



# Grace Newsletter

AUGUST 2020

**Grace Ev. Lutheran Church**  
415 10th Street  
P.O. Box 156  
DeWitt, IA 52742-0156

PH: 563-659-9153  
Fax: 563-659-9154

WEB: [www.gracedewitt.org](http://www.gracedewitt.org)

EMAIL:  
[kgood@gracedewitt.org](mailto:kgood@gracedewitt.org)

**Pastor Eric Obermann**  
563-321-0032  
[pastoreric@gracedewitt.org](mailto:pastoreric@gracedewitt.org)

**Mark Sperry, DCE**  
563-321-0674  
[msperry@gracedewitt.org](mailto:msperry@gracedewitt.org)

**Kerry Good**  
[kgood@gracedewitt.org](mailto:kgood@gracedewitt.org)

**Grace Lutheran Preschool**  
P.O. Box 156  
DeWitt, IA 52742

PH: 563-659-9193

**Preschool Teacher/Director  
Christine Greve**  
[preschool@gracedewitt.org](mailto:preschool@gracedewitt.org)

**Grace Lutheran Camp**  
2675 242nd Street  
P.O. Box 156  
DeWitt, IA 52742-0156

Camp Reservations  
563-357-0780

Dear Saints of Grace Lutheran Church,

I guess it is time, to be honest. I don't like July. Maybe it stems from my younger days, as I patiently wait, or not so patiently wait for August 2nd. Maybe it stems from 5 years ago, as I patiently waited, ok not so patiently waited for August 1st. Or maybe it stems from the fact that July 1st officially begins, well at least in my mind, the first month that it is ok to listen to Christmas music. Well, not just listening to but singing Christmas music loudly for all to hear. Which only just makes the next 5 months all that much harder to wait for.

Maybe I don't like July for all the of the looks I get as I sing "O Holy Night" down the aisles of Walmart. But it is hard to think about July without getting excited for Christmas. You cant get excited for Christmas without getting excited for Easter. Though you can't get excited for Easter without getting excited about God's greater story. The story of God's love for you. The story of Jesus being sent for you. The story of Jesus fulfilling his Father's promises for you. The story of Jesus revealing his mission. The story of Jesus loving you. Him dying for you. Him rising for you. This is God's greater story. A story that is tied to Christmas.

As it stands now, we are five months away from Christmas. Until then, there are birthdays, anniversaries, family gatherings and so much more that will get planned and celebrated. But every week we come together to hear and receive the goods that Jesus gives to us. We are reminded of the greater story that God has revealed to us. A promise fulfilled by our loving God.

In the service of Christ,

Pastor Eric

P.S. I do enjoy July, but I am more excited that winter is coming! Only five more months!

**SERVING THIS MONTH:**

**The Elders:** Sunday's 8:00 AM Leon Doescher  
10:00 AM Jon Betz

Wednesday 7:00 PM Scott Havener

**The Organist:** Diana Baetke



We offer our congratulations and prayers of thanksgiving to Pastor Eric & Emily Obermann on the birth of their daughter Emerie Joy. Emerie was born on July 9th she weighed 7 pounds 9 ounces and was 20 inches long.

**Grace Camp  
Pancake Breakfast**

August 16, 2020  
8:00 to 11:30 a.m.

At the Grace Camp Pavilion.



**The 2020 Chancel/Altar Flower sign up 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.

August 2nd, 9th, 16th, 30th  
September 20th  
October 11th, 18th, 25th  
November 15th, 29th  
December 6th, 13th, 20th

**Special Gifts Given Include:**

In loving memory of Thelma Goldensoph \$155 has been given to Grace Church.

**GRACE LUTHERAN MISSION STATEMENT** — To make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our church, communities and world.

**IMPORTANT** - Deadline for submitting articles for the September Newsletter is August 15th.



**CELEBRATE THE GRADUATE**

*Join us to Celebrate*

*Kyle Ackerman's Graduation*  
Sunday, August 2nd - 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
At Grace Church Fellowship Hall

*Jacob Diercks' Graduation*  
Sunday, August 9th — 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm  
At Grace Camp - Andrew Retreat Center



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

### **Sunday School Teachers Meeting**

We will be holding a meeting for all Sunday School teachers on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup> immediately following the camp worship service. Please meet in the youth building there at camp. If you can not attend this meeting, please let Kerry Good or Mark Sperry know as soon as possible.

