



GRACE GLEANINGS 2020



Grace Lutheran Newsletter

Phone (605) 886-5737

Office Hours 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday

202 2nd St. SE, Watertown, SD 57201

e-mail gracelc@midconetwork.com

Web site: www.glcwtn.org

The Church is not Closed

We are honoring the best practices suggested by the CDC, and honoring the directives of the State and Federal Government which includes not gathering in groups larger than 10 people and keeping doors locked to exercise social distancing ourselves from one another for your safety and ours.

Hebrews 13:17 tells us: ¹⁷ *Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls and will give an account.*"

The church is not closed, we are having worship. You can find Sunday services and midweek Lenten worship at the following:

- Our website at Grace Lutheran Church Watertown, SD: <http://glcwtn.org/>
- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheran8865737/?f=111629428875890>
- OR YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcXMBKa70pf8Xpj-ath5WXQ>
- We are also on the radio at KWAT 950 AM at 10:05 each Sunday morning which can also livestream from your computer: <https://www.alphamediaplayer.com/kwat950am>

The church is not closed, we can meet by video conference or by phone. We have been holding several meetings this past month by phone and online through Zoom meetings and we will gladly set up a meeting with you if you have needs or just need to chat. There is a Facebook group and zoom chats available, just ask.

The church is not closed, we will meet with confirmation students and parents by Zoom, finish the First Communion training by zoom and planning Bible studies and prayer groups online after Easter.

The church is not closed, our church building is open to anyone who wishes to come and pray. Call us and we will open the door to you... but we do not have the manpower to clean and sanitize daily, so wash your hands as you come, and when you leave. Wear a face mask if you can. We have hand sanitizer in various places and we ask you to please use them if you have not brought your own.

The church is not closed, the office is staffed during regular hours, but we have expenses. Remember us and the work we do in mission and ministry TOGETHER. Those things do not end even though we are meeting online. Offerings can be sent to Grace Lutheran Church, 202 2nd St SE, Watertown, SD 57201 or by completely the ACH form in this mailing for electronic giving and returning it to the office.

The church is not closed, there local agencies that need help and you can sign up online to 211 or by calling 211. Remember Lenten donations were to go to the Salvation Army, local food banks, meals on wheels, or Feeding SD. You are doing God's work and the work of the church Anyplace you are helping.

The church is not closed, if you have time and a phone, check on your neighbors or contact us as we will be calling our members to see if they have any needs during this time of crisis.

The church is not closed, because you are the church, the body of Christ on earth serving God.

The church is not closed.

¹ Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. ² Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval; ⁴ for it is God's servant for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the authority does not bear the sword in vain! It is the servant of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience. ⁶ For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, busy with this very thing. ⁷ Pay to all what is due them-- taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due. (Rom 13:1-7 NRS)



Grace Lutheran Church
202 2nd St SE
Watertown, SD 57201

March 31, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Your Grace Lutheran church council met once more in special session March 30th to reexamine the needs of the church and additional efforts necessary during this time of the coronavirus pandemic. Following discussion, the council voted to continue suspension of worship and activities through April 30. This includes services during Holy Week, including Easter Sunday.

I know for some of you this is difficult to understand but I remind you that worship every Sunday is a Celebration of the Resurrection. That being said, the first Sunday we come back together in worship we will have an Easter Sunday service, no matter when that is and what Sunday that will fall on.

As for what we are doing in the meantime for Easter and Holy Week will be as follows: we will record a special Easter worship service to put online and the Sunday morning radio broadcast on KWAT 950 am which airs at 10:05 AM. The video of the recorded service will be available on Facebook, YouTube, and Grace Lutheran's website at <http://glcwn.org/>.

There will be communion on Easter Sunday, you will find in this newsletter information put out by the bishops about the sacrament during times of emergency. During the Easter service a time for communion will be included. If you desire to partake in the Lord's Supper, follow the procedure for your gathering of two or more people. Be sure to have bread and wine or grape juice on hand. You cannot give communion to yourself but you can hear the words and know you can trust God's faithfulness and promise of new life to nourish you just like it would if you were physically gathered as the body of Christ.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be on a smaller scale, recorded and put online at Grace Lutheran Facebook, the Grace Lutheran YouTube channel and the website at <http://glcwn.org/>. There will not be communion on Maundy Thursday.

