

Worship Schedule

WORSHIP with Us

Worship Times

9 am - Grace

11 am - Faith

Worship online when you can't make it in person.

Visit

www.gracethroughfaithministries.com and click on the LIVE STREAM button to watch.

Those without computer/internet access can watch at 8 am daily on Gardonville TV Channel 4 and Selective TV 21.4

Dates to Remember:



April 10 Kid Konnection & Confirmation Resume

April 13 Potato Sausage Making Day

9 am at Faith

April 14 Pulled Pork Dinner (with sides)

12 - 2 pm at Grace - Served by Grace Men

Freewill offering for Building Fund

April 20 Scandinavian Supper

4:30 - 7:30 pm at Faith Lutheran Freewill offering supports DC Food

Shelf and Habitat for Humanity

April 30 Scholarship Applications Due for

Both Grace & Faith

April 2024

Campus Locations:

Grace Lutheran

PO Box 7

Brandon, MN 56315

www.gracethroughfaithministries.com

Faith Lutheran

526 State Street Evansville, MN 56326 www.gracethroughfaithministries.com

Pastor

Pastor Bradley Pearson

Hours:

9 am to noon Mon/Tues/Thurs - Faith Noon - 2 pm Mon/Thurs - Grace 9 am to 2 pm Wed - Grace

Phone: 320-834-5179

Email: pastorbrad@gctel.net

Office-Grace

Kelli Wendel

Hours: 8:30 am - 2 pm T/W/TH

Phone: 320-524-2262 Email: grace@gctel.com

Office-Faith

Hours: Contact Pastor Brad

Phone: 218-948-2574 Email: <u>faithlc@gctel.com</u>

Parish Council President

Lon Burgess

Phone: 320-266-8407

Grace Council President

Eric Johnson

Phone: 320-491-3364

Faith Council President

Elise LeMay

Phone: 320-766-5270

You are encouraged to routinely check the parish web & Facebook pages to keep up to date on any changes with worship schedules and activities.



Grace Lutheran Church Faith Lutheran Church

10 to 10:30 am Age 3 to Grade 4



Join us Wednesdays!

Faith

Confirmation

Gr. 5-6 at 6-6:45 pm Gr. 7-8 at 7-7:45 pm Grace

Kid Konnection

Gr. K-4 at 5-6 pm - Grace

Kid Konnection & Confirmation resume regular schedule on April 10 Contact Person for all Wednesday Activities is Pastor Brad



We are in need of a few volunteers to help out in different ways.

Check out the list below and let the office know if you can help out!

- **Board of Education Leader for Grace Council 2024 & 2025**
- Brandon SummerFest Parade a couple of people to coordinate the Grace float



This year, we are doing something a little different. Instead of doing Day Camp as we have in the past, we are going to be bringing in a crew from one of the area Bible Camps to lead our VBS August 5 to 7. We are excited to try this and have the opportunity to give this experience to more of our kids!

There are still lots of opportunities for our young people to participate in a Bible Camp of their choice (Luther Crest, Inspiration Point, Lutheran Island Camp, etc). Grace will be pay for 50% of camp tuition for our members. Faith has camperships available as well (call the office for more details). Many of these camps are starting to fill. Call the office if you need the discount code for the camp of your choice and let us know when you register so we know how many kids to budget for.

Grace Senior Scholarship

Grace Lutheran Endowment Fund



Scholarships will be available to any graduating senior who is an active and **confirmed** member of Grace and is pursuing a post-secondary education for the first time.

Letters/Application Forms will be mailed to all eligible seniors. Students need to completely fill out the application form and return it to the Grace Office by April 30. The Endowment Committee will review and determine award based upon available funds to be distributed for the second semester of study sometime in December.

