



Grace Lutheran Church (LCMC)

PO Box 10
Erhard, MN 56534

January

2021 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 Pastor Brad...

Resolutions



Well it happened again, another year has slipped by. I think we are all optimistically looking forward to transitioning from 2020 to 2021. And, as we do, we might find ourselves engaging in a popular exercise – the New Year’s Resolution. A dictionary definition of a “New Year’s Resolution” goes something like this,

A commitment to a project, the reforming of a habit, or a lifestyle change that is advantageous.

I don’t know about you, but that definition has some very difficult words in it, *commitment, reforming, and change*. It’s no wonder that a common reaction to New Year’s Resolutions goes something like, “Oh, I don’t make resolutions anymore; they never seem to work out anyway.” Yet, we can’t seem to help ourselves when a new year comes, we find ourselves doing it all over again.

Some recent studies aimed at helping us keep our resolutions have found that we are more likely to succeed if big goals are broken into smaller specific ones. For example, a goal of losing a pound a week is better than saying, “I’m going to lose weight.” When we come to spiritual goals the same is true. Rather than saying, “I’m going to be more Christ-like in my attitudes,” the Apostle Paul says,

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. (Colossians 3:1-3, NIV)

Two good goals present themselves to us here: 1) *set your hearts on things above, where Christ is*, and, 2) *set your minds on things above, not on earthly things*.

Now considering that we often make unrealistic resolutions to be something that we are not, Paul, with a breath of fresh air, bases these goals on a foundation of who we already are – who we are because of what Christ has done for us. Notice how Paul prefaces the two goals with the statement, *Since, then, you have been raised with Christ...* This brings a significant change to our thinking about spiritual resolutions and goals, for these goals are built upon something that has already been accomplished for us.

This would be like rewording the common New Year’s Resolution to lose weight to read something like, *Since you are already at your ideal weight, keep on eating healthy things*. Wow! I like that kind of resolution, and who wouldn’t, it’s a resolution built upon a condition that has already been met! This in fact is the beauty of the Gospel – the Good News of Jesus Christ. By His cross and resurrection, Christ has accomplished for us that which we couldn’t do for ourselves – He has made us into His image by cleansing us of our sins and making us alive for eternity. Based on this, He calls us to keep on living in Him.

So, as we greet this new year, and as you think about the challenge of something you want to do for self-improvement, take a moment and thank God for the beauty of the Gospel. In Christ, God is happy with you just as you are in Christ – In Him you are perfect. You are forgiven and alive, so keep on living in Him. Happy 2021!

GRACE GAZETTE FINANCIAL INFORMATION

November 30, 2020

GENERAL FUND: November 2020

Monthly Budget

Amount	Receipts	Gain/ (Shortfall)
\$14,591.30	\$18,877.31	\$4,286.45

Attendance Average, 4 Services 55

No Concert

No Mission Receipts

GRACE BUILDING EXPANSION FUND

Balance, November 1, 2020	\$38,270.00
November Receipts	\$ 5,797.00
November Disbursements	(\$ 108 .00)
Balance, November 30, 2020	\$43,959.00

GRACE MAJOR MAINTENANCE FUND:

Balance, November 1, 2020	\$10,154.53
November Receipts	\$.00
November Disbursements	(\$.00)
Balance, November 30, 2020	\$10,154.53

CONCERT/MISSION OF THE MONTH

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

Submitted by Lucille Stadum, Treasurer

The December Grace Lutheran Council Minutes were not available at press time. They will be published in the February 2021 Gazette.

GLW Does not meet in January

Sheila Ouren, Secretary

BRAVE LIKE BRODY



In September 2018 Brody, who in a teenager from Pelican Rapids, was diagnosed with aplastic anemia (bone marrow failure). He has been at the Mayo in Rochester since July of 2020 where he received a bone marrow transplant. Brody has suffered many set backs and has stumped the doctors at Mayo. They are hoping he can have a haploidentical stem cell transplant in 2021. Brody's mom is a teacher at Viking Elementary but she has been at Brody's side in Rochester since July. His dad works at Lake Region Electric and travels to Rochester when he is able. Brody also has a big sister Emma who is a Senior at PRHS.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

JANUARY 2021

JANUARY LIBRARY CORNER by *Paulette Haddock*

HAPPY NEW YEAR! It feels so good to put the old year behind us, especially this past one! 2020 was different, but not all that different in our GLC Library.

People still checked out items, though not as many people as in past years. The truth is that we had 14 patrons who signed their names, and several who did not. Most of those who did not were probably children enjoying books during the church service. I am happy the children use the books and they put them into the return drawer before they leave the church.

