



JULY/AUGUST 2022 GRACEGRAM

Grace alone . . . Faith alone . . . Word alone . . .

From
**GOD'S
HEART**
the
Savior speeds,

Back to
GOD
the pathway
leads;

Out to
Vanquish
Death's
Command,

Back to
reign
at
GOD'S
Right hand.

-Martin Luther



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

I pray that you and all of God's people will understand what is called wide or long or high or deep. I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Let your lives be filled with all that God is.
Ephesians 3:18-19

At its best, the Church is filled with joy and authentic praise to God and provides an opportunity for all to live as equal partners in ministry. God invites us to help share God's plan of love here at Grace Lutheran Church, Hastings, Michigan. We have a unique chance to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ, as we explore and tell the story of our boundless God.

As pastor here at Grace Church, I have experienced life changing ventures. I know that many in the congregation have also experienced the wonderful grace, love, support and compassion expressed through God's people. Many who come to Grace Lutheran Church have an abundance of talent, a willingness to share of themselves, an enthusiasm to pray for others and a generous spirit that reflects God's presence here in this place.

These seeds of experienced grace is compelling. One of the best gifts I have had the privilege to witness here at Grace Church is the congregation's ability to help those in need. As I serve the church, I find it humbling to receive words of thanks when I am able to give a helping hand to those who are in need in the name of the church. The ability to share a few dollars from our Helping Hands fund, to those in need, is truly a blessing. It is an honor to share your love with those who are in need and it is uplifting to receive a thank you for doing what you know is right.

What does the LORD require of you ?



*Do justice and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God.*

Micah 6:8

Jesus has shown us what to do. Jesus invites us to continue to share love with those who are less fortunate. The seed has been planted by God and many followers who share in God's plan of love. Let us continue to reach out in Jesus' name to those who need to experience God's love here in this place. Thanks for all those faithful who give to the Helping Hands fund here at Grace. It has changed many lives, because of your generous spirit.

Serving Christ with you,

Pastor Ken +

**Deadline for the
September GraceGram
is**

August 17, 2022.
Send your articles to
Brenda Hess at:
parishadmin@grace-hastings.org

We are PREPARED TO BE . . .

This is the temple talk presentation that was shared by President, Randy Teegardin and Pastor Ken Scheck II

June 5, 2022

Dear Congregation,

Over the past few months, we have come to realize that we face challenges with respect to effective and appropriate communication. This is troubling in that some members of our church family have been hurt by comments made and the way in which they were delivered.

The Grace Council contacted the Bishop's office to seek guidance in effectively dealing with the situation in a manner that would bring healing and wholeness to those impacted and to move Grace forward in our mission to express God's grace and share the love of Jesus. The Synod has provided a list of recommendations that we and Pastor Ken have agreed to implement.

It is my hope and belief that we can and will work together to bring a meaningful resolution to this situation.

In Christ's Love,

Randy Teegardin

Grace Council President

Pastor Ken then read: **The following are the synod recommendations:**

1. Pastor's wife attends his meeting regarding our recommendations.
2. Pastor obtains a full evaluation (both physical and emotional) at Synod referral.
3. Council meets with Pr. Betsy Kamphuis for education on role expectations and boundaries.
4. Pastor's compensation be reviewed given Synod expectations.
5. Treasurer, staff and committees refrain from expecting Pastor's involvement in any financial matters of the church.
6. Job Description duties be clearly written and acknowledged as boundaries by all until such limits are internalized.
7. Pastor performs only the duties of a Minister of Word and Sacrament as enumerated in the church Constitution under *C9.03. These duties have been verbalized as strengths of Pastor Scheck's.
8. Communication by all lay and ordained leaders be consciously done using "I" messages rather than "you" messages.
9. Pastor and Council President write and sign monthly progress reports to be emailed or snail mailed to Bishop Craig Satterlee.

I thank the Synod, Grace Council and members of Grace for agreeing to work together to bring healing and wholeness to our community of faith, who gather to be the people of Christ. You are a gift to me given by God and I continue to seek to be the person Jesus has called me to be and be more professional while serving you as your Pastor. God's grace and mercy be with us all.

With God's Love,

Pastor Ken +



We are **PREPARED TO BE** . . .

INVOLVED IN BE

THE 7TH ANNUAL GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH CAR SHOW

Please plan to attend this year's annual car show and church service under the tent on July 31, 2022.

During the show, the people of Grace will gather on the front lawn for worship, inviting anyone and everyone to join us in the Word of God for one service, starting at 10:00 a.m.

The invitation is to anyone with a classic or antique car, truck or motorcycle to show their vehicle. The car show begins at 9:00 a.m. and runs to about 3:00 p.m.

After worship we will gather with our neighbors for a lunch brought to you by Phil Maass of Thrivent Financial and our own Social Activities Committee, sharing a variety of foods from the grill beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Remember to mark your calendar for one service at 10:00 a.m. which will be "under the tent" with an open invitation for car show attendees and spectators to join us in our worship service.

