



Hilltop Lights

MAKING BELIEVERS, GROWING DISCIPLES, DEVELOPING LEADERS



PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER FESTIVITIES

FROM THE PASTOR

During the month of May we celebrate many milestones. Kindergarteners and 1st and 2nd graders share what they have learned from the catechism as they wrap up another year of Sunday school. We bless and celebrate graduating high school seniors who are ending one stage of life and moving on to another. Our choir, chimes, and youth musicians share music one more time before the ministry programming year takes a break for the summer.

But we also continue to celebrate the season of Easter and the Day of Pentecost which renews us in the life of the risen Christ and the empowering of the Holy Spirit for living as disciples of Jesus. These church-year seasons remind us that life in Christ continues each day, every day. Each day we celebrate that Jesus died and rose for us. Each day we remember that the Holy Spirit lives within us and flows through us. Even as the summer brings a more relaxed schedule, we know that God still provides opportunities for us to grow in grace and faith and to share the good news of God wherever we find ourselves, whether we stay close to home or take time away at the lake, at the campground, or somewhere else on vacation.

Each day we live as God's Easter people filled with grace and love. Each day we live to share that grace and love in the world.

Blessings on your May,

Pastor Siri

**Pastoral Acts:
Funerals for Rose Sagness (4/10)
and Merle Nussbaum (4/22)**



Worship in May
Services at 9:00 am both in person and livestreamed on Facebook.

May 3

5th Sunday of Easter

Walking the Way

Heartland Liturgy

Graduation and Kindergarten

Lord's Prayer Milestone

Adult Chimes

May 10

6th Sunday of Easter

Walking in the Spirit

Setting 4

1st & 2nd Grade Ten

Commandments Milestone

Children and Youth Music Sunday

May 17

7th Sunday of Easter

Walking in Jesus' Name

Setting 8

Celebrant Choir

May 24

Day of Pentecost

Come, Holy Spirit

Setting 10

May 31

Trinity Sunday

I Believe

Service of the Word



Facebook Live devotions occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 am and are available for later viewing on Facebook.



Let's Bake

May 16th

2:00PM



This merry crew of kitchen wizards is rolling out the red carpet for all you baking buffs to whip up scrumptious delights for our Sunday morning coffee shindig! No need to worry—every magical ingredient and recipe will be on us!



Grace kids

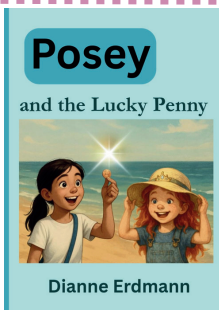
May May 6th

6:30-7:30pm

Grace Kids is our K-5th grade youth group that will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Aging Gracefully Thursday, May 7th at 9:30 am.

Dianne Erdmann will tell us about three children's books she has written. Copies are in the church library.



CONFIRMATION

8th & 9th Graders and Mentors meet Wednesday, May 13 at 6:30 pm for their first or last mentor conversation.



SPRING YARD CLEAN UP DAY!

Wednesday, May 20.

Swing by anytime from 4:00-7:30 pm

tasks include: snipping those trees and hedges, sprucing up the prayer garden, filling those pesky parking lot cracks, and more!

Pack your trusty rakes and trimmers.

Pizza will be provided.

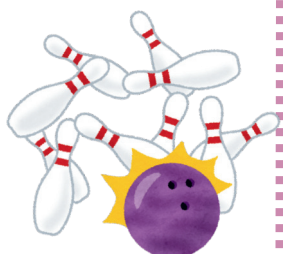


Grace Family Event!

Place: Eastway Bowl

Date/Time: After Sunday School on May 17th (Approx. 11:30-1:30)

Stay tuned for more information.



Save the Date Summer Campfires & Picnics

Picnics

June 14th

July 12th

August 9th



Campfires

June 24th

July 22nd

August 12th



NOVEL IDEA

May 17th @ 10:30am
In the meeting room.

This will be our last meeting for the year. However, there will be a book each month to check out if you would like to read over the summer

All are welcome to join!



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, May 12th

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

Hospital Visitation Note:



If you are hospitalized and do not receive a visit from Robin Hofkamp or Pastor Siri, it means you did not come up on our visitation list. Please 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.



NOW COLLECTING TUNA & TUNA HELPER

We will be collecting Tuna and Tuna helper for the month of May into the first two weeks of June for distribution on June 11th at

Messiah New Hope.

Watch for the sign-up for volunteers online and in the church lobby.

