



# Grace Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 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)

**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  
563-357-0780

Dear Saints of Grace Lutheran Church,

It is hard to believe what all this year has brought. Between a potentially serious virus, a shutdown of normalcy, to finally a devastating storm to the Eastern half of Iowa. It is almost like I want to think less about what winter might bring. But I trust that God will continue to hold us through whatever comes next.

But I mention all of this because I have noticed something. Maybe you noticed it all as well. These events for a time I believe showed us something. That we are people who desire to be in the community. Each of those events brought us together, yet only for a time. Before something came along that divided us apart again. Whether it is exhaustion from trying to know what's true, or physical walls of isolation or falling back into routines after spending a week cleaning up debris. Especially this last week or two, there was a sense of peace. A community coming back together. A community that was joined together. It was almost like invitations should have been handed out to share a meal. Or go share a moment over a cup of coffee or a soft drink. But then the subtle reminder of the times caused a divide. That sent us back into our homes. Wondering where do we belong?

Jesus says in John 3, that when the Son Of Man is lifted high, He will draw all nearer to him. Jesus is telling us that he has formed a community for us. He is telling us where we belong. St. Paul tells us in Romans 8 that nothing can separate us from this community that Jesus creates for us. We belong to Jesus.

In this place, Jesus teaches us how to live together. While the world wants to divide us over different beliefs, or differences of opinions. Jesus teaches us how to forgive those that we might disagree with us. Jesus teaches us to pray, for ourselves but also for those around us. In this place, Jesus teaches us to love each other. He teaches us how surprising love can be. How instead of driving us apart, it draws us together.

Jesus shows by his love for us. He brings us in to be a community of believers. From all walks of life, from all different backgrounds and all sorts so different opinions on the world. Instead of casting us aside. He brings us in. He draws us together to be in his place. To be apart of his body. To be a community of believers. A place where we belong because Jesus placed there.

I pray that as the year is slowly ending, that God continues to watch over and keep you in His loving promises he made to you in Jesus.

In the service of Jesus,  
Pastor Eric

## SERVING THIS MONTH:

**The Elders:** Sunday's 8:00 AM Allan Anderson  
10:00 AM Scott Steffens

Wednesday 7:00 PM Scott Havener

**The Organist:** Diana Baetke

### The Acolytes

**Sept 13, 2020**

8:00 AM

10:30 AM

Kamryn Albrecht

Adalyn Appleby

**Sept 20, 2020**

8:00 AM

10:30 AM

Hannah Grantz

Lily Gruntorad

**Sept 27, 2020**

8:00 AM

10:30 AM

Benson Hill

Emma Pillers



**PLEASE REMEMBER  
TO CONTINUE  
GIVING TO YOUR**

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



We offer a prayer of thanksgiving to Joe Spain & Mariah Reed who were united in marriage on August 22, 2020.

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

Jon and Val Betz announce the August 7 marriage of their son, Zachary Betz to Whitney Kirkby in Sandpoint, Idaho. Gods Blessings to the happy couple!

# Congratulations

Congratulation to the 2020 Endowment Grant recipients:

Board of Youth will receive \$500 for the 2022 National Youth Gathering.

The Women of Grace will receive \$500 for their Coffee & Connections Ministry.

Praise Team/Choir/VBS will receive \$330 toward rear projection project.

The Bell Choir will receive \$250 to replace some bells.

The Sunday School will receive \$900 to be used to replace tables in a Sunday School Room.



**Baptized on August 23, 2020** — Emerie Joy Obermann, daughter of Pastor Eric & Emily Obermann.



Thank you to everyone who helped with the clean up day at Grace Camp on Saturday, August 15th. To everyone who provided equipment, tools, food, their time and hands to help move all the downed limbs and trees we are so grateful for everything.

The Camp Board

### **Special Gifts Given Include:**

In loving memory of Helen Soenksen \$20 was given to Grace Lutheran Preschool.

### **In Loving Memory of:**

Dean Marlowe, 63, of DeWitt, Iowa, died Wednesday morning, August 19, 2020, at Genesis Medical Center-DeWitt.

