact Vanco Client Services directly at 800.675.7430 to make donations to the church over the phone. If you'd rather not give online or by using the mobile app, you can opt to mail your donation or drop it by the church in person.

Grace Lutheran Church is a strong community! We will weather this together, even if we're not all in services. We appreciate your giving and rest assured we do important work with member's generosity. As we alter the way we operate, please consider making a gift via GivePlus.

'So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.'2 Corinthians 9:7

Together, we join in prayer firmly believing that Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” Psalm 91:1-2

Yours in Christ,
The Finance Board
Grace Lutheran Church

Special Gifts Given Include:

In loving memory of Marilyn White $20 has been given to Grace Camp.

IMPORTANT - Deadline for submitting articles for the May Newsletter is April 15th.

The 2020 Chancel/Altar Flower signup sheet is available on 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.

May 3rd, 17th, 24th
June 14th, 28th
July 5th, 19th, 26th
August 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th
September 13th, 20th
October 11th, 18th, 25th
November 8th, 15th, 29th
December 6th, 13th, 20th

Please, tune into YouTube or Facebook while you are at home on Sunday so that you can attend Sunday Service. You will hear music, liturgy, readings and a sermon.

ARE YOU A STUDENT GRADUATING?

What an important step in your life! We would like to honor you by printing your name in our May newsletter. If you are receiving a high school, college, or post-graduate degree, give us a call at 659-9153, before April 19th. We would also like a picture of all graduates to place on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Referral Center - Don't forget during this time of need that our local Referral Center needs donations. Currently they are in need of

1- Jam/Jelly
2- Canned soups (tomato, chicken noodle, cream of mushroom)
3- Canned peas/vegetables
4- Canned tuna
5- Peanut butter

Food donations are being at the Referral center M-F *Keeping social distancing in mind.*

It is time to renew our subscription for the Lutheran Witness. **THE LUTHERAN WITNESS** is an inspirational monthly magazine featuring synodical news. Lutheran reports from around the world, eye-opening theology and more!

The subscription rate is $15.96 per year. If you would like to subscribe to the Lutheran Witness, or if you already subscribe and wish to renew your subscription, please contact the church office by April 26th. Payment may be dropped off or mailed to the church office at PO Box 156, DeWitt, IA 52742.

GRADUATING SENIORS

Please R.S.V.P. for the Graduates Dinner and submit a Senior Picture to the church office by Sunday, April 26th.

SUMMER 2020 DAY CAMPS

The Day Camps for Summer 2020 will include the following:

- June 4th Fishing Camp **[1st-6th Graders]**
- June 9th Cooking **[1st-3rd Graders]**
- June 11th Cooking **[4th-6th Grades]**
- June 16th Arts & Crafts **[1st-3rd Grades]**
- June 18th Arts & Crafts **[4th-6th Graders]**
- June 23rd Maquoketa Caves **[1st – 3rd Grade]**
- June 25th Little Kids **[4 & 5 year olds]**
- June 30th Wood Working **[4th-6th Grades]**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help at the day camps on June 4th, 16th, 18th & 30th. Please contact Mark Sperry, 659-9153.

DAY CAMP SUPPLY REQUEST

- Red Pre-Sweetened Kool-Aide drink mix
- Cookies [No Peanuts or Peanut Butter]

Altar Flower's for the Month of March

If you signed up for altar flowers for a Sunday in which we did not have service, please contact the church office. We would like to discuss with you the possibility of selecting another date or get you on the list to receive a refund.

This year is flying by! In April we will be continuing our study on letters and numbers. We will be celebrating Spring by learning about weather, bugs, and flowers. Our Alphabet End of the Year Countdown will begin towards the end of April; with fun days such as Art Day, USA Day, and we will end our countdown with Zooming into Kindergarten with a fun day at the park!

If you didn't get the chance to purchase our SaveAround Coupon Book Fundraiser; we still have a few books available for $25.00. Thank you for your continued support of Preschool

During this pandemic we have had to change how we worship and where we worship. We encourage everyone to watch YouTube and Facebook for services, Bible studies and other opportunities to stay connected with the Word.

We will re-evaluate in April to see if there will be a need to extend our time worshiping at home. During this time our Pastor, church leaders and members continue to pray for guidance, support, love and hope for everyone during this time.

Please continue to watch our Facebook page, your emails, the church sign, and or check our website (www.gracedewitt.org) for current information on worship services and meeting information.

Grace Lutheran Preschool

Enrollment forms are available on the Preschool page of the website www.gracedewitt.org). Enrollment forms and registration fee (3's only) may be dropped off at the church office or mailed to PO Box 156, DeWitt, IA 52742.

2020-2021 Class Schedule and Fees

3s : M & W 8:00 — 10:30 $110/mo Limited to 8/6 spots left
T & TH 8:00 — 10:30 $110/mo Limited to 8/1 spots left

- $35 registration fee due at the time of enrollment.
- 3s Classes will begin after Labor Day.
- Children must be 3 on or before Sept. 15, 2020.