Videos are available at any time during the week, not just on Sunday morning. Regular weekly services will continue to be recorded during the month of April for each Sunday radio broadcast as well. Bulletins, music, readings and the calendar are uploaded to Facebook and the web prior to services.

Budget concerns and personnel changes required the council to be proactive in these difficult financial times and beginning April 1, the following changes were made:

Office staff Liz Dunn and Kathy Kruiter, suspended.

Education Assistant Jennifer Landon, suspended.

Youth and Family Director Jerod Jordan, suspended.

Choir/Bell Director and accompanist Bruce Reinhardt, suspended.

Janitor/Maintenance Rich Dunn offered to be temporarily laid off without pay.

I have offered to take a reduction in pay during this time.

Heating has been adjusted downward or turned off where possible.

The postponed Spring Craft and Vendor show has been postponed once more and will be rescheduled when it is determined possible. I feel it will be bigger and better than ever so watch for the new date.

Confirmation and First Communion will continue to be postponed and dates will be set when deemed appropriate. In the meantime, we will meet by zoon to complete the requirements and keep in touch.

The Monday night Banquet continues with to-go sack lunches. People are not be allowed to stay in the fellowship hall. Preschool follows the school schedule and will be closed until they open.

The office will be open Monday through Thursday, 8 am to 5 pm as usual even though the church doors are locked. Please call ahead if you need anything 605-886-5737.

Included in this newsletter is an ACH authorization form for electronic offering or Simply Giving for your use. During these challenging times, your continued support for the mission and ministry of Grace Lutheran is more important than ever. If you need assistance to complete the information, please call the office. You may also continue to mail your offering to 202 2nd St SE, Watertown, SD 57201-4308. Your generous tithes are greatly appreciated in whatever way possible.

Continued On the next page

The bulletins, weekly calendar and any mailings/newsletter information will be on the web and Facebook. We are working on other options with Facebook for announcements, Bible studies, group prayer, children's stories, and group communication. We are the church together and it is at these times we need to lift up each other more than ever. Please stay in touch in whatever way you can and share or pass information along to others who are not online.

Another suggestion from the council is to have an email list to send out newsletters and announcements and set up zoom conference calls. There is a contact form included with this mailing to return to set up these lists. The information can also be used to send our reminders on the Remind app for those who are on committees.

As always, I am available to pray with you if you have a need whether by phone, text, email, zoom conference and (for those who are not ill) in person. Call or text me at 605 237-1501; Email: cherylgracec@midconetwork.com or personal message on Facebook.

Remember the many elderly in our community who may have a hard time getting to the store or in need of assistance. Please continue to check on them and be in prayer for those who have health issues, contracted this dangerous virus and the emergency and medical community who treat them.

Together, we can get through this and grow to be a stronger community of faith.

²⁴ *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds,*

²⁵ *not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10: 24-25*

In Christ,
Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

Contact information Update

In order to better communicate with our members we are asking you to provide the following information for mailings, emailing the newsletter, inviting to zoom conferences and creating list on the Remind App. Thank you for your help.

Please complete and return by mailing to Grace Lutheran Church, 202 2nd St SE, Watertown, SD 57201

OR email: cherylgracec@midconetwork.com OR Personal Message OR Text at 605-237-1501.