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:

April 25-May 2: Shepherding District 23, Zone C:

Jan & John Camp; Spencer & Tanya Jacobson, Mel, Kayla, Holly; Mike & Becky Smith, Aiden, Brody; Kari & Neil Sorensen

May 3-9: Shepherding District 1, Zone A:

Dana & Kay Dahlquist; Kip and Jo Anne Eggebraaten; Jan Eisenberg; Carolyn Erdmann; Terry & Sue Soutar

May 10-16: Shepherding District 1, Zone B:

Paul Berndt; Mick & Joan Berry; Vicki & John Dibbet; Mac & Bev Hesser; Mary Beth Jacobson

May 17-23: Shepherding District 1, Zone C:

Larry Fassett; Terry & Grace Finch; Scott & Krista Rohrback, Nathan, Ashlynn; Don & Marj Schmitt, Shraon Stettichs

May 24-30: Shepherding District 2, Zone A:

Pastor Woody & Kathy Clauson; Bonnie Hengeveld; Gary & Pat Kerska; Michelle Soutar; Miller Soutar-Bishop; Dawn & Mark Stephens

May 31-June 6: Shepherding District 2, Zone B:

Amanda Johnson & Chris Chavez, Aubrey, Jaxson; Dave & Mary Stoterau; Steve & Sharon Warren

THANK YOU!

Each month Grace Lutheran receives multiple thank you notes from the organizations that we support through our tithes and offerings.

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

I wanted to express my deepest gratitude to you and the entire Grace Lutheran family for the incredible support you provided during my wife Vicki's hospice care and after her passing. Your prayers, visits, meals, and acts of kindness brought comfort to us both in her final days and continue to sustain me now.

Your compassion made an unbearable time more bearable, and I will always cherish the love you showed our family. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

With sincere thanks,

Tim Meirose



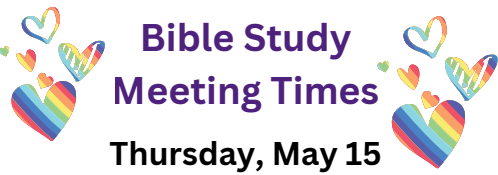
Thank you to our Sunday school teachers: Robin & Keith Nipp, Katie Archer, Tammi Soutar, Lisa Jasmer, Darrell Griggs, John Archer,

Thomas Kenison, Mel Jacobson, Pastor Woody Clauson, and Music Leaders Jess Griggs, Alicia Peterson, and Lisa Jasmer, and substitutes Nathan Beyer, and Robin Hofkamp.



THANK YOU TO ALL OF THOSE WHO PURCHASED EASTER LILIES TO BEAUTIFY THE SANCTUARY ON EASTER MORNING.

-THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE



Bible Study Meeting Times
Thursday, May 15

Martha Bible Study @ 9:30am
Hannah Bible Study @ 2:00pm

Both groups meet in the Fellowship Hall

Session three: Resurrection and life: Leading us into abundant life (John 11 and 14)

This final session revolves around the third dimension of I AM: God's promise to lead God's people into abundant life. From before creation to the time of Moses to today, this is God's enduring promise to God's people. In declaring that he is "the resurrection and the life," and "the way, the truth, and the life," Jesus is stepping into this grand tradition, reminding God's people to cling to God's promise, God's very holy name: I AM. God has promised to be with God's people—to abide with us, to guide us, to protect us, and to lead us into abundant life, now and forever.



WELCA SD
Synodical 39th Annual Convention

Mark your calendars for the WELCA SD Synodical 39th Annual Convention, taking place from June 17-19, 2026, at Grace Lutheran Church in Watertown, SD. The theme is "I Am Worthy"

****Registration Fee:****

\$50 if paid by May 31st

\$65 if paid on June 1st or later

Registration forms can be found on the WELCA bulletin board.



Daughters of All Ages Luncheon
"Sing to The Lord"
Saturday, May 9, 2026, at 11:30
Entertainment:
Enjoy a performance by the Sioux Falls Children's Choir.
Menu:
Assorted Sandwiches, Strawberry Spinach Salad, Broccoli Bacon Salad, Strawberry Dessert, Coffee and Water
Ticket Information:
Price: \$10 (children aged 4 and under are free)
Tickets will be available for purchase on:
Sunday, May 3.

LENTEN MEALS UPDATE: Thank you to all of our service group leaders who organized and led the Lenten Suppers. Also, thank you to all of the members of Grace that worked a meal, provided food, or donated money to make our meals a success. After expenses, we have a total of 3,594.53, which will be given to our four areas: Church on the Street, Roof Project, Youth, and WOG.