### **Back-2-School Blast**

Attention all incoming 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders. Make plans now to join us on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> for our annual Back-2-School Blast. There will be food, fun & games! To make sure to have enough food, please sign-up on the bulletin board outside of Mr. Sperry's office if you're planning to attend.

### **Introduction to the Bible**

If you have a student who is entering 3<sup>rd</sup> grade this fall, please stop by the office beginning **August 3<sup>rd</sup>** to pick-up your Introduction to the Bible packet. Bibles will be presented to the children during either service on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Mark Sperry with any questions.

### **Confirmation Classes**

Grace offers a three-year program for student in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades. If you have a student in one of these grades, please contact the church office to let us know they will be attending classes beginning this September. A message with more information will be sent out in early August. Confirmation Orientation will take place on Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> here at Grace Church @ 5:30 pm.

### **SENIOR HIGH MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY**

Attention all 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders. Please join us on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm for Bible study at the home of Mark & Cindy Sperry. We will plan to meet weekly, except for when there are Wednesday worship services (Advent & Lent). We will start Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Mr. Sperry if you have any questions.

**Have you been affected by the recent pandemic?** Are you finding it hard to make ends meet, did you loose your job or maybe you are finding it difficult to remain in a positive state of mind?

Let us know how Grace Lutheran Church can be there for you! We have a team of people ready & willing to help.

Please let us know if you need some assistance &/or how we can pray for you! Contact our church office & start the conversation.



The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Iowa East District Convention, originally scheduled for June 12-13 was postpone due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The LWML IED Convention has been rescheduled to September 12, to be held at Camp I-O-Dis-E-Ca in place of the Fall Retreat.

Please contact, Kerry, at the church office (563-659-9153) if you would like more information on this event and a registration form.

**Grace camp will be starting a fundraising campaign** this summer to help raise funds for the new outdoor chapel that was designed last fall. Our hopes are to raise around \$36,000.00 over the next 9 months. More information will be forth coming but wanted to start spreading the word. Thank you.

### **Sunday School Registration is Open—**

Please take a moment to register your child for Sunday School. Please, log onto [www.gracedewitt.org](http://www.gracedewitt.org) and find the Sunday School Registration button and it will take you where you need to register. Please fill out form completely. **(Reminder - You need to register every year. This form provides us with important emergency information)**

Thank You



for your Kindness

Thank you to everyone who sent cards and prayers during my stay at the hospital and recovery at home after my back surgery.

In Christ, Terri Shelton

The Preschool Board would like to thank everyone that has supported the Preschool over the years. Your offerings, donations, contributions towards fundraisers were all appreciated and welcomed. Thank you for your generosity and love.

Thank you, The Preschool Board.



Preschool is looking forward to starting on August 27th. Due to COVID-19, we have had to change some of our policies when it comes to visitors, how our preschoolers enter and leave the building, and who is allowed in the preschool area. We wanted to take a moment to outline some of the changes as they affect the members of Grace Church.

First, no one but school staff is allowed in the Preschool Wing during the hours of 7:00 am to 3:15 pm M-F. The Preschool Wing is the downstairs Sunday school hallway, which begins at the doors on 5th Avenue and ends at the bifold doors by Grace Hall. Signs will be posted for your convenience.

Second, if you have anything that needs to be dropped off in this area during school time we ask that you just leave the items at the church office.

Lastly, if there is a funeral luncheon while school is in session no one can use the bathrooms in the Sunday School wing. We ask that individuals use the bathroom located by the kitchen and the ones upstairs near the offices.

We thank everyone for helping us look out for the safety of our children and staff. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor, Kerry, or Christine. Thank you.

### Clorox or Lysol Wipes

Due to the limit put on cleaning supplies, the Preschool is asking for your assistance. If you are out shopping could you please pick up a container of Clorox or Lysol Wipes for the Preschool. The Preschool needs these to assist with the day to day cleaning of the school. Donations can be dropped off at the church office. Thank you for your continued support of Grace Preschool.

## Grace Lutheran Preschool

Enrollment forms are available on the Preschool page of the website [www.gracedewitt.org](http://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.

Below you will find a listing of the three year old class with openings. All other classes are full.

### 2020-2021 Class Schedule and Fees

3s : M & W 8:00 — 10:30 \$110/mo Limited to 8/5 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.