4s: AM 8:00—11:00 (limited to 8 students) - FULL
PM 12:00—3:00 (limited to 16) - Full

- Must be 4 on or before September 15, 2020, to qualify for free preschool.
- 5-year-old tuition is $175/month and a $35 registration fee.

For more information, please contact the preschool office at 659-9193 (8:00-3:00 p.m. M-F) or email preschool@gracedewitt.org.

Support Grace Lutheran Preschool By Purchasing Gift Cards

Would you like to support Grace Lutheran Preschool? There is no easier way then to grab a gift card from Randy's Neighborhood Market, Walmart, Kwik Star or Target. These gift cards will be used to purchase snacks and supplies for this Preschool which are needed on a weekly basis.

Gift cards can be brought to the Church Office or dropped in the Secretary's mail slot. We thank everyone for their continued support of the Preschool.

You are invited to Grace Camp's Spring Retreat and Salad Luncheon

At the Andrew Retreat Center – Thursday, May 7th

Savor Iowa's Culinary History

Afternoon retreat 12-3pm – Evening retreat 6-9pm
Registration fee $10/each

Please call 563-659-9216 or 563-357-0780 for reservations by May 4th
or send reservations to: Maribeth Penningroth, 1410 Westwood Drive, DeWitt, IA 52742

Savor Iowa's Culinary History DeWitt

What comes to mind when you think of Iowa food? Everyone has an Iowa food story, and Lake City, Iowa, author Darcy Dougherty Maulsby will bring these stories to life at Grace Camp in DeWitt on Thursday, May 7, 2020.

"From Iowa originals like Maid-Rites to kolaches to homemade cinnamon rolls—served with chili, of course—there are many remarkable stories behind Iowa's tastiest traditions," said Maulsby, Iowa's Storyteller, who has been featured in the Iowa History Journal, Our Iowa magazine, the Des Moines Register, Iowa Public Radio and more. "Pull up a chair, and relish what you missed in history class."

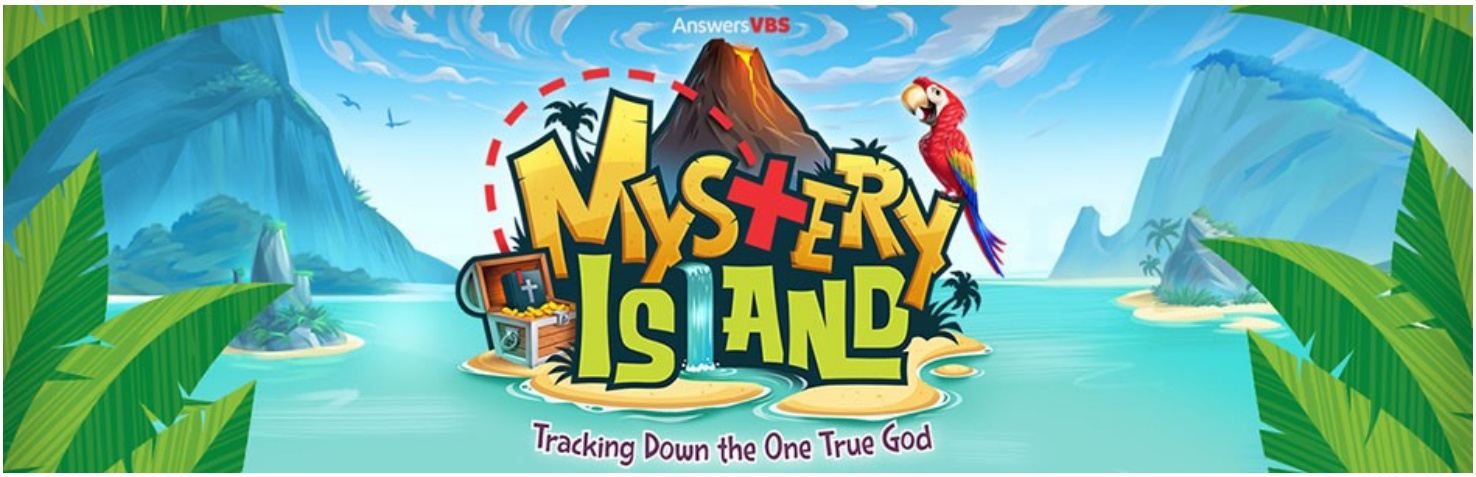
During her fun, interactive program, Maulsby serves up fascinating tidbits and cooking tips related to more than 150 years of Iowa cuisine and ethnic food traditions, from all corners of the state, with stories that include Iowa's classic breaded pork tenderloins, church dinners, the historic Younkers Tea Room, Laura Ingalls Wilder and more. Discover how Iowa's delectable cuisine is quintessentially Midwestern, grounded in its rich farming heritage and spiced with diverse ethnic influences.