We hope to see you there for a fun time, fellowship, good food, and sharing the Word with our neighbors.



REMINDER:

Grace Annual Meeting
Sunday, July 17th at 9:30 a.m.
We look forward to seeing you
there.

"Speaker Series" a Success!

THANK YOU to those who helped "strengthen relationships within the congregation" (a Grace goal) by participating in our "Speaker Series" about being an immigrant, descended from one, or being married to one.

These talks brought more people to our Adult Forum time, fostered great conversations, and increased our appreciation of others' experiences. We hope to organize more "Speaker Series" in the future, perhaps hearing from Grace members who have spent "non-vacation" time overseas (such as teaching or serving in the Peace Corps or military) and from programs conducted locally, within the state, or globally by various organizations.

If you want to volunteer to tell your tale or have a suggestion for a specific speaker or topic, please let Chris Bush know.



We are **PREPARED TO BE . . .**

2021 Mission Endowment Fund **Earnings Disbursed – Chris Bush**

The Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) team met in February to discern how to distribute our 2021 earnings. The fund earned \$3,234.18 last year. Per our bylaws, 90% of the earnings can be disbursed (in this case, \$2,910.67) and the remaining amount reinvested.

The team had received four proposals for organizations and ministries to receive these monies. We decided to gift all four entities, as follows:

- Family Promise of Barry County, which ministers to homeless and low-income families, received \$1,000.
- Green Gables Haven, which serves victims of domestic violence in the county, received \$750.
- Serenity Village, a hospice facility to be built in Hastings, received \$750.
- Mercy House Global, an organization that assists unwed pregnant women in Kenya, received \$150.
- The remaining \$260.67 was deposited to Grace's Helping Hands fund, which is a discretionary fund the pastor can use for immediate local needs.

As of the end of April 2022, the market value of our fund was \$88,450.61. We are so thankful for those persons who have contributed to this fund over the years so that we can further our ministry and God's Word!

Thank you to those serving on this year's MEF committee:
Chris Bush, Pastor Ken, Linda Maupin, Lani Forbes, Clyde Watson, and Ed Domke.



Mortgage for Grace Lutheran Church is \$22,021.98

Payments are set at \$1,234.00 per month

Time-and-Talents Survey Now Available

Every year, we provide a Time and Talents (TNT) form for all Grace members to fill out to help leadership and committees know in what capacity you'd like to serve. Perhaps you would be willing to be Assisting Minister or Lecturer, you want to participate on the Congregational Care or another Committee (or both), you are willing to bake communion bread or make something for a funeral luncheon. We have many opportunities for you to share your time and talents.

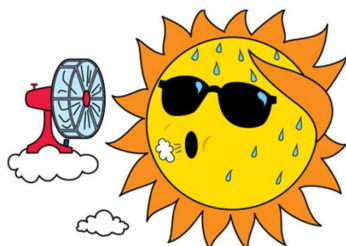
Please do not assume that we know what Grace ministries and activities you participate in – there are new members involved in Council and on Committees and they may not know you well enough to realize that YOU are the brownie-chef-extraordinaire or that YOU know who to call when the furnace goes out. The Stewardship Committee will take the TNT information and provide that to Council and Committee leadership. And then we'll put people to work: God's work, our hands!

If you want an online version, look for the link on our home webpage, www.grace-hastings.org. Please turn in your TNT answers by August 1.



A Reminder from the Property Committee

The thermostats in the building are set at designated temperatures throughout the building. When there is a need to turn the heat up or turn the air conditioning down, please return the preset temperature by hitting the run button. Additionally, if you notice lights on, please turn them off if you are not using them.



We are **PREPARED TO BE . . .**

Paper Gator

Don't forget our youth earn money from donations to the Paper Gator. The collection container is located in the back corner of the parking lot and you can drop off your contributions any time.

Items the Gator Accepts:

- School/Office Paper
- Newspaper
- Junk Mail
- Hard and Soft Cover Books
- Magazines
- Shredded Paper (Bagged up in a paper bag as to not spill out of the dumpster upon emptying)
- Paperboard (Cereal-type Boxes)

Items the Gator DOESN'T Accept:

- Cardboard
- Plastic
- Metal
- Garbage



Annual Church Picnic A Success

A big THANK YOU to the Pohlskis for hosting the yearly Church Picnic. A good time was had by all.



Are you looking for a way to enhance your daily devotional time? Grace offers devotional books for you to take home and use as part of your daily time with the Lord. Current publications include...

- **Portals of Prayer**—For Personal and Family Devotions. The current issue for July, August and September has daily Bible readings along with reflective articles and prayers. The back pages feature prayers for specific needs.
- **The Word in Season**—Is very similar to **Portals of Prayer**, but additionally offers specific daily suggestions for prayers. It also covers the months of July, August and September.
- **Christ in Our Home**—Is similar to both **Portals of Prayer** and **The Word in Season**, but it also features 3 daily prayers in the front cover for morning, evening, and mealtime. On page 2 it also features a list of Holy festivals and seasons.
- We also have devotions for children called **My Devotions—Daily Readings for Young Christians**. **My Devotions** are for the months of June, July, and August, just in time for summer vacation. In addition to having scripture readings, reflections and prayers, there are also suggested journaling activities.

