



Grace Newsletter

MAY 2020

Dear Saints of Grace Lutheran Church,

I come to you with sadness on my heart. Considering the governor's proclamation on April 27, 2020, I feel that it is still in our best interest to continue to worship ONLINE ONLY through May 15th. At which time, we will reevaluate the situation. I understand that some of you may disagree with this decision.

Especially as we consider that the governor did ease some of the restrictions for the state of Iowa, eased restrictions for small businesses, and eased some of the restrictions towards gathering in worship spaces. However, what the governor did not let up on, is the need to keep away from mass gatherings.

Quoting from Governor Reynold's proclamation about mass gatherings:

"SECTION SIX. Pursuant to Iowa Code § 135.144 (3), and in conjunction with the Iowa Department of Public Health, unless otherwise modified by subsequent proclamation or order of the Iowa Department of Public Health, social, community, recreational, leisure, and sporting gatherings and events of more than 10 people shall continue to be prohibited at all locations and venues, including but not limited to parades, festivals, conventions, and fundraisers effective 12:01 a.m. on May 1, 2020 and until 11:59 p.m. on May 15, 2020.

Spiritual and religious gatherings are not prohibited by this section, but a church, synagogue, or other host of a spiritual or religious gathering shall implement reasonable measures under the circumstances of each gathering to ensure social distancing of employees, volunteers, and other participants, increased hygiene practices, and other public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the Iowa Department of Public Health. Although wedding and funeral ceremonies are not covered by this section, wedding receptions of more than 10 people are social gatherings that are prohibited." (Found on <https://governor.iowa.gov/press-release/gov-reynolds-signs-new-proclamation-continuing-the-state-public-health-emergency-0>)

I understand that you as read this, your initial reaction might be to say let us open our church. The governor has exempted churches from the mass gathering policy. Therefore, let us gather as a whole and worship. But I cannot in good conscience think that is a good idea at this time. Instead the elders and I agree to be content for the next two weeks with the continuation of our online worship time and our online Bible Studies. Then reevaluate where things are on May 15th. When we will be able to come up with a suitable to plan to keep everyone safe and healthy when we gather for worship.

I pray that you continue to be patient as you see other churches doing other things other than us. I pray that you stay patient with the elders and myself as we continue to make decision that will be best for our congregation. I pray that you continue to stay patient as we can finally start seeing an end of the pandemic. I pray that you stay patient as we continue to love our neighbors and to keep them safe from the effects of this virus.

In the service of Christ,
Pastor Eric

SERVING THIS MONTH:

The Elders: Sunday's 8:00 AM Paul Kirby
10:30 AM Scott Havener

The Organist: Diana Baetke

Sunday, May 17, 2020

8:00 AM	Owen Tucker	A/V Tech Need Volunteer
10:30 AM	Carleigh Tobey	Need Volunteer

Sunday, May 24, 2020

9:00 AM	Adalyn Appleby	Need Volunteer
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Sunday, May 31, 2020

8:00 AM	Benson Hill	Need Volunteer
10:30 AM	Emma Pillers	Need Volunteer

IMPORTANT - Deadline for submitting articles for the June Newsletter is May 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.

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

In honor of the 60th Anniversary of Gary and Maribeth's wedding, May 11th, Maribeth Penningroth has given a gift of \$60 to Grace Lutheran Camp.. This gift will be used toward the purchase of a new bench at the entrance of the Andrew Retreat Center at Grace Camp. God blessed us with many blessings and happiness during our years of marriage. We both loved our time working at the camp through the years as we served on the camp board with so many fine friends and Grace members. We found great joy and thankfulness seeing how the camp grew and expanded into the fine facility it is today, where everyone is welcome.

GRACE LUTHERAN SUMMER CAMP 2020 – "SAVED" - The dates for this year's summer camp are July 27th – 29th. When registration is open you will receive an email. Please note the early bird registration date of July 1st. **Any registrations received after that time will pay the higher registration fee and will NOT receive a T-Shirt.**

SUMMER CAMP T-Shirts—The dates for this year's summer camp at **July 27th – 29th**. If you plan to volunteer during camp or just stop out and would like an official Summer Camp 2020 T-Shirt, please contact Kerry Good or Mark Sperry. The cost is **\$10** and must be submitted by July 1st.

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 on May 15th to see if there will be a need to extend our time worshipping 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 MISSION STATEMENT — To make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our church, communities and world.



SUMMER 2020 DAY CAMPS

We hope to provide the following Day Camps for Summer 2020:

- 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]

We will need help at the camps on June 4th, 16th, 18th & 30th. Please contact Mark Sperry.

DAY CAMP SUPPLY REQUEST

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



Vacation Bible School Update

Our planning team has met and made a decision to put VBS on hold for now due to concerns with Covid-19 and social distancing. We have a very exciting theme planned that we will definitely holding on to for a future date. We have some other exciting ideas in the works for when things calm down and it's safer for groups to gather. So for now, we ask that you stay tuned!

