

Grace For the Moment

The Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church

January 2025



January **Worship:**

Sundays:

9:00 am

Wednesdays:

6:30 pm

Sunday School & **Adult Education**

10:00 am

Meet our New Members



Welcome to Bob and Carolyn Eide and Rich and Louise Wieman.

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Dear Brothers and Sisters of Grace,

Happy New Year! I praised God for you and this community for making it possible to reach this far in our walk with Christ.

It was by no means an easy walk. Many of us experienced variety of challenges last year. A few of you were hospitalized or knew someone who spent time in the hospital. Some also lost relationships. Every year brings its own challenge. Through Christ we remain resolute in our faith.

Through your commitment to the mission of this congregation, we gathered every second Wednesday to pray for the needs of our community. We have observed church members work valiantly to keep us connected to each other. During the season of Lent, we gathered with other faith communities to pray and fellowship. A few of you volunteered for the monthly food give away. You gave your time during the Turner County Fair for us to serve our community through the financial resources we generated. It is my prayers we will grow in faith to meet the challenges of the new year.

We cannot do mission without the generous contributions from people like you. I want to express my thanks and appreciation to all of you for your financial gifts. Your faithful stewardship provided for our Sunday School, Adult Education, Confirmation, Youth, Faith-in-Action, FROGS, Worship, and other outreach ministries. I am aware of the tough financial situations we face in this congregation. I am also aware of God's providence in our lives. Those who can give little more, please do. We have God's mission to fulfill. Thank you for your prayers, time and talents.

“Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given to you...” (Joshua 1:3).

Blessings,

Pastor Henrique

A Message from Your



As 2024 ends, new opportunities are on the horizon for 2025. We look back to new programs that were started this past year including Pastor's Bible Study and Donuts and Devotions for our high school youth along with Movie night. Our outdoor church service in September brought out the coats and blankets this year, but what a beautiful morning it was to celebrate God's creation under sunshine and blue skies. A blue barrel made it to Liberia full of breakfast cereals, rice and pillow case dresses.

Kaylyn Andersen will be starting a new program this Friday morning called Stretching and Scripture. This will be for women 14 and up. The first class is this Friday, January 3, at 6:30 a.m. I don't know about you, but I know I will benefit from this class not only for to gain some flexibility but also for devotional time with friends. Others from outside of Grace are welcome to attend too. Wear comfortable clothing and no special clothing is needed. See the flyer included in this newsletter for more information. If you have questions, please contact Kaylyn at 605-759-7381.

Thank you to everyone in helped serve in many ways at church this year. Whether it was serving coffee fellowship after church, bringing breakfast cereal for the backpack program, helping at VBS or the Sunday School program and all the other opportunities, thanks for giving of your time and talents. Thank you to all of you that helped to make the Christmas Eve service so memorable. Remember to share your light.

Our annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26th following church services. Council encourages everyone to be part of the meeting.

Chris Wirt

The logo for "Meet our Members". It features three stylized human figures in orange and red, with their arms raised in a celebratory gesture. Below the figures, the text "Meet our Members" is written in a red, sans-serif font, with "our" in a smaller font size and a red underline.

“Getting To Know You”
Survey forms are on the
ledge in the Narthex.
Talk with Krist Nogelmeier for
more information.

Happening at Grace



Parker Fire Department

Pancake Feed

January 5 7:30 am – 12:30 pm

Community Building

Freewill donation



**Mark your calendars for
Grace Lutheran Church's Annual Meeting
on Sunday, January 26 after Worship.
All Annual Report materials are due
Tuesday, January 21.**



**First Communion will be Sunday, February 16,
2025.**

Kyler Creegan, Julian Engel, Emma McKenney and
Joe Patten will receive their First Communion

Looking for a VBS Leadership Committee

Are you passionate about sharing Jesus with the next generation? The Grace Board of Education is seeking a dedicated group of people to help lead our 2025 Vacation Bible School. Together, you'll have the opportunity to shape an unforgettable experience where kids can grow in faith and have fun!

As a committee member you'll:

- Choose an engaging VBS theme
- Organize decorations and materials
- Collaborate with community volunteers
- Help create a joyful, Christ-centered environment for the youth

The Grace BOE is here to support your vision for how kids learn about Jesus. If you're ready to make a difference, come join us.

