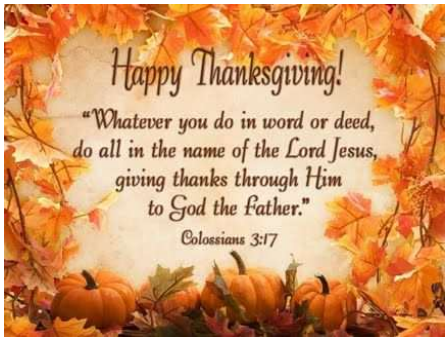
Grace Lutheran Church (LCMC)
PO Box 10
Erhard, MN 56534

To:

November

2026 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

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

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m. with Holy Communion the first Sunday of every month. Coffee Fellowship every Sunday after Worship.
Sunday School, Confirmation Class, Adult Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. every Sunday (During the school year)
Morning Bible Study: Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. prayer group to follow
The Foundry (Youth Group) Gatherings: Wednesday evenings 7:00pm-8:30pm

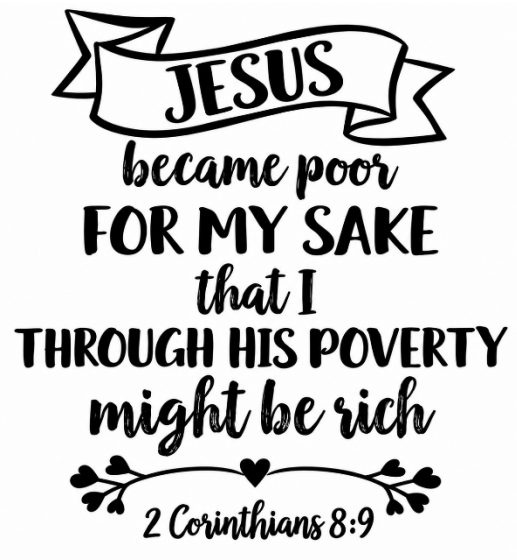
Poor, poor Jesus

One of the questions that I seem to encounter in my study of Christianity is whether or not Jesus was homeless? Did our Lord, while he was on earth, have a permanent residence or even a base camp or a headquarters for his operation? Mark‘s gospel tells us that in one interaction with the crowd they referred to Jesus as the carpenter’s son. That shows some familiarity with his family, his father‘s vocation, and presumably that there was a carpenter shop which would’ve necessitated a permanent dwelling place that was referred to as a home.

Jesus, in his adult ministry, is often referred to as an itinerant preacher, meaning he was certainly called to a preaching ministry, but that of a traveling fashion. As he goes from place to place and setting to setting, preaching the things that he does, he seems to rely on the charity of others. Luke chapter 4 discusses when Jesus is in the temple in Capernaum for the Sabbath and he famously reads the scroll of Isaiah 61. Luke is giving us an indication of the itinerary style of his ministry.

This fall I have been involved in a preaching series entitled “Meandering through Matthew.” One of the things I would like to touch on comes from Matthew 8:20 where Jesus famously says that foxes have holes and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head. This is conclusive evidence that indicates that Jesus considers himself to be homeless, yet he is able to call on 10,000 angels to assist him in any given moment. So why would he submit himself to that level of poverty? The answer lies in why he would choose to do anything? The answer is the same as it relates to his willingness to come to earth or to die for our sins and to subjugate himself to this level of poverty. The answer to all these questions is he’s doing it for us. He’s doing it for the tens of millions of people in the history of the world who are homeless. The book of Hebrew says that he is a man of sorrows, uniquely, acquainted with grief and he’s uniquely acquainted here with the suffering of homelessness. Don’t you think it’s incredibly ironic that the king of the entire universe has no place of his own?

The reality is that Jesus truly was homeless as a pilgrim on this earth. He was homeless because his true home, his true dwelling place, is at the right hand of God the Father. He willingly came to this earth, subjected himself to all kinds of struggle, including the struggle of homelessness, so that you could claim a rightful place in heaven. As a follower of him, there is also a home for us in heaven. Not just any home, a mansion. Yes, John 14 speaks of God preparing a mansion in heaven for all who believe in him.



