



MARCH 2023 GRACEGRAM

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

When from
death
I'm free,
I'll sing on,
I'll sing on

I'll sing God's
love for me,
And through
eternity,
I'll sing on,
I'll sing on.

Anonymous



**Deadline for the
April GraceGram is
March 17, 2023.**

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



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

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

Lenten Greetings!

I write this on Ash Wednesday we begin our Lenten and Easter journey. What a gift we have to walk with each other and to foster a sense of care and love for one another. Jesus cares for us still, as we share opportunities to live into the faith community Jesus is calling us to be here at Grace Lutheran Church.

We were blessed to help meet people's need for all sorts of reasons. We fed the hungry, sheltered the needy, prayed for those who needed direction for their lives, gave money to those who needed it, gave clothing to the naked and ministered to the sick. Grace even helped provide for people in Ukraine, Cuba and most recently Turkey and Syria.



Jesus calls us to share beyond ourselves. Maybe we might buy some groceries for someone, fill up a tank of gas or purchase a meal at a restaurant. These are but a few examples of living in the fruit of the Spirit. My heart sings, as people give to the Helping Hands fund here at Grace Lutheran Church, because it allows our community to share generously with others. Yes, it is painful to witness our Mission Endowment Fund shrink, but someday it will be restored.

The last sentence has got me thinking. It does not matter the amount we give. It is more about the act of giving. At times, Laura and I have had to cut our giving, because the money just was not there. Other times God has blessed us with an abundance and we have been able to give more than we thought we could. We can still do good live by sharing what we have. As followers of Jesus, the fruit of the Spirit rules how we live, work and play.

I have great confidence that the Holy Spirit will continue to rule our hearts.....so that we, as a congregation, remain a generous people.

Sharing God's abundance with others,

Pastor Ken +

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

REVELLED TO BE



Pasty Sale Saturday, April 1st!

Pre-Order only

Please place your pasty order by Thursday, March 23rd by signing up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area, or by calling the church office at 269.945.9414. Indicate your name, phone, the number of pasties, and the time you would like to pick them up.

Pasties are \$7.00 each for unbaked and \$8.00 each for baked.

Pick up for the Pasty Sale will be Saturday, April 1 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

If you can help with the Pasty Sale, please contact Joe Longcor.

Stewardship Activities Kicking Off

The work to prepare for our 2023 -24 Grace year has begun: budget worksheets have been sent to committees so ministry plans and financial needs can be determined. Several ministry groups, both inside and outside of Grace, have been asked to present Temple Talks, so we can hear about how our money gifts are used. Please include the ministries of Grace in your prayers, so that we can dream big and respond accordingly as we continue to do God's work. Next month's article will introduce those groups giving Temple Talks in April and May.



GOOD FRIDAY



GOOD FRIDAY CROSS WALK April 7, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE!



THE WIZARD OF OZ

Hastings Performing Arts Center – Hastings High School

Saturday, March 18th at 2 p.m.

**Tickets are \$12 general admission
and
Students are \$6 each.**

(Place cash or check in an envelope provided on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area and leave on Brenda's desk; make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church.)

If carpooling, meet at Grace Lutheran Church by 1pm & leave Church by 1:15pm.

Otherwise, meet at the PAC at 1:30pm.

After the play, those who are interested should meet at Applebee's for *food & fellowship* (everyone pays their own way for both the play & food/meal).

Contact Deborah Wilke at 269-953-8216 if you have any questions.

Deadline for sign-up is Sunday, March 5th

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

Have you noticed our New Emergency Exit Lights?

We thank the property committee for helping us keep our community safe by replacing non-functioning exit lighting throughout the building.

Every exit that has general public access has an exit sign that goes directly to the outside.

We are thankful that Joe Longcor, Dave Neeb and Doug Neeb gave of their time to install these new signs, and for the insight of the property committee to see the need and do this important job.