Have questions please reach out to Missy Gillespie, Alexis McKenney or Sara Creegan.

stretching

and SCRIPTURE for women

*Join us in the fellowship hall
at Grace Lutheran Church.*

free will donation

FRIDAYS
6:30-7:15 am

January 3 and 24
February 7 and 21
March 7 and 21
subject to change

~coffee and fellowship to follow~

If you are interested in attending-please text Kaylyn Andersen 605-759-7381

Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 13, 2024

Members Present: Chris Wirt, Joel Plucker, Kristi Nogelmeier, Alexxis McKinney, Tristen Plienis, and Kaylyn Andersen

Call to Order

- Chris called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

- Motion by Kaylyn, seconded by Joel. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report

- Motion by Joel, seconded by Tristen. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

- Motion by Kaylyn, seconded by Alexxis. Motion carried unanimously.
 - **Key Notes:**
 - Offerings have been lower than average.
 - Building payment, Work Comp insurance, quarterly taxes, and benevolence have been paid.

Deacon's Report

- Music selections finalized.
- A Time and Talent bulletin insert was created for members to sign up as ushers, readers, and greeters.

Board of Education Report

- Fishbowl donations used for the **Garrett Wheeldreyer Fundraiser**.
- Christmas Concert scheduled during church on **December 22, 2024**.

Trustee's Report

- Rob Jensen coordinating fan selection with Kettwigs.
- Awaiting confirmation on the sidewalk bid.
- Derrek to communicate with Adam (City representative).
- Custodian position remains open.

Pastor's Report

No updates provided during this meeting.

Congregational Input

- Discussion on cleaning out Sunday School rooms.
 - Need to set a timeframe for a comprehensive clean-out.
 - Topic to be revisited.

Old Business

8. Sidewalk Bid

- Follow-up with Derrek and the City.

9. Fans

- Rob Jensen continuing the selection process.

10. Janitor Update

- Exploring potential candidates, including contacting a cleaning business in Parker.
- Reviewing options that align with the budget.

11. Getting to Know Our Church Family

- Reminder to encourage members to complete and return forms to Deb.

12. Fairstand Distribution

- Donation list created and in progress.

13. 2025 Grace Lutheran Church Budget

- Discussions on:
 - Pastor's salary increases and housing allowance.
 - 2025 compensation report.
 - Janitorial position considerations.
 - Secretarial hourly rate increase considerations.
 - Potential budget cuts.

14. Outreach Committee

- Request for an itemized list of ideas before proceeding.
- Chris to follow up with Shannon A.

New Business

4. New Member Sunday Recognition

- Scheduled for **December 8, 2024**.
- Coffee to be served after the service.

5. Snow Removal

- Continue services with Justin Smith.
- Motion by Alexxis, seconded by Kristi. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Christmas Movie Night

- Scheduled for **December 15, 2024**.

Next Meeting Date December 13, 2024

Lord's Prayer and Adjournment

Meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH TREASURER'S REPORT 10/7/2024

INCOME:	Current	Year To Date
101 General Offering	\$5,079.00	\$63,789.11
102 Envelope Offering	\$6,282.45	\$67,325.45
103 Quarterly Offering	\$1,185.00	\$15,055.00
104 Lenten Offering		\$849.00
109 Camper Savings (Tx from Camper to General)		\$1,095.00
202 Use of Building		
203 Misc. Income		
205 Thrivent		\$701.00
219 Transfer from Building Fund	-	-
TOTAL INCOME:	\$12,546.45	\$148,814.56

SUMMARY GENERAL CHECKING:

Beginning Balance	\$9,873.87
Total Income	\$149,144.56
Total Expenses	\$153,689.21
Ending Balance	\$5,329.22

Monthly Summary	Offering Total	Misc Income	Monthly Expenses
January	\$12,941.00	\$33.00	\$11,562.31
February	\$16,852.00	\$388.00	\$22,059.56
March	\$13,640.00	\$159.00	\$12,935.88
April	\$11,416.11	\$0.00	\$13,649.49
May	\$15,965.00	\$10.00	\$12,336.89
June	\$8,654.00	\$26.00	\$14,377.03
July	\$12,052.00	\$0.00	\$11,346.82
August	\$16,187.00	\$0.00	\$11,692.51
September	\$11,998.00	\$0.00	\$14,907.34
October	\$11,890.00	\$85.00	\$11,860.77
November	\$12,103.45	\$0.00	\$11,488.48
December	\$4,745.00	\$0.00	\$5,472.13
Total Monthly Offering	\$148,443.56	\$701.00	\$153,689.21

