

Grace Newsletter

JULY 2021

Dear redeemed and love Saints of grace!

This morning, June 15th, on my morning walk to the office, I haven't driven since my surgery. I started thinking about differences. For instance, last year there was an uneasiness for Emily and me as we anxiously awaited Emerie Joy. Last year the community and all the surrounding areas waited anxiously for the news on the pandemic. On my walk, I didn't feel any of the tension it felt refreshing to see busy streets instead of eerie silence, but I thought of something else the many differences that society has now created.

I firmly believe there will no longer be normal or whatever that word means in relation to our everyday routine. Since my surgery, I've been learning about scar tissue, and I firmly believe that the scar tissue of this past year will be carried for years to come for us who went through this experience.

This made me think of my grandma who carried the struggles of the Great Depression with her sometimes knowingly and sometimes unknowingly her whole life. The traits the worries or fears that she passed on to her six children knowingly or unknowingly. She lived through something that forever changed her life.

This brings me back to my walk. It only takes me 5 minutes or so but a lot sure has gone through my mind. I think about the church. The wounds she will forever bear for a generation. The weariness that echoes from her midst. The question that lingers can we trust the church? Why would I write that question?

These last two weeks my kids have shifted from wanting to watch YouTube to wanting to watch the "dragon movie" which is the latest Disney movie to be released "Raya and the Last Dragon." The theme of the movie is all about trusting people in a broken world. Wow, that hits home. I have been watching intently from my chair but this movie has made me think about the differences between last summer and this summer.

Will trust be the scar tissue that we carry whether it's trusting doctors, science, or just people in general. Will this be what we carry? Again, this takes me back to my walk, in these precious minutes from my front door to the front door of the church. My thoughts have crossed so many paths but there as my eyes adjust to the darkness of the entrance. I see the statue of Jesus. My thoughts turned to the lyrics "my God and Lord my God and Lord forsake me not I trust my word."

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

EMAIL: kgood@gracedewitt.org

Pastor Eric Obermann 563-321-0032 pastoreric@gracedewitt.org

Mark Sperry, DCE 563-321-0674 msperry@gracedewitt.org

> Mark's Office Hours 7:30 am to 1:00 pm

Kerry Good kgood@gracedewitt.org

> Church Office Hours M-Th - 8am to 3 pm F - 8am to Noon

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

PH: 563-659-9193

Preschool Teacher/Director Christine Greve preschool@gracedewitt.org

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

Camp Reservations camprentals@gracedewitt.org 319-230-7718

SERVING THIS MONTH:				
The Elders: Sunday's		Leon Doescher Scott Steffens/Jon Betz		
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Ray Ackermann		
The Organist: Diana Baetke				
The Acolytes				
July 4th				
8:00 AM	Silas DeHaven			
July 11th				
8:00 AM	Zack Garrity			
July 18th	Julv 18th			
8:00 AM	Kolton Goddard			
July 25th				
8:00 AM	Luke Hill			

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My thoughts drift to the place where trust is learned, Jesus. In Jesus, we find redemption from the brokenness of this world and in Jesus we find reconciliation with those who send against us. In Jesus we find peace that he gives to the world through the redemption he has won for us. Through the reconciliation he made for us.

As I sit at my desk dictating these words to my computer. I rejoice in these promises that we have by being in Jesus. Even though there is weariness and fear for the future of the church. There is the promise of the news Jesus gives to the church. It is the church who bears the marks that Jesus gives to her. You bear these marks. It is time to live in the peace that Jesus gives the world. Don't let the scar tissue cause you to doubt the promises that Jesus speaks to you for he is our "God and Lord for sake me not I trust that word."