David Dean Marlowe was born December 15, 1956, to David Andrew and Dorothea Dardis (Stevens) Marlowe. Dean was a graduate of Northeast High School, Goose Lake. Following graduation he worked various hands on jobs. Dean's passion was assisting area farmers on their farms. He worked for River Valley and FS and later DAC, Inc., Maquoketa and Skyline Center, Clinton. Dean married Robin Lamp November 6, 1976, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Charlotte and the couple were blessed with two daughters. He later married Jennifer Dahl July 24, 1993, at Grace Lutheran Church, DeWitt and this marriage was blessed with two sons.

He was a sports enthusiast, with a passion for Iowa Hawkeye football and basketball. Dean enjoyed supporting his children and grandchildren in their showing of cattle in 4H at the county fair. He also enjoyed playing BINGO and working jigsaw puzzles while at Westwing, as well as pulling pranks on the staff.

Surviving are children, Michelle (Chad) Tobey of Charlotte, Amanda (Cory) Hoepner of DeWitt, Christopher Marlowe of Dunlap and Chad Marlowe of Grand Mound; grandchildren, Cole Tobey, Carleigh Tobey and Carson Tobey, Piper Hoepner, Ryne Hoepner, Paxtyn Hoepner and Brooks Marlowe; his mother, Dardis Marlowe of Charlotte; siblings, Linda (Doug) Schmidt, Drew (Rhonda) Marlowe, and Stacey (Pat) Brown all of Charlotte; nieces and nephews.

Preceding Dean in death were his grandson, Maddux Hoepner; his father, David Marlowe and his brother, Leo Marlowe.

### **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 service on Sunday, September 27th. Please contact Mark Sperry with any questions.

### **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Classes begin Wednesday, September 2nd. We meet from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm each Wednesday here at church. If you have a student in 6th, 7th, or 8th grades, please contact the church office to get them registered.

### **SENIOR HIGH BIBLE STUDY**

Attention all 9th-12th graders. We will be hosting a midweek Bible study on Wednesday evenings at the Sperry's beginning at 7:00 pm. Hope to see you there. Please contact Mr. Sperry if you have any questions. Our first meeting will be Wednesday, September 9th.

### **Supplies Needed for Grace Preschool & Grace Sunday School**

Due to the limit put on cleaning supplies, the Grace Preschool and Sunday School are asking for your assistance.

**Preschool Needs:**  
Clorox or Lysol Wipes

**Sunday School Needs:**  
Disinfectant Wipes (any brand)

*Donations can be dropped off at the church office.*

**The Sunday School staff is looking for volunteer substitute teachers.** These volunteers would be called to serve when one someone is sick or unable to teach. Please, prayerfully consider using your time and talent to assist the Sunday School staff. Contact Mark or Kerry at the church office to volunteer.



**Please Join Us  
For Sunday School  
September 13, 2020  
@ 9:15 a.m.**

To keep our teachers and students safe we are implementing some new procedures this year.

- Everyone is required to wear a mask
- Hand sanitizer will be used when entering and leaving the Sunday school rooms
- Sunday school rooms have been arranged to accommodate classroom size
- If your child or any member of your family is not feeling well or has a fever we ask that the student stay home
- If your child is exposed to someone with Covid-19 we ask that they stay home
- If your child or a family member tests positive for Covid-19 we ask that you notify the church office (this is confidential)

Our goal is to keep all children and staff safe. We feel that by working together and implementing these guidelines we are doing the best we can under the circumstances. Remember these are guidelines and we will be reevaluating them and changing them as necessary. If you have any questions or concerns please call the church office (563-659-9153).

**Grace Ev. Lutheran Church  
Sunday School Program 2020-21 Teaching Staff**

**Primary Program: (Upstairs)**

3 Year old children	Cathy Paarmann	Room 28
4 Year old children	Barb Dies/Sue Stevens	Room 29
Kindergarten	Alivia & Elyce Burzlaff	Room 30
1st Grade	Annabelle Schneider	Room 24
2nd Grade	Emily Obermann	Room 25

**Secondary Program:**

3rd	Lea Ann Dies	Room 4 & 5
4th & 5th Grade	Jill Johnson & Boomer	Overflow
6th & 8th Grade	Barry & Kristy Engelkes	Grace Hall

**High School Program:**

9th -12th Grade	Mark Sperry, DCE	Meeting Room 1
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Sunday School offering will be used to help send gift-filled shoeboxes to Operation Christmas Child.

**WHAT IS OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD?**

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization headed by Franklin Graham. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993 Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 168 million shoeboxes to children in over 160 countries and territories. For many of these children, the gift-filled shoebox is the first gift they have ever received.

