



# Grace Newsletter

## August 2019

Dear Saints of Grace Lutheran Church,

It was such a joy to get to meet you and slowly get to know you over the course of three days in July. Emily, the kids and I are looking forward to getting to know more over the coming weeks and months to come. By now, you have heard that I have accepted the call to come and to be your pastor. I thought that it might be appropriate to share a little more about myself and my family.

I will start with Emily. She is 32 years old, born August 11, 1986. Emily comes from a farming family. Her grandpa and dad had a dairy farm in Aledo, Il until her grandpa retired. Then her dad and mom moved to Waterloo, Il where he continued to raise dairy cows as a farm hand, while her mom was a stay at home mom to five children. It was in Waterloo, Il that Emily grew to have such a love for animals. My mother in law would tell me that they could never have barn cats, as Emily would try to bring that cats into the house and “rescue them”. This love of animals led Emily to want to be in the veterinary world. After high school she attended Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and majored in Biology. She also attended the Vet Tech Institute and earned her associates degree in Veterinary Technology. She worked at a couple of different clinics in and near St. Louis until Elliott was born in 2016. Now, Emily is a stay at home mom to both of our kids. Emily still has a huge heart for pets, especially those who need to be rescued. All three of our pets were rescued from various places.



Next, comes Elliott. He goes by Els, Elliott or as we sometimes call him “Elly Belly” He is two and a half. He will be three on October 22nd. He loves all things trains, farm tractors, Disney Cars, his two dogs, his cat, and playing outside. Oh yeah, you cant forget his sister. Elliott is in love with Evie.

Next, comes Eva. She goes by Evie. She will be turning one on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Her favorite things are food, her mom and anything that Elliott is playing with. And of course she is in love with her brother. Follows him around everywhere.

Finally there are the pets. We have two dogs, Hank and Murphy. Hank is a beagle whose favorite activity outside of sleeping, is finding where Elliott hides all of his food. Murphy is what you could call a res dog, she was born on the Oglala/Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. They call her a res dog because she has a little of everything in her, but she is mostly a German shepherd/cattle dog mix. Her favorite activity is wrestling with Hank. Then there is Aslan. He is a domestic short hair cat, whose favorite activity is hiding from the two kids and the two dogs. But secretly Emily and I think that Aslan loves all four of them in his own unique cat way.

(continued on next page)

I guess I can't forget myself. I am 30 years old, born August 2, 1988. Graduated from the St. Louis seminary in May of 2016. But being a pastor wasn't my first career choice. After finishing high school, I attended Carthage College in Kenosha, WI where I was a member of the football team. Where I had dreams of becoming a college football coach. However, God had other ideas for me. God envisioned me that I would be a pastor in his church. In July of 2011, I enrolled in the seminary. Outside of studying and reading God's word, I enjoy reading all of sorts of books from non-fiction, to sci fiction. Watching various sports on tv. Around the time that we adopted Hank, so about three years ago, I picked up the hobby of running. I have two great running companions Hank and Murphy, who I would say drag and pull me the four miles we run almost every day then I do of actually running.

In the Service of Christ,  
Pastor Eric



**Sunday Worship**  
8:00 a.m. @ Grace Church  
Traditional Service  
  
10:00 a.m. @ Grace Camp  
Outdoor Chapel  
Praise Service

**SERVING THIS MONTH:**

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

**Organist:** Diana Baetke

	<b>The Acolytes</b>	<b>A/V Tech.</b>
<b>August 4, 2019</b> 8:00 AM	Hannah Sunday	Need Volunteer
<b>August 11, 2019</b> 8:00 AM	Margie Alger	Need Volunteer
<b>August 18, 2019</b> 8:00 AM	Isaac DeHaven	Need Volunteer
<b>August 25, 2019</b> 8:00 AM	Karley Erps	Need Volunteer

*You are cordially invited to join us  
to the Installation of  
Rev. Eric Obermann*

*as Senior Pastor of Grace Ev. Lutheran Church  
On Sunday, August 18, 2019  
At 4:00 p.m.*

