



HOLY COMMUNION OFFERED EVERY SUNDAY

Coming Soon: Mutual Ministry Committee

While this idea has been around for some years in the greater Church, the Mutual Ministry Committee is something new for Grace. This Committee is mentioned in our Constitution, with Continuing Resolutions providing more description.

The purpose of this Committee is to affirm and strengthen the mission of the Congregation and the ministry of the staff. This is carried out by:

- Maintaining open communication concerning the attitudes, conditions, and expectations within Grace Lutheran Church.
- Being alert to early warnings of misunderstanding with the Congregation.
- Being a “listening post” for the ministry staff and the Congregation.
- If necessary, assuming the role of “conflict resolution.”
- Reflecting on how well the ministry staff and Congregation are working together.
- Being a “sounding board” for the ministry staff in time of personal and professional stress.
- Discerning continuing education opportunities and needs that would assist the ministry staff and the Congregation.
- Nurturing the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of the ministry staff.

The key terms here are both “mutual” and “ministry.” “Mutual” means that this is not one-sided support or work. Think of “mutual needs” or “mutual respect.” Also, the “ministry” part means that the Committee seeks to strengthen our ministry with each other, as well as carry out the ministry that God calls us to do beyond our doors.

The Committee includes the ministry staff at Grace (the Pastor and Minister of Music), one member appointed by each ministry staff person, and two members appointed by the Congregation Council. Grace’s Council is discerning who God is leading us to call to this service to Grace.

GraceGram

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



October 2017

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*Deadline for inclusion in the November GraceGram is **October 17, 2017.***

Send your articles to Victoria Alt at: parishadmin@grace-hastings.org

Presidential Ponderings

by Chris Bush

One recent Sunday, I was chatting with people after worship out in the Welcoming Space. Boy, was it busy with folks mingling, catching up with each other, nibbling on some fantastic home-made (or store-bought) treat and drinking freshly brewed coffee. The space was ALIVE! Oh sure, we still are working on our renovations. Did you know that “renovate” can mean “to refresh, renew, or revive”? That’s how the atmosphere in that space felt: Grace has been, and continues to be, renewed, reformed if you will, by the Holy Spirit. I thank God for His Spirit of gentleness and restlessness, blowing through the wilderness that can challenge us. God has blessed us with a special place and special people. I hope you feel refreshed and energized when you depart after worship, a meeting, or whatever brings you to Grace.

I am SO excited to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation on October 29th! What a time to be Lutheran! Some people have heard this story, of how it was “fore-ordained” that I would be a Lutheran: my grandfather was a Lutheran pastor, my dad was a Lutheran pastor, my brother was born on Reformation Day, and I was born on Martin Luther’s birthday. How could I be anything BUT Lutheran??



Trunk or Treat

by Mike Kemper, Outreach Committee

Tuesday, October 31 5:00 – 8:00 pm

We are planning to “Treat” approximately 300 children and their parents from the Hastings community at Grace on Halloween night, October 31st. We would again like to set up 6 or 7 stations hosted by our members to hand out treats. Additionally we are looking for 1-2 persons to serve popcorn and cider. Mike Kemper has agreed to serve as the coordinator for the event this year but he would welcome another person to team up with him. By the time you read this article a sign-up sheet will have been posted in the gathering area. We will be looking for members to take a room to hand out treats, popcorn/cider servers, donations of Halloween decorations, and, of course, donations of bags of candy for distribution. This is an especially fun event and we are looking to once again receive the same tremendous support of our Grace church family that we have received in the past.

Grace Pasty Sale

by Joe Longcor, Brothers of Grace

We’re holding a pasty sale at Grace on Saturday, November 4th. That means we’ll be dough preppin’ on the 2nd, meat cuttin’ on the 3rd, and then a mixin’, stuffin’, crimpin’, bakin’, and a sellin’ on the 4th.

We’re shootin for 400 pasties that will be sold for \$6.00 unbaked and \$7.00 baked. Watch for a sales sheet on the welcome area bulletin board.

As always we’d welcome your help any of the 3 days...a work schedule/sign-up will also be posted. If you have any questions, please see Joe Longcor at Grace or leave a message at [269-623-2348](tel:269-623-2348).



2018 God’s Creation Calendars

by Kim Domke

Calendars are available now through October 15th. This sale is brought to you by your Outreach Committee!

Please sign up to pre-order your beautiful calendar with photos from around the United States and weekly NIV Bible verses.

Questions? Please contact any member of the Outreach Committee or you may contact Victoria in the office.





by Kim Domke

Handbells are off to a fantastic start! Six new ringers came to the fall workshop in September to give ringing a try. We had dinner and devotions together before getting down to the business of making music. 17 ringers total were learning the fun of bell and chime techniques and even had a chance to create a new song on the Boom-whackers!

As always, anyone who would like to try ringing may contact Kim Domke, private lessons are available for free!

