

Grace Lutheran Church Sioux Falls Hilltop Lights



3300 E 18th Street
605-334-8625
gracelutheransfsd@gmail.com

WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

Services are at 9:00 am
They are in person and
livestreamed

December 3

1st Sunday in Advent
Setting 4
Hope

December 10

2nd Sunday in Advent
Setting 6
Peace

*New Member Recognition
and Reception*

December 17

3rd Sunday in Advent
Setting 8
Joy

December 24

4th Sunday in Advent
Service of the Word
Love

Sunday School does not meet

December 31

1st Sunday of Christmas
Setting 10
*Destined for the
Falling and Rising*

Sunday School does not meet

Facebook Live devotions continue
each Tuesday and Thursday
mornings at 9:00 am. The
devotions are archived on
Facebook to watch later if
needed.

Making Believers, Growing Disciples, Developing Leaders

FROM THE PASTOR

Advent begins a little later this year. It often starts on Thanksgiving Weekend, but this year it begins a week later. That means that the 4th Sunday of Advent is Christmas Eve morning, so note that we will have an Advent service that morning with the Christmas Eve service at 5:00 pm on the 24th. We also gather for worship on Christmas Day at 9:00 am.

Advent is the season of expectation. In our culture we celebrate Christmas throughout the month of December. There's nothing wrong with doing that. But in the church, we build the celebration through the month. Even the decorations show us that. The Christmas tree will go up Thanksgiving Weekend. The next week we'll add the Advent wreath and Nativity. Then the poinsettias will appear. Each week we add and the excitement and expectation for Christmas builds.

The themes of the services this year are the traditional themes of Advent. We begin proclaiming HOPE, remembering the promise that God comes into our world. We then hear about the gift of PEACE, which is not just about the absence of conflict, but God working to make everything as it should be which happens in Jesus. We then add the gift of JOY, that assurance that God is with us in all things so we can celebrate even in the darkest of nights. We end the season proclaiming LOVE. Love has come, love has been born, love is known in the gift of Jesus.

On Christmas we celebrate the culmination of hope, peace, joy, and love. All these gifts of God are enfleshed in the Word made flesh who lives among us. God comes to us to be one of us and to give us life. Joy to the world the Lord is come! May our Advent and Christmas celebrations renew the gift of faith in us that we might proclaim to all that Jesus is born for us. Blessings on your December!

Pastor Siri

FINANCIAL UPDATE AND ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Pastoral Acts in end of October/November:

Presided at funeral for Mylis Husby (10/30/23)

Treasurer's Report

Year to date contributions are \$397,507.72.
Total expenses are \$328,070.13. In
September paid \$9,809.69 on Line of Credit.
In October borrowed \$11,575 from Line of
Credit. All payroll taxes and benevolences
are up to date.

Celebrating Gifts and Givers

October 1: \$3,012.00
October 8: \$1,902.00
October 15: \$949.00
October 22: \$3,382.00
October 29: \$2,799.00
Simply Giving: \$13,335.00

Some of my favorite things about Christmas!

A short interview with some of the Grace youth



Calen Wagner

What is your favorite Christmas snack? Gingerbread

What is your favorite Christmas song? Jesus Loves Me

If you could give a Christmas present to anyone, who would you give it to and what would you give them? I would give a gift to my friend Gavin. I would give him a Lego Technic!

What is your favorite winter activity? Hockey

What is the best Christmas gift you've ever received? A Lego Technic Excavator



What is your favorite Christmas snack? Chocolate covered pretzels



Do you have a favorite Christmas song? If so, what? Jingle Bell Rock (because of Chubby Checker!)

If you could give a Christmas present to anyone, who would you give it to and what would you give them? If I could give a gift to anyone it would be the gift of a Lamborghini to the church with plates that say TPCHURCH with a gold paint job.



Colter Wagner

What is the best Christmas gift you've ever received? Xbox because it has lasted years with an infinite amount of fun.