2024 FAITH BUILD HABITAT FOR HUMANITY DOUGLAS COUNTY (HFHDC)

Our Grace congregation has been one of the most steadfast supporters of HFHDC all the churches in the county. The HFH staff likes to remind us of this and has always been so grateful for our involvement. We have built houses, raised money, provided meals and snacks, and welcomed work crews to our fellowship hall to eat and take a break from the heat.

We're going to continue this tradition this year by taking part in the Faith Build again. Our work day will be June 12 and we will be working on the exterior. It sounds like about the same work that we did last year in beautiful weather. There will be a sign-up to work a little later so please watch for it if you want to be part of the crew (Faith volunteers are welcome and encouraged to join us again)!

Our noisy offering in May will be for the Habitat build. In the meantime, please pray for the families who will be living in these new homes, that they will feel the security we feel in our own homes and they will feel the love and support that surrounds them by our community.

S E S

The menu: pickles, pickle juice, root beer, water, flaming hot Doritos, rippled potato chips and Oreos. Raiding my candy bowl is a bonus (unless I forgot to hide it or, lock my office).

Those are the most requested after school snacks from the Club 828 crew (Faith).

They think it's funny watching my reaction as they drink pickle juice and dunk the Oreos or other chips to "experiment" with the taste. My stomach churns!

Our weekly conversations are spirited; their enthusiasm outshines the Energizer bunny; not a Wednesday goes by without laughter.

God gets a kick out of kids. They erupt at the silliest things – making a funny face, a joke, breaking out into a game of tag or playing with food.

The younger ones are "love experts" – bursting into our days with ready hugs, regardless of our size or color.

Kids have a "master's degree" in being undaunted. Sporting costumes, capes, tiaras; swirling wands and swords, they forge unknown empires to fight the "bad guy" and always win.

Unfortunately, as we "grow up", we forget the lessons of play. Whether we've become discouraged or disquieted, imaginary friends and "knock, "knock" jokes are best left in preschool.

The empty tomb wants to resurrect the child in all of us - pure joy, ready love and spontaneity.

In a world ready to cry out, "prejudice, indifference and judgement", our attention is drawn Heavenward – learning not to take this life too seriously.

Yes, we have our wars, chaos at the border, health worries, (the list goes on). The thunderous "Aha!" of Resurrection morning, beckons us to borrow the psalmist's words, "weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning". (Psalm 30:5)

To laugh with God is not saying everything is funny or should be. It's keeping a playful, buoyant spirit within – knowing the same God who brought His Son to life, is the same God who, like children, forges "empires" to fight the bad guy and wins!

If God wins, we do, too!

Together with God, we'll always have the last and eternal laugh! (without pickle juice)

See you in Worship!

+ Pastor Brad

Pastoral Care

Faith Lutheran Council Meeting

Sunday, March 10, 2024 12 pm Faith Lutheran

Members Present: Elise LeMay, Doug Alvstad, Larry Carlson, and Angie Baker **Guests Present:** Pastor Bradley Pearson and Candi Steer

The meeting was called to order by Elise LeMay. Doug Alvstad moved to approve the agenda and Larry Carlson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

February 11, 2024 Council Minutes: Doug Alsvstad moved to approve the minutes and Larry Carlson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Visitor Reports: No reports at this time.

Treasurer's Report: Candi Steer went through the financial report.

- •Elise LeMay will be researching a mailbox for outside deliveries.
- •There was more discussion about the bank and their suggestion about people on bank accounts. Angie Baker moved to authorize Candi, Joni, Elise, and Brad to have their name on bank accounts and take off Sandy, Bob, Larry, and Vicki. Elise seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Bradley is going to get a Spanish Bible and hymnal for our new guest that attends church.

Committee Reports: No reports at this time.

Old Business:

- •Doug moved to give the April noisy offering to Lutheran Disaster Relief. Elise seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- •Council picked out new carpet for the Sunday school room.
- •Scandinavian Dinner will be April 20, serving from 4:30-7:30 pm. If anyone can donate hamburger, please let Vicki Carlson know. Potato sausage making day is April 13, at 9 am. Please let Larry Carlson know if you can help.

