

Light of Grace

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

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September 1, 2020

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

Church E-Mail Address: graceunitedmethodist@gmail.com

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,

Now that Schools are opening, what's the plan for Grace? When will we return to indoor worship?

- 1) September we will make use of (hopefully) nice weather with Parking Lot worship September 13th, 20th and 27th; We are even planning a baptism on the 13th.
- 2) Social Distancing and Masks will be required at all services.
For Grace masks are not a political statement. For quick, non-political info on masks please visit: <https://www.mayoclinichealthsystem.org/hometown-health/speaking-of-health/debunked-myths-about-face-masks>. For an article on worship without 100% mask wearing and 100% social distancing check out the article on the Lake Park, MN funeral service. Approx. 50 attended, 30 contracted Covid-19, and 5 were hospitalized. <https://www.startribune.com/minn-family-s-grief-grows-after-funeral-leads-to-covid-19-outbreak/572031812/>
- 3) August 26th we had a virtual meeting with Grace Parents and Kids to learn what we need to know to plan a Sunday School that meets family's needs in this unusual time.
- 4) There will be a meeting with Confirmation students and families in the near future to plan a way to celebrate the postponed confirmation celebration.
- 5) We are considering indoor in-person worship for October based on key factors:
 - a) How Grace is doing with distancing, hygiene and masks throughout September;
 - b) Active case numbers (e.g. ND active cases numbers: 1103 on 8/1 and 1681 on 8/24);
 - c) Local New Cases in Cass and Clay Counties --along with ICU use & deaths;
 - d) Close attentiveness to results of school openings.

MN Allows 50% of sanctuary capacity with 6' distancing (12' for singers and speakers), masks and a adequate air exchanges/hour. No fellowship following. The guidelines for reaching 50% capacity are several pages long. So the MN Annual Conference recommends 25% sanctuary capacity, in Grace's case 50 people. MN and CDC guidelines still recommend those with at-risks conditions continue to avoid social gatherings over 10 people. If we begin indoor worship, we anticipate staying within 25% capacity because many will choose virtual worship until Covid-19 is under control.

Where are we at compared to other congregations? Many MN UM congregations have suspended indoor worship through the end of 2020. Many ND UM congregations are beginning indoor worship with restrictions. Some of you may feel frustrated because you wish we were already worshiping indoors. Others may feel anxious because we seem to be moving more quickly than feels safe. Please be patient with the leadership team and one another.

I share with you this reflection. School is starting with in-person, hybrid, distance learning, and expected temporary quarantines. Recently, I saw a mean social post about teachers. So, I re-wrote the mean post in a way that changed every negative remark into a positive "thank you." A teacher I have never met wrote back, "You are my favorite person in the world today."

People in all areas of life are overstressed, hurting and tired.

"Love is patient, love is kind...it isn't arrogant, it isn't rude...Now, Faith, Hope and Love abide, these three things, and the greatest of these is Love." (I Corinthians 13:4&13) Now is the time the church is called to show and share Christ-like Love.

Be Well & Be a Blessing,

Pastor Roger



PRAYER LIST AT Care Facilities

Peggy Anderson (R.E.M. House)
Bonnie Wagner (Fergus Falls)
Pat Walter (Villa Maria)
Don Walter (Villa Maria)
Marilyn Wollitz (Fairmont)
Jim Jameson (River Pointe)

PRAYER LIST at Home

Carol Devine Lorraine Taggart
Shirley Mohr Ilo Koenning
Luann Larson JoAnn Oelke
Leretta Smith Julie Possehl



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 #5 (Sept/Mar) TEAM coordinators are N. and S. Grow, and R. and B. Christopherson

218-512-0395—L. & J. Beck
701-403-9063—C. Devine
701-205-7268—S. Grow & Family
701-306-4382—T. Grow
701-403-9063—T. & D. Grow
701-541-4136—S. & N. Grow
701-412-3833—A. Larson & Family
218-236-5031—D. & L. Larson
701-212-3587—A. Maas
701-237-9055—R. Lofgren
218-233-3917—C. & B. Miller
218-329-1835—J. Miller
218-233-3917—J. Miller
218-233-3405—C. Naasz
218-236-9169—L. & O. Roppe
701-306-1705—L. Smith
218-236-7848—I. Smith



SEPTEMBER Birthdays

1—D. Burkhardt
3—J. Fraundorfer
4—S. Lindner
5—A. Grafenstein
6—C. Miller
D. Grow
8 - M.. Larson
10 - C. Gedrose
12—M. Gumto
13—B. Hanna
14—P. Anderson
16—B. Rowand
19— S. Fraundorfer
20—P. Newgard
24 - Z. Brown
M. Chandler
26 - L Beck
30—A Ybarra

LECTIONARY TEXTS

September 6 - Exod 12:1-14, Ps 149, Rom 13:8-14, Matt 18:15-20
September 13 - Exod 14:19-31, Exod 15:1b-11, 20-21, Rom 14:1-12, Matt 18:21-35
September 20 - Exid 16L2015, Ps 105:1-6, 37-45, Phil 1:21-30, Matt 20:1-16
September 27 - Exod 17:1-7, Ps 78:1-4, 12-16, Phil 2:1-13, Matt 21:23-32

WORSHIP AT GRACE - 10:00 A.M.

FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM ON:
Grace UM Church Moorhead page
Roger Grafenstein's page

WORSHIP ALSO LIVESTREAMS ON THE WEBSITE:
www.graceumcmoorhead.org

Kids Devotions on the Website
and on
FACEBOOK: Grace UM Church Moorhead

INDOOR WORSHIP HOPEFULLY SEPTEMBER.
CURRENTLY FAMILY-ONLY FUNERALS.

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries



2—T. & P. Newgard
16—T. & D. Grow
27—D. & C. Borgen



The Office will be closed Monday, September 7th.

Re-Gathering for Indoor Worship Checklist

- ✓ Hymnals, Sign in Pads & Bibles Removed from Sanctuary
- ✓ Sanctuary Doors Opened ? (is this more or less efficient than air exchanger)
- ✓ Pulpit moved to Choir side of sanctuary (or preach w/o pulpit)
- ✓ Pews taped off for a 12' minimum distance from Pulpit and Choir Area
- ✓ Bathrooms sanitized
- ✓ Education wing doors opened / other doors locked
- ✓ Chairs (xxxxx number) removed from fellowship hall
- ✓ Signage in Place (Please Love Your Neighbor: Wear a Mask – Maintain 6' Physical Distance)
- ✓ Blue Crosses on Floor in Gathering Space (Painter's Tape – 6' apart)
- ✓ Signage on Sanctuary:
 - "One Household can sit together – 6' between next household"
 - "Please socialize outside – Thank You."
- ✓ Masks Available on Table & Hand Sanitizer
- ✓ Bulletins Available on Table
- ✓ Sign Up Sheets Removed – Call Office to Sign Up for Activities
- ✓ Fabric Chairs in Gathering removed
- ✓ Signage for one person at a time in restrooms (or one family in family bathroom)
- ✓ Offering Plates on Table by Soundboard– Watched by...? at physical distance
- ✓ Microphones for Announcements Removed
- ✓ Announce Family Units encouraged to stay together (children stay w/families)
- ✓ Sanitizing Team
- ✓ Reminders of Social Distancing and Masking expectations before service.

MORE PROPERTY TAXES?

STREET PROJECT

This summer the City of Moorhead has been making improvement to 18th Street and 12th Avenue. Grace UMC will be assessed \$5,375.00 for the improvement along 12th

Avenue and \$14,571.00 for the improvement along 18th Street, these improvement can be paid over a 20 year period of time with a 5.25% interest rate. The final assessment typically occurs in the fall of every year and assessments are certified to the County on November 15th of each year. After the final assessment has been adopted by the council, Grace will have the opportunity to pay off, or buy down, the assessment, without interest, before it is certified to the County and added to our property tax statement the following year. The Operations and Resources Committee would like to pay off this assessment before the final assessment is adopted by the council. If you are able to contribute to paying this assessment, please mail your checks to Grace with "Assessments" in the memo line.

THANK YOU



Grace Family, thank you so much for the prayers, phone calls and cards of caring and support during the time our son Bob was

on a ventilator and at his journey to his eternal home. It is such a healing feeling to know others also care. May God Bless your walk on a path he leads us to follow.

- Iretta Smith

BOOKS ARE NEEDED



The church neighborhood little library is needing book donations, more for children but also some good reads for adults. If you cleaned out this summer, please share by bringing them to the church library, Monday thru Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Just ring the door bell and the front door will be opened.