4 Him,
Pastor Steve

Grace Lutheran Council Minutes
October 13, 2026

President Rick Drevlow called to order the regular meeting. Other council members present were Jeff Carlson, Shelly Fresonke, Duane Haiby, Jim Klitzke, DeAnn Melkert, Phyllis Rossow, and Brady Stadum; council member Karen Rossum was absent. Pastor Steve Walswick also was in attendance. Our church's mission statement was read in unison:

> *Grace Lutheran Church 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.*

Pastor Steve led devotions and prayer based on Isaiah 40:28-29.
The agenda was approved following Rossow's motion and Haiby's second.

Pastor Steve's report included several personal contacts, a pastoral care visit, and two Communion visits.

- He expressed his vision for greater intentionality at our church dinners and other events, for example, inviting guests to attend our church services and offering to pray for them.
- Another vision is to start a Kid's Club-on the order of a Saturday morning Vacation Bible School-as a less intimidating intermediary step to get more children to participate in other church activities.
- He asked that we consider adding new LCMC Hymnals to the budget to replace the 1970s-era green Hymnals.
- He also would like to create a worship committee to explore tweaking the Order of Service.
- Pastor Steve would like to take 6 or 7 students to an I-Point Confirmation retreat in late March-early April and would need a replacement for that Sunday. The council unanimously agreed. It was suggested that perhaps Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge could conduct that worship service.

Following discussion, the treasurer's reports were filed for audit following Rossow's motion and Melkert's second. As of September 30, 2026, cash and various bank accounts totaled $403, 124.31. September income was $15,726.76; expenses totaled $26,230.62. Kari and Brent Andrews received $901 as Mission of the Month for September.
The secretary's report of the September 8 council meeting was reviewed and approved following Fresonke's motion and Haiby's second.

Old Business:

- Our church's commitment to evangelism and outreach continues.
- Haiby spoke regarding the recent meeting with a representative of the LCMC Augustana District's Momentum Network.

- Drevlow noted that our annual insurance premium of $12,165 had been paid and that our new insurance provider, North Start Mutual, saved our congregation approximately $2,000. As part of this change in insurance providers our facility was inspected. The inspector noted that our fire extinguishers need to be updated, and Klitzke and Stadum volunteered to take care of that issue.
- Klitzke reported that our building's original blueprints now are stored in a file drawer in the church office. Emma Rasmusson digitized those blueprints, without cost, and the digital version is stored in the office safe.

New Business:

- Drevlow reported that organist Geralyn Lyseng had offered to play for our Christmas Eve service, but she has a conflict with the 4:30 start time. After discussing changing our service time, it was a unanimous decision to not change our start time for the Christmas Eve service.
- Klitzke discussed Habitat for Humanity's 2027 objectives, and specifically their build for which churches are being sought to provide volunteers and donations. Klitzke's motion that Habitat for Humanity's Faith Build be our Mission of the Month for April 2027 was approved unanimously.
- Drevlow reminded the council that our church's 2027 budget will be a topic for the November meeting.
- Upcoming events include the Chicken Dinner on October 24, with Curt Cardwell in charge, and New Member Sunday on October 25.

Next council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 6:00pm.
Jeff Carlson will be usher for the month of November.
Mission of the Month for November is the Grace Christmas Dinner. December's Mission of the Month will be the Salvation Army.
Carlson moved to adjourn, Klitzke seconded the motion, and the meeting closed the Lord's Prayer.

Phyllis Rossow, Acting Secretary.



November Library Corner by Paulette Haddock

This month our display shelves will feature books on prayer because of the Grace Day of Prayer on Sunday, November 1. Prayer is a very important part of our relationship with God. These are the adult books on prayer in our library. ***Experiencing Prayer with Jesus*** by Henry and Norman Blackaby***, Whole Prayer: Speaking and Listening to God,*** by Walter Wangerin Jr., ***Prayer*** by O. Hallesby, ***How to Pray by R.A.*** Torrey, ***Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God*** by Timothy Keller, and ***How to Pray for Your Children*** by Quin Sherrer.