Christ in Our Home and **Portals of Prayer** are also available in **large print**. Please enjoy these publications. They can be found on the table in the Gathering Space.



We are PREPARED TO BE . . .

Let Us Pray: If you are aware of others that should be put on the lists, please notify the office.

Homebound:

Vivian Allarding	Thornapple Manor 2700 Nashville Rd / Hastings 49058
Donna Buehl	Thornapple Manor
Wes Gillons	Thornapple Manor
Opal Gillons	Thornapple Manor
Beulah Benedict	Stone Ridge Adult Foster Care 4825 Fruin Road Bellevue MI 49021
Elsie Merrow	Woodlawn Meadows 1825 East St. / Hastings 49058
Shirley Beck	Hope Landing 1252 N. Cochran #116 Charlotte MI 48813
Carolyn O'Connor	Hope Landing #118
Karl Golnek	Medilodge of Holland 1221 East 16th Street Holland, MI 48423

Military:

Grandson of Freedlunds
Parker Stancil (US Army)

Daughter & son-in-law of Cherie Clements
Myrina & Cody Crawford

Grandaughter of Gwen Hansen
Cynthia Rudesill

Nephew of Joe & Sharon Varkula
LT Joel Taggart (USN, Rhode Island)

Grandniece of Karen and Bill Halstead & Jan Schreiner
Julia Ehredt (Bahrain)



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Terry Bushee	7/03
Jan Schreiner	7/03
Robert Bolton	7/07
Linda Trongo	7/07
Molly Patton	7/08
Michael Kemper	7/09
Sharon Palmer	7/12
Joseph Pruitt	7/14
Phyllis Lietz	7/16
Lisa Golnek	7/17
Anna Scheck	7/17
Frank Bolton	7/25
Kim Ogden	7/25
Luke Poholski	7/29
John Poholski	7/30
Lydia Markwart	7/30



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Doris Allarding	8/1
Erika Wood	8/4
Joyce Proksch	8/7
Randy Teegardin	8/8
George Lietz	8/12
Ethan Scheck	8/15
Joberta Converse	8/19
Gannon Markwart	8/24
Dick Melcher	8/24
Carol Vos	8/24
Diane Neeb	8/27
Virginia Henion	8/28

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Doug and Diane Neeb 07/08





AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Clyde and Kate Watson	8/10
Randy and Brenda Teegardin	8/16
Rick and Sharon Palmer	8/18

We are **PREPARED TO BE . . .**

JULY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 In-person Also <i>Online Worship</i>	 Office Closed	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Executive 6 pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 In-person Also <i>Online Worship</i> <i>Worship Committee</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Outreach 4:30 Social Activities 5:45	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Council 6 pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 In-person Also <i>Online Worship</i> Annual Meeting 9:30 am	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 In-person Also <i>Online Worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12		
31						
Worship 10 AM Outdoor Also <i>Online Worship</i> Car Show and BBQ Lunch 11:30						

AUGUST 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Executive 6pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 In-person <i>Also Online Worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Outreach 4:30 Social Activities 5:45	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 In-person <i>Also Online Worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Council 6 pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 In-person <i>Also Online Worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12		
28	29	30	31			
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 In-person <i>Also Online Worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12			

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00 am and 10:45 am

Worship also

On line:

www.grace-hastings.org

Our Staff:

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

Cindy Olson,
Minister of Music

Brenda Hess
Parish Administrator
Mon – Thurs 9AM - 1PM
parishadmin@grace-hastings.org

Kim Domke,
Bell Choir Director
kdomke08@gmail.com

Nathan Freedlund,
Custodian

OUR MINISTERS:
THE PEOPLE OF GOD
- Martin Luther

Executive Committee:

President: *Randy Teegardin*

Vice President: *Chris Bush*

Secretary: *Lisa Pohl*

Treasurer: *Ed Domke*

Church Council Members/Liaisons

Vickey Argo

(Congregational Care)

Doug Neeb (Property)

Vacant (Outreach)

Jamie Heise (Youth & Family)

Bill Freedlund (Small Groups)

Clyde Watson (Stewardship)

Deborah Wilke (Social Activities)

Vacant (Worship)



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

10:45 am

1st Sunday after Labor Day
through May @ 10:45 a.m.

Seeking a coordinator.



We are **PREPARED TO BE . . .**

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E. North Street
Hastings, MI 49058

Website:

www.grace-hastings.org

Facebook:

Grace Lutheran Church—
ELCA Hastings, MI

Phone:

269-945-9414

269-945-2645

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