ELCA World Hunger Appeal

“For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” (Matthew 25:35)



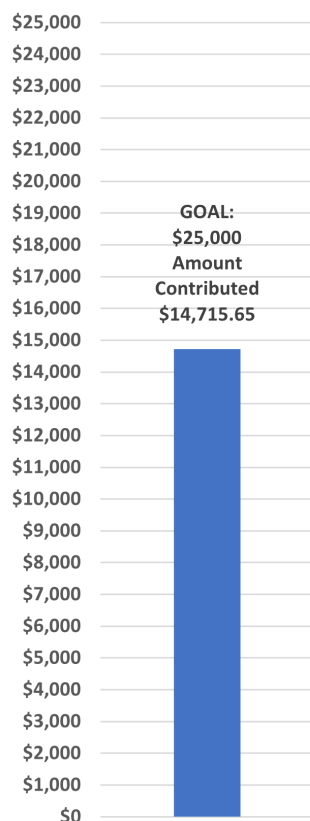
As a congregation we have regularly made opportunity for our members to provide financial support for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal each year. This year we will be designating some of our mid-week Lenten dinners to help support this very important ministry through our Churchwide organization.

By providing immediate relief to those who are hungry, the ELC World Hunger Appeal strives to meet basic needs in recognition that the right to food is a universal human need. But ending hunger is about more than food. By connecting people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water, education, health care and sources of income, long-term, sustainable change can be accomplished.

2022-2023 Giving as of 01-29-23



Lifting Up Campaign as of 2/12/23



*Mortgage for Grace Lutheran Church is
\$12,738.12*

Payments are set at \$1,234.00 per month

Sunday, March 12th, 2023



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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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)



**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 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
kedomke08@gmail.com

Aurora Collins,
Nursery

Nathan Freedlund,
Custodian

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



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

Homebound:

Donna Buehl	Thornapple Manor 2700 Nashville Road Hastings, MI 49058
Wes Gillons Opal Gillons	Thornapple Manor Thornapple Manor
Elsie Merrow	Woodlawn Meadows 1825 East Street Hastings, MI 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, Virginia)

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

Nephew and Godson of Ed and Kim Domke
Seth Domke



March Birthdays

Luke Domke	03/02
JoLynn Leary	03/03
Tara Schoessel	03/03
Lance Ogden	03/08
Jamie Heise	03/10
Danielle Drumm	03/13
Brianna Neeb	03/19
Shayna Gibbons	03/22
Rick Palmer	03/23
Kim Domke	03/24
Lisa Pohl	03/26
Derrick Rosenberger	03/27
Paul Pruitt	03/31



Welcome to the world, Matilda Rose Freeman, born to
Lindsay Varkula and Ben Freedman.
Proud Grandparents Joe and Sharon Varkula.



Welcome to the world, Delilah Andi Yanruw Rudesill, born
to Brady and Cynthia Rudesill.
Congrats to Great-Grandma Gwen Hansen.



March Anniversaries

Ed and Jeanette Markwart	03/09
Robert and Lisa Pohl	03/23

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

MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
Grace Office Hours Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.			Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Service 7:15	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Bells 2:00-6:00		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 <i>In-person and Online worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Outreach 4:30	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Executive 6:30pm Flute Choir 6:00-8:30pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Service 7:15 International Women's Day 	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Bells 2:00-6:00		
12 Time Change	13	14	15	16	17	18
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 <i>In-person and Online worship</i> 	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Social Activities Committee 4:30 Outreach Committee 5:30 LACS Meeting 7:00	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Brothers of Grace 7:00 pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Service 7:15	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Bells 2:00-6:00 Deadline for the April GraceGram	 Saint Patrick's Day	SAC Outing to the Wizard of Oz 
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 <i>In-person and Online worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12  First Day of Spring	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Council 6:30 pm Flute Choir 6:00-8:30pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Service 7:15	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Deadline for Pasty Orders Bells  2:00-6:00		
26	27	28	29	30	31	April 1st
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 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Service 7:15	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 	Dough Making 8:30 	Pasty Sale 7:00 a.m. 