We have books that will help your children and grandchildren learn how to pray. We all learn by example, (especially children), and the books we have for them are filled with sample prayers. The ones we have include three different books about the Lord's Prayer. They are ***The Lord's Prayer*** from Arch Books, ***Jesus Teaches Us to Pray*** by Jonathan Schkade, and ***The Lord's Prayer*** illustrated by Richard Jesse Watson. ***100 Favorite Prayers and Bible Verses*** ideal for older elementary children were collected by Christine A. Dallman. ***Little Prayers for Little Ones*** begins by telling children what prayer is. This book contains short prayers with colorful illustrations very young children will like. ***Prayers for Little Girls*** by Carolyn Larsen captures the concerns of older elementary school – aged girls. ***Letters to God*** by Patrick and Heather Doughtie is a story about a boy and the letters he writes to God. This book helps children learn that they can share any request with God. ***Children's Letters to God*** are actual letters written by children in their own handwriting. They were compiled by Stuart Hample and Eric Marshall. Many of the prayers will make adults laugh, but young children will identify with them. They are great examples of being "real" with God.

One new Book for children has been added this month. ***The Story of God's Love*** for ages 6-9, is a Bible story Book by Elizabeth Friedrich. Two Thanksgiving books for Children are on the shelf with it. ***Thanksgiving Graces***, written by Mark Kimball Moulton and illustrated by David Wenzel is for families with young children, ***and A Journey to the New World: The Diary of Remember Patience Whipple: Mayflower, 1620*** by Kathryn Lasky is part of the Dear America Series for older children.

November 1 st is traditionally known as All Saints Day, but we have set that day aside as a special Grace Day of Prayer. Our focus is on praying for our state, county, towns, communities, and for the persecuted Christians around the world. A prayer guide will be available in or near the sanctuary. Noon to 5:00 the church will be open for those
wishing to stay after fellowship to pray, or you may pray during the fellowship hour. Just find a quiet space by yourself or with someone else after picking up a prayer guide.
Remember to vote!

GLW Minutes
October 15, 2026

Welcome and Table Grace.
Brunch with Faye & Pat serving.
Pastor Steve lead us in opening prayer and devotion.
We opened our meeting by reading scripture on pg. 4 of our booklets.
Secretary's & Treasurer's Report were read and approved.
OLD BUSINESS:
~Bazaar was a success. Huge thank you to everyone who worked and donated items.
~Last Sunday celebrated Pastor Steve's 25 years in the ministry & Pastor appreciation. Wonderful day made extra special by Pastor Steve singing while his mother accompanied him on the piano.
NEW BUSINESS:
~Still need to think about getting kids in Sunday School & Church.
~Chicken Dinner is October 24, 2026. Many hands needed to make it a success.

Thank You to Faye & Pat for a delicious brunch.
Birthday and Birthday Song.
Offering and Offering Song.
Next meeting is November 19, 2026.
Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Treasurer Report
September 2026

Monthly		Year to Date	
Income:	$15,726.76	**Income:**	$154,718.66
Expenses:	$26,230.62	**Expenses:**	$144,340.53

Submitted by Rick Drevlow

Address Update:

Sheila Ouren
215 East Mill Ave. Apt.102
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
Phone: 218-863-2018

