



Grace Lutheran Church (LCMC)

PO Box 10
Erhard, MN 56534

November

2020 Grace Gazette

Grace Lutheran Church



Mission Statement:

Grace Lutheran strives to be a welcoming church family, committed to the Bible as God's truth, worshiping together, and reaching out to love, pray for, teach, and serve others in Christ's name.

U.S. Highway 59 in Erhard, MN

Visit us online at – <http://gracechurchoferhard.org>

Facebook Pages:

The Foundry @ Grace Lutheran Erhard
Grace Lutheran Church (LCMC) of Erhard, MN
Grace Lutheran Church Women "GLW" & Friends

To:

A member of the LCMC
(Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

A Lutheran community of faith engaging the present while embracing the Biblical and Reformation heritage of:

Grace Alone:

God, out of His great mercy, has reconciled humanity to Himself through His Son Jesus Christ. Acts of Christian goodness are a thankful response to God's mercy shown to us in Christ.

Faith Alone:

God's gift of faith apprehends the great work of eternal redemption accomplished for us by Jesus Christ. A faith relationship with the Triune God is the key to our eternal future and it brings meaning and joy to our present lives.

Word Alone:

The Bible is God's authoritative Word to humanity. It is the sole and true guide for Christian faith, doctrine, and living.

YOU ARE WELCOME AT GRACE
Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, please visit our website or Facebook for latest schedule information

From Pr. Brad...

Persistent God – Persistent Faith



Well it happened again, I'm watching the World Series without my beloved Twins in it. The World Series, for this life-long baseball fan, always takes me back to my childhood favorite the Chicago Cubs. It was the summer of 1969, I was going into the 8th grade and my beloved Cubbies were in first place – marching inevitably to the play-offs and an appearance in the World Series. With 5 future Hall of Famers leading the team, my expectations were sky-high and I was on my way to baseball glory!

And then it happened, with just 26 games left in the season, my Cubs won only 8 out of their last 18 games while the New York Mets went on to win 23 of their last 30 games, knocking my Cubs into 2nd place and out of the play-offs. The 1969 Cubs became known as “The Best Team that Never Made the Post-Season.” It wasn't fair!

Little did I know back then, but this childhood baseball disappointment would serve me well as a Twins fan. I remember when the Twins won the 2010 Central Division earning a birth in the playoffs, only to face-off against the New York Yankees. It was all over in 3 games. One of my friends face-booked this message: “If the high priced Yankees win the World Series, I'm going to be sick.” Her message was responded to by another friend (from New York), who said, “Yankee fans like me have to say, ‘Life isn't fair. Suck it up.’”

“Life isn't fair. Suck it up,” is a bitter pill to swallow, and it's by no means restricted to baseball. It's a painful truth that we all realize at some point in our lives. As people of faith, we live accountable to God, only to see others living as though they themselves

were the masters of the universe. We feel the pain of being wounded by people who have no remorse for their actions, while we are called to be concerned for others.

We know Christ is coming back to our world, and when He does, He will set all things straight (we confess this in the Creed). We know it's coming, but we still live in the here-and-now, and have to deal with the reality of the world's unfairness. But to prevent us from thinking that all we can do is throw our hands into the air and say in despair, “Life isn't fair. Suck it up,” Jesus call us to be persistent in our faith.

To this end He gave us the *Parable of the Persistent Widow* in Luke 18:1-8. The Widow in Jesus' parable persevered against some very unfair odds. It was bad enough that she was a widow, but then she also had an adversary trying to take advantage of her in her time of vulnerability. Then to top it off, she had to go before a judge who couldn't recognize truth and justice if it hit him in face, because as the parable states, “he neither feared God, nor cared about people.” Yet, she won her case because she simply wore the judge down through her persistence. And so we too, as our Lord reminds us, must continue to be persistent in our faith. But how can we, when the pressures of this unfair world seem to squeeze the spiritual energy right out of us?

The answer to this question comes when we compare the judge of the parable with our God. Unlike the unjust judge, we come before a God who describes His relationship with us as a loving Father. Whereas we are told that the unjust judge “did not care about people,” we know that this is NOT an accurate picture of God. The pages of our Bibles reveal to us a most persistent God, who from the moment our first parents fell into sin, cared for us and worked to deliver us from sin's devastation. Our persistent God fulfilled His promises accomplishing for us, once and for all, the monument to His persistence – the cross of Jesus Christ. Persistent faith while living in an unfair world is created by looking to our persistent God.

And, on a happy note, my beloved Cubs did go all the way in 2016 breaking a 108 year gap between World Series titles!

GRACE GAZETTE FINANCIAL INFORMATION

September 30, 2020

GENERAL FUND: September 2020

	Monthly Budget	
Amount	Receipts	Gain/ (Shortfall)
\$14,591.30	\$10,810.39	(\$3,780.92)

Attendance Average, 4 Services 100
No Concert
No Mission Receipts

GRACE BUILDING EXPANSION FUND

Balance, September 1, 2020	\$37,420.00
September Receipts	\$ 70.00
September Disbursements	(\$.00)
Balance, September 30, 2020	\$37,490.00

GRACE MAJOR MAINTENANCE FUND:

Balance, September 1, 2020	\$10,134.53
September Receipts	\$.00
September Disbursements	(\$.00)
Balance, September 30, 2020	\$10,134.53

CONCERT/MISSION OF THE MONTH

Balance, September 1, 2020	\$2,558.32
September Receipts	\$.00
September Disbursements	.00
Balance, September 30, 2020	\$2,558.32

Submitted by Lucille Stadum, Treasurer

The Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes were not available at the time of printing this month's Gazette due to unforeseen circumstances. They will be included in the December Gazette.

September GLW Minutes

The Grace Lutheran Women met on October 15, 2020 at 9 AM.