> In the service of Jesus Password Eric

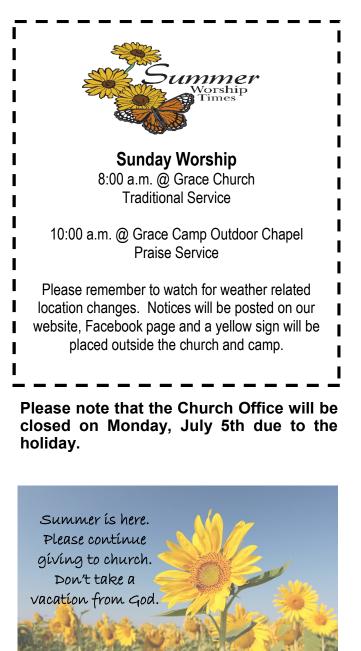
<u>IMPORTANT</u> - Deadline for submitting articles for the August Newsletter is July 15th.

Special Gifts Given Include:

In loving memory of Marie Anderson \$20 was given to Grace Lutheran Church.

Voter's Meeting July 11, 2021 - 9:00 a.m. @ Grace Lutheran Church

Agenda: 2021-2022 Preschool Budget



In Memory of:

Doug Schroeder, 67, of DeWitt, Iowa, died Thursday morning, June 17, 2021, at the Alverno Health Care Facility, Clinton.

Douglas Allen Schroeder was born July 30, 1953, in DeWitt to Virtus and Lucille (Roseland) Schroeder. He was 1972 graduate of Central Community Schools, DeWitt. Doug was employed by Collis for over 30 years until retirement in 2018.

He was a member of Grace Lutheran Church, DeWitt. Doug loved life on the farm. You could find him driving a tractor or working on one. He loved riding horses.

Surviving are daughters, Dana (Jimmy Giger) Schroeder of Low Moor and Shelby Schroeder of Rock Island, Illinois; grandchildren, Jake Griep, Skylar (fiancée, Haleigh Sullivan) Griep and Marana Boeding; greatgrandsons, Jaxon and Braxton Griep; brothers and sisters-in-law, Dale and Rhonda Schroeder, Mark and Deb Schroeder and Virgil and Brenda Schroeder all of DeWitt; nieces and nephews.

Doug was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Sandra Kay Edwards.

Mrs. Agnes E. Roseland, 94, of DeWitt, lowa, died Tuesday evening, June 1, 2021, in the comfort of her home surrounded by her loving family.

Agnes Elaine Gustafson was born August 9, 1926, to the late Henry Martin and Mabel (Johnson) Gustafson at home in Orion, Illinois. She graduated from Galva High School in Galva, Illinois, in 1944. Agnes married Malvin John Roseland October 17, 1948, at St. John Lutheran Church in Rock Island, Illinois. In addition to being a homemaker, she was employed at Rock Island Arsenal, John Deere, Grace Lutheran Church and Winsther Motel. Her husband preceded her in death October 12, 1984.

She was a longtime and active member of Grace Lutheran Church, DeWitt. Agnes belonged to several card clubs and was an avid league bowler until age 93. She loved crossword puzzles, word searches, jigsaw puzzles, bunco and flowers.

Surviving are children, Allen "Al" Roseland, Gary Roseland, Cheryl (Roger) Kaufman, Leon (Ronna) Roseland and Colleen (Mark) McDevitt all of DeWitt, Karen (Steve) Theisen of Bellevue and Gail (Joel) Block of Grand Mound; 12 grandchildren, 22 greatgrandchildren plus another one on the way; 2 great-great-grandchildren with another one on the way; brothers-in-law, Earl Roseland and Robert Lilly of Clinton; a sister-in-law, Carlene Gustafson of Moline, Illinois; nieces and nephews.

Also preceding Agnes in death were brothers, Orville, Raeburn "Ray" and Kenneth "Pete"; a sister, Lois Curry; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Elta Gustafson, Joe Curry, Lucille and Virtus Schroeder, Arlene Roseland, Wesley and Shirley Roseland, Pearl and Ernie Schroeder, Mona "Jean" Roseland, Elvera Burke and Marlene Lilly and a great-grandson.



Baptized on June 12, 2021— Sailor Jean Anderson, daughter of Jack & Olivia Anderson. Her sponsors are Addison Olson and Seth Kruckenberg.

