



GRACE GLEANINGS

Grace Lutheran Newsletter
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 Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m Monday—Thursday
 Website: www.glcwtn.org

June, 2020

Drive-In Worship ~ Sunday ~ May 31st

Having drive-in worship a couple weeks ago worked well (except for the cold wind) and KWAT has graciously accepted our request to do it one more time so we can join together in the parking lot of Grace Lutheran on Sunday, May 31st at 10 am for the 10:05 live broadcast.

You are invited to park in the parking lot to listen to the service on 950 am on your radio. Everyone must remain in their cars and keep their windows rolled up while we worship together.

It is the Sunday of Pentecost when Jesus breath the Holy Spirit on the disciples. To celebrate, wear red as much as you can, the festive color of the season.

There will be communion but you **MUST** bring your own bread and juice. There will not be any distributed.

The bulletins will be available to those who want one or you can download them on your laptop or hand-held device.

Ushers will direct your parking to make the most of our parking lot space. The offering will once again be taken as you enter or leave, you may drop it in the bucket without contact. Please do not get out of your cars.

We will have a canopy in case of inclement weather and cancel only if severe weather or other conditions.

A big HUGE Thank you to Don Fjerstad and Curt Crawford of KWAT for making it possible to hold this parking lot worship.

It will be wonderful to worship together again.

Sprucing up the Courtyard at Grace Lutheran



A big thank you to Fred and Gwen Peshman as they clear and weed and plant in the Grace Lutheran Church courtyard. They have been keeping the landscaping of the courtyard beautiful for 7 or 8 years now. Fred told me the Boy Scouts had first taken on the landscape project changing it from a grassy area to one of solitude and beauty. The Peshman's decided to keep it up and have been doing so ever since.

There are so many who volunteer around Grace Lutheran, we invite you to send a picture of those you see sharing their talents and skills so we can mentioned them in the Gleanings. We give thanks to God for your generosity and all that you do at Grace.





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

May 17, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Holding worship in the parking lot was not something I had ever thought I'd be doing when I began ministry. But like a lot of things you and I do in life, opportunities allow us to be innovative and create new ideas to address situations that had never been considered before.

So when the prospect to come together in worship developed, even in the parking lot of the church, I felt it would be a wonderful way to see each other, even though it would be through car windows and windshields.

What I didn't realize, was how emotional it would be. At least it was for me.

That surprise came out of nowhere it seems, except through God's great love and grace. You see, I barely got to know some of your faces before worship was suspended and just attaching names to people when worship became video recordings as I stood preaching to an empty sanctuary. Weekly routines and office hours were barely established when services went behind closed doors and conversations were held in zoom meetings.

So when I greeted you that morning, and the horns tooted, I was taken back at how good it was to see you. Even though I couldn't personally see through all the windshields or in the back row of the parking lot, I felt such a sense of connection.

In Hebrews, we are told: *"²⁴ We must consider how to rouse one another to love and good works. ²⁵ We should not stay away from our assembly, as is the custom of some, but encourage one another, and this all the more as you see the day drawing near."*

That text means so much more to me now, since we assembled for our parking lot service. It felt SO good and SO encouraging. Reading this passage today I realize even more why it is important to be in community. In doing so, whether it is in the church building, or the parking lot, or any other place, we are encouraged by each other and feel the love of one another when we worship as a community. Whenever the Holy Spirit draws us together, it inspires each of us to be united in the mission and ministry of God work.

Then at the end of the service, as I said "Go in Peace" and you honked your horns, the emotions came back even stronger and I choked up for a few minutes thinking how good it was to be with you.

Over these past weeks, even though I have not seen you, I have come to know and love you through all these crazy ways that we now communicate. It's not the same as sitting down for a conversation over a cup of coffee but we've come together with words of inspiration and reassurance in many simple and positive ways; through notes and emails, through phone calls and text messages, through Facebook and Zoom. It's been inspiring to me and I can't wait to get together with you again.