Nate, Brooke, Lily, & Kaia Penn

What is your favorite Christmas snack?

Lily : Puppy chow

Kaia: Hot cocoa

Does your family have any favorite holiday traditions?

Both: Driving around to look at Christmas lights and drink hot cocoa

Do you have a favorite Christmas song? If so, what?

Lily : Jingle Bell Rock

Kaia: Santa's Coming to Town

If you could give a Christmas present to anyone, who would you give it to and what would you give them?

Lily : Something UCLA for Mom & Michigan for Dad

Kaia: Jodi and My Little Ponies for us to play with at her house

What is your favorite winter activity?

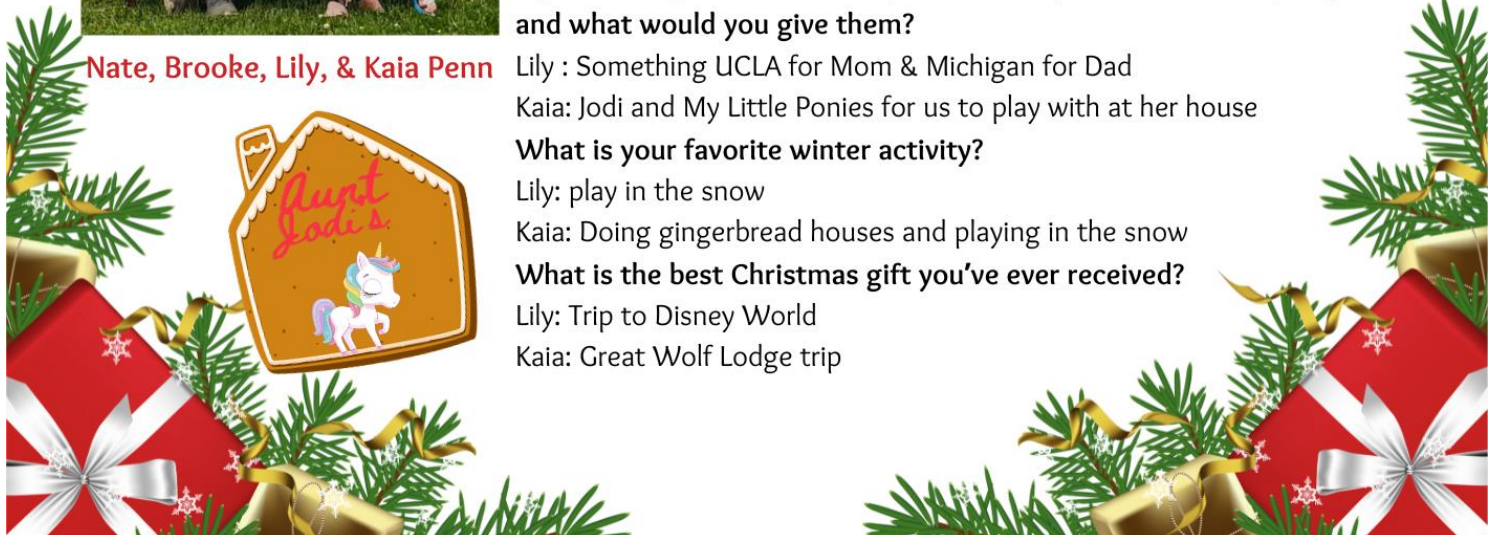
Lily: play in the snow

Kaia: Doing gingerbread houses and playing in the snow

What is the best Christmas gift you've ever received?

Lily: Trip to Disney World

Kaia: Great Wolf Lodge trip





PARISH NURSE NEWS



Foot Care Clinic

Tuesday, January 16th

Appointments start at 9:00 am, if you are interested talk to Rita Blake, Parish Nurse.

REMEMBER

There are free blood pressure and blood sugar checks on the first of Sunday of the month after our 9:00 worship service.