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.

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 8/6 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.

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

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

Kerry Good

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

Grace Lutheran Camp

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

Camp Reservations
563-357-0780

High School Graduates



Kyle Ackerman
212 10th Circle
De Witt, IA 52742-1831

Audra Seifert
1515 7th Ave
De Witt, IA 52742-1109

Jasmine Carter
206 9th Ave
De Witt, IA 52742-1939

Carly Small
1705 Valley Way
De Witt, IA 52742-9295

Jacob Diercks
2191 190th St
Grand Mound, IA 52751-9616

Yana Sperry
1315 Maple Wood Ct
De Witt, IA 52742-1022

Alyssa Eden
10016 Springbrook Lane
De Witt, IA 52742-1071

Erin Suhr
2731 225th St
DeWitt, IA 52742

Katelyn Good
1269 Hospital Dr
De Witt, IA 52742-1020

Carlee Watts
1792 210th Ave
Grand Mound, IA 52751

Sam Henningsen
906 S 8th St
Eldridge, IA 52748-1548

Samantha Zeimet
2306 280th Ave
De Witt, IA 52742-9101

Ezra Onken
113 9th Ave
De Witt, IA 52742-1937

*Remember all cards or congratulatory notes should be mailed to these special young men and women and not dropped off at church. Thank you.

Class
of 2020

MAY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 No Worship Services Today - You can view the service on YouTube or Facebook	27	28	29	30	1	2
3 No Worship Services Today - You can view the service on YouTube or Facebook	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 No Worship Services Today - You can view the service on YouTube or Facebook	11	12	13	14	15 Newsletter Deadline Re-evaluate Worship Services	16 10:00 AM Hall Rental
17 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm 10:30 AM Traditional Worship/Comm	18 7:00 PM Youth Board Meeting	19 6:30 PM Camp Board Meeting	20	21	22	23
24 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 10:30 AM Traditional Worship	25 6:30 PM Board of Christian Education	26	27	28	29	30 7:00 AM Hall Rental
31 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm 10:30 AM Traditional Worship/Comm	1 6:00 PM Council Meeting	2	3	4 9:00 AM Day Camp #1 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	5	6

Birthdays & Anniversaries



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|------------------|---|------------------|--|
| 1 st | Bev Johnson
Chad Knapper
Sam Henningsen | 14 th | Michael Good
Carter Paarmann
Emma Grace Hartman |
| 2 nd | LuAnn Thiede | 15 th | Christopher Haney
Aspen Williams |
| 3 rd | Ronnie Matzen
Carlee Watts | 16 th | Annabelle Schneider |
| 4 th | Dennis Gisel
Kay Goddard
Jaren Nebel | 17 th | Gina Rockrohr
Elyce Billany
Drew Eden |
| 6 th | Tyler Stowe
Karen Theisen | 19 th | Susan Williams |
| 7 th | Lindsey Tague | 21 st | Patty Anderson |
| 8 th | Bryce Gassmann
Ezekiel DeHaven
Cy Jacobsen
Shanna Tucker | 22 nd | Keith Gustafson |
| 10 th | Lee Penningroth
Jim Williams
Caitlin Proctor | 23 rd | Rick Steward
Mitchell McDevitt |
| 11 th | Vicki Becker
Tori Grantz
Wesley Johnson | 24 th | Charlotte Foit
Matt Daniels
Robin Dohrmann
Chloe Mangan |
| 12 th | Darin Arey
Whitney Anderson | 25 th | Eleanor Arey
Randi Bahnsen |
| 13 th | Douglas Peahl
Henry Byorum
Angie Hill | 27 th | Ray Ackerman Jr.
Paul Lieving |
| | | 29 th | Beth Haring
Kim Steffens |
| | | 30 th | Margie Alger |
| | | 31 st | Paul Kirby |



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| 2 nd | Scott & Becky Kirby |
| 3 rd | Ken & Marjorie Goddard |
| 4 th | Scott & Renae Havener |
| 6 th | John & Eleanor Arey |
| 9 th | Gary & Cathy Paarmann |
| 11 th | Rick & Lori Olson
James & Michele Gruntorad
Ray & Sarah Ackerman Jr.
Darin & Sara Suhr |
| 12 th | Allen & Amanda Ketelsen |
| 15 th | Chris & Tiffany Postell |
| 16 th | Ken & Kyle Jackson
Rich & Julie Matzen |
| 19 th | Cory & Amanda Hoepner |
| 20 th | Anthony & Connie Tarchinski
Adam & Cassandra Reed |
| 25 th | Todd & Karen McWilliams |
| 26 th | Lee & Karen Penningroth |