As Paul writes in Romans: *"¹¹ For I long to see you, that I may share with you some spiritual gift so that you may be strengthened, ¹² that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by one another's faith, yours and mine."*

We don't know how long worship will be suspended keeping us from being together inside the church. But while we wait, we can continue to be the church outside the building as much and as often as we can, while still caring for those who are the most vulnerable through the need for social distancing as we *"² Bear one another's burdens, and so you will fulfill the law of Christ."* (Gal 6:2)

In the meantime, let us continue to be the church, together in Christ in any way that will *"rouse one another to love and good works."*

Gratefully Rejoicing in Christ for You!
Pastor Cheryl

Minutes of the May 14, 2020 Grace Lutheran Council meeting

The Grace Lutheran Church Council meeting was held on Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. with James Goble presiding. Also, present were, Denise Biller, Rick Brownell, LeRoy Bullis, Paul Henrichs, Dylan Jordan, Rhonda Lorenz, Geri Mohror, Harley Petersen, Gary Rukstad, Roger Rust, Sherry Starr, Tod Sprouse, Gena Urevig, Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett and Cindy Vander Leest. Absent was Mark Briley.

Pastor Cheryl led the Council in devotions and prayer before the meeting began.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Denise Biller and second by LeRoy Bullis. Motion carried. A motion to approve the minutes for March 30, 2020 meeting was made by Rick Brownell and second by Sherry Starr. Motion carried.

Items:

1. Financial Report— Cindy Vander Leest reported the April income to the general fund was \$24,590, the expenses were \$20,223 and at this time the balance is \$50,911. We reviewed the analysis of income versus expenses that went out in last month's Gleanings showing the 1st quarters shortage of \$16,726. In April we had a net income of \$1,994 because we were proactive with suspending payroll of around 6,800. The boiler has been turned off and we will continue to cut expenses where we can. The drive-in service had a wonderful attendance and an exceptional offering giving and hope we will continue to have more opportunities like that. A motion to accept the financial report and pay the bills was made by Geri Mohror and second by Rhonda Lorenz. Motion carried.

2. Pastor's Report – Pastor Cheryl was very pleased and emotional with the attendance and honking at the drive-in worship service that was held May 10th. A motion to purchase a FM transmitter was made by Dylan Jordan and second by Paul Henrichs. Motion carried. Dylan and Paul also volunteered to look at what to purchase for the transmitter. Pastor has been very busy with recording 6 worship services, officiated one funeral, wrote an article for Wtn PO and newsletter, held Zoom classes for Bible study and Confirmation, attended 14 Zoom meetings put 6 bulletins together and continues to record daily readings of Martin Luther on Facebook.

3. Staff Support Committee report – Pastor Cheryl updated the Council by reading the committee minutes submitted by Darcy Raethz. They are reviewing all the job descriptions and will be emailing employees for their list of job duties they are currently performing.

Old Business:

Summer worship services Sunday & Wednesday- After discussion it was decided when we do start holding worship services in the sanctuary the one summer worship service at 8:30 worked well last year. It was decided to review again at the next council meeting.

When can activities restart (Quilters, Fellowship Hall gatherings and etc.) A motion to allow a group/committee of 10 or less to start meeting at Grace under the COVID-19 safety guidelines, was made by Dylan Jordan and second by Rick Brownell. Motion carried. Cindy reported the Red Cross blood drive is scheduled to be at Grace on May 27th and would have to follow their safety guidelines.

Calling congregation members cheat sheet – Pastor Cheryl has provided a guideline of update information requests that would be helpful in the office along with other questions and concerns of how members are doing during this time of COVID-19.

New Business:

- 1. Plans and Procedures for reopening Grace** – The Council reviewed the CDC, State and Bishops guidelines along with a draft of suggested guidelines for Grace Lutheran. The Council discussed and had great suggestions. It is believed that singing is a higher risk and spreads droplets/aerosols further – it was suggested to have prerecorded music on the screens or have special music by where the choir sings. Denise Biller was going to contact Health Place in Clear Lake for disposable masks. This topic will be reviewed and discussed again at the next Council meeting.
- 2. Discuss "What is the risk for our community and what is essential for our community"** – The council discussed and will continue to discuss at the next Council meeting.
- 3. Discuss Confirmation Sunday, SR recognition and VBS** – These items will be discussed at the next Council meeting.
- 4. Attendance Tracking and Technical Assistance** – Pastor Cheryl reported the synod guidelines/suggestion for tracking attendance during COVID-19 would be using the Facebook and YouTube videos review number times 2. These have been a great way to get God's message out to our members and many others. Thank you to the many volunteers that have made that happen.