Name(s) _____

Updated Address: _____

Cell phone(s) _____

Email(s) _____

Would you like the Gleanings emailed to you? ☐ Yes ☐ NO Do you read it on the web? ☐ Yes ☐ NO

Would you like the bulletins emailed to you during this time of suspended worship? ☐ Yes ☐ NO

Do you download the bulletins for worship at this time from Facebook or the web? ☐ Yes ☐ NO

Would you like the bulletins mailed to you during this time of suspended worship? ☐ Yes ☐ NO

Is there a committee you are on you would like to have a reminder sent? ☐ Yes ☐ NO

What committee(s)? _____

Are you able to access Grace's website? ☐ Yes ☐ NO Facebook? ☐ Yes ☐ NO YouTube? ☐ Yes ☐ NO



Thank you
for
remembering
your
offerings

Due to COVID 19 and people staying home to be safe, we ask you TO please remember the church with your giving. You can mail offerings to the church at 202 2nd St SE. Or you can sign up for the Electronic Giving Option with the form below. We thank everyone who has supported Grace Lutheran church this past year with their time, talent and financial contributions and look forward to support from all of our members during this time of pandemic. You may find electronic giving a most welcome tool during this time of distancing.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

SIMPLY GIVING PROGRAM

Organization Name: _____

Customer Id #		DATE	
Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____			
Type of authorization: <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change payment amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change payment date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic payment			
Last Name		First Name	
Address			
City		State	Zip
Email Address			
Payment Frequency: <input type="checkbox"/> one-time <input type="checkbox"/> Recurring (select one)- <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____			
Date of one time payment: ____/____/____ Amount : \$_____			
Date of first payment: ____/____/____ Amount of recurring payment: \$_____			
CHECKING / SAVINGS	Please debit payment from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (staple a voided check below)		Routing Number: _____ Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3 Account Number: _____
	I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization. Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____		

If using a checking account, please attach a voided check over the credit card section.

Grace Lutheran Church Foundation 2020 Grants

Organization/Group	Granted
Codington County Cares Cancer	\$2,500.00
Volunteer Center	\$1,000.00
Bibles for Confirmation Students	\$750.00
Pastor's Spring & Fall Theological Mtg	\$800.00
Wholeness Program w/Speakers	\$1,500.00
Bibles for 2nd Graders	\$400.00
First Communion Materials	\$220.00
Adult Bible Study Group	\$1,200.00
Preschool Bibles	\$425.00
Continuing Education for Pastor	\$950.00
PACH	\$1,000.00
Church/Street Mission Trip to Sioux Falls	\$1,250.00
Grace Lutheran Church Pre School-Kalli Green	\$5,000.00
Joy Ranch-Scholarships for Campers	\$4,500.00
Habitat for Humanity-Trailer Shelving & Tools	\$1,000.00
Prairie Coteau Youth Gathering at GLC	\$2,500.00
Salvation Army-One Roof Program	\$3,000.00
SD Mission Partners-Pine Ridge	\$1,000.00
St. Dysmas Ministries	\$500.00
SD Synod-Seminary Support (SF)	\$1,000.00
ELCA World Hunger	\$1,000.00
Lutheran Social Services of SD	\$500.00
Jerod-Country Christmas at Joy Ranch	\$1,000.00
Jerod-Vacation Bible School	\$2,000.00
Jerod-Outreach LATI Students	\$500.00
Jerod-Media Equipment	\$1,000.00
Christmas Supper	\$3,000.00
Grace Lutheran Church-Cordless Microphone	\$600.00
Dorcas Quilters	\$1,000.00
Watertown Area Transit	\$1,000.00
REACH Program (Child's Voice)	\$1,500.00
TruGreen Lawn Care for GLC	\$550.00
Badges for Christ	\$500.00
Watertown Sandwich Ministry	\$2,500.00
Grace Lutheran Church Basement Paint	\$600.00
Boy Scout Troop 8	\$1,000.00
CASA	\$400.00
Grace Lutheran Church-Carpet, blinds-Conf Rm	\$3,000.00
Totals	\$52,145.00

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS RECEIVED

for December through March designated for Grace Lutheran Church General Fund were \$747. Thank you to the following people who have directed their Thrivent Choice Dollars: Pam Krause, Janet Little, Gerald & Lana Norgaard, Timothy & Robertta Cossette, Lloyd & Lorraine Christians, Art & Marcia Jelsma, Edward Morrison, and Neil & Nina Pies.