*A meal will be held in Grace Hall following the Installation.*

*Grace Ev. Lutheran Church  
415 10th St., DeWitt, IA 52742*

**Special Gifts Given Include:**

In loving memory of Dorothy Paarmann \$120 was given to Grace Camp, \$20 to the Welton Chapel and \$200 to Grace Church.  
In loving memory of Dennis Mickelson \$20 was given to Grace Church.  
In loving memory of James Kuehl \$325 was given to Grace Camp, \$100 to Grace Church, \$10 to the Glory Bound Choir and \$40 to Grace Preschool.  
In loving memory of Steve Niemann \$20 was given to Grace Preschool.  
In loving memory of Ken Brommelkamp \$10 was given to Grace Camp for the pavilion.

**Mark Your Calendar**  
**Grace Camp**  
**Pancake Breakfast Date**  
**August 18th**



**IMPORTANT**

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

**GRACE LUTHERAN MISSION STATEMENT**

— In grateful response to God’s grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacraments, the mission of Grace Ev. Lutheran Church is to make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our church, communities and world.

We offer our congratulations and prayers of thanksgiving to JJ & Michele Gruntorad on the birth of their daughter Nellee Harper. Nellee was born on July 5th she weighed 5 pounds 11 ounces and was 17 inches long.



**POP CAN TABS**—Did you know you can save your beverage cans and donate them to the Youth Group here at Grace? But what about the tabs on the top of the can? We collect those also. The tabs are donated to Camp Courageous. So, the next time you finish that refreshment, ‘pop’ off the tab, save and bring both the can and the tab to church.

**Looking for cards? There is a variety of sympathy, thinking of you, get well, birthday cards and much more available for purchase downstairs next to Grace Hall.** Please take a moment to see the wide assortment of cards and napkins displayed.

*Thank You*

I would like to say a special thank you to everyone who helped make the Grace Camp Day Camps so successful once 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!  
DCE, Mark Sperry

Dear Ladies,

Thank you so much for making the wonderful desserts for our survivor dinner at our Celebration Event! They were delicious and we had so many compliments from all of our guests. We would not have been able to do it without you!! Thanks again.

Clinton County Celebration for Life Committee

Thank you, Grace Lutheran Church and all the donors for the blood drive you recently held with the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center. We collected 24 units the day of the blood drive, which will serve up to 96 patients at local hospitals. With the help of partnering organizations like yours blood is on the shelves when patients need it. I appreciate everyone who participated for their commitment to our mission.

Sincerely, Amanda Hess,  
Director, Donor Relations

# WANTED

## Sunday School Teachers

Sunday School is a time when children ages 3 years through high school gather to hear Bible Stories, talk about Jesus and sing songs of praise. The Sunday School year will be upon us before we know it, so it's time to get ready.

This year we have a **NEED** for a few teachers as well as substitute teachers. We will **NEED** a new **2nd Grade Sunday School Teacher** as well as a **Kindergarten Teacher Team Teacher, and a Team Teacher for 3rd Grade** (this position is for the first few months of Sunday School then would fill in as needed). A team teacher works with the other room teacher to set a schedule so that no one person has to teach every Sunday. We also have a need for substitute teachers, individuals who would be available on Sundays to fill in for teachers who are sick or unable to teach.

Please, prayerfully consider helping us staff these positions.

If you are interested in helping with any of these positions or would like more information, please contact Mark or Kerry at the church office (659-9153).

### Introduction to the Bible

If you have a student who is entering 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 24<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 letter with more information will be sent out in early August. Confirmation Orientation will take place on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm here at Grace Church.

### Rally Day ~ Welcome back to Sunday School!

**Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>** the new Sunday school program year begins, and we want YOU to join us. All children aged 3 years through 12th grade are welcome. Come and meet new friends or reconnect with the ones you haven't seen all summer! On Rally Day, we invite everyone to join us for the opening upstairs in the Sanctuary beginning at 9:15 am

### 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.

### 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 25<sup>th</sup> for our annual Back-2-School Blast. There will be food, fun, games and prizes! We hope to see you there as we get ready to kick off a new school year. To we 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.

