



NOVEMBER 2022 GRACEGRAM

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

A Prayer for Autumn

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months, may the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colors of the leaves remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air remind us that it is you who give us the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us of the abundance we have been given and bounty we are to share with others.

We praise you for your goodness forever and ever. Amen.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

God said, *I will send the rains in their seasons, the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit. You will thresh until the grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting time; you'll have more than enough to eat and will live safe and secure in your land.* **Leviticus 26:2-5**

We often think of abundance this time of year. Our tables are abundant with food. Our homes are abundant with friends and family. We are reminded of our abundance of blessings as our posture bends toward gratefulness and thanksgiving.

As Laura and I prepare to have my mom, dad, and sister come up for a visit, I cannot help but think about the blessings we have in sharing our lives together. We at Grace Lutheran Church are truly blessed with wonderful people who care for each other. I have witnessed for five years an abundance of God's love.



Who has shown God's faithful abundant grace to you? I will name several signs of God's grace that I have experienced here at Grace Church. One of the signs of abundance has been the over the top gifts I have received at Christmas, the listening ear of several people, the sage advice I receive, the love expressed to ensure I am truly cared for, the time of fellowship in several activities: going to shows, meals and making pasties, the willingness of so many to help lead in the worship and praise of God, the cards, telephone calls and conversations that show support, the prayers I receive and share with so many of you. I am so humbled and enriched to be your pastor. Thank you for all that we experience together in the name of Christ.

I hope as we draw nearer to Thanksgiving that you are drawn to think about God's abundance. What has God given you in abundance? Faithfulness and abundance seem to go hand-in-hand when we are sliding napkins into rings and folding hands for prayer and carving a turkey.

Yet, God is generous in so much more than anything I have named.

God is abundant in pouring grace into our lives. Inviting us to a place at the table where we are fed and nourished. Giving us LIFE.

Sharing many thanks to God with you,

Pastor Ken +

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



Deadline for the December GraceGram is November 17, 2022.

Send your articles to:
Brenda Hess
parishadmin@grace-hastings.org



New Sanctuary Lamp

The Worship Committee recommended the purchase of a new sanctuary lamp holder from Grace Projects, as many saints have contributed to Grace Projects. The Congregation Council agreed, and we will dedicate this new vessel to God's glory on All Saints' Sunday. We are thankful to all who contribute to the Grace Projects Fund.

Trunk or Treat Monday Oct. 31st

We are planning to hold our Trunk or Treat event from **5:00-8:00 pm.**

Room decorating for participating volunteers at **4:30 PM**

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to participate in this event this year and to everyone who has donated some candy to hand out to all the little ghosts and goblins who come through Halloween evening.

Any questions: Contact

Mike Kemper
269-569-1484

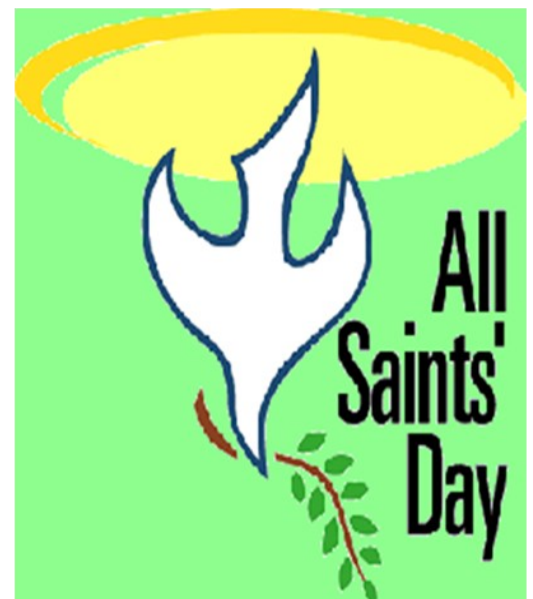
Congratulations!

Erin and Greg Franks were united in Holy Matrimony on Friday, October 7.



*All
Saints
Sunday,
November 6*

**Come celebrate
the life we have in
Christ.**



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



A Reminder...

The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 24th for Thanksgiving Day.

Holden Evening Prayer with a Flare!

Join us Wednesdays for Holden Evening Prayer beginning November 30. We only gather on the first three Wednesdays of **Advent** November 30, December 7 and December 14.

JOIN US FOR A MEAL AT 6:30 PM

WORSHIP WILL FOLLOW AT 7:15 PM With a special time of **ADVENT** reflection.