Memorials & Gifts

TO DORCAS QUILTERS

A gift in memory of **Pat Morlock**
from Will Morlock

TO NORDEFEST PLUS

In memory of **Jeanette Swanson**
from Richard & JoAnn DeBerg



Victoria Anderson & Brett Egerstrom



Roland Small Jeanette Swanson



**Postponed until a
later date to be an-
nounced!**



Legend Jax Kelly-Hill Son of Randy Boardman Jr. & Alexis Kelly-Hill

Jack Stonebarger Son of Kaitlyn & Adam Stonebarger

Eden Lea Teresiak Daughter of Weston & Heather (Roberts) Teresiak

Anna Rae Krause Daughter of Brenna Hoium & Tony Krause



Ministry
TO THOSE CHOOSING TO STAY HOME

**While you are at
home at this time,
please contact the
church office
at 886-5737 and we
would be happy to
mail you the weekly
bulletin to follow
along with the radio
or on our website.**

IRA Charitable Rollover

A Tax-Saving Way to help Grace Lutheran Church

If you are 70 ½ years or older, you may be interested in taking advantage of a simple way to benefit Grace Lutheran Church. The IRA (individual retirement account) Charitable Rollover may lower your income and taxes from your IRA withdrawals.

The Criteria of an IRA Charitable Rollover:

- You must be 70 ½ or older when the transfer is made.
- The transfer must go directly from your IRA administrator to the church.
- The gift counts toward your IRA RMD (required minimum distribution).
- IRA rollover gifts are limited to \$100,000 per taxpayer per year.
- The distribution is not reported as income, so there is no adverse effect on income tax.
- IRA charitable rollovers can be used to fulfill a pledge you may have made to Grace Lutheran Church.

Benefits of an IRA charitable rollover:

- Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize your deductions.
- You can avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to Grace Lutheran Church.
- You can satisfy your RMD (required minimum distribution).
- Gifts can be larger than your RMD and still receive the tax saving benefits.

If you have questions about an IRA Charitable Rollover, please contact:

Cindy Vander Leest
605-886-5737

Minutes of the March 16, 2020 Grace Lutheran Special Council meeting

A special Grace Lutheran Church Council meeting was held on Monday, March 16, 2020, beginning at 6:00 pm with President James Goble presiding.

Roll call was taken with the follow present: Harley Petersen, LeRoy Bullis, Dylan Jordan, Gena Urevig, Mark Briley, Rick Brownell, Paul Henrichs, Geri Mohror, Tod Sprouse, Gary Rukstad. Absent were Denise Biller, Sherry Starr, Roger Rust, and Rhonda Lorenz.

Opening prayer and scripture was read by Pastor Cheryl

The agenda to discuss the impact of the Coronavirus was approved.

The council discussed the coronavirus regarding the CDC recommendations, direction from the South Dakota Governor and the Watertown Public School response. Each council member present was asked to give their feelings on continuing worship with precautions or close for the safety of members and employees following the recommendations of the authorities. Feelings were mixed and a clear path was difficult to determine. Discussion was held.

It was decided to suspend Lenten and Sunday worship and all activities until March 30th, continuing to record worship for the radio, and online on Facebook and the website; the church would have a deep cleaning with volunteers asked to assist; the office would be staff but the church doors would be locked; the Craft Fair was postponed to May 9th; the Banquet would be allow to continue with pickup for to-go/sack lunches only; the previously scheduled wedding and baptism would be allowed with restrictions; and bulletins would be mailed out for those who request them. After discussion a motion was made by Gina Urevig and 2nd by Geri Mohror to approve.

A letter would be sent out to all families on the changes that have taken place reminding members of the need for stewardship at this time. It was noted the preschool follows the public school schedule.

The council will meet on Monday, March 30, 2020 at 6 pm to reassess the situation.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next regular council meeting will be held on April 9, 2020.

Respectfully submitted by Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett

Holy Communion in a time of Pandemic

Many are concerned about receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion in a time of pandemic.