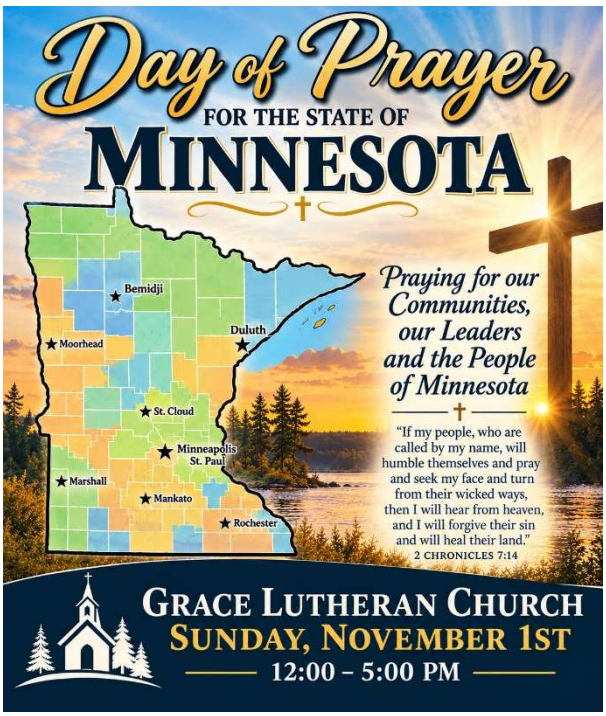


1 -Nora Nelson
-Liliana Hesse
2 -Darin Teberg
-Elsa Grunewald
3 -Gary Longfors
-Amy Anderson
-Ella Bigelow
4 -Sadie Haarstick
-Nick Jessen
-Blake Dillon
6 -Mason Christianson
-Tarin Sundblad
-Kindle Sundblad
-Gene Bogenreif
8 -Crew Gaustad
9 -Nicholas Teberg
-Mary Nelson
12 -Nichole Scheer
-Mars Sundblad
13 -Izabella Hultin
15 -Allison Nirschl
-Liam Scheer
16 -Peggy Skunberg
-Casey Grunewald
18 -Wendy Scheer
-Ricky Stadum
-Randy Sundblad
-Scott Kleist
19 -Kyle Skunberg
-Cash Sondeland
-Chase Pourrier
-Anthony Spaeth
21 -Jeanette Ripley
-Alesha Ouren
-Don Suiter
- RaNae Kleist
22 -Brenda Rasmussen
-Allison Drake
-Leah Ravenscraft
23 -Allie Jo Peasley
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 -Renae Rocholl
-Joe Hill









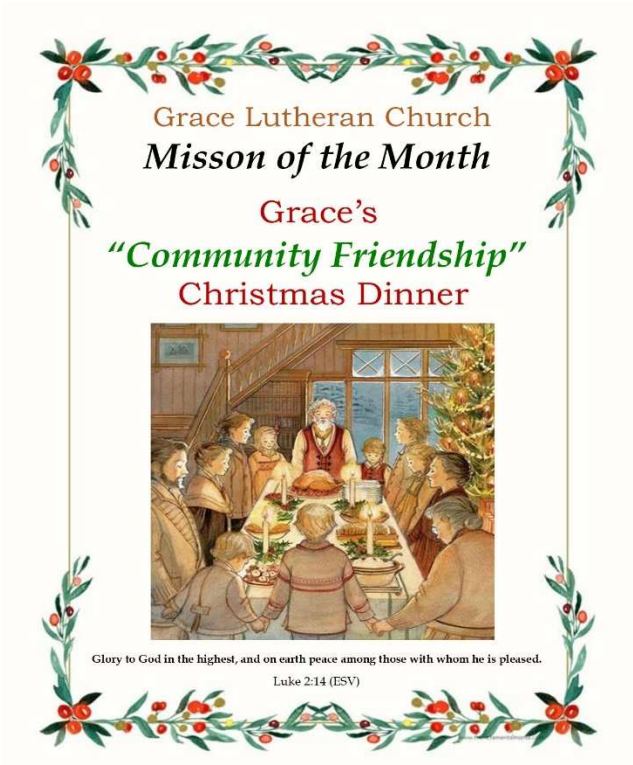
If you would like to pre-order a poinsettia to be placed in honor/memory of a loved one, please see the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall or contact Jeanette Ripley or Teresa Johnson.

