

November 2025

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 - 4 pm T-TH

Phone: 320-524-2262

Email: grace@gctel.com

Office-Faith

Hours: Contact Pastor Brad

Phone: 218-948-2574

Email: faithlc@gctel.com

Parish Council President

Lon Burgess

Phone: 320-266-8407

Grace Council President

Erin Okerlund

Phone: 320-815-7169

Faith Council President

Bob Anderson

Phone: 701-260-4302

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 Through Faith Ministries

Growing Together in God's Love to Serve Others

Worship Schedule



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

November 2, we will honor those from Grace and Faith who went Home to Jesus since All Saints 2024. They will be recognized during the service and their family will be invited to bring a picture to the service.

As a special memorial for family and friends who died (anytime), **everyone** will be invited up to light candles during worship.



We will honor our Veterans on Sunday, November 9.

Members of Grace and Faith are asked to call Kelli with the name(s) of the Veteran (*we have kept a list, so you need only call if you were not on last year's list*). We'd like to keep our lists up to date. **Please call the church office no later than Tuesday, November 4.** Thank You for your help!



Notice of Annual Meeting to Elect Officers

Grace Lutheran Church - *Immediately following Worship*

Sunday, November 16, 2025

SAVE THE DATE! 4th Annual "Carols, Candles and Cookies"

"Our Hopes and Fears are Met in Thee" is the theme as we gather on Sunday, December 7, 3 pm at Faith. A reception follows in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited.



The Councils of Grace and Faith will be monitoring winter weather Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings. If there are concerns about snow, ice and cold temperatures, they'll decide whether or not to cancel worship.

Watch our Facebook page or check Voice of Alexandria Cancellations & Delays and KXRA/KXRZ Radio Stations for updates.



Grace Lutheran Church
Faith Lutheran Church
 10 to 10:30 am
 Age 3 to Grade 4



Join us Wednesdays!

Confirmation

Gr. 5/6/7 - 5:45 to 6:30 pm
 Gr. 8/9 - 6:45 to 7:30 pm
 Grace

Come join the fun! Invite a friend - All are welcome!

Confirmation Requirements: Students will take turns serving as acolytes, readers, ushers and various service projects during the year. **Worship attendance is also a requirement of confirmation.**

What's Happening in Sunday School at Grace:

If you have kids Age 3 to Grade 4, please make an effort to have them take part in Sunday School!

The lesson begins in worship as part of the "Word with the Children" with Pastor Brad. Following worship, kids move downstairs where we break into age groups (Pre-Gr. 2, Gr. 3-4) to explore the message further with song, activities and discussion.

The 4th Sunday of each month is "Kids Run Church" where the kids sing songs they have learned as well as help greet, usher and read. Following worship, everyone will gather for a special intergenerational Sunday School activity. **Please join us!**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Teachers</u>
Nov. 2	All Saints	Danielle Anderson
Nov. 9	Zacchaeus Luke 19:1-10	Erin Okerlund
Nov. 16	Luke 1:68-79	Jordyn Bossert
Nov. 23	Thanksgiving Sunday Intergenerational Activity	Coley Wagner
Nov. 30	No Sunday School - Thanksgiving Break	

NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES OR SUNDAY SCHOOL
THANSGIVING BREAK - November 26-30

Bill was a man of few words – choosing to listen more than speak.

He drew you in with his welcoming smile, robust handshakes. He had a sincere sense of humor; hugs with a squeeze that told you he cared.

He wore a gentleness that was relatable to everyone. He carried no grudges; sported no complaints.

He had the gift of simplicity. The rare and precious vision to see the extraordinary and joy in what many take for granted, ignore or don't even, "see".

Any given window was his delight. He'd spot something to "awe and wonder about" and, if he'd knew you'd pay attention, he'd share it with you. The kicker was, IF you'd pay attention. Even in the winter, his "look at that" comments had a way of warming you.

Bill entertained himself by browsing, perusing and scouring through pictures in old magazines, books and calendars. Cutting out ones he liked, he turned his room into a mini museum.

He gave me one of his "masterpieces" – a picture of pigs. Mixed with shock and laughter, it serves as a reminder to stay humble. Not frameable, it's a keeper.

It was during the Lord's Supper, I saw Bill's simplicity rest squarely in Jesus. He wrestled with my reassurance he was a good man and, as only trust can do, held out his 98-year-old hands for bread and wine.