Welcome to God's Family.

We offer our congratulations and prayers of thanksgiving to Jaelyn Diercks and Walker Wegener whom were united in marriage on Saturday, June 26th.





Please join us on Thursday, July 1st at 8:00 am to raise the flags at church. We will take the flags down on Tuesday, July 6th at 8:00 am.

If it is raining or has been raining, please call the church office to confirm this will still be taking place.

Volunteer Needed:

With every season change outside comes a new decorating opportunity inside the church. We are in need of a volunteer who would be willing to change out the floral décor through-out the church as the season change outside. Please contact Kerry at 659-9153 if you are interested in volunteering or if you would like more information.

The 2021 Altar Flower calendar is now available. To sign up please see the Altar Flower book located on the Welcome Center. Bouquets can be donated in honor of or in memory of persons or events. Each bouquet is \$27 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.

Flower Dates Available:

July 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th August 1st \$ 15th September 19th & 26th October 3rd, 10th, 17th, & 24th November 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th December 5th, 12th, 19th, & 26th



As we look ahead to the 2021-2022 Sunday school year we are actively searching for new Sunday School Teachers and Sunday School Subs. Currently we are seeking teachers for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade.

Teaching Sunday School is a great opportunity to volunteer your time and talent. Watching the children grow in their knowledge of God is very rewarding for everyone.

To find out more about this opportunity please contact Pastor Obermann or Mark at 563-659-9153.

In May we began putting out the "Little White Church" to collect donations for "Audio Visual Upgrades". Through the "Little White Church" and designated offering we collecting \$7,120.0 to be used for the AV Upgrade. Updates. Thank you everyone for your generosity, love and support.

2022 National Youth Gathering Info

Held every 3 years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to be encouraged in their walk with Jesus Christ and learn about the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity.

The Gathering is more than the five days of the event. The preparation process for the Gathering brings together young people and supportive adults to encourage each other in their baptismal identity. The Gathering provides young people a vision for the vastness of Christ's Church and equips them for vocational service as they continue their walk with Jesus.

The next gathering will be held **July** $9^{th} - 13^{th}$ of 2022 in Houston, **TX**. This event is open to all youth who have completed 8^{th} through 12^{th} grades as of the start of the gathering. The theme for the gathering is "In All Things" and is based on Colossians 1:15-20.



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter article – July 2020

"Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" asked the rich young ruler. Jesus said, "You know the commandments." And the ruler replied, "All these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." (Luke 18:18–22)

As we listen to this, one question is raised in our minds: Is Jesus speaking to us also or only to the rich young ruler? In other words, is Jesus telling us to sell all that we have and give it to the poor? As good Lutherans, we answer: No! But why? Why should we not sell all that we have and distribute it to the poor?

The simplest explanation is this: If we sold everything we have, our wife and our children would be neglected. In other words, to sell everything we have and give it to the poor would ignore, even abandon, those whom God has placed in our care. Our money, everything we have, is not to be used solely for the church. But that doesn't mean it isn't to be used for the purpose God intends.

Everyone has three stations in life, three spheres in which we live and are to be of service to our neighbors. These stations are the church, the family, and society. We are members of all three of these by birth.

- We are born into the church by water and the Word of God, and our duties to others in the church arise from either our birth into the church or the birth of others by Baptism into it.
- We are born into a family, and our duties to others stem from either our birth into that family or the birth of others into our family.

Finally, we are born into society, which is simply a further extension of our birth into our family. The duties we have toward other members of society come from either our birth or the birth of others into the same society.

All that we have and all that we are is to be pressed into service for the church, the family, and society. If we were to sell all we have and give only to one, the other two would be neglected, and our duties toward them would falter.

So consider your life and all that you have in light of these three stations. You pay taxes to support and help those in society. You provide food, clothing, and shelter for the members of your family. You save for college for your children.

But the one station that is usually thought of last is the church. Since the needs of the family and society are more immediate, the church is often given what is left over. This is not how it should be. Rather, we are to give of our first fruits – the best from off the top – even as Abel gave the best of his flock.