Secret Santa

We will be having fun this Holiday Season by bringing back our Secret Santa event! A personal survey form has started in the bulletins, so please be sure to complete one per person who is interested in participating — both adults and children are encouraged to join in. Once the forms are received, we can arrange a drawing of names date and begin the process. The gifts are to total no more than \$10. The final gift will be given out at the Jesus' Birthday Celebration and you will then be able to meet your 2022 Secret Santa. This is meant to be a FUN event, not an expensive one. Weekly you could give a cookie, a piece of candy, a small trinket, a craft, etc.).

Heating and Cooling System

Heating and Cooling Just a reminder as the seasons change. If you change the thermostats in the building, please push the run button when finished heating the space to the desired level. We appreciate everyone's help in keeping energy costs as low as possible.

Save the Date December 11

Jesus Birthday Party after the 10:45 Worship Service



Caroling to the Homebound at 1:00 p.m.

S.A.C. Trip to Turkeyville

Our trip to Turkeyville was another great event! We sold 14 tickets, but only 12 attended due to a last minute conflict. Those who attended included Bill and Lorraine Freedlund, Dian and Doug Neeb, Dennis and Deborah Wilke, Jeanette Kogge, Kay Marsh, Sandy Mosteller, Linda Melcher, and two members from the Hastings Women's Club; Judith Loofboro and Jan Rounds. We had a wonderful turkey dinner, did a little touring and shopping, and then enjoyed the comedy play "Church Basement Ladies". Lots of laughter, food and fellowship was had by all. Hope to see you at our next outing!



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

WELVED LOVE

PASTY SALE

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
239 E NORTH ST
HASTINGS MI 49058

PRE-ORDER ONLY

by Thursday, November 10th for
Pickup on Saturday, November 19th

Call 269.945.9414 to place your order

Monday—Thursday	\$7.00	Unbaked
9 am—1:00 pm	\$8.00	Baked



Don't forget...
Sunday, November 6th
the time changes.

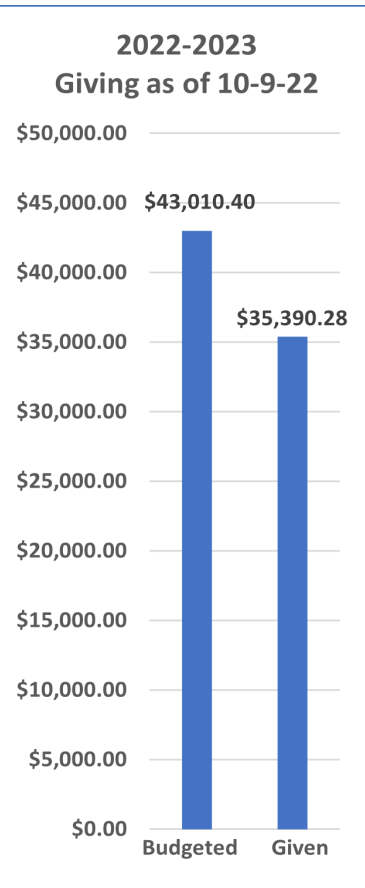


Remembering Our Shut-In Friends

As the holidays approach it's a great time to remember our friends who are not able to attend services with us. You can find addresses for Shirley Beck, Vivian Allering, Karl Golnek, Wes and Opal Gillons, Beverly Brown, Elsie Merrow, Carolyn O'Connor, and Donna Buhel in this GraceGram. If you know of someone that needs to be added to this list, please let Brenda know. Thank you.



Mortgage balance
as of
October 11, 2022:
\$16,25400.90



Updated Address...
Joberta Converse
1653 East M-43 Highway
Freeport, MI 49325-9412

All Are
Welcome
Come at
Grace



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 Allerding	Thornapple Manor 2700 Nashville Rd, Hastings 49058
Donna Buehl	Thornapple Manor
Wes Gillons	Thornapple Manor
Opal Gillons	Thornapple Manor
Elsie Merrow	Woodlawn Meadows 1825 East Street, Hastings 49058
Beverly Brown	Woodlawn Meadows
Shirley Beck	Hope Landing 1252 North 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

Granddaughter 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)

Nephew and Godson of Ed and Kim Domke
Seth Domke

Have we missed your birthday or anniversary in the GraceGram? Please let Brenda know. She is in the process of updating our records. Thank you!



BIRTHDAYS

Doug Neeb	11/05
Chris Bush	11/10
Sean Benedict	11/11
Steve Carr	11/15
Dan Patton	11/23
John Burdick	11/25

ANNIVERSARIES

Dean & Nyla Rounds	11/12
Barry & Margaret Wood	11/15
Joe & Sharon Varkula	11/28



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God's Creation 2023 Outreach Calendars

God's Creation Calendars are available for \$5.00 and are provided as a ministry of outreach for you to share with relatives, neighbors, coworkers, friends, teachers, letter carriers, the homebound and caregivers...anyone you think who would have their day brightened by this lovely calendar with its inspiring Bible verses. They are provided at a low cost to purchase and share, and are not a fundraiser. Pick up your calendars in the Gathering Area and pay in the envelopes provided. Envelopes can be placed in the offering plate, or on the parish administrators desk. Thanks for supporting this beautiful ministry.