New Business:

- •Angie moved to keep Jamie Englund as our lawn care person. Doug seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- •Angie moved to keep Ginny Nelson and Pastor Brad as the people who take care of the flowers for inside and outside the church. Doug seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Next Meeting Date: April 14 at 12 noon

Meeting was adjourned by President Elise LeMay.

Respectfully submitted: Angie Baker



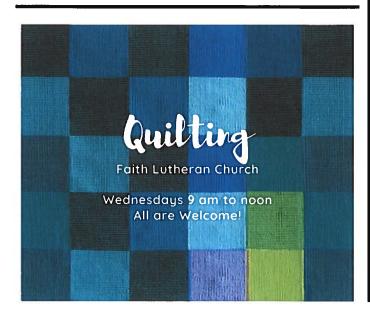
Social Concerns & Visitation Committee is looking for someone (or two) to organize a meal delivery for our Faith family who may be in need – illness, hospitalization, etc. We could arrange for individuals to take a meal once-a-week to help them out. If interested, talk with Pastor Brad or Doug Alvstad.

Thank You!

Fund Balances as of 2/29/24:

General Fund \$104,587.62 Building Fund \$56,238.18 Christian Ed Fund \$4,709.66 Benevolence Fund \$9,752.79 Service Min. Fund \$9,728.69 Scholarship Fund \$4,417.72







Faith Memorial Scholarship

The Scholarship Committee is accepting applications for the Faith Lutheran Memorial Scholarship(s). Church members may also submit names of worthy recipients. Contact Pastor Brad or the office for an application.

Application deadline is April 30. If you have any questions, please call the church at 948-2574.

Applications are available to seniors or any members of Faith pursuing a post-secondary education.



Faith

1	Stephanie Anderson	14
2	Amber Alstead	15
2	Haley Ellingson	17
2	Penny Perleberg	18
3	Adam Week	18
4	Elaine Elmer	19
6	April Lystrom	19
6	David Anderson	20
7	Jo Ann Augdahl	23
12	Brianna Bitzan	25
13	Sandy Reddick	25
13	Cynthia Alstead	26
	2 2 2 3 4 6 6 7 12 13	2 Amber Alstead 2 Haley Ellingson 2 Penny Perleberg 3 Adam Week 4 Elaine Elmer 6 April Lystrom 6 David Anderson 7 Jo Ann Augdahl 12 Brianna Bitzan 13 Sandy Reddick



Faith Lutheran Church

Scandinavian Supper

Saturday, April 20 4:30 to 7:30 pm

Freewill Offering Supporting Douglas County Food Shelf & Habitat for Humanity



BIBLE STUDIES/PRAYER & SHARE

SERVING:

- POTATO SAUSAGE
- SWEDISH MEATBALLS WITH GRAVY
- MASHED POTATOES
- CORN
- LINGONBERRIES
- SWEDISH ALMOND CAKE

526 State Street, Evansville, MN

Prayer & Share:

Thursdays

9:30 am

Faith Lutheran Fellowship Hall

Bible Studies:

Mondays

7:00 pm

Tuesdays

Men's: 6:30 am Women's: 9:00 am

Prayer and Share is an informal gathering of Faith members to visit, share concerns and pray. This group is open to everyone (men and women). Come for coffee, conversation and end with prayer for people within the congregation and community

Potato Sausage Making Day for our Scandinavian Dinner is Saturday, April 13 - 9 am at Faith

April 2024 Faith Worship Assistants

	April 7 11 AM -Faith Communion	April 14 11 AM -Faith	April 21 11 AM - Faith	April 28 11 AM - Faith Communion
Sound/Video	Sandy Alvstad	Brad Anderson	Larry Carlson	Sandy Alvstad
Reader	Angie Baker	Vicki Carlson	Kelly Smith	Karen Howell
Ushers	Brad Anderson	Elise LeMay Family	Dennis Week	Larry Carlson
Communion Servers	Jenell Week			Bob Anderson