Over the last few months we have moved offices, organized and purged items that we no longer need. There are items such as pictures, chairs, desks, file cabinets and more located on the stage. (All items that are available have a yellow post-it on them) If you have use for any of these items please feel free to take them. Items can be taken for a free will donation. Whatever items that are not taken by August 11th will be donated. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

## **In Loving Memory:**

Jim Kuehl, 80, of DeWitt, Iowa, died Saturday evening, June 29, 2019, at Maggie's House Assisted Living, DeWitt.

James Leonard Kuehl was born August 16, 1938, at rural Calamus to Glenn and Esther (Lund) Kuehl. He married Karen Hospadarsky June 22, 1958. Jim was employed with John Deere as a welder for over 30 years. He then drove truck for Niemann Farms.

He was a member of Grace Lutheran, DeWitt. Jim was a longtime member of the DeWitt Fire Department and DeWitt Ambulance Service as an EMT. He enjoyed golfing, fishing and playing cards.

Surviving are his wife of 61 years, Karen; his son, Brian Kuehl of Versailles, Kentucky; grandchildren, Christopher Kuehl, Eric Kuehl and Kali Kuehl; his sister and brother-in-law, Jeannene and Norman Boussetot of Calamus; his brother and sister-in-law, Alvin and Lynne Kuehl of DeWitt; nieces and nephews.

Preceding Jim in death were his parents and his brother and sister-in-law, Norman and Velma Kuehl.



# **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

## **2019 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.

#### **Supplies needed for each School Kit:**

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½" (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 ½" eraser

All items must be new and unused. Please remove any packaging before you donate. Donations may be left on the stage in Grace Hall or at the display table in the church foyer when available.

**Thank you for your support!**

**The Lutheran Women's Missionary League - Grace Lutheran Church**



Bell Choir will be starting in September! I'm excited to welcome new and returning members. Practices are Wednesday evenings at 6 PM in the choir loft. If you would like to join or have any questions, call or text me at 563-212-8814 or e-mail me at [dswansole@gmail.com](mailto:dswansole@gmail.com). If you want to join and can't read music, I would be happy to work with you and have a "cheat sheet" to help with marking music. Please watch the News and Notes for the first rehearsal date.

## A Shinning Light of Hope

**American Cancer Society Hope Lodge Fundraiser**  
A new American Cancer Society event, *A Shinning Light of Hope* will be on August 23, 2019 at Murphy's Pub Event Hall, DeWitt. The Hope Lodge located in Iowa City provides free lodging for cancer patients and their caregivers. Last year, the Iowa City Hope Lodge was able to provide Clinton County residents 910 nights at a cost of **\$91,000**. The event is an opportunity to pay it forward to assist other cancer patients. Tickets are available at event sponsors KROS Radio, Clinton and DeWitt Bank and Trust, DeWitt. For more information, please contact Karen Roode at 563-249-1810.

**The 2019 Chancel/Altar Flower sign up sheet is available at 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.

## CALLING ALL SINGERS!

Come join the GloryBound Choir this fall! If you've been wanting to....if you've been thinking about it....NOW is the time to give it a try!

We meet Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the church balcony.

Our first rehearsal for the season is Wednesday, September 4!

Come join in on the FUN while we sing to God's glory!



### 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)

### Mark Sperry, DCE

563-321-0674

[msperry@gracedewitt.org](mailto:msperry@gracedewitt.org)

### Kerry Good

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

### Melissa Riedesel

[mriedesel@gracedewitt.org](mailto:mriedesel@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)