The offering will be used to purchase shoeboxes, fees for shipping, and include "The Greatest Journey" for each box purchased.

More ways on how you help support the Sunday School's Operation Christmas Child Mission will be coming soon.



**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**  
**2020 Fall Collection Drive**  
**School Kits**

**Give a child the opportunity to go to school!**

Why school supplies? To the children who receive **School Kits**, these supplies mean the difference between getting an education or not. Public school is usually free; but, in the places where LWR works, even a few required supplies, like pens and paper, may be more than many families can afford.

And, when parents can only afford to send one of their children to school, girls rarely get priority...yet the education level of mothers has the biggest impact on child development.

***\* Please note, this year we are asking for school kits to be packaged individually. A gallon size zip lock works well for this.***

**Supplies needed for each School Kit:**

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 1/2" (no loose-leaf paper can be accepted)
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- Five #2 Pencils
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2 1/2" eraser

All items must be new and unused. Completed, individual, kits can be left in the tote located in the foyer.

**Thank you for your support!**  
**The Lutheran Women's Missionary League -**  
**Grace Lutheran Church**



Preschool has started. 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 lookout for the safety of our children and staff. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor, Kerry, or Christine. Thank you.

**Looking for cards?** Please take a moment to see the wide assortment of cards and napkins available for purchase upstairs in the foyer.



## Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation will be held during the 8:00 a.m. service on September 20th. Six of our young people will be participating in the Rite of Confirmation. Those who are currently scheduled to be confirmed are:



**Margie Alger**  
1404 Silver Valley Dr  
De Witt, IA 52742

**Isaac DeHaven**  
622 14rth St  
De Witt, IA 52742

**Karley Erps**  
622 Middle Rd  
Camanche, IA 52730

**Anthony Meyer**  
2490 210th St  
De Witt, IA 52742

**Carleigh Tobey**  
3052 160th St  
Charlotte, IA 52731

**Owen Tucker**  
2124 Garden Green Ct  
De Witt, IA 52742

## DO YOU HAVE?

**Do you have old eye glasses? Would you like a place to drop off your empty pop cans and bottles?** Well, then look no further. We have a drop box for eye-glasses being collected for the Night Lions, which is located in the coat closet.

**The Youth collect clean name brand empty bottles and cans** for deposit as a fund-raiser. Donations of cans and bottles can be dropped off at the church or put in the collection box located in the Sunday School Wing.

**Pop can tabs** are also being collected for Camp Courageous. Saved tabs can be dropped off in the kitchen.



## HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT

**When:** Saturday, October 31st

**Time:** 1pm-3pm

**Where:** Grace Camp

**Who:** Grace families and friends

Seeking Theme Decorated Cars to hand out treats from their trunks! To sign up to bring your car and distribute treats, please contact Kerry at 563-659-9153.

*Please keep in mind, all treats must be store bought and individually packaged.*

## MILES OF DIMES!!

Grace Camp is re-inventing Miles of Dimes! Miles of Dimes is a fun and easy way to give back to Grace Camp. When Grace Lutheran Camp was purchased, Miles of Dimes was originally started to collect money to build a retreat center. That goal was reached, and many more great buildings, gardens and recreational areas have been added since then. The Grace Camp Board is not making any big additions; but, as time goes by, things need replacing and a general sprucing up. Some things that we are currently putting funds toward are new paddles for canoes, a new volleyball net, volleyballs, and a new bench swing for the playground.

Collection boxes are available at the Welcome Center at church, and once your box is filled with dimes (we take pennies, nickels, quarters and dollars, too!), just bring the box into church and deposit your change into the mason jar on the Welcome Center in the foyer. Then take your collection box back home and repeat. Thank you for all of your support!