This requires forethought and intent. It means that you sit down and make a plan for what you will give from the beginning. It means sticking to it even when it seems there are other more immediate and pressing things.

This is all the more necessary now as we enter into periods of time while giving is low due to high unemployment or restrictions on meeting in church to give. If we love God, his gifts of forgiveness given through the means of grace we receive at church and only at church, then we will support the

SUMMER CAMP DONATIONS

Sign-up sheets are available on the tables in the atrium at Grace. Feel free to contact the church office if you have any questions.

Introduction to the Bible

If you have a student who is entering 3rd grade this fall, please stop by the office to pick-up your Introduction to the Bible packet. Bibles will be presented to the children during either worship service on Sunday, September 24th. Please contact Mark Sperry with any questions.

Confirmation Classes

Grace offers a three-year program for student in 6th, 7th & 8th 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 letter with more information will be sent out in early August.



THANK YOU

I would like to say a special thank you to everyone who helped make the 2021 Grace Camp Day Camps so

successful again this year. Through your generosity and willingness to volunteer and get involved we had the opportunity to share the love of Jesus with almost 100 children from DeWitt and the surrounding community. Thanks again and know that you are appreciated more than words can ever say!

Grace Lutheran Summer Camp

We missed you last Summer and can't wait to see you this year! The dates for this year's camp are Monday, July 26th & Tuesday, July 27th. This is open to students who will be in 2nd through 8th grades for the 2021-2022 school year. We will be taking extra precautions to ensure everyone's health and

safety. The biggest one being that campers will <u>NOT</u> be staying overnight. Campers will check-in both mornings at 9:00 am and be picked up both evenings at 7:00 pm. Registration is open and costs \$25. Please contact the church office at" 563-659-9153 with any questions.

> **Do you volunteer for Summer Camp?** Would you like a t-shirt? If you would like a t-shirt to wear while you are volunteering your time and talent at Summer

Camp please contact the church office by $\underline{July 1st}$ so that we can include them in our t-shirt order. Cost for t-shirt is <u>\$10</u>.

Summer Camp is right around the corner. Although it will look a bit different this year we will still need to check in all those attending. If you are available on Monday, July 26th I could use your help. I will need a few volunteers to assist with check in on the 26th from 8:45 to 10 am. If you would like to help please call Kerry at the church office 563-659-9153. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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church just as we love our country and our family.

For all that we have and all that we are is given to us by our gracious and giving God. He spared no expense for us and our salvation. He gave up His Son into death so that our sins are forgiven, and we will live. What is more, He provides for all that we need for this body and life. And our lives in this world, among these three spheres of the church, the family, and society, are to mirror the generosity of the one who gave us life in all three by birth.

Don't let the church, your divine family, be ignored or even an afterthought. The church is nurturing you, bringing you up in salvation by Word and Sacrament for eternal life.



SAVE THE DATES!

Fourth of July Float Decorating will be done on June 30th, 9:00 am at Cory Krukow's red machine shed (2503 260th Ave, DeWitt).

Back to Sunday School Rally—Sunday, August 22nd at 11:30 am (after the outdoor service) at Grace Camp. All Grace kids and their families are invited for a fun filled event to kick off our Sunday School Season!

Grace will be putting together a new **Church Directory**, September 8-11. Please mark your calendars and watch for sign-up sheets.

Grace Family Picnic Potluck - Sunday, September 26th at 11:30 am at Grace Camp. Come one, come all! Bring the whole family and a dish to share for an afternoon of fun and fellowship!

Grace Trunk or Treat - Saturday, October 30th from 1pm-3pm at Grace Camp. Children and Families of Grace Lutheran Church are invited to dress up and join us for fun and treats. We will also be seeking people to host trunks (ie decorate your vehicle trunk and pass out treats to the kids).

And keep an out for our **Soup & Chili Cookoff** in November!