Communion traditions vary greatly. Bishop Constanze Hagmaier tells us: "While communion practices vary from one location to the next, we share common understandings. We believe that Christ is really present in, with and under bread and wine, when we gather around the sacrament of the altar. Following Martin Luther's directive, we also believe that in times of emergency and pandemic, we can celebrate the sacraments (baptism and communion) in the privacy of our homes with those around us. Christ's promise of forgiveness of sins and new life will nourish us just like it does when we physically gather as the body of Christ. In Matthew 18:20, Jesus assures us that where two or three are gathered, he will be among us."

The Lutheran World Federation have said: "As we consider how best to organize and structure worship in a time of pandemic, a guiding question is one that applies to every situation: does the liturgy translate the Gospel for this moment, in this context? This question (and its answer) is the criterion for our worship and the liturgical order that gives shape to worship. Martin Luther stated in his own day (1526): "Some have the best intentions, but others have no more than an itch to produce something novel so that they might shine before people as leading lights, rather than being ordinary teachers." The question is: does it draw attention to "me" as presider or does it point to the gospel, to Jesus in our midst?"

In the Large Catechism, Martin Luther teaches: "Faith needs to cling to something." The physical element with the Word. So it clings in baptism, to the Word and the water and in the Lord's Supper it "clings to the Word to the bread and wine, eaten and drunk, which are external forms of proclamation. Real bread and wine and people eating and drinking *together*. A community is formed around this proclamation of God's immeasurable goodness and this formation, even within a small faith community."

"The Words of Institution by itself does not make a valid sacrament but the entire action, as Christ administered it. Christ's command, "Do this," MUST be observed as a "Christian assembly bread and wine are taken, consecrated, distributed, received, eaten, and drunk and that by the Lord's death is proclaimed."

Even though we are at a distance, Luther tells us, "God's people remain scattered, held together in Christ Jesus alone, having become one because they remember him in the distant lands. There is no shame in feeling a need to wait for the gathering of community in person,

The celebration of Holy Communion is not communion because of the pastor's words but by God's action in the midst of the gathered assembly. God can certainly work communion in other ways in exceptional times, with fervent prayer, meditation on God's word, preaching, teaching, confession, finding new ways of bearing each other's burdens, reading, singing, and enacting God's word to name just a few.

Another act of communion is that we are invited into something different. God invites us to wait, to wait for God to act. Because of the neighbor, we wait to create a place of safety for those of age, debilitating illness, or various mental and physical challenges making it impossible to join together in celebration of the Eucharist.

In this time of pandemic, God assures us we have been given, not a spirit of timidity but rather "a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline." (2 Tm 1:7). We are invited into the of restraint.

In times such as these, when you cannot gather as a congregation, you may in good conscience administer the sacrament in your home with your family. As Christ promised, where two or three are gathered in his name Christ is among us. (Matt. 18:20)

If you desire to participate in Holy Communion during Easter worship, use the brief order for the Lord's Supper on the following page. Speak the words at the appropriate time during the service. Distribute the elements to each other when two are gathered.

CRAFT/VENDOR FAIR

Postponed

We will set the date as soon as it is advisable.

We have over 30 booths waiting for YOU!



Sooo many unique things! Please support Grace by coming and seeing what is available. Once again we will have rolls in the morning and a lunch in the afternoon. Bring your friends for a fun day out! Proceeds will go towards Grace's General Fund.

Grace Lutheran Church
202 2nd St. SE
Watertown, SD 57201-4308
Please Expedite - Time Dated Material
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Watertown, SD
PERMIT NO. 537



WORSHIP SUSPENDED UNTIL MAY 1

Brief Order for the Lord's Supper:

Detailed instruction for administering the sacraments in emergency situation for two or more people:

Speak the words along with the pastor.

The Lord be with you. **And Also with you**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new testament in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Recite the Lord's Prayer together

Distribute the bread and wine to one another saying the words:

The Body of Christ given for you. The Blood of Christ Shed for you.

Bless one another with these words:

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in faith. Amen.

Grace Lutheran Church: God's Grace Experienced Daily