

November 2026

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

Steffen Morical

Phone: 320-808-5828

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 10:30 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

Parish Council Treasurer Needed

We are in need of someone to step in to help fill the role of Parish Council Treasurer. The Parish Council meets 4 times per year. The Treasurer oversees Parish expenses/Pastoral Payroll. Time commitment is 5-10 hours per month.

Questions? Contact Kelli at the Grace Office.

Happy New Year!

Sunday, November 29 is the First Sunday in Advent and the beginning of a new church year. As we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birthday, we look forward to His coming again and finally live peacefully, in the best of health and as Isaiah prophesied, "Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore".





Club Bible

Wednesday, November 4 & 18
5:15 to 6 pm at Grace

Ages 3 to Grade 6

**Explore the Bible with Pastor Brad -
invite a friend!**



Join us Wednesdays!

Confirmation

Gr. 7-8: 6-6:45 pm

Gr. 9: 7-7:45 pm

Grace

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

**No Confirmation November 25 -
THANKSGIVING BREAK**

Update from Lutheran World Relief (LWR)



We partner with Lutheran World Relief – being neighbor to those in crisis around the United States and the world. We actively support LWR with quilts, health and school kits.

Shaken by earthquakes in Venezuela, LWR provided emergency medical care, shelter, trauma counseling, water, food, and long-term recovery support.

In Washington state, quilts and rapid emergency support were given after devastating fires.

LWR showed up with vital emergency shelter, water, food, hygiene kits and medical care in Nepal drenched in flooding and landslides.



We welcomed in baptism:

September 20 - Grace:

Violet Elizabeth Anderson

Daughter of Tom and BreAnn Anderson

October 18 - Grace:

Elliot Jon Bitzan

Son of Dusty & Toni Bitzan

October 18 - Faith:

Charlotte Lou McGaffey

Daughter of Patrick & Ashley McGaffey

Thank You ...

everyone for your financial giving at Faith and Grace! No matter how you give, it's appreciated and needed for the health and well-being of both congregations!

parents for bringing your kids to Club Bible!

This new opportunity for the parish (age 3 through Grade 6) has fun feedback from the kids.

“anonymous” givers who drop off or send items to the church to share with people in need.

to God, because we have our churches, each other and more than enough!

Unless I know someone is coming to the house, my trusted Electrolux has been sitting in the living room ready to take aim against the uninvited Asian beetle.

It never fails, after vacuuming what I thought to be the “last one”, ten or more appear out of spite.

Surprising myself during one of my “rampages”, I thanked God for the annoying intrusions. As I vacuumed, the beetles taught me one of life’s basic lessons – we’re going to be irritated, annoyed and inconvenienced. Deal with it.

The question is, how will we “deal”?

On a recent jaunt running errands, I met two people.

The first was rude and impatient. Yelling, “Move!” at shoppers in a crowded aisle, a woman took liberty shoving shopping carts out of her way. Stunned – no one said a word.

After putting my purchases in the trunk of my car, I wheeled my cart to the corral. It was there I met the second person – my “hero” of the day. This person was straightening all carts because she “can’t stand the mess of it”. Imagine ... taking time to line up shopping carts in a parking lot!

One person yells and another cleans up a mess – two different ways of dealing.

And what do you know? Coming home, purchases in hand, what’s the first thing I see? More beetles!

The Apostle Paul was known to encourage thanksgiving in all circumstances. Not that every situation is “Hallelujah!” or comfortable; thanksgiving shapes our attitude and gives us the footing we need to charge ahead.

The beetles inspire, “this too shall pass”. The coming cold weather helps us appreciate the warmth of our home and loved ones (many are not as fortunate). Impatient people teach us who we don’t want to become. Those who go out of their way to straighten things up ... well, how can we not thank them!?!

Life isn’t perfect; neither are we. There’s always a reason to complain and a reason to be thankful. Both grow. Choose carefully which one you feed.

Thank You for coming to worship and your Offering! We’ve been doing well.

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 11, 2026

Council Members Present: Bob Anderson, Diane Bukkila, Doug Alvstad, and LeAnn Strand

Guests Present: Pastor Bradley Pearson and Candi Steer

Council started the meeting with Thanksgivings.