Christmas Family Adoptions

Once again this year the Outreach Committee is planning to adopt five families from the Hastings area to receive family food baskets and gifts for each child in the family. Watch for the **grocery list** to be posted on the bulletin board and the **children's gift chart** to be set up in the gathering area later this month.

News from the Social Activities Committee Mark Your Calendars!

Phantom of the Opera — **Saturday, November 5th** we will be taking a carpooling trip to the Grand Rapids Museum to enjoy a Mighty Wurlitzer organ recital. **The concert starts at 2pm, so we will plan on leaving the church parking lot 12:30pm**, which should leave us plenty of time to travel to GR, find parking, and get to the museum and our seats. There is a signup sheet in the Gathering Area; please indicate if you are willing to be a driver and how many people you can take with you. Tickets are \$15 each; make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church and give to Brenda, Parish Administrator, at which time your tickets will be secured (office hours 9am - 1pm, M-Th). Contact Brenda in the church office or Deborah Wilke (269-953-8216) with any questions.

The Thornapple Players are performing their December play "Christmas Belles" on November 30 and December 1,2,3 at 7pm; matinee is Saturday, December 4 at 2pm at the Dennison Performing Arts Center in Hastings. We usually have a group from Grace attend the matinee, and follow with a meal/snack/coffee & dessert at a local restaurant (Dutch Treat). There will be a signup sheet in the Gathering Area starting in November. If we get 20 people, they will provide preferred/reserved seating—including floor level. This event is open to church members, friends and family!

Jesus' Birthday Celebration will take place on **Sunday, December 11** and at **1pm** we will be heading out to do a little **caroling** to our homebound members (carpooling). Printed song lyrics will be provided. Please use the signup sheets in the Gathering Area for both events. This is also the date to meet your Secret Santa! More information will follow in future bulletins and the December GraceGram.

There will be a **Lakewood Area Choral Society** concert on **December 18 at 3pm** at Lakewood High School. A poster and signup sheet (for carpooling purposes only) will be on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area starting in early December.

GIVING TREE

The *Giving Tree* will be set up in the gathering area after the Thanksgiving holiday.

What is needed most are disinfecting wipes, paper towels, and afternoon snacks for students. These are items most often purchased out-of-pocket by the teachers themselves. Tags will be placed on the tree listing donation suggestions.

Psalms are for Singing

Did you know that the Psalms were literally songs, sung to praise God or lament? Grace will soon return to singing the Psalm, starting in Advent, **November 27th**.

If you would like to be a Cantor, or Singer of the Psalm, please let me know!

Thanks,
Cindy Olson



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00 am and 10:45 am
Worship also
On line:
www.grace-hastings.org



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

*OUR MINISTERS:
THE PEOPLE OF GOD.
- Martin Luther*

THANKS GIVING

Our Staff:

Ken Scheck II
Minister of Word and Sacrament
kscheckii@aol.com

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

Executive Committee:

President: Randy Teegardin
Vice President: Tim Schoessel
Secretary: Lisa Pohl
Treasurer: Linda Maupin

Church Council Members/Liaisons:

Vickey Argo (Congregational Care)
Doug Neeb (Property)
Pauline Obasi (Outreach)
Jamie Heise (Youth & Family)
Vacant (Small Groups)
Greg Franks (Stewardship)
Deborah Wilke (Social Activities)
Kate Watson (Worship)

www.CreativeCertificates.com

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

 Happy
Thanksgiving

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE




OUR
MISSION

Saved by Grace.
Called to Worship.
Sent to Serve.

Discover
Grace

NOVEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
Grace Office Hours Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.		Pastor at G.R. Conference Executive 6:30pm Flute Choir 6:00-8:30pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Bells 3:30pm-5:00pm		
6 TIME CHANGE	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 <i>In-person and Online worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Brothers of Grace 7 pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Pasty Sale Order Deadline Bells 3:30pm-5:00pm		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 <i>In-person and Online worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Social Activities 4:00 pm Outreach 5:30 pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Council 6:30 pm Flute Choir 6:00-8:30pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Bells 3:30pm-5:00pm		Pasty Sale Pick up 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 <i>In-person and Online worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	THANKSGIVING Office Closed 		
27	28	29	30			
Worship Service: 8:00 & 10:45 <i>In-person and Online worship</i> ADVENT 1	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 ADVENT 1 6:30 Meal 7:15 Worship	