



# JULY/AUGUST 2025

## GRACEGRAM

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

Chatter with  
the angels in  
the morning.  
Chatter with  
the angels in  
that land.  
Chatter with  
the angels in  
the morning.  
Chatter with  
the angels in  
that band.

-African American Spiritual



### Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

*Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.*

**Hebrews 13:2**

### WHO IS JILLIAN RUSSELL?

Grace Lutheran Church members do not know Jillian. I was surprised when I was reading the Living Lutheran Magazine and I came across an article about Jillian.



Jillian Russell

Yet, this was not my first exposure to Jillian. I first met Jillian on the telephone in the spring of 2024. She had just taken over Morgan's job at Lutheran Outdoor Ministry in Ohio, as the registration coordinator and was an immediate gift to the office staff and me.

I learned that Jillian had graduated with my son, Ethan, from Capital University, Columbus, Ohio. I didn't give it another thought until I had to register for a volunteer position at Camp Luther. Jillian helped me get all the details finished so that I could volunteer that summer, and share in ministry. I appreciated the help.

Then suddenly at staff training this spring I met Jillian for the first time in person. I was seated at the breakfast table, after cooking the meal. I planned on meeting someone I did not know before. My goal was to sit with someone who was totally new to me. Little did I know I ended up by a friend that I had talked with at least 7 times before that day. It wasn't like we were best friends, but we were able to move from being strangers to good friends within minutes. Because of Jillian's character, because of her willingness to serve, because of her help, I knew that I was sitting in the presence of an angel. God blesses us with good people all the time. I have been truly blessed to be with God's angels here at Grace. Let us continue to know God's love and share it freely with others.

Serving Christ with you,  
Pastor Ken +



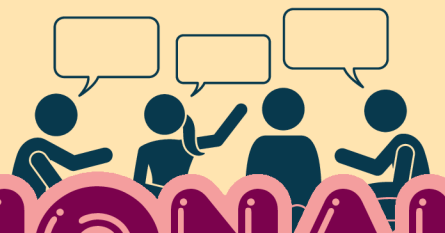
**Deadline for the  
September GraceGram  
is August 17, 2025.**

Send your articles to:  
Cindy Olson

parishadmin@grace-  
hastings.org



# THE 2025 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



will be on Sunday, July 13, 2025 in the Sanctuary after worship. Please plan to attend.



Scan this QR  
Code to  
access secure  
online giving.

## *10th Annual Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show*

July 27, 2025: 9am - 3pm

Do you own a classic or antique car, truck or motorcycle? Do you enjoy checking out all the older model vehicles? Come enjoy our 10th annual car, truck & motorcycle show!

Dash plaques for the first 45 entries, Registration begins at 9 AM

Join us for the 10:00 AM church service under the tent  
Food and Beverage provided by Thrivent beginning at 11:30



Office Hours with Cindy  
are **11 am - 4 pm**

**Monday - Wednesday!**

Pastor Ken's office hours are  
Monday & Wednesday 10 am - 1 pm,  
and Thursday 10 am - 12 pm.



Save the date:

Sunday, September 28 after worship

# Fall Hot Dog Roast



The Social Activities Committee will host  
a campfire here at Grace after church.

Mark your calendars, and look our for  
more information in the fall.



August's Blood Drive is

# SPORTS WORLD

Monday, August 25 from 10 am - 4 pm

Registration is open, call 1-800-733-2767 or go to

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html>

Help running the drive or providing snacks is also appreciated.

A sign up sheet will go up on the bulletin board in August.





Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

**God's work.**  
Our hands.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

# 9:30 am

Worship also On-line:  
[www.grace-hastings.org](http://www.grace-hastings.org)



OUR  
MISSION

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

### Leadership for 2024-2025

#### Executive Committee:

President: **Tim Schoessel**  
Vice President: **Jamie Heise**  
Secretary: **Lisa Pohl**  
Treasurer: **Randy Teegardin**

#### Church Council Members/Liaisons:

Erin Franks  
(Congregational Care)  
Doug Neeb (Property)  
Patti Comp (Outreach)  
Mark Anton (Youth & Family)  
Bill Freedlund  
(Social Activities)  
Greg Franks (Stewardship)  
Deb Watson (Small Groups)  
Gary Golnek (Worship)

### Our Staff:

Ken Scheck II *Minister of Word and  
Sacrament* [kscheckii@aol.com](mailto:kscheckii@aol.com)

Cindy Olson, *Minister of Music  
& Parish Administrator*  
**Mon-Weds 11AM - 4PM**  
[parishadmin@grace-hastings.org](mailto:parishadmin@grace-hastings.org)

Kim Domke, *Bell Choir Director*  
[kdomke08@gmail.com](mailto:kdomke08@gmail.com)

Aurora Collins, *Nursery*

Nathan Freedlund, *Custodian*

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

### Grace Lutheran Church

239 E. North Street  
Hastings, MI 49058

#### Website:

[www.grace-hastings.org](http://www.grace-hastings.org)

#### Facebook:

Grace Lutheran Church-  
ELCA Hastings, MI

#### Phone:

269-945-9414  
269-945-2645

Address Service Requested





# **Lakeside Concert by the Cereal City Concert Band at the Kellogg Manor House August 17 at 3:00 pm**

"Join us on this special day when the Kellogg Manor House will be open for free self-guided tours. Docents will be available to answer questions as you explore the home, offering a unique opportunity to learn about the Kellogg family, their time spent in the home, and its varied history over the years. Enjoy the surrounding gardens with charming vistas overlooking Gull Lake and investigate the estate through a self-guided walking tour using maps with plant identification to enhance your experience.

## **Self-Guided Tours are from Noon-3 pm**

After touring the Manor House, stay for our annual Lakeside Concert featuring the Cereal City Concert Band of Battle Creek. This concert is free-of-charge, courtesy of the W.K.Kellogg Conference Center and Manor House. Guests are welcome to bring a picnic lunch to accompany the picturesque views of the lake. Be sure not to miss this chance to explore all that is on offer at this tranquil and treasured location."



## **Join the Social Activities Committee for a fun Sunday Afternoon**

Please bring your own lawn chair. A group will be going out to dinner together after the concert at Seasonal Grille. A sign up sheet for those needing a ride and those interested in dinner will be on the bulletin board in the gathering area.

## **July and August Meetings**

7/1 Women of Faith at 11:00 am  
7/8 Women of Faith at 11:00 am  
7/10 Brothers of Grace at 6:00 pm  
7/13 Congregational Meeting after Worship  
7/15 Women of Faith at 11:00 am  
7/22 Women of Faith at 11:00 am at Tyden Park  
7/29 Women of Faith at 11:00 am

8/4 Social Activities Committee at 1:30 pm  
8/5 Women of Faith at 11:00 am  
8/11 Outreach Committee at 3:00 pm  
8/12 Women of Faith at 11:00 am  
8/12 Executive Committee at 5:30 pm  
8/14 Brothers of Grace  
8/19 Women of Faith at 11:00 am  
8/19 Congregation Council at 5:30 pm  
8/26 Women of Faith at 11:00 am at Tyden Park

### **STUDY STATEMENT: SHARING GOD'S GRACE WITH ALL PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THE OUTCAST**



LGBTQIA+ = Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual,  
Transgender, Queer, Questioning,  
Intersex, Asexual/Aromantic.

We, Grace Lutheran Church, Hastings, Michigan, believe we are all created in God's image and are all called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, and called to unite all people in God's love. We welcome and affirm all people. We invite those who are seeking God's presence in their lives to join us in our common journey, which includes the LGBTQIA+ community. Our faith community seeks to unite persons of all ages, race, nationalities, ethnic background, sexual orientations, gender identities, mental and physical abilities, socioeconomic levels, and theological backgrounds. Together in our diversity, and being empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit, we will continually strive to "Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God." Micah 6:8



# Our friends have moved!

## New addresses:

Shirley Peterson:  
555 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Apartment 110  
Alpena, MI 49707