A motion to have the next Council meeting on Thursday, May 28th at 6:00 was made by LeRoy Bullis and second by Rick Brownell. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Vander Leest

Income	Budget	YTD		Debts:	Original amt	Balance
Offerings		\$ 82,862.00		Term Debt	\$0	\$0.00
Designated Gifts		\$ 555.00		Line of Credit	\$20,000	\$0.00
Foundation Grants		\$ -				
Scrip Proceeds		\$ -				
Member donation		\$ -				
Portico (Bassetts)		\$ 3,590.41				
GLCW Donation for General		\$ -				
Foundation Grants		\$ 550.00				
Thrivent Choice \$\$		\$ 2,427.00				
Missions		\$ -				
Misc.		\$ 630.00				
Fundraiser for General Acct		\$ -				
Designated donations		\$ 10,092.04				
Total Income for General Fund		\$ 100,706.45				
Expenses						
ELCA & SD Synod Projects	\$2,546.05	\$ 765.36				
Staff						
Senior Pastor - Salary & Benefits	\$87,070.00	\$ 24,973.37				
Mileage Reimbursement	\$3,000.00	\$ -				
Call process mileage & travel exp		\$ 57.10				
Youth & Family Director	\$19,516.33	\$ 5,879.08				
Business Adm Salary & Benefits	\$47,146.80	\$ 15,715.68				
Parish Education Assistant	\$2,674.99	\$ 668.76				
Office Asst & Custodians	\$56,350.49	\$ 14,840.26				
Payroll taxes	\$10,878.62	\$ 4,569.42				
Pastoral Materials	\$150.00	\$ -				
Total Staff	\$226,787.23	\$ 66,703.67				
Program Expenses				Other Outlays		
Office Expenses	\$18,500.00	\$ 4,296.51		Designated Gifts		\$555.00
Worship & Music	\$18,350.00	\$ 4,671.58		GLCW & Foundation		
Altar Guild	\$750.00	\$ 67.90		Basement repair		\$4,160.62
Youth Ministry	\$150.00	\$ 131.60		Portico (Bassetts)		\$4,705.41
Fellowship	\$100.00	\$		Hail damage (insured)		0
Mission	\$325.00	\$		Misc		0
Outreach & Care Ministry	\$3,400.00	\$ 600.80		Fundraiser for General		\$0.00
Stewardship Ministry	\$800.00	\$ 647.85		Foundation Grant exp		\$858.62
Debt Service	\$12,000.00	\$ -		Stewardship- Mission		\$0.00
Insurance	\$11,500.00	\$ 6,768.24		Designated Donations		\$5,705.15
Utilities	\$31,000.00	\$ 11,505.42		Total Other Outlays		\$15,984.80
Synod Assembly Expense	\$1,500.00	\$ -		Total Expenses & Outlays		\$117,191.01
PC Conference Dues	\$300.00	\$ 279.00				
One time 2020 exp for year 2019	\$5,000.00			General Fund - 1/1/2020		\$67,395.52
Contingency	\$1,200.00	\$ 279.98		Plus Income		\$ 100,706.45
Property Ministry	\$10,500.00	\$ 4,488.30		Less Expenses & Outlays		\$117,191.01
Program Expenses	\$115,375.00	\$ 33,737.18		Loan Advances		\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$344,708.28	\$ 101,206.21		General Fund - 4/30/20		\$50,910.96



For anyone with questions on the financial statement, you are welcome to stop at the office at any time.

Often church accounting is confusing when memorials and designated funds are given to the church.

These funds are contributions made to a church with the stipulation the donations are used for a specified purpose and only that purpose so they stay in a specific account until used. They are not part of the General Fund.

For a more clear picture see the Analysis of fund on another page of this newsletter.