Hospital Visitation Note: If you are hospitalized and do not receive a visit from Rita Blake or Pastor Siri, it means you did not come up on our visitation list. Please contact the office to let us know you are in the hospital, and we will be sure to visit. Often if someone goes in through the ER, we do not get notified that you have been admitted.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Thank you Grace family for all the cards, calls, food, donations, hugs, prayers for my Mom and Mother-in-law Maxine we so appreciate your condolences.
Love,
David and Barb Daily

Thank you very much for the concern, prayers, cards, calls, & visits during my recent illness. Jean & I appreciate so much being part of such a thoughtful and caring church family.
My God bless you all,
Roger Tiede

Thank you, Grace Lutheran and friends, for your warm welcome and your support of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala last Sunday. We enjoyed our time with you and we appreciate your purchases and donations totaling \$787.00. On behalf of our Guatemalan partners, thank you so much!
Karen Kraus and Denny Pearson

A special thank you to the members of the Banner Committee for the wonderful work that they did on sewing the new stoles that go with the new choir robes. Also, a thank you to them for making the Christmas stockings for the Veterans who live in the Veterans Community Project Village. Such a talented group of ladies!
-Joan Olson

WOMEN OF GRACE

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

December 14th

Martha & Hannah 11:30 am Potluck

Pastor Siri will lead our devotional bible study called, "God's Topsy-Turvy Kingdom".

I want to thank everyone who has served on the WOG Executive and General Boards this past year and will continue to serve next year. Wishing everyone a Very Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!
Sharon Dierks

WOMEN OF GRACE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON, "CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT"

Sat. Dec. 2, 2023 at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Catering by Tony's: Bacon Wrapped Chicken in a Mushroom Sauce, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, California Blend Vegetables, Dinner Roll, Coffee and Water. Treats by Hannah Circle.

Entertainment by The Fossils.

The Fossils, are a musical quartet consisting of singers, strings (guitar and mandolin), harmonica, and keyboard. We sing selections that will be very familiar to individuals in early retirement and beyond, but most songs are timeless and enjoyed by all ages. We encourage our listening audience to sing along!

Our music includes folk songs, country, sacred and easy listening. Some artists whose music we cover include Hank Williams, John Denver, Glen Campbell, Merle Haggard, Peter, Paul and Mary, Elvis Presley, Louis Armstrong and more.

Band members include Don McCoy, Dick Schlechter, Brad Vostad and Shirley Heber. Our group originally featured some of the group's grandchildren, but due to their school and activity obligations, we now entertain primarily as a quartet. We are honored to be invited to perform for you!

SERVICE/MISSION & CARING MINISTRIES

Prayer Chain

If you have a request for the email prayer chain, or would like to be a "pray-er" on it contact Sharon Dierks
Phone: 605-759-7009 or
email: dsdierks2@gmail.com.



Grief Support Group

Tuesday, December 12

at 10:00 am in the meeting room. This is a group for people who have experienced grief of any kind.

Service & Mission Update

Toilet paper has been delivered and once again we retain the honorable title as the "Toilet Paper Church", in Sioux Falls. Thank you all for your contributions of toilet paper, money, time and help with moving over 16,000 rolls.

As we enter December the Head to Toe Tree is looking for hats, scarves, gloves/mittens and socks. These donations will help keep those in need warmer in the upcoming winter months. Watch the newsletter for upcoming events and activities in the new year.

Your contributions of time, talent, and financial support of our mission cannot be understated. Thank you one and all for your assist in meeting our community commitments. A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Years to you and yours from all of us on the Service and Mission Committee.