His hands spoke volumes. Wrinkled by years in the fields; anxious to be reunited with his bride; reaching out for grace.

A grace in knowing – out the window, above and beyond – is a God who calls and gathers His own. In the calling and gathering, we're to notice who's on the journey with us. In the noticing, we give thanks, appreciate, and love.

We walk this earth surrounded by saints (known and unknown) who come into and out of our lives. Imperfect as we are, we're here for a reason. There's an awe and wonder about all of us, if we would just "look and see".

Happy Thanksgiving!

See you in Worship.

~ Pastor Brad

Pastoral Care

If you, a family member or friend of yours is sick, hospitalized, having or going to be having surgery or have any other concerns needing pastoral care – please call the Church Office: Faith at 218-948-2574 or Grace at 320-524-2262 and the Parish Assistant will contact Pr. Bradley. After hours, Pastor can be reached at the parsonage 320-834-5179.

Faith Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Members Present: Doug Alvstad, Bob Anderson, LeAnn Strand, Jim Neuman, and Angie Baker

Guest Members: Pastor Bradley Pearson and Candi Steer

Council started the meeting with Thanksgivings.

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Doug Alvstad. Bob moved to approve the agenda, Jim seconded. Motion carried.

Jim moved to approve last month's Minutes, LeAnn seconded. Motion carried.

Visitor Report: Nothing to report

Treasurer's Report:

•Insurance for the church building has increased again this year. The 1st half of the insurance was paid in October.

•The 1st half of the Workman's Comp has been paid this month.

•Candi recommended that the Budget Committee meet before the November Council meeting. The Budget Committee will be contacted to set up a time to meet before then.

•Bob made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; LeAnn seconded. Motion carried.

Pastoral Report:

•Thanksgiving Post-its - Pastor Brad will have Post-it notes for the congregation to write what they're thankful for and they'll be posted on the doors of the Sanctuary.

•All Saint's Sunday is November 2.

•We'll be honoring our veterans on November 9.

•Sunday, November 23 is our Thanksgiving Sunday. We'll be inviting the community to join us for services, dinner, and decorating the church for Christmas. Pastor Brad has someone planning the dinner.

•Carols, Candles, Cookies – December 7.

•Advent and/or Epiphany breakfast - Pastor Brad has people working on this. Still deciding when they'll have the breakfast.

•Christmas Eve worship - Worship will be at 9 pm this year. Pastor Brad is working on an organist and special music.

Old Business:

Air Conditioning - Tabled until next meeting.

New Business:

•Snow Removal – We'll be contacting the same person we had clear the snow last year to see if they would help us again this year.

•Weather Cancellations - The presidents will make the decision to cancel or not. It will be announced on Facebook and the congregation will be asked to call each other to spread the word.

•Discussed that two council members will be done this year and we will need to find someone to replace them. One member said they will do another term.

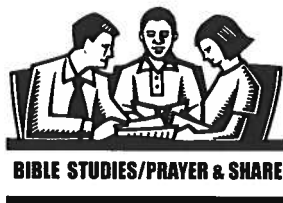
•November Noisy Offering - Angie moves to have November Noisy Offering support the Alzheimer's Association; LeAnn seconded. Motion carried.

Next Meeting Date: November 16, 2025; 12 pm

Pastor Brad closed the meeting with a prayer.

Meeting was adjourned by Co-President Doug Alvstad

Respectfully submitted: Angie Baker



Bible Studies:

Mondays

7:00 pm

Tuesdays

Men's: 6:30 am

Women's: 9:00 am

Prayer & Share:

Thursdays

9:30 am

Faith Lutheran Fellowship Hall

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

Fund Balances as of 9/30/25:

General Fund	\$100,874.21
Building Fund	\$218.53
Christian Ed Fund	\$4,518.63
Benevolence Fund	\$6,339.60
Service Min. Fund	\$13,980.08
Scholarship Fund	\$5,157.72

As of 9/30/2025

General Fund Giving: \$117,611.76

General Fund Expenses: \$92,739.41

CHURCH COUNCIL / FINANCE FAITH



Thanksgiving Sunday

We'll celebrate Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 23 with a turkey dinner after worship; we'll also decorate the church for Advent and Christmas. The community is invited.

Everyone is asked to bring a Christmas ornament from home to hang on the tree in the Sanctuary as part of worship.

The church will provide turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, buns.

Everyone is asked to bring their favorite vegetable, dessert or salad. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please sign-up by Sunday, November 16, so we have an idea of what is being brought to the dinner. Thank You!



