



# Grace Newsletter

MARCH 2021

## 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  
[mosperry@gracedewitt.org](mailto:mosperry@gracedewitt.org)

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

## Kerry Good

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

## Grace Lutheran Camp

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

## Camp Reservations

[camprentals@gracedewitt.org](mailto:camprentals@gracedewitt.org)  
319-230-7718

Dear Redeemed and Loved Saints of Grace!

Did you watch the super bowl a few weeks ago? Tampa Bay versus Kansas City, Brady versus Mahomes. It seemed like the conversation surrounding the game was not about who was going to win but who the majority of America did not want to win. Maybe you were a part of the crowd who cheered against Tom Brady. I mean who wants to watch a quarterback play in his tenth super bowl in twenty-one seasons. Who wants to watch a quarterback win his seventh super bowl overall. Apparently, a lot of people did not. I was not one of those. I am pretty sure that I cheered and hollered at the tv more during this year's super bowl than I have for any game since I was ten. But it led me to think maybe a little too deeply about how we view people and their greatness.

How often do you hear people wonder aloud if Jesus came back now, would we recognize him? Or would we be like the crowds that lived during the first century Palestine era? The crowds who marveled with their own eyes, Jesus of Nazareth, healing the lame, giving sight to the blind, restoring hearing to the deaf, raising the dead, and forgiving the sins of sinners, and yet the crowds constantly seemed to be searching for another great prophet to come along.

About the end of the third quarter, the beginning of the fourth quarter, when it became clear who was going to win, I heard an interesting conversation that took place during the broadcast. The conversation went from the greatness of Tom Brady to a conversation of what it would take for any other quarterback to be considered the greatest. I found the conversation to be strange. But also, it led me to think deeper about a question we sometimes wonder about.

If we lived during the first century Palestine era and we could let our eyes marvel on Jesus of Nazareth and seeing him heal the lame, give sight to the blind, restore sound to the deaf, and forgive the sins of the sinner. Would our faith be strong enough to follow Jesus or would we be like the crowds who searched for another? I hesitate to give my honest answer but as I think back on the super bowl and seeing how much of the sports media conversation is tired of seeing the greatness of one player. I think the greater question, is how we keep seeing the love of Jesus in our lives.

A few years ago, the National Youth Gathering theme was based on Psalm 46 "A Real Present God." A reminder that as we follow Jesus and his words, we see Jesus working in the here and in the now. That he is constantly present in our life. That we do not need to go looking for another savior, but that Jesus has revealed himself to us when he called us to be his brothers and sisters in the watery tomb of baptism. Where God, his Father, becomes our Father, as we become his precious

*Continued on next page*

## SERVING THIS MONTH:

**The Elders:** Sunday's 8:00 AM  
10:30 AM

Wednesday 11:00 AM  
7:00 PM Scott Steffens

**The Organist:** Diana Baetke

### The Acolytes

#### March 3rd

7:00 PM

Hudson Krukow

#### March 7th

8:00 AM

Wyatt Jensen

10:30 AM

Ashlie Oronzio

#### March 10th

7:00 PM

Landre Ruggeberg

#### March 14th

8:00 AM

Ashton Schneider

10:30 AM

Noah Sunday

#### March 17th

7:00 PM

Silas DeHaven

#### March 21st

8:00 AM

Zack Garrity

10:30 AM

Kolton Goddard

#### March 24th

7:00 PM

Luke Hill

#### March 28th

8:00 AM

Hattie Rickertsen

10:30 AM

Briah Reuss

children.

Not by our measure of strength can we come to know Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, except by the Holy Spirit who teaches us that God called us out of his love for us to be in his family, to see who Jesus is for us our savior.

Keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus,  
Pastor Eric

### Special Gifts Given Include:

In loving memory of Cathy Bloom \$20 was given to Grace Preschool.

In honor of Grandpa Mitch's Birthday \$50 was given for the altar area remodel.

In loving memory of Loren Hass \$10 was given to Grace Lutheran Church.

**Referral Center Collection** - Items for the Referral Center can be left in the display located in the Foyer.



We offer a prayer of thanksgiving for Mariah Schulz and John Diercks who were united in marriage on Saturday, February 20th.