Head to Toe Tree

We are now collecting hats, scarves, gloves/mittens and socks on the tree in the Narthex. These donations will help keep those in need warmer in the upcoming winter months

PRAY FOR THESE FAMILIES

You are invited to pray with Pastor Siri for a shepherding group of families from the congregation each week. May God bless:

November 26-December 2: Shepherding District 8, Zone C:

Jeff & Gea Eckhoff; Logan Eckhoff; Lynnea Eckhoff; Brian & Lori Ree; Kevin & Traci Rovang; Nick Rovang

December 3-9: Shepherding District 9, Zone A:

Mark & Carol Conrad; Brian & Samantha Rains, Annika, Noah; Anna Sorenson; Jorey Sorenson

December 10-16: Shepherding District 9, Zone B:

Lila Bailey; Larry & Laurie Eide

December 17-23: Shepherding District 9, Zone C:

Cheryl Angle; Taylor Hixson; Greg & Karol Koopman, Alex; Todd Jacobson; Joan Olson

December 24-30: Shepherding District 10, Zone A:

Glenn & Sue Hooyer; Dick & Kathy Lone; Wendy Moore; Jeff & Siri Sorenson; Mike & Janet Wood

December 31-January 6: Shepherding District 11, Zone A:

Blane & Wendy Bergan, Brooke, Ben; Kip & Jo Anne Eggebraaten; Christ & Linda Olson; Nate & Brooke Penn, Lily, Kaia; Cameron & Britta Peterson, Ryker; Kay Rose; Lois Sundvold; Joe Sundvold; Krista & Alex Veik

Thank you



Thank you to our friends from Grace Lutheran Church for their help at our Necessities for Neighbors distribution tonight at First Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls. With their help we were able to bless 88 families with some much needed items!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

K-5 Movie Night

FRIDAY, DEC. 8
6-10PM



GRACE LUTHERAN IS HAVING A MOVIE NIGHT!

THIS EVENT IS FREE, BRING A FRIEND!

KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 5TH GRADERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US AT GRACE LUTHERAN FOR A NIGHT OF FOOD, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN. PIZZA AND WATER WILL BE SERVED, WE WILL HAVE A DEVOTION AND GAMES WILL BE PLAYED IN ADDITION TO WATCHING A MOVIE. LET LISA KNOW IF YOU CAN COME SO WE ORDER ENOUGH PIZZA!



Coffee with a Purpose

Tanya Jacobson and Katie Archer are planning to go back to Jamaica with the CHAPS team from Sioux Falls in February 2024. Their team has raised almost enough to fund the home they are planning to build with Ja'Bode. They will be hosting "coffee with a purpose" on December 10th, any additional funds raised will go to the children at West Haven children's home.

Middle School & High School Christmas Party

Sunday, December 10th

4:00-5:00pm at Eastway Bowl.

Cost will be covered by the Youth Committee.

A \$10 gift exchange will take place (Non-gender specific)



**Grace Lutheran
Celebrant Choir Presents:**

The Glory of Christmas

December 10
6:00pm

Light supper provided by the worship committee will be served after the cantata.



Cocoa & Carols

DEC. 13TH FROM 6:30-7:00PM



Join us December 13th for an old fashion hymn sing led by some of our choir members! We will have cookies & cocoa from 6:30-7:00 and sing carols by request from 7-8pm. A free will offering will be taken for Veterans Community Project. The caroling will be livestreamed on our Facebook page.

Festive sweaters/outfits are encouraged!!



God's Gift to Us

**GRACE LUTHERAN
SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM
DECEMBER 17TH AT 4:00PM**

After the program families are invited to make Nativity Story Trail Mix and enjoy a cup of hot cocoa.

We will be collecting monetary donations and breakfast foods (Oatmeal, cereal, etc.) for Food To You



Worship Services

Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 pm.

We will begin the service by ringing in Christmas with bells and ending with communion and candlelight. Bring a bell to ring as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the baby born in a manger. The adult chimes group will play.

Christmas Day Worship

Monday, December 25 at 9:00. We will use the Service of Lessons and Carols. The Brass will play.



SMALL GROUP NEWS

Let's Bake

December 16th
9:00am

Meet in the Fellowship Hall

This small group is for anyone who wants to bake treats for our Sunday morning coffee hour.

