

Light of Grace

a monthly publication of:
GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1120 17th St S, Moorhead, MN 56560-5752

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Office Phone: (218) 233-1857 Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

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Church Website: www.graceumcmoorhead.org

Pastor: Roger Grafenstein

Pastor's E-Mail Address: graceunitedmethodistpastor@gmail.com

Parsonage Phone: (218) 233-0255

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 AM

Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM

Dear Friends,

LOL means “Laugh Out Loud” in electronic communications. I share that because I used LOL for a long time thinking it meant “Lots of Love.” Sometimes I catch on slowly. Sometimes I have a love/hate relationship with new ways of communicating; that’s why I Laughed Out Loud at the following anonymous story.

“I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles. Every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at-the-moment, what I did the night before and what I will do later today. I share pictures of my food, my family, my pet, and my pet peeves. I share political headlines that irritate me, and political headlines meant to irritate people I don’t agree with; I share pictures of me standing at places I’ve been.”

“I also make sure to comment on what strangers are eating and what I overhear them talking about. I follow them and give them the “thumbs up” when I like what they are doing. I have a special “frowny face” for when I don’t like what they are doing. When I hear a stranger say something I don’t agree with, I give them my “frowny face” and go on at length about how they are wrong in their thinking and I say the words, “exclamation point, exclamation point, exclamation point” when I finish my point.”

“It’s working just like Facebook. I already have four people following me: two police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.” L.O.L.

I love Facebook for sharing uplifting stuff and staying in contact with friends. But, it has its drawbacks. Recently, there was an article about the Cottage Grove United Methodist Church. The article claimed that the church told its old people to leave because they wanted young people. The first

article had several untruths in it, including the part about telling the old people to leave. The Washington Post wrote a more complete article, but it still had some missing pieces. If you read any of the articles and wish to talk about it, feel free to contact me in person, please.

I will share that what troubled me most about the entire thing was that the Minnesota Annual Conference website had to shut down its online comments section regarding the article. The comments section became a repository of pooled ignorance and anger. It devolved from a place of sharing thoughts, concerns and questions into a “mean-spirited” tirade. People from hundreds of miles away, far from the situation, attacked the church, the pastors, the congregation members, the conference, and each other.

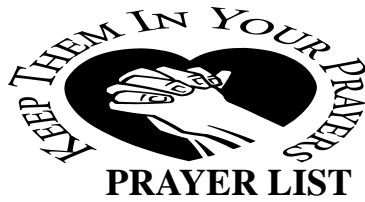
Followers of Jesus, in the month of Valentines, (but in a world of much unhealthy communication) I invite us to pause, take a breath, reclaim and live into Paul’s words to the Corinthians. “If I speak in the tongues of humans or angels, but don’t have love, I am a clanging gong or a clashing cymbal. ... Love is patient, love is kind, it isn’t jealous, it doesn’t brag, it isn’t arrogant, it isn’t rude, it doesn’t seek its own advantage, it isn’t irritable, it doesn’t keep a record of complaints, it isn’t happy with injustice, but is happy with the truth. Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things. ... In the end, faith, hope and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love.” (I Corinthians 13:1, 4-7, 13)

May the Lord bless all our conversations with a spirit of Christ.

Lots of Love,

Pastor Roger





**PRAYER LIST
CARE FACILITIES:**

Peggy Anderson (R.E.M. House)
Mary J. Phillips
Bonnie Wagner (Fergus Falls)
Pat Walter (Elim)
Don Walter (Elim)
Roger Helland (Eventide)
Margaret Wagner (Palliative Care)

AT HOME:

Caliann Gedrose Carol Devine
Lorraine Taggart Shirley Mohr
Ilo Koenning Delores Enkers
Luann Larson



Ministry TEAM Program. A Way of Being the Church at GUMC! The TEAM's mission is to provide ushers, greeters, opening welcome and readers to our congregation. TEAM #2 (Feb/Aug)

TEAM coordinators are: B. and S. Fangsrud and J. Miller and Family
218-236-0135—C. & R. Abel
701-261-9009—M. Akin
218-236-0183—J. Anderson
218-236-8836—D. Enkers
218-233-6915—J. & K. Enkers
218-233-0255—R. & C. Grafenstein
218-329-6199—M. & M. Hamm & Family
701-361-7571—B. & Z. Hanna & Family
218-236-7366—S. Mohr
218-236-5520—B. & M. Port
—S. Anderson & Family
218-498-2312—S. Simmons
701-866-6884—D. Stead & Family
218-236-8327—W. & W. Walseth



February Birthdays

- 1—J. Denny
- 2—L. Larson
- 4—R. Lofgren
- 5—C. Welsh
- 6—C. Goldade
- 8—K. Baker
L. Gedose
- 13—E. Brown
- 15—J. Anderson
- 16—G. Chandler
- 17—J. Miller
K. Beck
- 19—F. Hamm
- 20—L. Denny
B. Burkhardt
E. Fraundorfer
- 22—H. Hamm
R. Murray
- 23—N. Lofgren
D. Burkhardt



DONUTS

Homemade Buttermilk Donuts will be available February 12th and 26th, 2020. To place an order for donuts, call the office, 233-1857. There is also a sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex.