Want to know where in Iowa you can dine at a James Beard award-winning steakhouse? Any idea where to find Iowa's own distinctive style of potato chips, which might be the world's best chips? What if you want to step back in time and enjoy a slice of homemade pie at an Iowa icon that first opened in 1852? You'll pass the test with flying colors—and impress your friends—when you delve into Iowa's culinary history.

"Even those who are well acquainted with Iowa food lore are sure to find something new and interesting," said Julie Goodrich, who wrote a review of "A Culinary History of Iowa" in the *Iowa History Journal*. "Go on an adventure with this fun, fascinating and tasty tale of culinary traditions that weave through Iowa's past and present."

"I'm passionate about helping people make the farm-to-fork connection and reconnecting with Iowa history," Maulsby said. "If you have an appetite for adventure, you can't do better than Iowa when it comes to history, culture, and one-of-kind culinary experiences. 'A Culinary History of Iowa' offers a fun way to explore the world without leaving Iowa."

Signed copies of "A Culinary History of Iowa" will be available during the event, along with Maulsby's other non-fiction, illustrated Iowa history books (including "Calhoun County" and "Dallas County") and her postcard collections featuring rural Iowa images and postcards featuring favorite vintage photos from the Culinary History of Iowa book.



SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School 2020

"Mystery Island—
Tracking Down the One True God"
June 22nd - 26th
6:00 to 8:00 pm

Dinner will be served from 5:00 to 5:45 p.m. in Grace Hall.
Watch for more information on this event and how to register.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We require volunteers to assist with VBS. We need crew leaders and crew members, tropical treat members, ride the tide game leader and crew members, deep sea science and craft members and set design members. Sign up to volunteer on the bulletin board in the foyer.

MYSTERY ISLAND CHARACTERS

Mystery Island can not be complete without characters. Characters help tell the story for all the children that attend VBS. We will soon have auditions for these mystery characters. Students in 6-12th grade will be able to audition. Audition date information will be coming soon.

Happy Birthday

1st Jordan Larison
Vaughn Vopatek
2nd Jordy Daniels
Marc Havener
Patrick Soesby
3rd Michael Anderson
4th Gina Griep
5th Steven McWilliams
Gavin Walker
Meghan Henningsen
6th Denise Wagner-Mommsen
Jaiden Seifert
7th Adalyn Appleby
Derek McVey
Joshua Olson
Susan Stevens
Nathan Billany
8th Taylor Griem
Caitlyn Griem
Brittany Paasch
9th Preston Drury
Devin Wagner
10th Quinn Leathers
Britta Adams
John Hythecker
Susan Sanger
Nancy Schunter
11th Kelly Azinger
Jason Spain
Lucille Schroeder
Brandon Anderson
12th David Pillers
13th Ken Hartmann
Cindy Burke
14th Ronald Ketelsen
June Petersen
Preston Hoffmann
15th Barbara Mork
Brandon Paasch
16th Adam Anderson
Angie Herington
Yana Sperry
Taya Martens
17th Alan Ruggeberg
Christian Foote
Dayton Kiggins
18th Todd Brommelkamp
Samuel Jacobsen
Abigail Swanson
20th Chris Foote
Chloe Engelkes
21st Amanda Kirby
Tadd Stevens
Sadi Fahrenkrug
22nd Andrew Matzen
23rd Hedda Kiggins
Grant Housman
24th James Rathmann
Donna Steward
Hudson Meyers
25th Jeremy Goddard
Brittney Hughes
Hannah Sunday
26th Diane Bousselot
Mark Peters
Ben Schutterle
27th Fred Smith
Nicole Rickertsen
Adam Henningsen
28th Amirya Barys
Denise Smith
Donald Havener
Skyler Paarmann
29th Jeremy Hythecker
Sydney Small
Scott Meggers
30th Barb Rands
JoAnn Jeffery

Celebrating an Anniversary

2nd Jon & Barb Billhorn
4th Paul & Sandi Kirby
Fredrick & Jennifer Thiede
6th Chad & Patti Dohrmann
7th Lauren & Jeanne Hansen
9th Clint & Katie Albrecht
12th Jered & Laurie Birt
17th Chris & Kelly Lawrence
20th David & Barbara Wold
25th Jim & Susan Williams
27th Larry & Barbara Mork
28th Alan & Monica Ruggeberg

APRIL 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5 No Worship Services Today - You can view the service on YouTube or Facebook	6	7	8	9 No Worship Services Today - You can view the service on YouTube or Facebook	10 No Worship Services Today - You can view the service on YouTube or Facebook	11
12 EASTER No Worship Services Today - You can view the service on YouTube or Facebook	13	14	15 Newsletter Deadline	16	17	18
19 No Worship Services Today - You can view the service on YouTube or Facebook	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 No Worship Services Today - You can view the service on YouTube or Facebook	27	28	29	30	1	2 **11:00 AM** Retired Teachers Lunch