Some people still forgot they had library books or DVDs and never returned them, though more did this year than in the past. The truth is that I assume those who checked out items last spring or summer have forgotten they still have them, so I will contact those people if they do not contact me or return the items by January 31.

We still got donations, but less than in past years. The truth is, we do not have storage space for more donations! Please do not leave anymore boxes or bags of books for the library at church. If you have a special item, please contact me before donating it.

I still worked in the library, but not as many hours each month as in the past. The truth is, I spent many hours reading books donated to the library, and I had a wonderful volunteer who also reviewed some books for me.

May 2021 be filled with blessings from our gracious God. The truth is, He has already blessed us with the free give of eternal life for all who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

May God bless you
January
 on your birthday

3 Bryce Bergren
 4 Brittney LaPoint
 6 Lucus Norgren
 Emily Haiby
 Alan Haugrud
 7 Sandy Sundblad
 Ronnie Klovstad
 Michael Metzger
 8 Curt Cardwell
 9 Lori Anderson
 Sophie Ravenscraft
 10 Karen Nelson
 11 Nancy Longfors
 12 Isla Dillon
 13 Steven Scheer
 Justin Anderson
 14 Matthew Sundblad
 Kalli Christianson
 Cassidy Seiple
 Keith Rutherford
 15 Tina McKellips
 Angie Motz
 17 Arlinda Tollefson
 18 Jim Waters
 19 Bradley Winkels
 Rebecca Meyering
 20 Mindy Peterson
 Dylan Peasley
 21 Matthew Wright
 Nicole Thorson
 22 Molly Braman
 24 Rachel Ronnevik
 25 Tara Motz
 26 Elizabeth Bigelow
 27 Parker Sanchez
 Wanda Norman
 Dawson Westby
 31 Stacy Spaeth

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
 VIRTUAL ONLY AT THIS TIME

DVD copies of services are available on the NatheX or contact the church office!



Welcome Sandy!
 (Sharing again since now we have her picture!)

Sandy Brummer grew up in Grace Lutheran Church. Sandy says "I've always felt Grace to be my home church." When her son, Greg, was in Sunday School they transferred to North Immanuel.



Sandy and her husband, Jim, have one son, Greg, who is now married. Sandy and Jim live by Olaf Lake west of Pelican Rapids.

Sandy's hobbies include handcrafts, quilting, and reading. The Grace Lutheran Women will be thrilled to hear that!

We are so happy to have you home. Welcome to Grace!

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.

Please check Facebook or our website
www.gracechurchoferhard.org
 for the latest announcements regarding
 Worship and events.
 If you do not have access to the above, please call
 our office at
 218-842-5205,
 or call/text Pr. Brad at
 218-205-5608

Grace Lutheran Annual Meeting
 Sunday, January 24 following
 10:00 AM Worship

JANUARY



COLD
 FROZEN
 GLOVES
 ICKLES
 IGLOO
 MITTENS
 NEW YEAR
 PENGUIN
 RESOLUTION
 RUNNY NOSE
 SCARF
 SHOVEL
 SKIING
 SLEDDING
 SNOWBALLS
 SNOWFLAKES

S C S O L D F P G L O V E S R
 K N G N E Z L E V O H S O R E
 I L O E E O V N E S I E C I S
 I D O W O T L G I S E K L C O
 N L M Y B I T U T F R A C S L
 G O W E N A S I N R E L T E U
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 L O S R E R N L I Z U W G C I
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 I G L O O E S N Y N U N R C N
 S A C R O N I D D E L S F I S

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EPIPHANY

January Word Search - Medium



H X A W I S E M E N D G Z
 E F K D P K R M M U N M M
 R R E C O X T A Y I V E H
 O A S T A R E R S R H I T
 D N C W P R A S M E D H R
 B K C O D M E T L A P O E
 T I M R J L J H I E G K A
 R N Y S B E T C S O Z I S
 A C R H Y E S O A O N M U
 V E R I B B J U E M V R R
 E N H P O F G J S E E T E
 L S Q Q M E S S I A H L S
 S E G O L D L I U Q N P S

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|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. ADORATION | 8. HEROD | 15. STAR |
| 2. BETHLEHEM | 9. JESUS | 16. TRAVEL |
| 3. BLESSING | 10. JOSEPH | 17. TREASURES |
| 4. CAMELS | 11. MAGI | 18. WISEMEN |
| 5. DREAM | 12. MARY | 19. WORSHIP |
| 6. FRANKINCENSE | 13. MESSIAH | |
| 7. GOLD | 14. MYRRH | |