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathies to the Family of Clara Krook. Clara passed away on Tuesday, January 14th. A memorial service was held on Thursday, January 23rd at Bethany on University.

Our sympathies to the Family of Emily Elliott. Emily passed away on Thursday, January 16th. Her funeral was on Tuesday, January 21st at Baker Funeral Home Chapel in Mayville.

Our sympathies to L. Gibson and L. Anandel on the death of their sister, Carol Holtz. Carol passed away on Monday, January 20th.

Our sympathies to R. Wagner on the death of his brother. He passed away on Wednesday, January 22nd. Thoughts & Prayers for his wife who is in Palliative Care.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Del Larson, CLM

With the world in the turmoil it is; so much dissension; anger and hatred at times seem stronger than love; we long for the days of peace and good will. Therefore, I purpose a change or better known as a crusade that hopefully all Christians will join. Drum roll please:

2020 shall forever be know as "2020 the Year of Prayer."

I have no clue, nor do I care what some ancient custom may be for this year. I do know that we need to return our thoughts and actions towards our creator and ever present God. I feel too many times that we have lost our way, and **NOW** is the time to realize that as we start not only a new year, but a new decade, it is time to take action, and to reflect that prayer is needed now more than ever.

Prayer will be my focus and my mission. My prayer, as God has prepared me for this journey, is that you will join me and that together we can make a difference in people's lives, our communities, our country, and even the world. I believe this is God's will on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Just think of how many people could be connected to our quest, if 65% of the people believe that God is at work in all of our lives, and is calling you through this proclamation. The number 65 represents the percent of people who claim to be Christians. That number is down from 85% in 1990 and 81.5% in 2001. Of that 65%, less than half are practicing Christians. You can see this is a serious downward trend. We are all called to be Disciples of Jesus and to be examples of His light and share HIS Word with others.

God's direction for me is to share about once a week the power of prayer and how it can affect change. At the end of each month, I am going to ask you to share with me, privately using the email listed below, what you have experienced through prayer, which I

will share in a short summary with out names.

For the rest of January, I believe God is asking you to pray daily for what is your biggest need, or challenge. Be specific in your prayer requests. Each month we will work on prayer growth. Since Valentines day is in February, let's work on the Greatest Commandment; Matthew 22:37-39: **37** Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' [a] **38** This is the first and greatest commandment. **39** And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"



Remember to give thanks to God for all that you are given each day. End your prayer "in Jesus name, Amen." *John 14:13-14 (NIV).* **13** And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. Please remember that answering your prayer is done in God's time and way.

I wish you God's speed as you join this crusade to not only make a difference in your life, but in the lives of so many others. My new prayer email is 2020yearofprayer@gmail. Please share with me how God is working in your lives.

THANK YOU



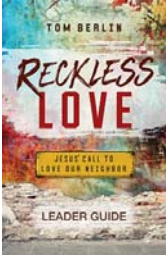
I want to Thank All of my children, for all of the work they did and all my family and friends that came to my party, you are all special, a BIG THANK YOU TO ALL, giving up the football game and coming for a party, thank you. It was a fun time by all. God Bless each of you. - J. Oelke

Grace United Methodist

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 4th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	3	4	5 6:00 pm Supper And GraceKids Ministry 7:00 pm Choir	6 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 1:30 pm Martha Circle 7:00 pm Cub Scouts	7 7:30 am - 3:00 pm Police Chaplains pancake breakfast for MHD PD	8
9 5th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	10	11 6:30 pm Vision and Operations and Resources	12 6:00 am Donut Making 6:00 pm Supper And GraceKids Ministry 7:00 pm Choir	13 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 7:00 pm Cub Scouts	14	15
16 6th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	17	18	19 6:00 pm Supper And GraceKids Ministry 7:00 pm Choir	20 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 7:00 pm Lydia Circle 7:00 pm Cub Scouts	21	22
23 Transfiguration Sunday 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	24	25	26 Ash Wednesday 6:00 am Donut Making 5:00 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Services 8:00 pm Choir	27 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 9:00 am Park View Terrace 10:00 am Moorhead Rehab Center 7:00 pm Cub Scouts Set up Blue & Gold Banquet	28 Scouts Blue & Gold Banquet	29