# August Birthdays



2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pastor Eric Obermann Richard Matzen Colin Albrecht	13 <sup>th</sup>	Michael Hall Christopher Marlowe Paxtyn Hoepner	24 <sup>th</sup>	Jon Billhorn Gunnar Mork Wade Niemann
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bradley Anderson Rick Olson Andrea Suhr Gavin Krukow	14 <sup>th</sup>	Scott Havener Julie Krukow Harlan Meyer Tait Stevens	25 <sup>th</sup>	Gary Trafford Barbara Wold Roger Crosthwaite Meyer Soenksen
5 <sup>th</sup>	Mitzie Blanchard	15 <sup>th</sup>	Alexander Butler	26 <sup>th</sup>	Jeffery Gravert
6 <sup>th</sup>	Sherry Lange-Hanif		Alexa Walther		Michelle Tobey
7 <sup>th</sup>	Zachary Eden David Jensen Laura Busch Konner Littleton Wyatt Nebel	16 <sup>th</sup>	Nathaniel Johnson Alex Zeimet Cindy Hall Shoni Hoffmann Colleen McDevitt James Gruntorad	28 <sup>th</sup>	Eva Obermann Isabelle Hawkins Michael Steward Barb Reed Robert Paasch Briah Reuss
8 <sup>th</sup>	Alivia Burzlaff McGwire Eden	17 <sup>th</sup>	Nancy Haney	29 <sup>th</sup>	Kaitlyn VanLaere
9 <sup>th</sup>	Loren Jasper Jeremy Kuehl Agnes Roseland Penny McGimpsey	18 <sup>th</sup>	Julia Lieferman		Joel Sanger
		19 <sup>th</sup>	Laurie Birt		Madeline Wright
		20 <sup>th</sup>	Lena Hines		Emma Pillers
10 <sup>th</sup>	Isaac DeHaven Kody Schutterle	21 <sup>st</sup>	Deborah Daniels Margaret Hartmann Kyle Ackerman	30 <sup>th</sup>	Jennifer Walker Hudson Krukow
11 <sup>th</sup>	Emily Obermann Frederick A. Thiede Alyssa Eden Kelly Thumann	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mark Steward Jessica Hansen Emily Drury	31 <sup>st</sup>	James Harroun
12 <sup>th</sup>	Brody Onken Amelia Rickertsen	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Fred Behr Tom Alger		

# Anniversaries

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ronnie & Sandra Peters	17 <sup>th</sup>	Raymond & Irene Myers
4 <sup>th</sup>	Richard & Lavonne Martin		Chad & Dawn Knapper
5 <sup>th</sup>	Aaron & Amy Meyers	21 <sup>st</sup>	Troy & Michelle Diercks
6 <sup>th</sup>	Rodney & Mary Keeney	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Cody & Andrea Mork
9 <sup>th</sup>	Cameron & Jennifer McCormick	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Paul & Christine Greve
10 <sup>th</sup>	Chuck & Kay Goddard	27 <sup>th</sup>	Gary & Wanda Trafford
11 <sup>th</sup>	David & Kathy Mangan Drew & Melissa Nolin Dick & Lucy Broadfoot	28 <sup>th</sup>	Steve & Traci Butler
		29 <sup>th</sup>	Tony & Kayla Martens
12 <sup>th</sup>	Dean & Diane Boussetot	30 <sup>th</sup>	Jeremy & Cassie Goddard
14 <sup>th</sup>	Tory & Paula Ketelsen	31 <sup>st</sup>	Troy & Karen Eden Tom & Mary Alger

# AUGUST 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp 3:00 PM Grace Summer Camp - Counselor Training</p>	<p>29 Grace Lutheran Summer Camp 2019 - Strong &amp; Courageous</p>	<p>30 Grace Lutheran Summer Camp 2019 - Strong &amp; Courageous</p>	<p>31 Grace Lutheran Summer Camp 2019 - Strong &amp; Courageous</p>	<p>1 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 *Mites* Sunday 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp/Comm</p>	<p>5 6:00 PM Council Meeting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Hall Rental</p>
<p>11 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp</p>	<p>12 6:30 PM Board of Discipleship Meeting 6:30 PM Elders Meeting</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Hall Rental</p>
<p>18 8:00 AM Grace Camp Pancake Breakfast 8:00 AM Traditional Worship/Comm 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp/Comm 4:00 PM Installation of Rev. Eric Obermann</p>	<p>19 7:00 PM Youth Board Meeting</p>	<p>20 6:30 PM Camp Board Meeting</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting 6:00 PM Family Promise Board Meeting</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Praise Worship @ Grace Camp 4:00 PM Youth Event - Back-2-School Blast</p>	<p>26 6:30 PM Board of Christian Education</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 6:00 PM Confirmation Orientation Meeting</p>	<p>29 9:00 AM Tops Meeting 5:00 PM Weight Watchers Meeting</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>