



HOLY COMMUNION OFFERED EVERY SUNDAY

Welcome New Members!

by Pastor Ken

Grace Lutheran Church welcomes into our midst, Erin Everly, David Greeley, Julian Kratochvil, Carolyn and Keith Moffit, and Katie Golneck. It is good to have these sisters and brothers among us. Here is some information about them, so you can get to know them a little better.



Erin Everly comes to us from 5th Reformed Congregation, Grand Rapids. Erin resides here in Hastings, Michigan. Erin is a graduate of Eisenhower High School and did college studies in floral design. Erin's hobbies include kayaking, camping, riding her Harley, watching her favorite movie *Fried Green Tomatoes* and spoiling her dog Coco. Erin is also involved in the women's committee for Hastings Recreation Local 1002. Erin likes to travel and has been to Las Vegas and especially enjoyed Fremont Street in the City of Lights. Erin enjoys warm weather. It is good to have Erin among us.

GraceGram

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



March 2018

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*Deadline for inclusion in the April 2018
GraceGram is **March 17, 2018.***

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

David Greeley and Julian Kratochvil join us from the Roman Catholic Church. Julian and David reside in Middleville, Michigan. David and Julian enjoy traveling. David works for Stampede, while Julian works for 5/3 Bank. In addition to David's fulltime employment, he is a fulltime college student. Julian enjoys acting and singing in the Thornapple Players productions. As you may have been blessed to hear, Julian sings Baritone. We are grateful that David and Julian have joined us here at Grace Lutheran Church after several years of associate membership.



Carolyn and Keith Moffit also have returned home to Grace Church. Carolyn and Keith live in Middleville, Michigan. Carolyn and Keith have retired and enjoy the movies *The Sound of Music* and *Paint Your Wagon*. Carolyn is a quilter. In fact, Carolyn is a part of two quilting groups: Thornapple River Rippers Quilting Guild and Girl Gang Quilt group. Ask Carolyn and Keith about their three Alaskan trips. It is good to have Carolyn and Keith back among us worshipping our God and celebrating the Grace we have received from our good and loving God.



Katie Golneck is our very own. She grew up in our congregation, and Grace Church was able to witness her being baptized and confirmed into God's family among us people of God. Katie returned to us officially in October of 2017. Katie is currently a student at Hope College. Katie was not able to be with us the day we recognized her in as a member, because she was ill. Katie is interested in being an Assisting Minister and being on the Table Guild. We are blessed to have her reactivate her membership and look forward to sharing ministry with her for many years to come.

Good Friday Cross Walk Friday, March 30

by Kim Domke

You are invited to participate in the annual Cross Walk held on Good Friday March 30th, 2018 beginning at 9:30 A.M. We will gather in the coffee fellowship area and then prayerfully follow the cross through downtown Hastings and back to Grace. All ages are invited and strollers are welcome. Please no bicycles. A vehicle will follow the walkers to aid those not able to walk the whole way.

There will be a worship folder provided for the walk. The walk will mostly be silent for personal reflection. At the end of the walk everyone is invited to stay for refreshments at Grace. We hope you can attend and bring along a friend.

Sign-up sheets will be posted for those willing to participate in the walk, read parts of the passion story at the various reflections stops along the way, and for those willing to provide some light refreshments for walk participants following the end of the walk.



Easter Breakfast

by Pastor Ken

There is something about Easter Breakfast. The community comes together to celebrate the resurrection of the Lord, to share a time of fellowship and eat a meal between the 8:00 AM Easter Worship and our 10:45 AM Festival Celebration of Christ's victory over death. We are thankful that Brothers of Grace are providing an Easter Breakfast for us to partake.



Mission Endowment Fund

by Margaret Wood

As you may be aware, Grace Lutheran Church has a Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) and a MEF Committee. The purpose of the MEF is to provide for mission work beyond the operational budget of our church. The Committee is tasked with discerning where to distribute up to 90% of the earnings of the MEF. Your suggestions are welcomed for directing where these funds may be best used. Please place your suggestion along with your name in Margaret Wood's mailbox and it will be reviewed by the MEF Committee when it meets.

You may wonder how does the MEF grow. One way the MEF grows is that 10% of the annual earnings are reinvested and become part of the principal. The other way the MEF grows is through receiving bequests, trusts and gifts of cash or assets designated to it. If you have not done so already, please consider when preparing your will or estate plan to give to the MEF.



by Cherie Clements

Making our way to Houston!

The Chili Cook-off and Silent Auction were a huge success!!! Thank you everyone who contributed through prayer, contributions, and any other way, to this event. There was some scrumptious food and wonderful fellowship during the event. You all made this a huge success and helped Team Grace 4 Houston raise over \$1,600 towards the 2018 Gathering in Houston. At the same time you voted Dan Patton as the winner for the chili cook off. Well done Dan!

During the month of March we have two, yes two, fundraisers going. It is sure to be a very busy time for us all.

- The first is the infamous Pasty Sale. There will be youth learning and sharpening their pasty preparation skills. There is still time to sign up to help and yes even still time to purchase these delicious pasties. The sign-up sheets are posted at Grace. The big day is Saturday, March 10th.
- The second fundraiser is an Easter Plant Sale. The sign-up sheets are posted at Grace and the plants that are available for ordering are as follows: Tulips, Daffodils, Hyacinths and Easter Lilies. Orders must be placed by March 14th at 8pm. The flowers will be available for pick up at Grace on Saturday, March 24th from 10am to 12pm.