	GR	ACE	
Nash Hanson	2	Jace Gasser	14
MaryAnn Keller	2	Dianna Roers	14
Aleksander Pikkaraine	4	Kya McFarlane	16
Elizabeth Plaster	4	Elizabeth Schiele	16
Caroline Stomberg	4	Katrina Buchholz	20
Emma Roers	8	Cora Peterson	20
Tony Schaffran	8	Jeffrey Burgess	21
Tom Dingwall	9	Calvin Peterson	22
Leila Preston	9	Gene Rossum	25
Kobe Reiland	9	Maguire Rusch	26
Tony Wright	9	Rebecca Anderson	27
Payton Gasser	10	Tom Anderson	27
Rachel Goble	10	Thielen Bossert	27
Layla Mohagen	10	Ryder Santjer	28
Brandon Johnson	11	Aaron Lund	29
Skip Okerlund	12	Jenna Sturges	29
Mary Hefti	13	Jane Croonquist	30
Sadie (Roers) Riedel	13		



Mark Your Calendars for the Men's Dinner at Grace on Sunday, April 14!

Worship will be held at 11 am followed by a meal of pulled pork & sides. Sign-up sheets for helpers are on the table outside the office.

	Apri	l 2024 Grace Wo	rship Assistants	
	April 7 9 AM - Grace Communion	April 14 11 AM - Grace	April 21 9 AM - Grace	April 28 9 am - Grace Communion
Acolyte	Marissa Sturges	Lane Hokanson	Jorja White	Tristan Zastrow
Reader	Pam Mickelson	Hokanson Girls	Pam Mickelson	Amy Hefti
Ushers	Sieling Family Morical Family	Hokanson Family	Hintermeister Families	Amy & Andrew Hefti Dan & Tom Anderson
Communion Servers	Pam Mickelson Sherri Morical			Tom & BreAnn Anderson
Coffee/ Fellowship	Morical Family	Men's Dinner	Hintermeister Families	Anderson Families
Musicians	Joyce Engel Kathy Fynboh	Rebecca Heyn Heyn Family	Annette Helder Tom Helder	Vicki Worthington
Snow Removal	April 1-7 Brad Lund	April 8-14 Mohagen Family		



Eric called the meeting to order.

Terrill motioned to approve the agenda. Brenda 2nd. Approved.

VISITOR REPORTS: None

PASTORAL REPORT: Pastor reported that he has heard back from several who would like to participate in a Bible Study. Plans to start following Easter. Preference was to have it daytime hours during the work week.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Terrill motioned to approve minutes as presented. Erin 2nd. Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Brenda presented financials for February. Giving was down below our budgeted needs for a second month. She highlighted several expenses for the month, noting the large distribution from the Building Fund to pay for the shingles for the roof project. Erin motion to approve. Kim 2nd. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- •<u>Passion for Jesus Item Orders:</u> Orders are coming in for these items. Kelli will submit next week. Discussion on whether or not we should consider purchasing t-shirts for youth in the congregation.
- •MN Sick Leave Law Carryover Allowed Each Year: No further discussion on this. Erin will reach out to several of the congregations in Alexandria to see what their policies state and will report back in April.
- •<u>Board of Ed Council Position:</u> Still looking for someone to help out with this. Brainstormed for some good candidates. Council asked to reach out to anyone they think would be a good fit.
- •Men's Dinner: Art Vinson has agreed to spearhead this year's Men's Dinner. It will be held April 14. We will plan on having a lay-led service at 11 am that day, with Pastor recording a message for the screen. Meal will start following worship and run through 2 pm. Menu will be pulled pork and sides. Kelli will put together posters and get worker sign-ups ready.
- •<u>VBS (Bible Camp Leaders):</u> Coley has coordinated workers from Lutheran Island Camp to come and lead VBS. Dates will be August 5 through 7 from 5 to 8:30 pm. Cost for leaders/mileage is currently \$866.58. They will connect with us regarding craft projects and additional cost if they pick up the necessary supplies.