# Happy Birthday!

1 <sup>st</sup>	Shane Lane	17 <sup>th</sup>	Terry Frahm	28 <sup>th</sup>	Claus Maass
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Todd McWilliams		Emmeline Feldpausch		Eric Vetter
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Shawna Spann	18 <sup>th</sup>	Myrna Hass		Trevor McMahan
4 <sup>th</sup>	Fred Thiede		Joshua Dahl		Stella McCormick
5 <sup>th</sup>	Jenny Kreiter		Ken Jackson		McLain Ketelsen
6 <sup>th</sup>	Erin Schlotfeldt	19 <sup>th</sup>	William McGimpsey, Jr.	29 <sup>th</sup>	Jennifer Thiede
7 <sup>th</sup>	Joyce Henningsen		Grayson Millerschone	30 <sup>th</sup>	Karen Kuehl
	Adam Reed	20 <sup>th</sup>	Jacob Minick		Cathy Ingwersen
	Allison Foote		Steven Schatz		Jessica Sunday
9 <sup>th</sup>	Justin Speth	21 <sup>st</sup>	Shirley Garrity		Hillary Drury
10 <sup>th</sup>	Cole Block		David Wold		
	Megan Friederichs		Shaina Paarmann		
11 <sup>th</sup>	Kyle Pillers		Karley Erps		
	Joellyn McDonnell		Cindy Koeppel		
12 <sup>th</sup>	Steven Smith	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Peggy Schlotfeldt		
	Samuel Stowe		Randalle Cross		
	Kati Garrity		Ashlyn Appleby		
13 <sup>th</sup>	Shannon Williams		Tyler Gaston		
	Tory Ketelsen		Victoria Gaston		
	Michele Gruntorad		Barbara Miles		
	Jake Gruntorad	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Leah McCausland		
	Abigail Jensen		Marjorie Paasch		
	Madeline Johnson		Carleigh Tobey		
	Casey Kreiter	24 <sup>th</sup>	Becky R. Kirby		
	Jaime McDonough		Jacob VanLaere		
	Porter Vopatek		John Pischke		
14 <sup>th</sup>	Cindy Jacobsen	25 <sup>th</sup>	Deborah Lange		
	Patti Dohrmann		Joshua Paarmann		
15 <sup>th</sup>	Larry Mork	26 <sup>th</sup>	Wayne Grantz		
	Elaine Schoening	27 <sup>th</sup>	Vallene Olson		
16 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Howell		Carson Tobey		
	Colby Azinger				



## Celebrating an Anniversary

1 <sup>st</sup>	Loren & Myrna Hass	10 <sup>th</sup>	Travis & JoEllen Ketelsen
	Mark & Barbara Henningsen		Jeff & Cheryl Housman
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Allan & Sandy Anderson		Ryan & Julia Lieferman
	Randy & Danette LaBarge	11 <sup>th</sup>	Chad & Colette Christensen
	Kim & Shawn Wright	12 <sup>th</sup>	Richard & Julie Kuehn
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Terry & Deborah Daniels	14 <sup>th</sup>	David & Becky Kirby
8 <sup>th</sup>	Nathan & Elyce Billany		Roger & Cheryl Kaufman
		15 <sup>th</sup>	Lukasz & Kindra Barys
			Jason & Angie Hill
		17 <sup>th</sup>	T.J. & Hollie Appleby
		21 <sup>st</sup>	Chad & Michelle Tobey
		22 <sup>nd</sup>	Jerry & Tammy Mickelson
		25 <sup>th</sup>	Steven & Denise Smith
		28 <sup>th</sup>	Todd & Coleen Hughes
		30 <sup>th</sup>	Ronald & Donna Steward

# SEPTEMBER 2020

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm 10:00 AM Praise Worship/Comm @ Grace Camp 4:00 PM Back-2-School Blast	31 6:30 PM Elders Meeting	1 8:00 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Choir Meeting 7:00 PM Worship	2 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Choir Meeting 7:00 PM Worship	3 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	4	5	
6 "Mites" Sunday 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp	7 LABOR DAY - Office Closed 1:00 PM 500 Card Club	8 7:00 AM Finance Board Meeting 5:30 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Senior High Bible Study 7:00 PM Worship	9 7:00 AM Finance Board Meeting 5:30 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Senior High Bible Study 7:00 PM Worship	10 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	11	12	
13 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship	14 6:00 PM Board of Discipleship Meeting 6:00 PM Council Meeting	15 Newsletter Deadline 6:30 PM Camp Board Meeting	16 8:00 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Senior High Bible Study	17 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal	18 4:00 PM Wedding	19	
20 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship/Communion	21 1:00 PM 500 Card Club 7:00 PM Youth Board Meeting	22	23 5:30 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Senior High Bible Study	24 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	25	26	
27 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship	28 6:30 PM Board of Christian Education	29	30 5:30 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Senior High Bible Study	1 9:00 AM Tops Meeting	2	3	