The meeting was called to order by Doug Alvstad. The Agenda was reviewed and updated to include Sidewalk repair under Old Business. Bob moved to approve the updated agenda. Diane seconded. Motion carried.

Bob moved to approve the September Minutes. Diane seconded. Motion carried.

Visitor Report: Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was presented and reviewed. Bob made a motion to approve the report. LeAnn seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

Upcoming events were reviewed and discussed briefly:

- All Saints, Veterans, Advent
- Fall Dinner: Sunday, November 8, following the service.
- Christmas Decorating: Sunday, November 22 following the service.
- "Carols, Candles, Cookies": Sunday, Dec. 6
- Advent & Epiphany breakfasts: more details to follow.
- Christmas Eve Worship: 9 pm

Old Business

Snow Removal: Chuck Olson will clear snow in parking lot and alley. Bob will pick up sidewalk salt and store in furnace room for sidewalks and front and back entrances. Same plan for clearing sidewalks as past year.

Piano Maintenance: Jay Mercer repaired and tuned the piano in the Fellowship Hall and tuned the Sanctuary piano. He also inspected the piano in the former choir room and found it to be in good condition.

Sidewalk Repair : (back of building) – tabled until next meeting.

New Business:

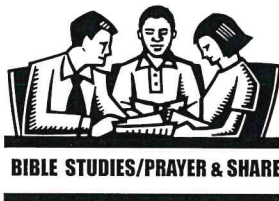
November & December Noisy Offering: Council discussed the November and December Noisy Offering, and funds from Faith Services Ministry. Diane made a motion to designate November's Noisy Offering to Outreach Food Shelf and December's Noisy Offering to West Central Initiatives, with an additional \$1,000 from Faith Services Ministry designated to each organization. Bob seconded. Motion carried.

Next Meeting Date: Sunday, November 15 at 11:30 am

Pastor Brad closed the meeting with a prayer.

Meeting was adjourned by Doug Alvstad

Respectfully submitted: LeAnn Strand



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 9/30/26:

General Fund	\$55,024.31
Building Fund	\$22,312.53
Benevolence Fund	\$7,451.71
Faith Ministries Fund	\$20,932.20
Scholarship Fund	\$5,221.72



As of 9/30/2026

General Fund Giving: \$90,818.67

General Fund Expenses: \$89,954.92

Faith's



Each year, Outreach Food Shelf of Douglas County distributes enough food for 662,000 meals. What's amazing, for every \$1 donated, 4 meals are provided!

On Sunday, November 8, between the Noisy Offering and the dinner after worship, we're supporting the food shelf and those who rely on it because our cupboards and refrigerators have enough! Thank You!

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Faith's Gratitude Sunday

After worship Sunday, November 8, we'll have a Gratitude Dinner (freewill offering supporting Outreach Food Shelf). Barley beef and chicken wild rice soup, pulled pork sandwiches, apple and pumpkin pie.



Faith's Decorating Day

Faith will be decorating for the holidays after worship Sunday, November 22. Help is needed – a quick pizza lunch will be served afterwards. 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.
- 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.

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

November 2026 Faith Worship Assistants

	November 1 10:30 AM -Faith Communion	November 8 10:30 AM -Faith	November 15 10:30 AM - Faith	November 22 10:30 AM - Faith Communion	November 29 10:30 AM - Faith
Sound/Video	Larry Carlson	Sandy Alvstad	Brad Anderson	Heidi Johnson	Larry Carlson
Reader	Vicki Carlson	Deb Berry	Candi Steer	Rita Loftness	Angie Baker
Ushers	Kevin Johnson Family	Roger Bukkila	Doug Alvstad	Larry Carlson	Brad Anderson
Communion Servers	Mary Johnson			Sharon Denardo	

Grace Lutheran Church Minutes - 10/14/26

Grace Members Present: Don Bakken, Tom Behlke, Dawson Staples

Guests Present: Pastor Bradley Pearson, Kelli Wendel



Dawson called the meeting to order. Don motioned to approve; Tom 2nd. Approved.