Faith on a Mission Indoor Yard Sale

2026 Indoor Yard Sale will be in March. Please keep us in mind as you're doing your Fall and early Spring cleaning. For more information, talk with Candi Steer. Thank You!



The food pantry comes to Evansville the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 11:30 am to 1 pm at the Evansville City Hall.

How Can I Help?

- Volunteers are needed to help people register, shop, carry groceries etc. Please contact either Diana at City Hall or Deb Erickson to volunteer.
- The pantry will accept donations of non-perishable food or garden produce. If you have something to donate, please bring it the 2nd Tuesday of the month while the mobile unit is in town.
- Pass the word on to anyone that might need these services and let them know this help is available.

Any further questions? Contact city hall or one of the volunteers.

November 2025 Faith Worship Assistants

	November 2 11 AM -Faith All Saints - Communion	November 9 11 AM -Faith Veteran's Recognition	November 16 11 AM - Faith	November 23 11 - Faith Thanksgiving Sunday Communion	November 30 11 AM - Faith
Sound/Video	Larry Carlson	Sandy Alvstad	Brad Anderson	Larry Carlson	Sandy Alvstad
Reader	Angie Baker	Brad Anderson	Kelly Smith	Karen Howell	Naomi Anderson
Ushers	Bard Anderson	Kevin Johnson Family	Roger Bukkila	Dennis Week	Dennis Anderson
Communion Servers	Warren or Deb Erickson			Eme Quinn	

Grace Lutheran Church Minutes - 10/8/25

Grace Members Present: Don Bakken, Tom Behlke, Steffen Morical, Erin Okerlund, and Clem Roers
Guests Present: Pastor Bradley Pearson, Kelli Wendel



Steffen called the meeting to order.
Tom motioned to approve the agenda. Clem 2nd. Approved.

VISITOR REPORTS: None

PASTORAL REPORT: Thanksgiving Sunday will be celebrated November 23. Pastor asked council what they would like to do following the service for fellowship. It was decided to serve caramel and cinnamon rolls. Pastor would also like to do decorating for Advent that Sunday. We will be hosting Community Thanksgiving Service at Grace this year in place of St. Ann's. Members of St. Ann's will bring the pies and serve following the service.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Steffen motioned to approve minutes as presented. Clem 2nd. Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kelli presented financials. We continue to see positive giving; expenses are just under budget. We are in a good position moving into the end of the year. Clem motioned to approve. Tom 2nd. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Mold in Pre-school SS Room: No action. Tom will follow up.
- Fall Bazaar: Bazaar was a success. Just under \$8,500 was raised. Good turn-out for the meal this year. Thanks to all who helped and donated.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Set Budget Meeting Date: Wednesday, November 5. Trustees, Treasurer (incoming/outgoing), President and VP. Kelli will send out budget worksheet prior.
- Council Retreat: Decided to meet individually with the new council members to go over duties instead of retreat for this year.
- Luther Crest Delegates: Discussion took place on whether this was a needed position any more. Council felt that we did not need to have this representation any longer as we have youth attending a variety of Bible camps. We will continue to share information on all camps.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DEACON'S REPORT: None

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Community Night was successful. Raised around \$300. Sunday School has been off to a slow start.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT: Tom has been working at getting backer rod around building foundation. Clem visited with Zach Hintermeister and he is willing to do snow removal again this year – council expressed their thanks for this important work.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, November 12 at 8 pm

Don motioned to adjourn. Steffen 2nd. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by: Kelli Wendel, Parish Assistant

Grace Snow Removal Sign Up

Please sign up as you are able to help.

Please take a look at the sign-up sheet outside the office to see if you can help.

NEW! We now have a snowblower to help with larger snow events. If you are signed up for the week, you would be responsible for light snow removal (up to a couple inches) and anything larger, the trustees will arrange to take care of with the snow blower. Hopefully this allows for more people to be able to assist.

Thank you for volunteering!