YOUNG ADULTS



During the past 4 months, I have met with pastors from Gloria Dei, Peace, Our Savior's, and Augustana Lutheran Church. We are all working on getting a Gather Network started in the Sioux Falls Area. The Gather Network focuses on local ELCA churches collaborating to start young adult groups in communities nationwide. Stay tuned for more information on any upcoming events or updates! You can reach out to Thomas Kenison with any questions about The Gather Network.

JOIN OUR GROUP CHAT!




FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM!



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS MAY 2026

A Note From Our Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry:



I love Psalm 23 because of its highly descriptive and imaginative language. In this passage, David describes how the LORD “makes us lie down in green pastures and leads us beside still waters” (vs. 3). Whenever I read verse 3, I picture a lush landscape in full bloom, with trees and plants surrounding a quiet, gentle stream. May is a time when creation begins to show its fullness after a long winter. In our lives, we experience both the “valley of the shadow of death” (vs. 2) and moments of peace like still waters and green pastures. In all of it, we know that Jesus walks with us in each of the places and leads us to the green pastures and calm streams.

My prayer for us all is that when we take a look at the new plant growth, we can remind ourselves of God’s everlasting promise to always be with us,

Blessings,
Thomas

YOUTH EVENTS

SKY ZONE PARTY




Get ready for a fabulous time at Sky Zone in Sioux Falls on Wednesday, May 20, from 5:45-7:45pm! There will be trampoline jumping, pizza, and dodgeball. Tickets are \$15, and each participant must complete a Sky Zone waiver prior to the event.

LAST DAY OF YOUTH GROUP



The last day that kids will meet for youth group will be on Wednesday, May 13. Throughout the summer, there will be various events and opportunities for youth to gather together---stay tuned for more details!

MISSION TRIP MEETING



All mission trip participants are asked to attend an important meeting with Thomas on Tuesday, May 12, in the youth room. The meeting will cover trip logistics and answer any questions. Parents will meet at 6:30 pm, and students will meet at 7:30 pm.

SALVATION ARMY EVENT

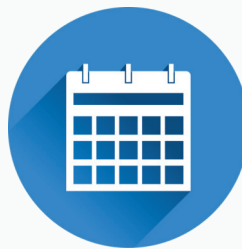


The youth group will serve at The Salvation Army in Sioux Falls on Saturday, May 2, from 4–6 pm, helping prepare and serve a meal to those in need. Join your friends for this meaningful service opportunity!

BIBLE VERSE & DEVOTIONAL



CALENDAR



Did you know that you can subscribe to the youth calendar directly from our website? All youth events and confirmation dates will automatically be added to your calendar!

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER



On March 28, our youth group partnered with Kids Against Hunger and worked together to package 3,456 meals for those in need.

JOIN OUR GROUP CHAT!



Middle School



High School



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM!



Will Peterson



High school: Sioux Falls Lincoln High School
Activities: Marching Band, Concert Band and Jazz Band
Plans for after graduation: Attending SDSU in Brookings - major still undecided - plans to play in the SDSU Jazz Band

Aubrey Chavez



High School: Washington High School
Activities: Concert Band: Freshman, WHS Symphonic Band: Sophomore , Fall Rec Softball: Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior, Girls Soccer Team Manager: Junior, Senior, Boys Basketball Cheerleader: Sophomore, Junior, Senior
Powerlifting: Sophomore, Junior, Senior, Softball: Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Competitive Softball: SF Eclipse: Freshman, Sophomore, Junior SD Boom: Senior, Link Crew: Junior, Senior (upperclassmen that help the incoming freshman thru orientation)

Annual Teacher Recognition Award (from Math Teacher): Junior
 Honor Roll: (A) Spring 2023, (A) Fall 2023, (A) Spring 2024, (A)Fall 2024, (A) Spring 2025, (B) Fall 2025, (A) Spring 2026
 Academic Letter (2 consecutive semesters with GPA 3.5+): Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2026

Plans after graduation: June and July I will be busy with my competitive softball team and working at Texas Roadhouse. This fall I will be attending Mount Marty University in Yankton, SD. Plans are to major in sports medicine or physical therapy and will be a part of their softball team! Go Lancers!