Meeting was called to order and we read Joshua 1:9.

No Secretary's Report . Read Treasurer's Report and it was place on file.

Old Business:

- Motion made and second to also give Ardis a gift card along with Margaret and Pastor Brad.
- Pasto Appreciation Day and New Member Installation is October 25, 2020.

New Business:

- Motion made and second to give \$1,000.00 to Grace for heating bill.
- Five Confirmation gowns were ordered and paid for.
- Christmas boxes and baskets list was reviews and will be discussed more at our next meeting.

Next meeting is November 19, 2020.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Carol Haiby in Sheila's absence.

Sheila Ouren, Secretary

NOVEMBER LIBRARY CORNER by *Paulette Haddock*

Can you imagine being a young girl, no more than 11 years old, and being sent to a large town to find work to pay for a cow your father bought? You knock on doors all day long in the cold and are rejected at every door. As dark approaches, you know that you must have a place to spend the night. Desperately, you approach the back door of a large home. You are surprised by the kindness of the maid and mistress after so many doors were slammed in your face. For that night you will have a hot meal and a warm place to sleep. This was Hannah Kempher's first day in Fergus Falls. The perseverance and determination of this young girl puts so many of us today to shame. As I read her biography, I wondered how long I would have survived in the same circumstances. Hannah not only survived, she triumphed over cruelty, poverty, hunger, cold and lack of support and love from her foster parents. She was a remarkable woman, and the first female to be elected from our district to the Minnesota State Legislature. **Hannah Kempfer: An Immigrant Girl**, by Linda Frances Lein, is a short and easy read, well worth the time in this election year. We have two copies.



- 1 -Nora Nelson
- 2 -Darin Teberg
- Elsa Grunewald
- 3 -Rose Stadum
- Gary Longfors
- Amy Anderson
- Isabel (Ella) Bigelow
- 4 -Sadie Haarstick
- Nick Jessen
- Blake Dillon
- 6 -Lowell Skunberg
- Mason Christianson
- Tarin Sundblad
- Kindle Sundblad
- Gene Bogenreif
- 9 -Nicholas Teberg
- Mary Nelson
- 12 -Nichole Scheer
- 13 -Izabella Hultin
- 15 -Allison Nirschl
- Liam Scheer
- 16 -Peggy Skunberg
- 18 -Wendy Scheer
- Ricky Stadum
- Randy Sundblad
- 19 -Kyle Skunberg
- Cash Sondeland
- Chase Pourrier
- Anthony Spaeth
- 21 -Jeanette Ripley
- Alesha Ouren
- Fred Sanchez
- Don Suiter
- 22 -Brenda Rasmussen
- Allison Haiby
- Leah Ravenscraft
- 25 -Kaytlin Winkels
- 26 -Jay Fresonke
- Abby Fresonke
- 27 -Karen Rossum
- 28 -Tracy Williams
- Delores Pederson
- Debbie Bergren
- 29 -Bryon Bennett
- Pastor Brad Soenksen
- Jennifer Cardwell
- 30 -Rena Rocholl
- Joe Hill

If you wish to remain in your car to listen to our Sunday Worship, park close to the church and turn your dial to **90.5 FM!**

Due to Covid-19 indoor distancing requirements, the Chapel spacing is not adequate and since some of our members have underlying conditions, the Sunday Morning Adult Bible class will not meet until it is safer for us to gather together.

Sunday School & Confirmation
9:00 AM SUNDAYS
IN PERSON AND
VIRTUAL OPTIONS AVAILABLE

The Salvation Army Toy Drop Box will be available soon in the Narthex



It's time to think about the Holidays!

If you would like to pre-order a poinsettia to be placed in honor/memory of a loved one, please see the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall or contact Jeanette Ripley or Teresa Johnson



Orders are due by
November 8th
\$15.00 ea

Hi there!

Some of you know that we've launched online giving at Grace Lutheran Church of Erhard through Tithe.ly, a safe and secure giving platform that allows you to give one-time or recurring gifts!

You can get started by using one of the below options.

1. Tithe.ly Giving App:


- **Download the Tithe.ly App from the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play Store (Android). Once you've downloaded the app select Grace Church of Erhard. If this is your first time giving with Tithe.ly you will be prompted to create an account that you can use for all future gifts.**
- **The first time you will also need to add your credit/debit card or ACH/banking info. Once your account has been created you will not need to enter your personal or payment information. Just enter your PIN and give!**
- **A reminder you can set your gift up as recurring.**

2. Website Giving:

- **Click on this link gracechurchoferhard.org to give through the church website. It's a safe and easy way to give any time.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rena Kubitz or Kim Pederson for more information.

Thank you for your generosity and partnering with Grace to live our mission.

2020	NOVEMBER					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
9:00 AM: Sunday School & Confirmation Classes 10:00 AM: Worship with Holy Communion First Communion			6:30 PM: Youth Group Meets Bring a Snack if you wish Masks required inside the church			
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
9:00 AM: Sunday School & Confirmation Classes 10:00 AM: Worship	Pastor Brad out-surgery	6:00 PM: Council Meets				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:00 AM: Sunday School & Confirmation Classes 10:00 AM: Worship			6:30 PM: Youth Group Meets Bring a Snack if you wish Masks required inside the church	9:00 AM: GLW Meets		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:00 AM: Sunday School & Confirmation Classes 10:00 AM: Worship			6:30 PM: Thanksgiving Eve Service			
29	30	01	02	03	04	05
9:00 AM: Sunday School & Confirmation Classes 10:00 AM: Worship						
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Mask are required inside our church building and social distancing guidelines will apply until further notice						



Thank You God
for everything -
for family,
friends
and fun -
But most of all
for Jesus, My Savior
and Your Son.