# BLOOD DRIVE

Grace Lutheran Church

Monday, March 22

2:00pm – 6:00pm

Fellowship Hall – 415 10<sup>th</sup> Street

MASKS AND APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED. To schedule call Kerry Good at (563) 659-9153 or visit [www.bloodcenter.org](http://www.bloodcenter.org).



All donors will receive SOCKS OR A GIFT CARD!

**BLOODCENTER.ORG**



**Lenten**  
SCHEDULE

**Lenten Midweek Services**  
March 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th  
11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Communion: If you have missed receiving communion, you are invited to call the church office, 563-659-9153, to schedule a time for Pastor Eric to bring communion to you!



**Prayer Chain**

Are you interested in being part of the prayer life here at Grace. Let the church office know, so that we can get a prayer chain started. As Pastor learns of needs, he will initiate the prayer and pass it on.

**THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE** for Grace Lutheran Church will be accepting grant applications through March 15, 2021. Applications for projects which provide support to missions, education, youth, worship, and music and/or capital projects will be considered.

**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.

# Palm Sunday

**March 28th**  
**8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**  
Procession of the Palms

**HOLY WEEK**



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Maundy Thursday**  
**April 1st**  
7:00 p.m. Worship/Communion

**Good Friday**  
**April 2nd**  
7:00 p.m. Worship

**Easter Sunday Worship**  
**April 4th**  
7:00 a.m. Worship/Communion  
9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion  
11:00 a.m. Worship/Communion

**Reminder—There will be no Sunday School or Adult Bible Study on Easter Sunday, April 4th.**



## Spring Forward on March 14th!



We offer a prayer of thanksgiving to Kramer and MacKenzie Steffens on the birth of their son, Ozzie. Oslo Stephen Steffens was born on February 22nd he weighed 8lbs 10 oz and was 22" long. Congratulations!



**PLEASE REMEMBER  
TO CONTINUE  
GIVING TO YOUR**

**HELP US GROW  
THROUGH EGIVING**



Electronic giving is a convenient, easy way to support Grace Church.

By giving electronically, you can:

- Give anywhere, anytime from your computer, smartphone or tablet.
- Donate to one of our special project funds.
- Set up recurring payments and never worry about bringing your checkbook or cash again.

Get started today! Visit our donations page to set up your online contribution:  
[www.gracedewitt.org](http://www.gracedewitt.org).

Vanco

### **GRACE LUTHERAN YOUTH'S FAMOUS LASAGNA TAKE & BAKE**

For those that placed an order for the Grace Youth Famous Take & Bake Lasagna, pick-up will be Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> here at Church! Thank you for your support of the youth ministry programs here at Grace.



### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

The Board of Youth & Board of Christian Education will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> for children ages 3 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We need you to help by donating plastic eggs and pre-packaged candy. Please leave your donations in the box located outside the church office. We want 1 dozen eggs per child, so we will need approximately 1000 eggs and the candy to fill them.



**Lilies for Easter** are being ordered through the Church Office this year. If you would like a lily to be placed in the sanctuary, please complete the form and return with your payment by **March 16th**. Lilies will have gold foil. Cost is \$12 each.

**Name:**

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**In Memory of:**

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**In Honor of:**

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Westwing is hiring! We are currently hiring for a Driver position that can be available on an as needed basis. We are expecting this person to work around 13-30+ hours a week depending on the activities we have going on. Primary hours are 8am-5pm with some flexibility.

If you're ready for a job that will enhance your sense of purpose and meaning in your life, we would love to welcome you to Westwing, a WellSpire community!

Please view the full job posting for "Driver - Campus Lifestyles" at [www.WesleyLife.org](http://www.WesleyLife.org) and go to the careers tab.

If you need assistance with locating the posting online, please contact Meg Gogulich, Director of Lifestyles at 563-221-7111. Thank you!

## Grace Lutheran Preschool

Enrollment forms will be available February 1st 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.

### 2021-2022 Class Schedule and Fees

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

- \$35 registration fee due at time of enrollment.
- 3s Classes will begin after Labor Day.
- Children must be 3 on or before Sept. 15, 2021.

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

- Must be 4 on or before September 15, 2021 to qualify for free preschool.
- 5-year-old tuition is \$175/month and a \$35 registration fee.