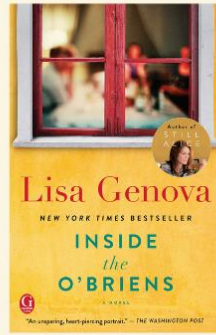
All supplies and recipes are provided!



Novel Idea

December 31
10:30 In the Meeting Room

Books are available in the office to check out. All are welcome to join!



Aging Gracefully

Thursday, December 7
9:30 am.

Bring a Santa/St. Nicholas ornament to share as we do a program on St. Nicholas (St. Nicholas Day is December 6) to learn about the Christian roots of Santa Claus.

POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

GIVEN BY

Joan & Mick Berry
Stephanie, Paige, & Chloe Miller
John & Jan Camp
Dave Stotz & Jacob Harrington
Bonnie Hengeveld
Glenyce DeGeest
Carole Lee
Brian & Lori Ree

Ernie & Gretchen Tweet

Terry & Grace Finch
Dana & Kay Dahlquist
Marianne Hieb

Joan Olson
Roger & Jean Tiede

Jerry Goddard
Mark & Dawn Stephens

Dave & Sharon Dierks
Kaye Henle

IN MEMORY

All Loved Ones
Darren Miller, Tammy Painter, Rodney Painter
Our Parents
Gordon Stotz & Vonnie Stotz

Don, Michael, & Fatima Hengeveld
Clint DeGeest
Orren Lee
Walter, Dorothy, & Cindy Ree / John, Marge, & Dave Schroeder
Our Parents and our great niece, Emma
Our Parents
Terry Dahlquist
Elizabeth Lieght Obenauer Hass (my great-grandmother), Fred & Anna Hieb (my parents), Mr. & Mrs. Emil Obenauer (my grandparents), Joeseph Charles Serbousset (my grandson)
George Olson
Ernest & Emma Tiede and Julius & Elda Vetter
Diane and other loved ones
Our dads, Bill McMaster & Ron Stephens
Parents & Grandparents
Bill Henle

GIVEN BY

John & Jan Camp
Charles & Sharon Pederson
Darrell & Jess Griggs
JoAnne & Kip Eggebraaten
Ernie & Gretchen Tweet
Terry & Grace Finch
Dana & Kay Dahlquist
Roger & Jean Tiede

Mark & Dawn Stephens

Ruth Lone
Marie Nesson
Dave & Sharon Dierks
Sharon Malwitz
Fred Henry & Jean Ducat

IN HONOR

Our Granddaughter
Our children & their families
Our boys
Our granddaughters Parker and Riley
Our 5 grandchildren

Our kids & grandkids
Our Family

Our children, grandchildren, & Great-grandchildren
Our moms Kathy McMaster & Joyce Stephens
Family
My Family
Children & Grandchildren