2020 ANALYSIS OF FUNDS	
2020 Annual Mission Plan (Budget) is \$344,708.28	
Needed weekly to fund GLC Mission Plan is \$6,629	
January (monthly income goal \$26,516)	
Income	20,463.40
Expenses	(25,112.42)
Short	\$ (4,649.02)
February (monthly income goal \$26,516)	
Income	20,973.31
Expenses (includes insurance premium)	(31,409.34)
Short	\$(10,436.03)
March (monthly income goal \$33,145)	
Income	24,285.62
Expenses	(25,926.37)
Short	\$ (1,640.75)
1st Quarter review	
Income (Jan. Feb. & Mar.)	65,722.33
Expenses (Jan. Feb. & Mar.)	(82,448.13)
1st Quarter shortage-Income vs Expenses	\$(16,725.80)
April (monthly income goal \$26,516)	
Income	\$ 20,751.67
Expenses	(18,758.08)
Net income	1,993.59
April(showing if paid suspended pay)	
Income	\$ 20,751.67
Expenses	(18,758.08)
Suspended payroll amount	(6,842.31)
Short	\$ (4,848.72)

Blessing of the Motorcycles

In the Parking Lot of
Grace Lutheran Church
Beginning at 12:30 pm
~ May 31st~

After the Blessing, there will be a ride
around Lake Kampeska.
No lunch will be served this year.

Confirmation and Senior Recognition

Due to suspended activities at Grace Lutheran, we have not had the opportunity to hold Affirmation of Baptism or recognize our seniors.

We don't know what the weeks ahead will be but hope to hold these activities as soon as we can, even if they are outside in the parking lot service. Seniors are asked to contact me, Pastor Cheryl to discuss this. Confirmation parents will also be contacted to discuss completion of requirements.

Memorials and Gifts

TO RADIO FUND

In memory of Joe Rondeau, from Scott and Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett.
In Loving Memory of Gilbert Kittelson by Joan Kittelson and family.
In honor of their 55th Wedding Anniversary; from LaVerne and Louise McPeck

TO GLC PRESCHOOL

In memory of Roger Green from Roger and Louise Green.
In memory of Roger Green, Suzy Appelhoff, Darrell Iverson, & Bill Herman from Fran Schaefer

OUTSIDE FLAG

In memory of Delos Stolp from Judy Evenson, friends and family.

TO NORDEFEST PLUS

In memory of Jeanette Swanson from Karyl Strohfus

Lay Preaching School and Training

The South Dakota Synod has worked to provide training for lay leaders and those who have or are interested in doing work for supply preaching through Select Learning to help hone preaching skills from a Lutheran Perspective.

An introductory class will be held starting in early June on How Lutherans Organize the Bible. The cost is \$50 with a follow-up class in the fall.

Select Learning provides access to quality theological learning experiences for personal, congregational and professional learning. Using outstanding seminary and college instructors and ministry practitioners. Select Learning is a member of the Lay School for Ministry Network of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) found at www.selectlearning.org/

Grace Lutheran Church
202 2nd St. SE
Watertown, SD 57201-4308

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Non-Profit
Organization
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JUNE
JUNE

WE MISS YOU! BUT STAY SAFE!

Drive In Worship—May 31 at 10 o'clock AM
In Grace Lutheran Parking Lot ~ Bring your own bread & juice!

ONLINE SERVICES:

You can find Sunday worship service at the following sites:

AUDIO:

Sunday service can be heard on the radio at KWAT 950 AM at 10:05 each Sunday morning or you can livestream it from your computer: <https://www.alphamediaplayer.com/kwat950am>

VIDEO:

Our website at Grace Lutheran Church Watertown, SD: <http://glcwn.org/>

YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcXMBKa70pf8Xpj-ath5WXQ>

OR Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheran8865737/?f=111629428875890>

(You can go to GLCWTN.org and click on the FaceBook icon to link to the FaceBook page.)

Bulletins: If anyone would like a bulletin mailed to them or if you know of someone who needs them, please call the office and we'll put you on the bulletin mailing list. They are also uploaded to Facebook and YouTube each week prior to the service and you may print and share with others.

Grace Lutheran Church: God's Grace Experienced Daily