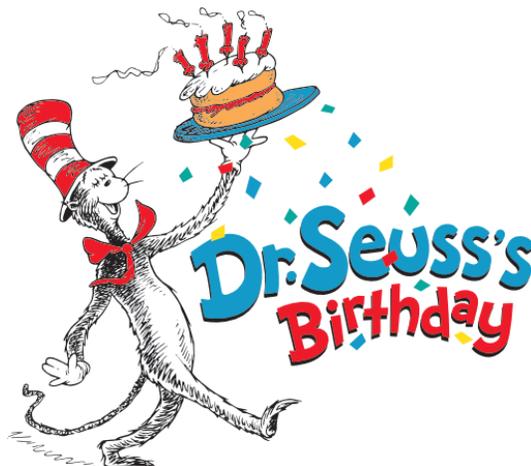
For more information, please contact the preschool office at 659-9193 (8:00-3:00 p.m. M-F) or email [preschool@gracedewitt.org](mailto:preschool@gracedewitt.org).



March is here! This month we will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and St. Patrick's day. We will also be learning Spring and rain.

The 3's have wrapped up their unit on shapes and are now learning about numbers.

Both 3's and 4's classes are looking forward to warmer temperatures so they can spend some time outside.



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

## Support Grace Lutheran Preschool By Purchasing Gift Cards



Would you like to support Grace Lutheran Preschool? There is no easier way than 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.

## LCMS Stewardship Ministry

### Newsletter article – March 2021

Hudson Taylor, a Nineteenth Century British missionary to China, is reported to have said, “God’s work, done in God’s way, will not lack God’s supply.” To know God’s way, we need to know His Holy Word. Or to say it another way: you need to know your Bible.

St. Paul, before he spends two chapters on giving, wrote that every thought is to be taken captive to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor 10:5). Doctrine matters. And doctrine matters because the Scriptures matter. And the Scriptures matter because this is where we learn the teaching of Christ. Our thoughts must be brought into line with the teaching of Scripture so that our work is what God wants done and so that we do this work in His way.

A good tree bears good fruit. A bad tree bears bad fruit. We have been made good trees in holy baptism. We are fertilized and pruned for bearing good fruit by constantly hearing God’s Word preached and taught in sermon and Bible Class and in receiving the life-giving, faith-sustaining food of the Lord’s Supper. Remember your doctrine, hold on to the Lord’s teaching, and your thoughts will be taken captive to the obedience of Christ.

Bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ is recognizing that God does provide. The Lord’s Prayer teaches us to pray for daily bread. Praying this day in and day out reminds us that the Lord is the giver of our daily bread, and that we are to give thanks for His daily provision of it. God is rarely early and never late in His work, as Abraham learned on the mount of the Lord it will be provided. The Lord’s generosity forms our generosity in return.

Thus, we set aside for the work of God a generous, first-fruits, proportion of the daily bread that God has given to us. This act of trust in the Lord’s provision is the working out of our faith in Him. When budgetary discussions pop up our natural reaction is to point fingers. But remember your doctrine, and what your mother taught about pointing fingers. Our first natural reaction is not always right. In fact, when our thoughts are brought into captivity of Christ, our first reaction should be repentance. It should raise questions in our own lives. As good trees in Christ who are to bear good fruit, we should ask whether our thoughts have been taken captive by obedience to Christ. Have we given generously? Have we given our first-fruits? You know. And God knows. “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him” (2 Chron 16:9).

God will provide. He always has and He always will. He gives His meat in due season. He has not left you as orphans but has grafted you into His own family. You belong to Him. Remember this, letting this thought dwell in you richly. And you will then be rich toward others.

FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD  
TO MOVE TO & FRO  
THROUGHOUT THE EARTH  
SO THAT HE MAY  
STRONGLY SUPPORT  
THOSE WHOSE  
HEART IS  
COMPLETELY HIS  
2 CHRONICLES  
16:9