Grace Giving at a Glance

General Fund:

Giving September 28	\$1,750.00
Giving October 5	\$4,114.00
Giving October 12	\$2,712.07
Giving October 19	\$3,163.00
Giving October 26	TBD

Coffee	\$46.03
Building Giving	\$130.00
Mission Giving	\$187.00
Noisy Offering	\$340.16
World Hunger	\$310.00
Elevator	\$90.00
Bazaar	\$7,674.00
Food Shelf	\$100.00

Altar Flowers in Memory of Dr. Curt Bakken from Don Bakken, Clem & Kristi Roers and Eric & DeAnn Satterlie

Weekly General Fund Giving needed to meet the budget = \$2,979.00

Fund Balances as of 9/30/25:

General Fund	\$69,910.92
Building Fund	\$44,080.10
Christian Ed Fund	\$19,240.98
Mission Fund	\$17,258.16
Scholarship Fund	\$2,538.15



CHURCH COUNCIL / FINANCE GRACE

**November's Noisy Offering -
West Central MN Community
Action Heating Assistance**



**Noisy
Offering**

Minnesota's Energy Assistance Program (EAP) helps low-income households stay safe and warm during the winter with financial support for home heating and utility assistance. Energy Assistance also offers furnace repairs and replacements to non-functioning home heating units at no cost to homeowners.

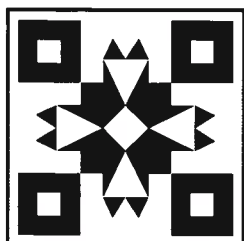
West Central Minnesota Communities Action (WCMCA), based in Elbow Lake, MN, assists households in Douglas, Grant, Pope, Stevens, and Traverse counties. Energy assistance also reaches Clay and Wilkin County. During the last program year, 10/1/2024-9/30/2025, WCMCA awarded over \$4.1 million in grant benefits, helping 4,563 households—including seniors, people with disabilities, and families with young children. The average heating benefit was \$533, assisting with 25% of the annual energy burden. Emergency assistance also prevented 1,950 disconnections, delivered 599 crisis fuel shipments, and repaired/replaced 354 furnaces.

Homeowners and renters are both encouraged to apply. No asset limits: Program eligibility is based on income levels and household size.

Applications are currently being accepted 10/1/2025-5/31/2026, for the current program year. Funds are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis and are not guaranteed to last; apply early!

How to Apply:

1. An online application that can be completed by typing mn.gov/home. Into the web. Once completed, it shows up automatically in our office work queue.
2. PDF applications are available on our web page wcmca.org/program/energy-assistance-program/
3. Applications are available at our offices: Elbow Lake 411 Industrial Park Blvd, Alexandria 1910 Aga Drive Suite 206, and Moorhead 715 11th St N Suite 100.
4. Requests can be made via email to eap@wcmca.org or by calling our office at 800-492-4805 option 1.



**Join Us for
Quilting at Grace
Thursday,
November 6, 13, and 20
9 am**



**All are invited to a
Community Thanksgiving
Service at Grace.**

**This service is hosted by
Grace, Chippewa and St.
Ann's and ALL ARE
WELCOME!**

**Stay for pie and coffee
(served by St. Ann's)
following the service.**

Grace Beyond Our Doors



Next Meeting: Thursday,
Nov. 6 at 3:30 pm - All are welcome!

Noisy Offerings suggested for the coming months:

November: West Central Communities Action Fuel Assistance (Annette)

December: Outreach Food Shelf. Discussed coordinating with youth for service activity. (Jean)

January: Tail Wind Direction, a developing working farm for adults with special needs in western MN. (Michelle)

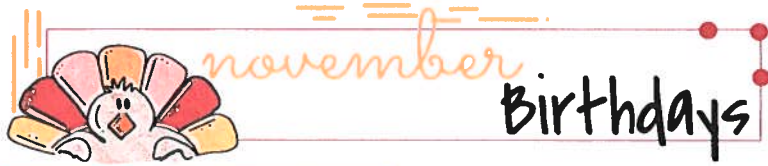
February: Lutheran World Relief or Disaster Response

Present: Kathy Fynboh, Annette Helder, Pam Mickelson, Jean Nelson, Michelle Olsen

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GRACE

Sonny Wagner	3
Lilly Mohagen	4
Babe Jacobson	6
Amanda Johnson	8
Amber Rusch	8
Jorja White	9
Tom Behlke	10
Logan Froemming	10
Parker Buchholz	12
Mason Borgstrom	13
Allie Staples	14
Lilibelle Hokanson	15
Steffen Morical	16
Brenda Trisko	16
Rick Jesnowski	17
Chris Pizel	17
Tom Trisko	17
Kathleen Lockwood	18
Jason Sieling	18
Wrenlee Swiontek	19
Don Bakken	20
Sue Johanson	20
Braxton Lang	21
Brad Lund	22