SAVINGS / OTHER ACCOUNT BALANCES:

First Savings Campers Savings	\$3,560.24
First Savings Building Fund Savings	\$44,198.26
First Savings Bank Money Market	\$3,425.53
River's Edge Bank CD	\$42,849,395.00

River's Edge Bank Building Loan Approx. Balance \$73,900. Next Payment Due 3/30/2025

Kristi Nogelmeier, Treasurer

EXPENSES: SALARIES/BENEFITS	Current	Year-to-Date	2024
301 Pastor Base Salary	\$3,590.69	\$43,088.28	\$51,000.00
302 Pastor Housing Allowance	\$2,975.00	\$17,850.00	\$17,850.00
303 Pastor Pension/Retirement (Witheld from Salary)	\$659.31	\$7,911.66	\$7,950.00
304 Pastor SECA Allowance	\$877.88	\$5,267.28	\$5,267.00
305 Pastor Car Allowance	\$0.00	\$759.34	\$2,000.00
307 Pastor Insurance - Health & Benefits	\$2,319.91	\$27,813.12	\$19,800.00
308 Pastor Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$689.14	\$1,000.00
320 Custodian	\$0.00	\$903.28	\$5,000.00
321 Organist	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,560.00
322 Secretary	\$1,160.83	\$8,801.84	\$12,000.00
323 Groundskeeper	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
325 Sub Pastor	\$435.15	\$1,320.65	\$3,000.00
326 FICA Expenses	\$0.00	\$1,180.79	\$3,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES-SALARIES/BENEFITS:	\$12,018.77	\$115,585.38	\$134,427.00

EXPENSES: BUILDING & GROUNDS	Current	Year-to-Date	2024
401 Snow Removal	\$0.00	\$1,002.00	\$3,000.00
402B Natural Gas	\$41.49	\$1,804.88	\$4,000.00
405 Electricity and Water	\$361.50	\$4,124.25	\$5,000.00
407 Insurance	\$2,710.74	\$10,637.94	\$9,000.00
408 Misc. Bldg. & Grnd. Exp.	\$57.34	\$2,001.51	\$10,000.00
409 Piano Tuning	\$0.00	\$103.00	\$250.00
409A Organ Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
413 State Farm - Workmen's Comp.	\$0.00	(\$193.48)	\$900.00
415 Audio Visual Expenses	\$0.00	\$375.99	\$2,500.00
416 Building Loan Payments	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES-BUILDING & GROUNDS:	\$3,171.07	\$19,856.09	\$41,850.00

EXPENSES: CHURCH PROGRAMS	Current	Year-to-Date	2024
502 Bible Camp Sponsorships	\$0.00	\$1,095.00	\$1,000.00
503 Offering Envelopes	\$174.82	\$362.75	\$350.00
504 Confirmation Expense	\$18.00	\$1,020.11	\$1,500.00
506 Synod Assembly	\$0.00	\$525.00	\$750.00
507 Books and Materials	\$0.00	\$79.95	\$100.00
508 Misc. Program Expense	\$67.43	\$2,553.08	\$15,000.00
512 Bank Service Charges	\$17.95	\$215.40	\$300.00
517 Bibles for 3rd Graders	\$0.00	\$96.15	\$200.00
519 Postage	\$0.00	\$274.48	\$400.00
526 High School Graduate Gifts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
524 Lenton Meals			
TOTAL EXPENSES-CHURCH PROGRAMS:	\$278.20	\$6,221.92	\$19,900.00

EXPENSES: MISSIONS/BENEVOLENCES	Current	Year-to-Date	2024
602 Augustana/USF Pact	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
603 ELCA Benevolence	\$1,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$11,000.00
604 Shetek Bible Camp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
605 Crossroads Conference Dues	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
614 Emergency Cash Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
615 The Banquet	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES-MISSONS:	\$1,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$15,550.00

EXPENSES: OFFICE	Current	Year-to-Date	2024
701 Copier Lease	\$328.46	\$2,001.86	\$2,000.00
702 Bulletins and Inserts	\$63.72	\$1,852.77	\$1,500.00
703 Church Office Telephone/Internet	\$0.00	\$1,195.24	\$1,600.00
704 Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$712.01	\$750.00
TOTAL EXPENSES - OFFICE:	\$392.18	\$5,761.88	\$5,850.00

GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$16,860.22	\$153,425.27	\$217,577.00
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