- |                  |  |                  |  |
|------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Kevin Becker<br>Maverick Stevens                                     | 20 <sup>th</sup> | Verda Scott<br>Ashten Henningsen<br>Jasmine Carter<br>Audra Dietz                    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | Annette Lahey<br>Ronald Steward<br>Jered Birt<br>Graham Feldpausch   | 21 <sup>st</sup> | Jennifer Griem<br>Cole Housman<br>Norma Soenksen<br>AshLynne Postell<br>Austin Nolin |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Danette LaBarge  | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Dale Greve<br>Ben Blanchard<br>Casey Walker  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Jena Byorum<br>Randy Lange<br>Gary Smith                             | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Jake Williams<br>Justin Roseland   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Brody Proctor<br>Hattie Rickertsen                                   | 24 <sup>th</sup> | Mallory McMahan  |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Dylan Kirby  | 25 <sup>th</sup> | Sandy Burken<br>Sandra Kirby   |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Kevin Marik<br>Mark Paarmann<br>Dean Youngers<br>Jessica Postell     | 28 <sup>th</sup> | Darin Suhr<br>Josh Stearns   |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> | Jonah Paarmann   | 29 <sup>th</sup> | Rachael Vopatek  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | Eric Paarmann<br>Scott Dahl  | 30 <sup>th</sup> | Esther Schroeder<br>Amy Stevens  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | Ezra Onken<br>Kim Wright<br>Laura Swanson                            | 31 <sup>st</sup> | Arwin Petersen<br>Justin Wagner  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Michael Postell<br>Quinlyn Kuehl                                     |                  |  |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | Kristy Buhl<br>Jed Hythecker   |                  |  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> | Erin Suhr  |                  |  |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> | Tony Stevens<br>Keller Randleman<br>Jackson Randleman<br>Maria Casad |                  |  |



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|------------------|-------------------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | David & Kay Hall        |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Richard & Carole Dunkin |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | Paul & Kathi Lieving    |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Larry & Tonia Oronzio   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Barry & Patty Anderson  |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Jon & Val Betz          |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | Riley & Sarah McVey     |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> | Bob & Marilyn Mundt     |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> | Matthew & Wendy Proctor |

# MARCH 2021

| Sunday  |  | Monday   |   | Tuesday   |   | Wednesday  |   | Thursday  |    | Friday   |  | Saturday                   |    |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|----|--|--|----------------------------|----|
| 28<br>8:00 AM Traditional Worship<br>9:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study<br>10:30 AM Traditional Worship                | 1<br>6:30 PM Elders Meeting  | 2  | 3<br>8:00 AM Staff Meeting<br>11:00 AM Lenten Worship<br>5:30 PM Confirmation<br>7:00 PM Lenten Worship | 4<br>9:00 AM Tops Meeting<br>7:00 PM Women of Grace - Bible Study   | 5<br>8:00 AM Trustees Board Meeting   | 6<br>8:30 AM Women of Grace - "Abide"<br>Women's Retreat | 7<br>"Mites" Sunday<br>8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Communion<br>9:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study<br>10:30 AM Traditional Worship/Communion | 8<br>6:00 PM Council Meeting                                      | 9  | 10<br>7:00 AM Finance Board Meeting<br>11:00 AM Lenten Worship<br>5:30 PM Confirmation<br>7:00 PM Lenten Worship | 11<br>9:00 AM Tops Meeting<br>7:00 PM Women of Grace - Bible Study | 12<br>Church Office Closed | 13 |
| 14<br>8:00 AM Traditional Worship<br>9:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study<br>10:30 AM Traditional Worship                | 15<br>Newsletter Deadline<br>No Preschool<br>7:00 PM Youth Board Meeting | 16<br>No Preschool<br>6:30 PM Camp Board Meeting | 17<br>No Preschool<br>8:00 AM Staff Meeting<br>11:00 AM Lenten Worship<br>7:00 PM Lenten Worship        | 18<br>No Preschool<br>9:00 AM Tops Meeting<br>7:00 PM Women of Grace - Bible Study                                      | 19<br>No Preschool  | 20   | 21<br>9:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study<br>10:30 AM Traditional Worship/Communion   | 22<br>2:00 PM Blood Drive<br>6:30 PM Board of Christian Education | 23 | 24<br>11:00 AM Lenten Worship<br>5:30 PM Confirmation<br>7:00 PM Lenten Worship                                  | 25<br>9:00 AM Tops Meeting<br>7:00 PM Women of Grace - Bible Study | 26                         | 27 |
| 28<br>PALM SUNDAY<br>8:00 AM Traditional Worship<br>9:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study<br>10:30 AM Traditional Worship | 29   | 30   | 31  | 1<br>MAUNDY THURSDAY<br>9:00 AM Tops Meeting<br>7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Worship<br>7:00 PM Women of Grace - Bible Study | 2<br>GOOD FRIDAY<br>8:00 AM Trustees Board Meeting<br>7:00 PM Good Friday Worship | 3  |   |   |    |  |  |                            |    |