VISITOR REPORTS: None

PASTORAL REPORT: First Sunday in November is All Saints; Second Sunday we will honor our Veterans. Will be looking to decorate the church on November 22. Pastor is working on writing an intergenerational Christmas program that will include kids/Confirmation students/"big kids". Club Bible is going well. Averaging about 15 kids in attendance.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Tom motioned to approve minutes as presented. Don 2nd. Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kelli presented financials. Under budgeted giving for the month. We lost headway, but are still slightly above budget year-to-date. Expenses still trending slightly under budget, was some savings with custodial position not being filled for the summer. Kelli shared that Old National Bank is wanting to charge for our dormant expense account. Steffen made a motion to close the account and move the \$250 back to General Fund in main checking account; Tom 2nd. Approved. Kelli also brought up fundraising accounts (Bazaar, Men's Dinner, Summerfest, etc.). She would like to re-organize chart of accounts before year end – will discuss at next council meeting. Don made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report. Renee 2nd. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

•Nominating Committee/Council Positions: VP – Steffen Morical; Treasurer – Erin Okerlund; Deacon – Mary Burgess; Trustee – Tony Wright; Board of Ed – Sadie Riedel. Nominating Committee is nearly completed with confirming working committee roles.

•Fall Bazaar: Raised \$9,975.40 and those involved reported that it went smoothly and was well-attended.

NEW BUSINESS:

•Parish Council Meeting Update: Dawson reported on the latest Parish Council meeting.

•Water Softener Replacement: Two proposals submitted for new and rebuilt unit. Don made a motion to move forward with new unit; Tom 2nd. Approved.

•Set Date for Budget Committee Meeting: Kelli will email group when date of Parish Council Meeting is confirmed.

•Fundraising Accounts: Tabled until November when quorum is present.

•Certificate of Deposits: Tabled until November when quorum is present. Will ask council members to review financials and come ready with proposals for next meeting.

•Updating Membership: Discussion took place on needing to update membership records to reflect those who are inactive. Council ok'd Pastor Brad and Kelli updating our records.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DEACON'S REPORT: None

BOARD OF EDUCATION: None

TRUSTEE'S REPORT: Will confirm snow removal.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, Nov. 11 - 8 pm

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

Submitted by: Kelli Wendel, Parish Assistant

Fund Balances as of 9/30/26:

General Fund	\$93,884.89
Building Fund	\$38,373.67
Christian Ed Fund	\$39,347.97
Mission Fund	\$15,428.76
Scholarship Fund	\$3,488.15



Grace Giving at a Glance

General Fund:

Giving September 27	\$1,103.00
Giving October 4	\$3,383.95
Giving October 11	\$1,092.00
Giving October 18	\$2,959.00
Giving October 25	\$1,840.00

Coffee	\$77.00
Building Giving	\$240.00
Mission Giving	\$380.00
Noisy Offering	\$248.02
World Hunger	\$10.00
Lutheran World Relief	\$25.00
Bazaar	\$8,545.40
Thrivent Choice	\$50.00
WELCA Offering -IHPT	\$872.00

Weekly General Fund Giving needed to meet the budget = \$3,000.00

Ways to Give:
During Worship



Remember
Your
Offering

Mail a Check:

You can share your offering gift by placing a check in the mail:

Grace Lutheran Church
PO Box 7
Brandon, MN 56315

Online Giving through Parish Website:

Grace receives giving digitally – through bank draft or debit/credit card payment – by way of Vanco. You can make a one-time gift through the site or you can create a recurring gift. You can visit Grace's giving page at: <https://gp.vancopayments.com/gpo/#/donateNow/b6cb1b0eb4bd10ebc95886d20feb9cf7>.

**Grace Through Faith Ministries Parish Council Minutes
September 13, 2026 - 6:30 pm - Faith Lutheran Church**

Members Present: Bob Anderson, Lon Burgess, Larry Carlson, Sue Johanson, Elise LeMay, Kristi Roers, Dawson Staples (for Steffen Morical) **Guests Present:** Pastor Brad

Lon opened meeting with prayer.