Kassidy Ann Nipp

High School: Brandon Valley High School
Activities: Marching Band, Concert Band / Wind Ensemble, BVHS dance team, Allison's Dance Academy, National Honor Society
Plans after graduation: attending the University of Oregon to major in Marine Biology

Colter Wagner



High School: Lincoln High School
Activities: He enjoys going to car shows and playing chess.
Plans after Graduation: His future plans are undecided at this time.

Kamela Bathke



High School: Sioux Falls Lincoln High School
Activities: Volleyball, Choir, NHS
Plans after graduation: I will be attending SDSU for nursing



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 4:00pm Youth Serve at Salvation Army
3 9:00am Worship-Senior Recognition & Lord's Prayer milestone 10:15am Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42003	4	5 9:00am FB live Devotion 6:30pm Committee Meetings 7:00pm Hilltop Al-Anon & Alateen 7:30pm Council Meeting	6 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:15pm Grace Kids 6:15pm Middle School Youth Group 7:00pm Celebrant Choir 7:30pm High School Youth Group	7 National Day of Prayer 9:00am FB live Devotion 9:30am Aging Gracefully	8	9 9:00am 4H 11:30am Daughters of all ages luncheon
10 Mother's Day 9:00am Worship 3yr-4th grade sing & youth chimes 10:15am Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday School	11	12 9:00am FB live Devotion 10:00am Grief Support 6:30pm Parent Mission Trip Meeting 7:00pm Hilltop Al-Anon & Alateen 7:30pm Youth Mission Trip meeting	13 Mentor/Student meeting & service project 6:15pm Middle School Youth Group 7:00pm Celebrant Choir 7:30pm High School Youth Group	14 9:00am FB live Devotion	15	16
17 Celebrant Choir 9:00am Worship 10:15am Adult Bible Study 10:15am Last Day of Sunday School 10:30am Novel Idea 11:30am All Church Bowling Party	18	19 9:00am FB live Devotion 7:00pm Hilltop Al-Anon & Alateen	20 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:00pm Yard Clean-up 5:45pm Youth end of the year party	21 9:00am FB live Devotion 9:30am Martha Bible Study 2:00pm Hannah Bible Study	22	23
24 Bread Break Sunday Pentecost 9:00am Worship	25 Memorial Day	26 9:00am FB live Devotion 7:00pm Hilltop Al-Anon & Alateen	27	28 9:00am FB live Devotion	29	30
31 Trinity Sunday 9:00am Worship						



BIRTHDAYS

5/1 Jennifer Beyer
5/1 Chris Bowman
5/1 Nathaniel Rohrbach
5/2 Sharon Dierks
5/4 Clark Miles
5/6 Nicolle Rasmusson
5/6 Pat Strand
5/6 Bill Wright

5/7 Violet Koch
5/11 Dave Daily
5/11 Sharon Warren
5/12 Laura Miles
5/14 Elaine Koch
5/14 Krista Veik
5/17 Kamela Bathke
5/18 Kyle Warren
5/20 Donna Lange
5/21 Lucy Archer
5/21 Sherry Bathke

5/21 Summer Schmitt
5/25 Braden White
5/26 Ray Hanson
5/27 Todd Egge
5/27 Holly Jacobson
5/28 Evelyn Friese
5/28 Joan Olson
5/28 Cameron Peterson
5/29 Britta Peterson
5/30 Sharon Malwitz
5/31 Trevor Johnson

Treasurer's Report

All payroll taxes and benevolences are paid to date as of end of March. All bills are paid as of March 31, 2026. Added \$1200 to Berg Fund from Vicky Meirose memorial. Received approval on loan for roof for up to \$75,000. Total roof invoices are \$61,345.00.

March 31, 2026

Total Contributions: \$ 30,720.55
Total Expenses: \$ 30,020.97
Loan Balance: \$ 42,119.86
Operating Account \$ (2,007.33)
Berg Fund Balance: \$ 1,502.95
Special Funds: \$ 42,119.86



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

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

Or current resident

Siri Sorenson, Senior Pastor
 Office 334-0061

Robin Hofkamp
 Visitation Ministry

Thomas Kenison
 Youth & Young Adult Ministries
 Office 334-6066

Del Hubers
 Choir/Ensemble Director

Lisa Jasmer
 Faith & Family Ministries

Dave Stoterau & Tanya Jacobson,
 Custodians

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

Executive Board
Darrell Griggs, President

Wes Hofkamp, Vice President

Dave Stotz Treasurer
 glctreasurer3300@gmail.com

Rita Blake
 Parish Nurse

Wendy Bergan, Secretary



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