NEW BUSINESS:

•<u>Habitat for Humanity Build:</u> GBOD is proposing we participate in the Habitat for Humanity Faith Build again this year. Grace's commitment will be \$750. Faith is also being invited to participate. Our build day is set for June 12. May's Noisy Offering will go toward our commitment. Terrill made the motion to approve participation and support from the Mission Fund for \$750 toward the build. Eric 2nd. Approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

<u>DEACON'S REPORT:</u> Pastor will be working with the Deacons on Holy Humor Sunday (1st Sunday after Easter)

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Still need several people to help with the float for SummerFest Parade. Eric will reach out to some people to see if they are willing to help.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT: Roofing work is tentatively scheduled for March 18 to 20 (weather permitting). Shingles have been purchased. We are expecting a generous anonymous donation to cover the remainder of the funds needed to complete the project.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, April 10. 8 pm

Terrill motioned to adjourn. Erin 2nd.

Submitted by: Kelli Wendel, Parish Assistant

Roof Update



Thank you to all who donated to support the shingling/repair of our Grace roof! With a recent large, anonymous donation, we have raised the entire amount needed to proceed with the project!! Way to go!

The shingles have been purchased & the project will begin when the weather is nice again. We are so blessed by everyone's support!

Fund Balances as of 2/29/24:

General Fund \$33,721.43
Building Fund \$21,658.84
Christian Ed Fund \$16,981.99
Mission Fund \$11,410.49
Scholarship Fund \$3,038.15



Grace Giving at a Glance

General Fund: Giving March 3 Giving March 10 Giving March 17 Giving March 24 Giving March 31	\$2,812.00 \$1,390.38 \$1,386.00 \$819.00 TBD
Coffee Building Giving Mission Giving World Hunger Noisy Offering Sunday School Roof Thrivent Choice Camperships	\$30.00 \$227.00 \$409.75 \$300.00 \$204.86 \$2.00 \$205.00 \$269.00 \$139.00

Weekly General Fund Giving needed to meet the budget = \$2,732.00

Grace Beyond Our Doors March 12, 2024

Next Meeting Thursday, April 4 3:30 pm - Grace Fellowship Hall Grace Beyond Our Doors



Our discussions were primarily on possibilities for upcoming Noisy Offering suggestions. We will try to have the donations collected on each Noisy Offering Sunday listed in the Newsletter and the following Sunday's bulletin.

The following are suggestions through January 2025, persons responsible for reporting in the newsletter and to council if there is no council member present at the meeting. suggestions can change as other needs arise.

- April: Hope Lodge American Cancer Society -near Mayo Clinic Rochester MN
- May: Habitat for Humanity build (\$1500). We will again ask Faith congregation to partner with Michelle us. volunteered to lead the build which will be in Alexandria. Further details will be in the April newsletter. (Michelle)
- June: Grace Quilters (Pat F)
- July: Firefighter's for Healing (HCMC) lodging for persons needing to stay near the burn unit.
- August -September: God's Work our Hands Day (Pat F/Michelle)
- October: Luther Crest (with possible speaker) – Annette H
- November: United Way Backpack Attack (Terrill/Diane)
- December: Douglas County Outreach Food Shelf (Jean)
- Sanford Children's Hospital January: Fargo, ND (research for children's cancer) donations triple at this time.

Grace Beyond our Doors is an informal meeting of people interested in missions. Suggestions are welcome for community, area, and global needs. ALL congregants are welcome!

Attending: Terrill Morical, Michelle Olsen, Pat Freese, Pat Timmerman, Annette Helder, Pastor Brad, Kathy and Gene Fynboh



Join Us for Quilting on Thursdays in April

9 am

We are in need of quilters! No sewing required! Need help tying quilts & people to pin.