Agenda: Bob motioned to approve; 2nd by Kristi. Approved.

Secretary's Report: Previously emailed to committee. No changes or comments.

Treasurer's Report:

•Portico reports a 15% increase in Pastor's health insurance premium which amounts to \$206.38. In paying Becki's portion of Medicare and supplements it is still less than previous premiums. The plan has several changes in its plan which Sue described. Sue recommended staying with the same plan but will have Becki review the next step for the advantage plan and how much it would cost and if it's to her advantage. Larry made a motion to keep current plan; Bob 2nd. Approved.

•The amount of money needed from each parish is lower than last year and within budget

•Sue is stepping down, so committee is seeking someone to fill the treasurer spot. Sue stated she averages 16-20 hours per month. It includes budget and utilizes Excel spreadsheet to do the work. There is a job description so committee members can defer to that when speaking with others about the position. Current bank is Old National.

Agenda Items:

•Review Leadership needs of the Parish/Sharing of clergy: No new discussion

•Review Parish Expectations of the Pastor: No new discussion

•Consider the Pastor's expectations of the Parish: No new discussion

Old Business:

•Discussion regarding worship times: A survey was sent to Grace members regarding worship times, due to Faith deciding to continue at 10:30 am. Grace will continue at 9 am. Discussion was held regarding decisions that impact Pastor need to be vetted through the Parish Council first, and not just independently at each church. Members in agreement with this moving forward.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting date: Sunday, September 13 Time: 6:30 pm at Faith

Respectfully Submitted, Kristi Roers

**November's
Noisy Offering -
Eagle's Healing Nest**



Eagles Healing Nest is a Veterans Community offering a place of hope and healing where service members and their families can call home. Providing safety and support as they navigate the invisible wounds of war including PTSD, anxiety and addiction.

They provide safe, stable housing, Veteran-led peer support, and strong community for those who have served. Through connection, purpose & support, EHN helps Veterans and their families navigate life's challenges and build brighter tomorrows.

There are two locations - 124 acres in Sauk Centre and a location in Redwood Falls.

For more information, visit:
eagleshealingnest.com

**Grace Beyond
Our Doors**



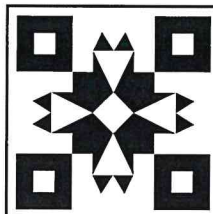
**Next meeting is November 8,
following worship. All are welcome.**

Upcoming Noisy Offerings:

November: Eagles Healing Nest Veterans Community, Sauk Centre, MN

December: West Central Minnesota Communities Action - Fuel Assistance Program

Thank you for your generosity in supporting these missions. If you have ideas for future noisy offerings, please let any of the members of Grace Beyond Our Doors know. We welcome you to attend at any time.



**Join Us for
Quilting at Grace
Thursday,
November
5, 12, & 19
9 am**

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We extend our
heartfelt
sympathy to:

The family and friends of Bob Reynolds. Bob went Home to Jesus on Saturday, October 3 at the age of 93. Bob's service was held at Anderson Funeral Home on October 17. Burial will be at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Sympathy cards can be mailed to Bob's daughter: Deb Breister, 7085 46th St N, Oakdale, MN 55128.



Thank you for the following
gifts in honor or memory of
loved ones:

In Memory of Bob Reynolds:

Terrill & Dar Morical

Undesignated

GRACE

Sonny Wagner	3
Lilly Mohagen	4
Babe Jacobson	6
Jorja White	9
Tom Behlke	10
Logan Froemming	10
Parker Buchholz	12
Mason Borgstrom	13
Chelsea Haugen	14
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
Brad Lund	22

Grace (cont.)