RAGBRAI will be coming to DeWitt, July 30th. Grace Church and Grace Camp will be hosting a meal. Please watch for sign-ups to help serve and for pie donations. If you have any questions, please call Wendy Proctor at 319-230-7718 or Traci Butler at 563 -659-8013.

DeWitt area church families:

The DeWitt RAGBRAI committee is asking for your help. As you are aware, RAGBRAI is coming to DeWitt on Friday, July 30th. It is anticipated that up to 20,000 people will be here! It is going to be a lot of fun. Many of these riders are already looking for a place to stay that evening. What a great opportunity to meet some fun people from all over the world. They are usually looking for a place to park a vehicle and pitch their tent(s). Some will ask for access to electrical for charging devices or access to a shower or indoor accommodations. The access you give or don't give is 100% up to you, the homeowner / resident. Please consider this fun opportunity. You can sign up to host a rider(s) by going to this Facebook page and matching up with riders. Many riders are already posting on this page. Another option is completing and submitting this form indicating you are willing to host riders.

Kevin Lake, DeWitt Parks & Rec



Every Sunday in July we will have the "Little White Church" out for donations for the "345 Club". The "345 Club" is new to Grace Church. This ministry created so that third, fourth, and fifth graders can grow in their faith

through games, activities, service projects and Bible Studies. This newly established group is looking for donations to assist them with the activities and projects they have planned. If you would like to help them please put your donation in the "Little White Church" any Sunday in July. Thank you for your generous support.

BLOOD DRIVE

Grace Lutheran Church

Monday, July 5 2:00pm – 6:00pm Fellowship Hall – 415 Tenth Street

MASKS AND APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED. To schedule, please call Kerry Good at (563) 659-9153 or online at www.bloodcenter.org.

Please eat before donating and bring Photo ID. Last Date to Donate Elsewhere: 05/10/21 Group Sponsor Code: 1134



BLOODCENTER.ORG

ALL DONORS WILL RECEIVE A GIFT CARD!





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Membership Information:

We are gathering information for the 2021 Pictorial Directory. We would like to make sure the contact information we have is up to date so, we are asking for your assistance. We are asking all members to fill out the below information so that we can verify our records for accuracy. Please, fill out the attached form and drop it off at the church, email it to kgood@gracedewitt.org, call 563-659-9153 or drop it in the mail PO Box 156, Dewitt, IA 52742.

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip: _
Home Phone:		
Head of Househol	d) Cell Phone & I	Email:
Spouse) Cell Phor	ne & Email:	

Saturday	3 6:00 PM Independence Day Parade				
Sat	3 6:00 PM Indepencence Parade	10	17	24	31
Friday	2 8:00 AM Trustees Board Meeting	6	16	23	30 4:00 PM RAGBRAI Meal
Thursday	1 8:00 AM Raise the Flags 9:00 AM Day Camp 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 4:45 PM VBS DInner 5:30 PM Vacation Bible School	8 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	15 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	22 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	29 9:00 AM Tops Meeting
Wednesday	30 9:00 AM Float Decorating 4:45 PM VBS Dinner 5:30 PM Vacation Bible School 7:00 PM Worship	7 7:00 PM Worship	14 7:00 AM Finance Board Meeting 7:00 PM Worship	21 9:00 AM Grace Sewing Ladies 7:00 PM Worship	28 7:00 PM Worship
Tuesday	29 10:00 AM Day Camp 4:45 PM VBS DInner 5:30 PM Vacation Bible School	6 8:00 AM Lower the Flags	13	20 6:30 PM Camp Board Meeting	27 9:00 AM Grace Summer Camp 2021 - "SAVED"
Monday	28 4:45 PM VBS DInner 5:30 PM Vacation Bible School	5 Church Office Closed 2:00 PM Blood Drive 6:30 PM Elders Meeting	12 6:00 PM Council Meeting	19 1:00 PM 500 Card Club	26 9:00 AM Grace Summer Camp 2021 - "SAVED"
Sunday	27 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:00 AM Board of Education 4:45 PM VBS DInner 5:30 PM Vacation Bible School	4 "Mites" Sunday B:00 AM Traditional Worship/Communion 10:00 AM Praise Worhip/Communion @ Grace Camp	11 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp	 18 8:00 AM Grace Camp Pancake Breakfast Breakfast 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Communion 10:00 AM Praise Worhip/Communion @ Grace Camp 6:00 PM Youth Movie Night 	25 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp 5:00 PM Summer Camp Counselor Orientation