Watch for the Grace Notes and Clapper Kids to ring on the following Sundays: October 15th and December 10th at both services. Then the adults will ring again during a Wednesday evening service for the Advent season on December 13th at 6:50 pm.



Youth Group Update

by Jenn Rosenberger and Traci Wales

We have been planning some events for the High School youth and want to put out a calendar quickly so you can fill your calendars... Keep in mind these could change, might change or could be added to.... Also, this is only a list of events, we have not added on fundraising events or events that our youth are involved in that we may want to attend as a group together (i.e. Patton's in a play...)

Here we go...

September 24th - regular meeting, short notice, nothing fancy (sorry guys)

October 8th - CROP Walk, we have a meeting scheduled for that night as well.

October 22nd - Traci will be here solo, Jenn will be in Disney ☺

October 28th - Candlelight Trails at Pierce Cedar Creek Institute

October 31st - Trunk or Treat, the Youth Group is not doing anything specific but I would love for you all to be here and in costume because it is more fun that way.

November 5th - regular meeting

November 19th - regular meeting but moving location to Bigby in Hastings, coffee will be purchased but bring extra money if you want to purchase a snack of sorts.

December 3rd - regular meeting

December 17th - SKYZONE (Cost will be about \$10 per child, we are planning to eat lunch at church, right after 2nd service and leave from there. Not sure about return to church time. If this is choir concert day we will change date...)

December 27th- 30th - THE GATHERING!!!

December 31st - should be a regular meeting but we are skipping this since we will just be back from the Gathering.

We are excited about the half of the year that we have planned. We hope you are too!

Call Committee Update

by Brenda Teegardin

The call committee is very pleased to be able to share some exciting news regarding our search for a new Pastor. On Wednesday, September 6th, we presented a candidate to the church council with our recommendation that they be called as Grace's next Pastor!

The call committee feels very strongly that this candidate is a good fit for our congregation and church, with the guiding presence we have been seeking.

We feel blessed to have this happen so quickly during our search, after hearing it can usually take 18-24 months. We have appreciated your patience during these past five months and look forward to sharing more details very soon.

In the meantime, our candidate will be here to preside over both services on October 22nd and we will hold the congregational vote on October 29th. If approved, our new Pastor could be in place before the end of the year!

Stay tuned for more information as we are able to share it. Please continue your prayers as we move forward to a new beginning at Grace.

Thank you!

THANK YOU to Mary Rider for the strong shelves in the table/chair storage room and to Pastor Paul Kuhlman for his work in building/installing them.



October Birthdays

10-2 Melissa Patton
10-9 Ron Neil, Brenda Teegardin
10-10 Carla Neil, Ed Domke
10-11 Joyce Daugherty
10-13 Mary Rider
10-16 Kristi Winick, Joseph Varkula
10-25 Riley Jarvis, Rose Fear
10-27 Julie Jarvis, Connor Wales
10-30 Nicole Wood
10-31 Larry Maupin

October Anniversaries

10-3 Ron & Carla Neil
10-6 Tom & Cheryl Drumm
10-9 Susan & Mike Barnaart
10-17 Randy & Judy Hughes
10-23 Joe Longcor & Vickey Argo
10-28 Gary & Lisa Golnek
10-29 Ilene & Phil Hilson

Our Prayers for

Healthy pregnancy – Danielle Gorman,
Jessica Bakhuyzen, Katie Haddix,
Myrina Clements

Nursing home residents – Dorothy Mayo,
Deb Wood, Vivian Allerdig

Shut-ins – Dave Bolton, Ilene Hilson,
Jamie Coplin, Opal Gillons, Shirley
Smith

Military members – Phil DeVries



Grace Lutheran Church

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Website:
www.grace-hastings.org

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Phone:
269-945-9414
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Our Ministers:

Cindy Olson, *Minister of Music*

Worship Committee:
gracelutheranworshipcommittee@gmail.com

Our Staff:

Victoria Alt, *Parish Administrator*
Mon – Thurs 8 AM - 3PM
ParishAdmin@grace-hastings.org

Kim Domke, *Bell Choir Director*

Nathan Freedlund, *Custodian*

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

1st Sunday after Labor Day - May
Sundays @ 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

5th Sundays
@ 10:00am

Children's Church

1st Sunday after Labor Day – May
@ 10:45 AM

5th Sundays
@ 10:00 am



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

Executive Committee:

President: *Chris Bush*

Vice President: *Margaret Wood*

Secretary: *Kate Watson*

Treasurer: *Randy Teegardin*

Church Council Members/Liasons

Derrick Rosenberger – Small Group Ministry

Sheryl Gorden – Congregational Care

Phil Poholski – Property Committee

Gary Golnek – Community Outreach

Diane Neeb – Social Activities

Dave Neeb – Stewardship

Gwen Hansen – Children/Youth Ministry

Jan Schreiner – Worship Committee