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

Bradley Baker	7
Hudson Shores	7
Olivia Steffenson	13
Siri Johnson	14
Julie Johnson	17
Randy Satterlie	22



To my wonderful Church Family, Thank You so much for keeping me in your prayers over the past few months. Your support and kindness have meant the world to me and my family during my cancer journey. Dwaine Burros

November 2026 Grace Worship Assistants

	November 1 9 am Communion All Saints	November 8 9 am Veterans Recognition	November 15 9 am	November 22 9 am Communion Thanksgiving Sunday	November 29 9 am
Acolyte	Ashlyn Elmer	Oliver Johnson	Carter Swiontek	Alice Pikkaraine	Corbin Borgstrom
Reader	Kathleen Lockwood	Jordyn Bossert	Dan Olson	Chris Pizel	Cassandra Johnson
Ushers	Croonquists Diane Olson	Serbas Timmermans	Serbas Brad Lund Dan Olson	Pizels Trenten Anderson	Johnsons
Communion Servers	Pat Timmerman			Chris Pizel Trenten Anderson	
Coffee/ Fellowship	Diane Olson	Timmermans	Dan & Diane Olson	Pizels	Johnsons
Musicians	Annette Helder Tom Helder	Rebecca Heyn Heyn Family	Joyce Engel Kathy Fynboh	Marcus Decker Dan Olson	Karen Erickson Tom Helder

Altar Guild -Chris Pizel & Brenda Hintermeister

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Sunday 9 am Worship – Grace Communion 10 am Grace Basement – Swiontek Family 10:30 am Worship – Faith 6:30 pm Parish Council - Grace	2 7 pm Bible Study – Faith 5-8 pm Piano Lessons - Grace	3 6:30 am Men's Study – Faith 9 am Women's Study – Faith 10:30 am Pastor at Evansville Care Campus 1:30 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	4 5:15 pm Club Bible – Grace 6 pm Confirmation (Gr. 7/8) 7 pm Confirmation (Gr. 9)	5 9 am Quilting - Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share – Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 2:30-5:45 pm Piano Lessons – Faith 4-7 pm Piano Lessons - Grace	6	7 9-10 am Piano Lessons - Grace
8 Veterans Recognition 9 am Worship – Grace 10:30 am Worship – Faith 4 pm 4-H - Grace	9 7 pm Bible Study – Faith 5-8 pm Piano Lessons - Grace	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 6 pm Confirmation (Gr. 7/8) 7 pm Confirmation (Gr. 9) 8 pm Grace Council	12 9 am Quilting - Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share – Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 2:30-5:45 pm Piano Lessons – Faith 4-7 pm Piano Lessons - Grace	13	14 9-10 am Piano Lessons - Grace
15 9 am Worship – Grace 10 am Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers - Grace 10:30 am Worship – Faith 11:30 am Faith Council	16 7 pm Bible Study – Faith 5-8 pm Piano Lessons - Grace	17 6:30 am Men's Study – Faith 9 am Women's Study – Faith 10:30 am Pastor at Evansville Care Campus 1:30 pm Pastor at Evansville Assisted Living	18 5:15 pm Club Bible – Grace 6 pm Confirmation (Gr. 7/8) 7 pm Confirmation (Gr. 9)	19 9 am Quilting - Grace 9:30 am Prayer & Share – Faith 1 pm Pastor at Brandon Assisted Living 2:30-5:45 pm Piano Lessons – Faith 4-7 pm Piano Lessons - Grace	20 5 pm Pikkaraine/ Sorenson Rehearsal – Grace	21 3:30 pm Pikkaraine/ Sorenson Wedding - Grace
22 Thanksgiving Sunday 9 am Worship – Grace Communion 10:30 am Worship – Faith	23 7 pm Bible Study – Faith 5-8 pm Piano Lessons - Grace	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 7 pm Community Thanksgiving Service - Grace	26 Thanksgiving Offices Closed	27	28
29 9 am Worship – Grace 10:30 am Worship – Faith	30 7 pm Bible Study – Faith 5-8 pm Piano Lessons - Grace					

NEWSLETTER

Grace Through Faith Ministries
PO Box 7
Brandon MN 56315



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BRANDON MN 56315

Join Us!



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25 - 7 PM

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, 205 CENTRAL AVE, BRANDON

A SHARED MINISTRY OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH,
CHIPPEWA LUTHERAN CHURCH AND
ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Notice of Annual Meeting to Elect Officers

Grace Lutheran Church
Immediately following Worship

Sunday
November 15, 2026