Date	Psalm	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Sat, Feb 1	am: 55, pm: 138, 139	Gen 18:1-16	Heb 10:26-39	John 6:16-27
Sun, Feb 2	am: 24, 29, pm: 8, 84	Gen 18:16-33	Gal 5:13-25	Mark 8:22-30
Mon, Feb 3	am: 56, 57, 58, pm: 64, 65	Gen 19:1-29	Heb 11:1-12	John 6:27-40
Tue, Feb 4	am: 61, 62, pm: 68	Gen 21:1-21	Heb 11:13-22	John 6:41-51
Wed, Feb 5	am: 72, pm: 119:73-96	Gen 22:1-18	Heb 11:23-31	John 6:52-59
Thur, Feb 6	am: 70, 71, pm: 74	Gen 23:1-20	Heb 11:32-12:2	John 6:60-71
Fri, Feb 7	am: 69, pm: 73	Gen 24:1-27	Heb 12:3-11	John 7:1-13
Sat, Feb 8	am: 75, 76, pm: 23, 27	Gen 24:28-38, 49-51	Heb 12:12-29	John 7:14-36
Sun, Feb 9	am: 93, 96, pm: 34	Gen 24:50-67	2 Tim 2:14-21	Mark 10:13-22
Mon, Feb 10	am: 80, pm: 77, 79	Gen 25:19-34	Heb 13:1-16	John 7:37-52
Tue, Feb 11	am: 78:1-39, pm: 78:40-72	Gen 26:1-6, 12-33	Heb 13:17-25	John 7:53-8:11
Wed, Feb 12	am: 119:97-120, pm: 81, 82	Gen 27:1-29	Rom 12:1-8	John 8:12-20
Thu, Feb 13	am: 146, 147, pm: 83, 85, 86	Gen 27:30-45	Rom 12:9-21	John 8:21-32
Fri, Feb 14	am: 88, pm: 91, 92	Gen 27:46-28:4, 10-22	Rom 13:1-14	John 8:33-47
Sat, Feb 15	am: 87, 90, pm: 136	Gen 29:1-20	Rom 14:1-23	John 8:47-59
Sun, Feb 16	am: 66, 67, pm: 19, 46	Gen 29:20-35	1 Tim 3:14-4:10	Mark 10:23-31
Mon, Feb 17	am: 89:1-18, pm: 89:19-52	Gen 30:1-24	1 John 1:1-10	John 9:1-17
Tue, Feb 18	am: 97, 99, 100, pm: 94, 95	Gen 31:1-24	1 John 2:1-11	John 9:18-41
Wed, Feb 19	am: 101, 109:1-30, pm: 119:121-144	Gen 31:15-50	1 John 2:12-17	John 10:1-18
Thur, Feb 20	am: 105:1-22, pm: 105:23-45	Gen 32:3-21	1 John 2:18-29	John 10:19-30
Fri, Feb 21	am: 102, pm: 107:1-32	Gen 32:22-33:17	1 John 3:1-10	John 10:31-42
Sat, Feb 22	am: 107:33-43, 108, pm: 33	Gen 35:1-20	1 John 3:11-18	John 11:1-16
Sun, Feb 23	am: 148, 149, 150, pm: 114, 115	Prov 26:1-23	2 Cor 3:7-18	Luke 9:18-27
Mon, Feb 24	am: 25, pm: 9, 15	Prov 27:1-6, 10-12	Phil 2:1-13	John 18:15-18, 25-27
Tues Feb 25	am: 26, 28, pm: 36, 39	Prov 30:1-4, 24-33	Phil 3:1-11	John 18:28-38
Wed, Feb 26	am: 95, 32, 143, pm: 102, 130	Amos 5:6-15	Heb 12:1-14	Luke 18:9-14
Thur, Feb 27	am: 37:1-18, pm: 37:19-40	Hab 3:1-18	Phil 3:12-21	John 17:1-8
Fri, Feb 28	am: 95, 31, pm: 35	Eze 18:1-4, 25-32	Phil 4:1-9	John 17:9-19
Sat, Feb 29	am: 30, 32, pm: 42, 43	Eze 39:21-29	Phil 4:10-20	John 17:20-26



LENT

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 26th. The theme for this year is Reckless Love..

Pastor Tom Berlin wrote a book *Reckless Love* about how Jesus taught how to love a neighbor first as a way to more deeply love God.

During our six week journey Jesus' teaching and travels with his disciples will be explored. The journey will teach us how to love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength by showing us how to love our neighbor .

Each Wednesday will begin with soup and sandwich at 5:00 p.m., followed by a discussion from the book, *Reckless Love*, at 7:00 p.m.

There is a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex, if you wish to the purchase a copy of the book.

There is a sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex if you are able to donate a pan of bars.

PASS THE PIG

The total amount raised from Grace Kids, Pass the Pig and the Christmas Eve offering was \$1200.00. Last Sunday the Sunday School kids decided to purchase the following;

1 ea	alpaca	@ \$ 150
1 ea	goose	@ \$ 20
1 ea	honeybee hive	@ \$ 30
1 ea	cow	@ \$ 500
2 ea	water buffalo	@ \$ 250 ea

Thank you to everyone who contributed to "Pass the Pig" for Heifer project.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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(218) 233-1857