Save the Date, April 20th, 2018 6-8:30. Hastings Helps Houston Paint Party! Come participate in an evening of painting, creating, food, & fellowship. A TON OF FUN can be had creating painted vinyl signs ...think graduation presents, birthdays, weddings, classrooms, bedrooms, or other home décor. Check out the website www.lifeexpressionsdecor.com for exciting, creative project ideas.

Youth that will be attending the 2018 Gathering in Houston: Hope Peck, Emma Peck, Kassi Warner, Shiann Molette, Gavin Patton, Grayson Patton, and Cadean McCarty.

Super "Soup-er Bowl"

by Kim Domke

A total of \$690.00 will be forwarded to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal thanks to the generosity of the members and friends of Grace as the result of the "Soup-er" Bowl outreach event that was held on Feb. 4th. The Philadelphia Eagles received the most dollar-votes which, of course, turned out to be the correct prediction. Once again, we express our sincere thanks to all who made our ELCA Hunger Appeal a very successful event.



Handbell Choir

by Kim Domke

The Bells will be Ring to the Glory of God

on Sunday, March 11th @10:45AM service & on Wednesday, March 14th @ 6:50PM as gathering music for the 7:00PM Lenten Service.

In addition to ringing for Grace, a group of youth and adults recently visited Woodlawn Meadows to share holiday music. Both choir members and residents enjoyed musical talents on chimes, bells, and Boom-whackers. We even had the residents join us as we all sang carols and played instruments together. It brought tears of joy to my eyes as I saw their faces light up.

We currently have a group of 6 adults and one high schooler preparing to participate in an ecumenical handbell festival in West Virginia. We will ring 5 pieces of music with 200-400 other ringers from around the region (Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia).

The participants pay for a portion of the trip, but we will also have a dinner Wednesday, March 21st at 6:00PM to help with expenses. Please join us for a Picnic in the Winter: Sloppy Joes, chips, salads, and dessert.



Same 5 Questions 10 Different Faces

by Jenn Rosenberger

I was given the amazing task of interviewing the cast of characters going to Houston. I am excited about this trip and I am excited to get to know all of these people better. So now I get to share a bit of what I have learned...

I am going to present you with the youth first and break them into two groups. The final installment of this wonderful piece will be the adults!

Our first highlighted youth is:

GRAYSON PATTON

15 years of age, he is Twin A, he is one minute older...

What is your favorite Color?
Red

People or Animals? Usually people

Biggest Fear? Heights

Weird Fact about yourself? He has fallen into a water hazard at golf practice, he was covered in algae and his Mom had to be called to come retrieve him, now this not only happened once, this happened twice, on separate occasions.

Why do you want to go to Houston? I want to expose myself to a new opportunity and see other's lives from another perspective.

Our next youth for highlighting is:

SHIANN MOLETTE

17 years of age

Favorite Color? Blue

People or Animals? Both

Biggest Fear? Drowning or being caught in a fire

Weird Fact about yourself? She really enjoys graffiti art, she doesn't go out and participate in it on the street, but give her a canvas and she can do it!

Why do you want to go to Houston? I want to go so I can help people and I think it is a really cool experience. I also want to be able to help the people in the community there. (Shiann was one of the youth that went with us to Detroit.)



Our last youth being highlighted is:

EMMA PECK

16 years of age, she is Twin A, 3 minutes older...

Favorite color? Yellow

People or animals? Both

Biggest fear? Putting myself out there and being vulnerable with what I believe and being shot down.

Weird fact about yourself? I have unique handwriting

Why do you want to go to Houston? To be able to come together with people from all around the country and spread God's love with them.



Our Prayers for

Healthy pregnancy – Myrina Clements, Joanna Cremeans, Leslie Sidwell, Angie Chaney

Nursing home residents – Dorothy Mayo, Vivian Allerding, Dave Bolton

Shut-ins – Ilene Hilson, Jamie Coplin, Opal Gillons, Shirley Smith, Sharon Duits

Homebound Communion Servers

by Pastor Ken

You are invited to consider taking Holy Communion to our homebound members here at Grace Church. Pastor Ken is looking for four people to take communion, which has already been consecrated. There would be training, a format to follow, a devotional to read to the homebound, and a communion kit provided (containing wine, a small cup, bread and plate). If you are interested, please let Pastor Ken know.



★ HAPPY ★
BIRTHDAY!

March Birthdays

3-2 Luke Domke
3-3 JoLynn Leary, Tara Schoessel
3-8 Lance Ogden
3-9 Ingrid Morgan
3-12 James Gibbons
3-13 Danielle Drumm, Kayla Pohl
3-19 Brianna Neeb
3-22 Shayna Gibbons
3-23 Rick Palmer
3-24 Kim Domke
3-26 Amy Poholski, Lisa Pohl
3-27 Derrick Rosenberger
3-31 Paul Pruitt

March Anniversaries

3-09 Ed & Jeanette Markwart
3-16 Karen & Bill Halstead
3-23 Rob & Lisa Pohl

Grace Lutheran Church

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Hastings, MI 49058

Website:
www.grace-hastings.org

Facebook:
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ELCA Hastings, MI

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Our Ministers:

Ken Scheck II
Minister of Word and Sacrament
pastorken@grace-hastings.org

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/Jan Schreiner – 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