Poinsettias' are $18.00 each









Thank You Veterans

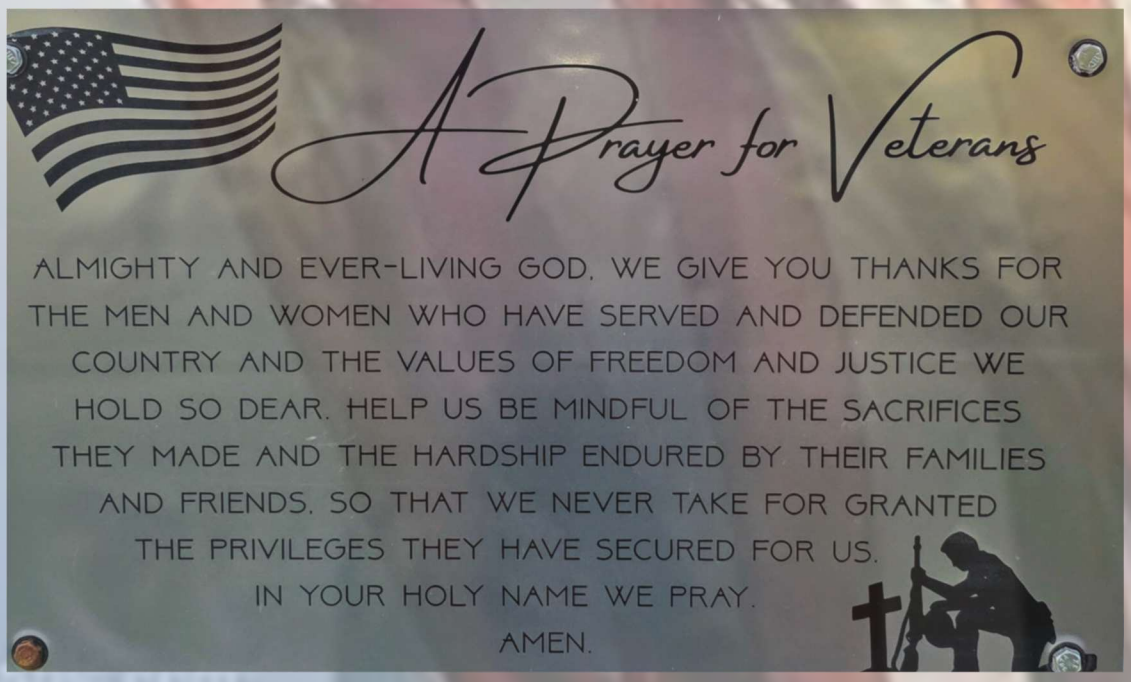
Veterans from our Congregation:

- Ole Nelson
- Ole Anderson
- Andy Anderson
- Ronnie Stadum
- Doug Motz
- Lester Duenow
- Bill Thompson
- David Ripley
- Dannie Melkert
- Hans Ronnevik
- Ethan Bennett
- Tanner Stadum
- Gene Nygaard
- Jeff Struck
- Richard Rossow





*** If anyone was missed, my apologies, please know that we are still thankful for your Service also!**



2026 NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
9:00 AM: Sunday School, Confirmation, & Adult Bible Study **10:00 AM:** Worship w/Holy Communion followed by Fellowship **12:00 PM-5:00 PM: Grace Day of Prayer**	**9:30 AM-11:00 AM:** Womens Bible Study @ Rachel Ronneviks		**9:00 AM:** Bible Study with Pr. Steve, Prayer group to follow **7:00-8:30pm:** Grace Youth Meet			
08	09	10	11	12	13	
9:00 AM: Sunday School, Confirmation, & Adult Bible Study **10:00 AM:** Worship followed by Fellowship		**6:00 PM:** Council Meets	**9:00 AM:** Bible Study with Pr. Steve, Prayer group to follow **7:00-8:30pm:** Grace Youth Meet 			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:00 AM: Sunday School, Confirmation, & Adult Bible Study **10:00 AM:** Worship followed by Fellowship	**9:30 AM-11:00 AM:** Womens Bible Study @ Rachel Ronneviks		**9:00 AM:** Bible Study with Pr. Steve, Prayer group to follow **7:00-8:30pm:** Grace Youth Meet	**9:00 AM:** GLW Meets		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:00 AM: Sunday School, Confirmation, & Adult Bible Study **10:00 AM:** Worship followed by Fellowship	**Gazette Deadline**		**6:30 PM:** Thanksgiving Eve Service followed by Pie Fellowship			
29	30	01	02	03	04	05
9:00 AM: Adult Bible Study **10:00 AM:** Worship followed by Fellowship	**9:30 AM-11:00 AM:** Womens Bible Study @ Rachel Ronneviks					