Carrie and Tom Duits:  
8111 E 148<sup>th</sup> Dr  
Thornton, CO 80602



## A message of gratitude from Anna Scheck:



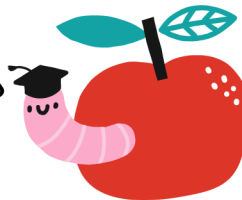
As my time as Parish Administrator comes to a close and Cindy's begins, I am so thankful for the wonderful experience I've had. The part of this job I have loved the most is talking to you all when you come to the office window or call the church. As you may have noticed, I also had so much fun designing the GraceGrams and monthly posters. The administrative experience I've gained here has helped me in my new job at the Barry Community Foundation, and I am very thankful for that. I am glad I have been able to fill this vacancy to support Grace and my dad, Pastor Ken. It has been a lovely way to get to know you all better. God has blessed me through you.

## Snacks for Kids

This August we'll be collecting individually packaged snacks for the classrooms of local teachers.

In the past we have collected Books for Kids, but our teachers have shared that snacks are most needed.

The school libraries do a great job of providing books, and snack expenses are an out of pocket cost for teachers.



## The Women of Faith Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 11 am

They invite any women to join when they can—don't worry about missing a week here and there.

This summer, we are having more casual meetings with no official study resource. Weather permitting, we will meet at Tyden Park on July 22 and August 26 - bring your own coffee.

Regular Bible Study meetings will pick back up in the fall.



hand2hand®  
because a hungry child hurts

Dear Grace Lutheran  
Congregation,

We have a race and a course to finish. Our Hand2Hand Course for the 2024-2025 School year was to be God's representatives in Northeastern Elementary and Hastings High School and truly be His hands and feet. We wanted the students to feel God's love through the Hand2Hand bags. We are about to finish this goal of weekly feeding of 106 Hastings students. I believe it would be God's pleasure for us to hear "Well done!"

Thank you Grace Lutheran Church for helping supply some of the monthly packing needs and for praying for the students.

Because of your giving hearts, Hastings students are feeling loved. Thank you for being a difference maker.

We are the hands and feet for Jesus and lives are being changed, one backpack at a time.

Well done... faithful  
servants!  
Under His Wings,  
Andi Schmidt  
Green Street Church





SAVE THE DATE:

# BARRY COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE

SEPTEMBER 13 & 14, FROM NOON TO NOON  
AT TYDEN PARK IN HASTINGS



- Register to walk or support our Grace walkers partnering with a team called **GIVE4GOOD**  
[www.relayforlife.org/barrymi](http://www.relayforlife.org/barrymi)
- **Luminaria** available at Grace starting in August
- Follow information on Facebook **Relay For Life of Barry County**

**TALK WITH KIM DOMKE OR AMY POHOLSKI IF YOU  
WOULD LIKE MORE DETAILS ON THE WALK**

**Never Been to a Relay for Life Event???**

**Here are the FOUR Relay For Life Signature Elements**



#### **1. Survivor**

Celebration of Survivors~ We set aside time in our Relay to celebrate our local cancer survivors. We encourage you to invite friends and family currently living with cancer or survivors to attend and join in the celebration approximately 5pm on Saturday....Followed by a survivors' dinner.

All attendees of the event are asked to line the track during the survivor lap and cheer on our survivors.

Pro tip: Bring noise makers, pom-poms, anything you bring to a pep rally to cheer those survivors on!

#### **2. Caregiver**

Celebration of Caregivers~ After the Survivor Lap, caregivers are invited to join the survivors. A caregiver is a friend or family member that helped a person with cancer, regardless of if they are still with us. It may even be a healthcare worker.

Attendees are again asked to line the track and cheer for our caregivers!

#### **3. Luminaria**

Meaningful Luminaria~ We will take time to remember those we have lost to cancer and reflect on the journey of those who have survived.

At the Barry County Relay For Life, teams help light luminaria bags that are dedicated in honor, or in memory, of a loved one. This happens at dusk and is followed by several laps in meaningful silence.

Luminaria are available at Grace Lutheran throughout the month of August.