Great Grandchildren
Family & Loved Ones





December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00am Worship 10:30am Novel Idea	27	28 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions 7:00pm Hilltop Al-Anon	29 6:15pm Adult Chimes 6:30pm Grace Kids 6:30pm Middle School Youth Group 7:00pm Celebrant Choir	30 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions	1	2 11:30am Women of Grace Christmas Luncheon
3 Advent 9:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 4:00pm High School Youth Group	4	5 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions 6:30pm Committee Meetings 7:00pm Hilltop Al-Anon 7:30pm Council Meeting	6 10:00am Staff Meeting 5:30pm SS Christmas Program Practice 6:15pm Adult Chimes 6:30pm Middle School Youth Group 7:00pm Celebrant Choir	7 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions 9:30am Aging Gracefully	8 6:00pm K-5 Movie Night @ Grace	9
10 9:00am Bread Break Sunday 9:00am Worship: Youth Chimes Play 10:15am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 1:00pm Girl Scouts 4:00pm Middle/High School Christmas Party-Eastway Bowl 6:00pm Choir Cantata	11	12 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions 10:00am Grief Support 7:00pm Hilltop Al-Anon	13 5:30pm SS Christmas Program Practice 6:15pm Adult Chimes 6:30pm Cocoa & Carols 6:30pm Middle School Youth Group	14 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions 11:30am Women's Bible Study Potluck	15	16 9:00am Let's Bake 10:30am 4H
17 9:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 4:00pm SS Christmas Program	18	19 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions 7:00pm Hilltop Al-Anon	20 6:15pm Adult Chimes	21 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions	22	23
24 9:00am Worship 5:00pm Christmas Eve Service with Adult Chimes	25 Christmas Day 9:00am Christmas Day Worship	26 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions 7:00pm Hilltop Al-Anon	27 11:30am Staff Lunch	28 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions	29	30
31 9:00am Worship 10:30am Novel Idea	1	2 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions 7:00pm Hilltop Al-Anon	3 6:15pm Adult Chimes 6:30pm 6-8th grade confirmation 7:00pm Celebrant Choir	4 9:00am Facebook Livestream Devotions 9:30am Aging Gracefully	5	6



12/02	Karmen Groos	12/18	Mick Berry
12/02	Jenni Weber	12/18	Charles Jasmer
12/04	Lukas Schmitt	12/21	Gail Dybdahl
12/04	Neil Sorensen	12/24	Kai Beyer
12/05	Scott Rasmusson	12/25	David Grant
12/07	Ellie Beckman	12/25	Scott Rohrbach
12/07	Carol Conrad	12/26	Tanya Jacobson
12/08	Joyce Cunningham	12/26	Chris Peterson
12/11	Grace Weidenaar	12/28	Chris Olson
12/12	Alicia Peterson	12/30	Nancy Watters
12/14	Larry Fassett	12/31	Ardis Hovdenes
12/17	John Archer	12/31	Xander Martin

New Member Reception

Sunday, December 10th
If you are interested in joining, please contact the church office.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Annual Meeting of Grace Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, **January 28, 2023**, at **10:00 am**.

Merry Christmas from the Grace Lutheran Staff.
We wish you a very merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Pastor Siri Sorenson,
Becky Smith, Rita Blake, Brian Penn, Lisa Jasmer, Dana Dahlquist,
Del Hubers, Gea Eckhoff, Jerry Goddard



Grace Lutheran Church
 3300 E 18th Street
 Sioux Falls, SD 57103

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 SIOUX FALLS SD
 PERMIT #427**



Or current resident

Siri Sorenson, Senior Pastor
 Office 334-0061
 Cell 940-1966
 smborenson@gmail.com

Rita Blake, Parish Nurse
 Office 334-6066
 Cell 605-521-3911
 blakerita@hotmail.com

Brian Penn
 Youth & Young Adult Ministries
 Office 334-6066
 Cell 366-7055
 Gracelutheran.brianp@gmail.com

Lisa Jasmer
 Faith & Family Ministries
 Home 271-6663
 Lisa.mathiasonjasmer@gmail.com

Del Hubers
 Choir/Ensemble Director

Becky Smith
 Secretary and Coordinator of
 Communication and Technology
 Office 334-8625
 gracelutheransfsd@gmail.com

Dana Dahlquist, Custodian
 Cell 553-5433
 danadah1749@yahoo.com

SAVE THE DATE
Christmas Activities & Schedules

DEC 2: WOG CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON (11:30AM)
 DEC 6: SS PROGRAM PRACTICE (5:30PM)
 DEC 8: K-5 MOVIE NIGHT AT GRACE (6PM)
 DEC 10: CHOIR CANTATA (6PM)
 DEC 13: SS PROGRAM PRACTICE (5:30PM)
 DEC 13: COCOA & CAROLS (6:30PM)
 DEC 17: SS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM (4PM)
 DEC 24: CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE (5PM)
 DEC 25: CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE (9AM)

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