Date	Psalm	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Tue, Sept 1	am: 26, 28, pm: 36, 39	Job 12:1, 13:3-17, 21-27	Acts 12:1-17	John 8:33-47
Wed, Sept 2	am: 38, pm: 119:25-48	Job 12:1, 14:1-22	Acts 12:18-25	John 8:47-59
Thur, Sept 3	am: 37:1-18, pm: 37:19-42	Job 16:16-22, 17:1, 13-16	Acts 13:1-12	John 9:1-17
Fri, Sept 4	am: 31, pm: 35	Job 19:1-7, 14-27	Acts 13:13-25	John 9:18-41
Sat, Sept 5	am: 30, 32, pm: 42, 43	Job 22:1-4, 21 23:1-7	Acts 13:26-43	John 10:1-18
Sun, Sept 6	am: 63, 98, pm: 103	Job 25:1-6, 27:1-6	Rev 14:1-7, 13	Matt 5:13-20
Mon, Sept 7	am: 41, 52, pm: 44	Job 32:1-10, 19, 33:1, 19-28	Acts 13:44-52	John 10:19-30
Tue, Sept 8	am: 45, pm: 47, 48	Job 29:1-20	Acts 14:1-18	John 10:31-42
Wed, Sept 9	am: 119:49-72, pm: 49, 53	Job 29:1, 30:1-2, 16-31	Acts 14:19-28	John 11:1-16
Thur, Sept 10	am: 50, 59, 60, pm: 66, 67	Job 29:1, 31:1-23	Acts 15:1-11	John 11:17-29
Fri, Sept 11	am: 40, 54, pm: 51	Job 29:1, 31:24-40	Acts 15:12-21	John 11:30-44
Sat, Sept 12	am: 55, pm: 138, 139	Job 38:1-17	Acts 15:22-35	John 11:45-54
Sun, Sept 13	am: 24, 29, pm: 8, 84	Job 38:1, 18-41	Rev 18:1-8	Matt 5:21-26
Mon, Sept 14	am: 56, 57, 58, pm: 64, 65	Job 40:1-24	Acts 15:36-16:5	John 11:55-12:8
Tue, Sept 15	am: 61, 62, pm: 68	Job 40:1, 41:1-11	Acts 16:6-15	John 12:9-19
Wed, Sept 16	am: 72, pm: 119:73-96	Job 42:1-17	Acts 16:16-24	John 12:20-26
Thur, Sept 17	am: 70, 71, pm: 74	Job 28:1-28	Acts 16:25-40	John 12:27-36a
Fri, Sept 18	am: 69, pm: 73	Est 1:1-4, 10-19	Acts 17:1-15	John 12:36b-43
Sat, Sept 19	am: 75, 76, pm: 23, 27	Est 2:5-8, 15-23	Acts 17:16-34	John 12:44-50
Sun, Sept 20	am: 93, 96, pm: 34	Est 3:1-4:3	Jam 1:19-27	Matt 6:1-6, 16-18
Mon, Sept 21	am: 80, pm: 77, 19	Est 4:4-17	Acts 18:1-11	Luke 1:1-4, 3:1-14
Tue, Sept 22	am: 78:1-39, pm: 78:40-72	Est 5:1-14	Acts 18:12-28	Luke 3:15-22
Wed, Sept 23	am: 119:97-120, pm: 81, 82	Est 6:1-14	Acts 19:1-10	Luke 4:1-13
Thur, Sept 24	am: 83, pm: 85, 86	Est 7:1-10	Acts 19:11-20	Luke 4:14-30
Fri, Sept 25	am: 88, pm: 91, 92	Est 8:1-8, 15-17	Acts 19:21-41	Luke 4:31-37
Sat, Sept 26	am: 87, 90, pm: 136	Hos 1:1-2:1	Acts 20:1-16	Luke 4:38-44
Sun, Sept 27	am: 66, 67, pm: 19, 46	Hos 2:2-14	Jam 3:1-13	Matt 13:44-52
Mon, Sept 28	am: 89:1-18, pm: 89:19-52	Hos 2:14-23	Acts 20:17-38	Luke 5:1-11
Tue, Sep 29	am: 97, 99, 100, pm: 94, 95	Hos 4:1-10	Acts 21:1-14	Luke 5:12-26
Wed, Sep 30	am: 101, 109, pm: 119:121-144	Hos 4:11-19	Acts 21:15-26	Luke 5:27-39

Grace United Methodist

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 14th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM Facebook Live Worship	7 Labor Day Office Closed	8	9	10	11	12
13 15th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM Outdoor Parking Lot Worship w/ Communion and Baptism (Masks available on site, if you forget)	14	15 6:30 PM Streaming Vision, and Operations and Resources	16	17	18	19
20 16th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM Outdoor Parking Lot Worship	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 17th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM Outdoor Parking Lot Worship	28	29	30			

THE UNTOLD STORY

The Untold Story is a fundraising dessert social on Tuesday, October 13th, 2020 at the Delta Hotel, 1635 42nd Street SW, in Fargo. The New Life Center will host guest speaker is Darryl Strawberry who throughout the 80s and 90s was heralded as one of the top sluggers in Major League Baseball. However, life after baseball wasn't glorious. Drug abuse, arrest, cancer and divorce left him with a deep sense of hopelessness. Individual tickets of \$40.00 each can be purchased by going to the web site: www.fargonlc.org/theuntoldstory. The dessert social begins at 6:00 pm with the program at 7:00 pm.



BE TRANSFORMED

It's Labor Day weekend - a time to rest from our labors. But this is also an opportunity to reflect on our daily work and discern whether our effort is thankless and

uninteresting or something that gives us deep and lasting satisfaction. God intends for our work to be much more than a job, much more than a daily grind. It should be, instead, a vocation - which means, quite literally, a "calling."

In Romans 12:2, Paul challenges us with the words: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect."

The apostle's advice, then, is to be transformed by the renewing of your minds. Paul says be transformed by discovering what the Lord God is calling you to do. - *Homiletics*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Moorhead MN 56560
(218) 233-1857