#### **4. Fight Back**

Opportunity to Fight Back

We come together as a community to fight back against cancer. Invite your family and friends to attend the event and support you and your fellow Relayers' fundraising efforts.

Commit to finding ways to fight back against cancer.

# JULY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1  Women of Faith 11 am 	2	3 	4	5
6  Worship 9:30 am <i>In person and Online</i>	7	8  Women of Faith 11 am	9	10  Brothers of Grace 6 pm	11	12
13 Worship 9:30 am <b>Annual Meeting after worship</b>	14 	15 Women of Faith 11 am 	16	17	18	19
20 Worship 9:30 am <i>In person and Online</i>	21 	22 Women of Faith 11 am <b>at Tyden Park</b>	23	Pastor Ken's Office Hours: Mon & Wed      Thurs 10am - 1 pm; 10 am - 12 pm		
27  <b>Car Show &amp; Outdoor Service</b> <b>9am-3pm</b> Worship 10 am 	28	29  Women of Faith 11 am	30  Grace Office Hours: Monday - Wednesday 11 am - 4 pm			



# August 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<b>Grace Office Hours:</b> Monday - Wednesday 11 am - 4 pm				1	2
3 Worship 9:30 am <i>In person and Online</i>	4 Social Activities Committee 1:30 pm	5 Women of Faith 11 am 	6	7	8	9
10 Worship 9:30 am <i>In person and Online</i>	11 Outreach Committee 3 pm	12 Women of Faith 11 am Executive Committee 5:30 pm	13	14  Brothers of Grace 6 pm	15	16
17 Worship 9:30 am <b>Cereal City Concert Band 3pm</b>	18 	19 Women of Faith 11 am Congregation Council 5:30 pm	20	21	22	23
24 Worship 9:30 am <i>In person and Online</i>	25  <b>Blood Drive 10am - 4pm</b>	26  Women of Faith 11 am <b>at Tyden Park</b>	27 	28	29 	30
31 Worship 9:30 am <i>In person and Online</i>	<b>Pastor Ken's Office Hours:</b> Mon & Wed      Thurs 10am - 1 pm; 10 am - 12 pm					

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

**Our Homebound Friends:**

Opal Gillons	Thornapple Manor 2700 Nashville Road Hastings, MI 49058
Shirley Beck	Hope Landing 1252 North Cochran #116 Charlotte, MI 48813
Karl Golnek	c/o Medilodge 2786 - 56th Street, SW Wyoming, MI 49418

**Loved Ones Serving in the 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)

*Nephew and Godson of Ed and Kim Domke*  
Seth Domke (Cherry Point, North Carolina)

*Nephews of Ed and Jeanette Markwart*  
Hudson Schick (Air Force, New Mexico)  
Leopold Schick (Air Force, Germany)



## July & August Birthdays

Terry Bushee	7/3	Erika Wood	8/4
Jan Schreiner	7/3	Randy Teegardin	8/8
Linda Trongo	7/7	George Lietz	8/12
Robert Bolton	7/7	Ethan Scheck	8/15
Molly Patton	7/8	Joberta Converse	8/19
Sharon Palmer	7/12	Dick Melcher	8/24
Joseph Pruitt	7/14	Carol Vos	8/24
Phyllis Lietz	7/16	Gannon Markwart	8/24
Lisa Golnek	7/17	Diane Neeb	8/27
Anna Scheck	7/17	Virginia Henion	8/28
Paul Kuhlman	7/22		
Sandi Hayward	7/23		
Kim Ogden	7/25		
Frank Bolton	7/25		
Luke Poholski	7/29		
Lydia Markwart	7/30		
John Poholski	7/30		



## July & August Anniversaries

Tim & Nancy Schoessel	7/7
Diane & Doug Neeb	7/8
Ron & Sandi Hayward	7/22
Carrie & Tom Duits	8/5
Kate & Clyde Watson	8/10
Mary & Paul Kuhlman	8/11
Randy & Brenda Teegardin	8/16
Rick & Sharon Palmer	8/18

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