JULY 2021



1 st	Katherine Grantz
	Andrea Mork
	Hope Williams
2 nd	Kramer Steffens
	Glenda Evers
	Chris Postell
	Joshua Arey
	Hunter Jeffery
3rd	Christy Stearns
	Ashton Schneider
	Apryl Onken
	Brooke Barnes
	MacKenzie Meggers
	MeKenna Stevens
4 th	Duane Meyer
	Laura Norcross
5 th	Nellee Gruntorad
	Leo Hill
	Beverly Schrader
	Renae Havener
6 th	Grace Burzlaff
-	Ken Goddard
	Emily Knight
7 th	Lena Niemann
	Benjamin Niemann
	Marty Block
8 th	Traci Butler
	Shannon Soenksen
9th	Emerie Obermann
	Jeffrey Robinson
10 th	Chase Walther
	Aria Soenksen
	Andrea Beuthein
	Carole Dunkin

11 th	Tyler Herington	20 th
	Piper Dahl	
	Wyatt Williams	
12 th	Chloe Stowe	
	Troy Eden	21 st
	Cody Mork	
	Kristine Pennock	
	T.J. Kennedy	22 nd
	Mitchell Scott	23 rd
	Eden Tarchinski	
	William Willrett	
13 th	Erik Johnson	24 th
	Mark Sperry	
	Evelyn Steward	
14 th	Michael Schneider	25 th
	Lance Smith	
15 th	Sandy Anderson	
	Amanda Ketelsen	26 th
	Anne Burken	
	Makenzie Mente	
	Hannah Arey	
	Julie Matzen	27 th
	Caleb Engelkes	
	Eli Engelkes	
16 th	Ryan Jacobsen	
	Troy Diercks	28 th
17 th	Jacqueline Rathmann	29 th
	Aaron Soenksen	
18 th	Elaine Shelton	
	Tyler Stamp	30 th
	Ryan Ketelsen	31 st
19 th	Kaylie Stearns	
	Easton Meyers	
	Louis Ingwersen Sr.	
	Scott Kennedy	

OOth Gregory Henningsen Carol Schunter **Barry Engelkes** Brady Lawrence Irene Myers Rachael O'Donnell Mark Gassmann Jacob Diercks Ashlie Oronzio Karen Penningroth Melissa Nolin Hannah Law Angie Lane Jeremy Stowe Mason Weimerskirk Craig Paarmann Megan Havener Brenda Gustafson JoAnn Greve Amelia Williams Jaide Gassmann Laura Nebel Carrie Carter **Devin McVey** Kyle Jackson Jacob Thumann Brian Schrader **Troy Stevens** Jerri Sanger **Oliver Stearns** Michelle Diercks Chelsi Converse

Jaymeson Mork

1 st 6 th 9 th	Joel & Susan Sanger Jayce & Sharri Block Matt & Paula Anderson	12 th 16 th 18 th 19 th 21 st 23 rd 29 th 31 st	Lynn & Debra Swanson Bill & Lindsey Tague Michael & Lori Anderson Scott & Kim Steffens Casey & Jennifer Walker Mark & Cindy Sperry Dan & Kimberly Burzlaff Barry & Kristy Englekes Kevin & Joy Marik Ed & Poggy Schlofoldt	
9 th		29 th	Kevin & Joy Marik	
10 th 11 th	Curtis & Randi Bahnsen Jesse & Jenna Spain	31 st	Ed & Peggy Schlofeldt	

Hannah Schreiber