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

# AUGUST 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp	27	28	29 7:00 PM Worship/Communion	30 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	31	1
2 "Wives" Sunday 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm 10:00 AM Praise Worship/Comm @ Grace Camp 12:00 PM Hall Rental	3 6:00 PM Council Meeting	4	5 8:00 AM Staff Meeting 8:00 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Worship	6 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	7	8
9 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp 11:00 AM Sunday School Teacher Meeting	10 6:00 PM Board of Discipleship Meeting 6:30 PM Elders Meeting	11	12 7:00 PM Worship/Communion	13 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	14	15 Newsletter Deadline
16 8:00 AM Grace Camp Pancake Breakfast 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm 10:00 AM Praise Worship/Comm @ Grace Camp	17 7:00 PM Youth Board Meeting	18	19 7:00 AM Finance Board Meeting 8:00 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Worship	20 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	21 6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal	22 Wedding
23 Emerie's Open House 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp	24 6:30 PM Board of Christian Education	25	26 5:30 PM Confirmation Orientation 7:00 PM Worship/Communion	27 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	28	29
30 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm 10:00 AM Praise Worship/Comm @ Grace Camp 4:00 PM Back-2-School Blast	31	1	2 7:00 PM Choir Meeting	3 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	4	5

# Anniversaries

17<sup>th</sup> Raymond & Irene Myers  
 Chad & Dawn Knapper  
 21<sup>st</sup> Troy & Michelle Diercks  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Cody & Andrea Mork  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Paul & Christine Greve  
 27<sup>th</sup> Gary & Wanda Trafford  
 28<sup>th</sup> Steve & Traci Butler  
 29<sup>th</sup> Tony & Kayla Martens  
 30<sup>th</sup> Jeremy & Cassie Goddard  
 31<sup>st</sup> Troy & Karen Eden  
 Tom & Mary Alger

1<sup>st</sup> Eric & Emily Obermann  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Ronnie & Sandra Peters  
 5<sup>th</sup> Aaron & Amy Meyers  
 6<sup>th</sup> Rodney & Mary Keeney  
 9<sup>th</sup> Cameron & Jennifer McCormick  
 10<sup>th</sup> Chuck & Kay Goddard  
 11<sup>th</sup> David & Kathy Mangan  
 Drew & Melissa Nolin  
 Dick & Lucy Broadfoot  
 12<sup>th</sup> Dean & Diane Bousselet  
 14<sup>th</sup> Tony & Paula Ketelsen

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pastor Eric Obermann	13 <sup>th</sup>	Michael Hall	25 <sup>th</sup>	Gary Trafford
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Richard Matzen Colin Albrecht Bradley Anderson	14 <sup>th</sup>	Christopher Marlowe Paxtyn Hoepner Scott Havener	26 <sup>th</sup>	Roger Crosthwaite Meyer Soenksen Jeffery Gravett
5 <sup>th</sup>	Andrea Suhr Rick Olson Gavin Krukow Mitzie Blanchard Sherry Lange-Hanif	15 <sup>th</sup>	Julie Krukow Harlan Meyer Tait Stevens Alexander Butler Alexa Walthier	28 <sup>th</sup>	Michelle Tobey Eva Obermann Isabelle Hawkins Michael Steward
6 <sup>th</sup>	Zachary Eden	16 <sup>th</sup>	Nathaniel Johnson	30 <sup>th</sup>	Barb Reed Robert Paasch Briah Reuss
7 <sup>th</sup>	David Jensen	17 <sup>th</sup>	Cindy Hall	31 <sup>st</sup>	James Harroun
8 <sup>th</sup>	Laura Busch Konner Littleton Wyatt Nebel Alivia Burzloff	18 <sup>th</sup>	Shoni Hoffmann		
9 <sup>th</sup>	Jeremy Kuehl Loren Jasper McGwire Eden Alivia Burzloff	19 <sup>th</sup>	Colleen McDevitt		
10 <sup>th</sup>	Isaac DeHaven Kody Schutterle Emily Obermann Frederick A. Thiede	20 <sup>th</sup>	James Gruntorad		
11 <sup>th</sup>	Penny McGimpsey Agnes Roseland Alyssa Eden Kelly Thumann	21 <sup>st</sup>	Nancy Haney Julia Lieferman Lena Hines		
12 <sup>th</sup>	Amelia Rickettsen Brody Onken	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Deborah Daniels Margaret Hartmann Kyle Ackerman Mark Steward		
		23 <sup>rd</sup>	Emily Drury Jessica Hansen		
		24 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Alger Jon Billhorn Gunnar Mork Wade Niemann		

# August Birthdays