Our Noisy Offering for the month of April will be supporting the American Cancer Society Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation Hope Lodge in Rochester, Minnesota.

April's Noisy Offering -

Hope Lodge - Rochester, MN

Hope Lodge provides a free home away from home for cancer patients and their caregivers. More than just a roof over their heads, it's a nurturing community that helps patients access the care they need. Hope Lodge offers:

- A supportive environment for patients in cancer treatment & their caregivers
- Private guest rooms & bathrooms
- Fully equipped community kitchen for food storage & preparation
- stocked Free laundry rooms with supplies
- Outdoor, reflection, or meditation spaces
- Library and resource rooms
- TV's & Computer access
- Dedicated volunteers who help ensure a comfortable stay for guests and who frequently cook/provide meals
- Committed team members providing a nurturing & safe environment for guests

More information visit:

www.cancer.org/support-programs-and-services/ patient-lodging/hope-lodge/rochester-mn.html



Join Us April 11 2 pm

All are Welcome!



Grace Rummage Sale

Saturday, **May 18**

8:30 am to Noon

You can bring items May 13 to 17. The church will be open from 8:30 to 6 pm for those dropping off items. Contact Peg Okerlund or Pam Mickelson if you are able to help organize during the week.

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	7 pm Bible Study—Faith	6 30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Wornen's Bible Study 10 am Pastor at Evansville Care Campus 1 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	9 am Quilting—Faith 3.15 pm Club 828—Faith 5 pm Kid Connection—Grace 6 pm Confirmation (Gr. 5 & 6) 7 pm Confirmation Gr. 7 & 8) (All at Grace)	9 am Quilting—Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 3:30 pm Grace Beyond Our Doors	4 pm Piano Lessons— Grace	ω
9 am Worship—Grace Communion 10 am—Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith Communion	7 pm Bible Study—Faith	6 30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Study—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	9 am Quiting—Faith 3:15 pm Club 828—Faith 5 pm Kid Connection—Grace 6 pm Confirmation (Gr. 5 & 6) 7 pm Confirmation Gr. 7 & 8) (All at Grace) 8 pm Grace Council	9 am Quilting—Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 2 pm Ruth Circle	4 pm Piano Lessons— Grace	6.
Pulled Pork Dinner—Grace 12 to 2 pm 10 am—Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith 4 pm 4-H—Grace	7 pm Bible Study—Faith	6.30 am Men's Study—Faith 8 am—Noon BE School ACT Practice Test—Grace 9 am Women's Bible Study 10 am Pastor at Evansville Care Campus 1 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	9 am Quilting—Faith 3.15 pm Club 828—Faith 5 pm Kid Connection—Grace 6 pm Confirmation (Gr. 5 & 6) 7 pm Confirmation Gr. 7 & 8) (All at Grace)	18 9:30 am Quilting—Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living	4 pm Piano Lessons— Grace	Scandinavian Supper—Faith 4:30 to 7:30 pm
9 am Worship—Grace 10 am—Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith	22 7 pm Bible Study—Faith	630 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Study—Faith 8 am—1 pm BE School ACT Test—Grace 1 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	24 9 am Quilting—Faith 3.15 pm Club 828—Faith 5 pm Kid Connecton—Grace 6 pm Confirmation (Gr. 5 & 6) 7 pm Confirmation Gr. 7 & 8) (All at Grace)	25 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living	4 pm Piano Lessons— Grace	27 10 am Toni Bitzan Baby Shower—Grace
9 am Worship—Grace Communion 10 am—Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith Communion	29 7 pm Bible Study—Faith	30 6 30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Bible Study 1 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living				

NEWSLETTER

Grace Through Faith MinistriesPO Box 7
Brandon MN 56315



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Mark Your Calendars! Join Us for these Tasty and Fun Fundraising Dinners