Tina Pikkaraine	25
Amanda Magnuson	27
Elias Magnuson	27
Jordan Buchholz	28
Cody Lund	29
Dayton Hermanson	30
Carter Swiontek	30
Richard Zastrow	30

Faith

Judy Retrum	1
Michael Thang	3
KeyLee Krienke	5
Lincoln Richter	5
Bradley Baker	7
Hudson Shores	7
Joyce Bock	10
Blake Quinn	11
Nancy Lystrom	13
Olivia Steffenson	13
Siri Johnson	14
Julie Johnson	17
Cody Krienke	17
Randy Satterlie	22
Donita Smith	24
Dean Peterman	26
Londyn Ohren-Shores	29



Looking Ahead . . .

Faith's Christmas Eve Worship

We'll worship at 9 pm. This decision was discussed and voted on at the January Annual Meeting.

November 2025 Grace Worship Assistants

	November 2 9 am All Saints - Communion	November 9 9 am Veterans' Recognition	November 16 9 am	November 23 9 am Thanksgiving Sunday Communion	November 30 9 am
Acolyte	Aubree Swiontek	Alice Pikkaraine	Connor Schwardt	Tyler Breikreutz	Tristan Zastrow
Reader	Chris Pizel	Richard Zastrow	Jordyn Bossert	Kids Run Church	Trenten Anderson
Ushers	Curt Pizel Wagner Family	Zastrow Family Gene & Joan Serba	Johnson Family	Kids Run Church	Zastrow Family Brad & Kelly Lund
Communion Servers	Chris Pizel Trenten Anderson			Kids Run Church	
Coffee/ Fellowship	Kathleen Lockwood Jane Croonquist	Johnson Family	Johnson Family	Jean Nelson	Brad & Kelly Lund
Musicians	Annette Helder Tom Helder	Rebecca Heyn Heyn Family	Joyce Engel Kathy Fynboh	Marcus Decker	Karen Erickson Tom Helder

Altar Guild - Tina Pikkaraine and Pat Freese

November 2025

Stay up-to-date ONLINE at www.gracethroughfaithministries.com
& on FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/gracethroughfaithministries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
All Saints Sunday 9 am Worship—Grace Communion 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith Communion 6:30 pm Parish Council—Grace	2 4-7 pm Piano Lessons—Grace 7 pm Bible Study—Faith	3 6:30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Bible Study 10:30 am Pastor at Evansville Care Campus 1:30 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	4 5:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 5:6:7) 6:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 8 & 9) 7 pm Grace Budget Meeting	5 9 am Quilting—Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 3:30 pm Grace Beyond Our Doors—Grace 4-7 pm Piano Lessons—Grace		8
Veteran's Recognition 9 am Worship—Grace 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith	9 4-7 pm Piano Lessons—Grace 7 pm Bible Study—Faith	10 6:30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Study—Faith 9:30 am Bible Study—Grace 1:30 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	11 5:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 5:6:7) 6:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 8 & 9) 8 pm Grace Council	12 9 am Quilting—Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 4-7 pm Piano Lessons—Grace		15
16 9 am Worship—Grace Congregational Meeting 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith	17 4-7 pm Piano Lessons—Grace 7 pm Bible Study—Faith	18 6:30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Bible Study 10:30 am Pastor at Evansville Care Campus 1:30 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	19 5:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 5:6:7) 6:45 pm Confirmation (Gr 8 & 9)	20 9 am Quilting—Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share—Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 4-7 pm Piano Lessons—Grace		22
Thanksgiving Sunday 9 am Worship—Grace Communion 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith	23 4-7 pm Piano Lessons—Grace 7 pm Bible Study—Faith	24 6:30 am Men's Study—Faith 9 am Women's Study—Faith 9:30 am Bible Study—Grace 1:30 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	25 No Confirmation— THANKSGIVING BREAK 7 pm Community Thanksgiving Service	26 THANKSGIVING Offices Closed		29
30 9 am Worship—Grace No Sunday School 11 am Worship—Faith						

NEWSLETTER

Grace Through Faith Ministries
PO Box 7
Brandon MN 56315

 November
2025

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

320-834-4873

NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #10
BRANDON MN 56315



Community Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 26 -
7 pm at Grace Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 23
following worship

Grace

9 am - worship

10 am - rolls & coffee

stay to visit and share fellowship

Faith

11 am - worship

12 pm - turkey dinner/decorating

Stay following worship for a meal and fellowship
and to decorate the church for Advent.