

Light of Grace

A monthly publication of:

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1120 17th street South, Moorhead, MN 56560-5752

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: Taylor Johnson

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

Parsonage Phone: (218) 422-6586

Vol. 35, No. 4

April 1, 2024

Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM

Children's Sunday School 10:15 AM

Greetings:

WOW! It's a Miracle! Christ is Alive! We have read the many examples of Christ performing miracles to help, heal, and return those who had died to the living. But... but it just seems overwhelming to comprehend that Christ not only arose from the dead three days after his crucifixion, but His wrists and ankles, torn apart when hung by nails are fully functional. He proved it when he showed his wounds and holes in his body to his loved ones. How could this be? No one could survive such an ordeal, and return to be as good as new. It was a miracle! He died tortured and hung on a cross, and three days later arose from the dead. Do you want to know the secret of this miracle. The same will happen to us if we truly believe He arose, and if we show our love to others as Christ has loved us.

The Romans and the high priests knew the prophecy and guarded Christ's tomb to prevent the disciples from stealing his body, but yet his disciples were stunned when they found out he was not in the tomb, and overcome with not only joy, but shock when he stood among them.

How can we not believe in this miracle. Psalm 22, written by David a thousand years before Christ died, contains an explicit reference to the Crucifixion: *"They pierced my hands and my feet"* From Isaiah 53:5, *"But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed."* This piece was written long before David was born. If we hold the Bible to be the truth, and we believe that Christ was born, died, and rose again, then we should have no doubt about miracles.



So think about the miracles in your life that God has done for us. We have no choice but to believe that we have been chosen to be the light of Christ in this world. This is not just a Sunday role that we try to apply, but rather this is our cross to bare, and to show the wounds we have suffered and how God's mercy, and the Love of Christ has saved us.

When you are lit by the Holy Spirit, grab onto it, so you can be a light to others. You may be their miracle. Someone who is drowning in life's struggles, is uplifted by you, just as Christ will extend His hand when you pass. Making a difference each day with kind words, smiles, handshakes, or a few doughnuts and coffee can have a major impact on someone else, and you may not even know their problem at that moment. That my friend is a miracle. Don't deny these moments, embrace them. You may be the miracle they asked God for, so reach out. God is leading you.

Miracles do happen in our lives. Sometimes we call it luck. No, they are **Miracles!** Surviving a health crisis, a personal relationship, overcoming difficult situations are just a small list of what God has done for us. We should be joyous and look forward to when we too will join Christ in Heaven and celebrate eternity with Him. Miracles didn't stop when Christ ascended into Heaven. You are the miracle workers serving Christ by showing your love of Christ to others.

Why are we so worried and concerned about our Earthly life, when we already know what our final outcome will be? We should now be proclaiming that our Savior lives, and He lives for us so that we too will live forever with Him. Be a miracle to others. Amen!

Del Larson, CLM



**PRAYER LIST AT
Care Facilities**

Pat Walter (Elim)
Don Walter (Pioneer House)
Jim Jameson (River Pointe)
Will Wehrman (Eventide—Fargo)
Shirley Mohr (Serenity)



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 #4 (Apr/Oct).
218-329-6477—P. & K. Anderson
218-979-1317—J. & J. Eide
218-236-8820—B. & S. Fangsrud
218-443-0836—M. Forderer
701-936-5873—M. Forderer
218-233-6411—B. & C. Krogen
218-287-4316—B. & S. Martin
218-236-8056—T. & P. Newgard
218-790-6829—B. Rowand
360-509-3544—P. & B. Suppa

PRAYER LIST hospitalized or home

Lynette Andel Jean Graning
Luann Larson Linda Gibson
Eddie Ybarra Paul Kemper
Larry Possehl Rick Abel



April Birthdays

3—E. Fangsrud
4—A. Schroeder
5—A. Roberts
9—M. Hoganson
10—X. Martin
11—S. Gedrose
16—M. Eisen
17—M. Borgen
23—K. Heidrich
25—A. Severson
30—L. Possehl



DONUTS

Homemade Buttermilk Donuts are being made on April 3rd and 17th for \$10.00 a dozen. To place an order for donuts call the office, 233-1857, use the sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex, or the website: www.graceumcmoorhead.org/donuts.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Pastor Taylor and K. on the birth of their daughter. She arrive on March 11th and joins big brother..



April Anniversaries

11—J. & B. Fraundorfer
15—S. & N. Grow
29—L. & S. Simmons
30—L. & J. Possehl

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathies to the family of Carol Devine. She passed away on Sunday, March 17th. The funeral was held at Grace on Saturday, March 30th.

MINNESOTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The annual conference is May 29-30th at the Double Tree in Bloomington. The theme this year is “Jesus. Redeemer.”

**WORSHIP AT GRACE
10:00 A.M.**

WORSHIP SERVICES are livestreamed on Facebook and on the website: graceumcmoorhead.org

Offerings may be mailed to Grace UMC, 1120 17th Street South, Moorhead, MN 56560

Online giving available through Givelify! Go to graceumcmoorhead.org/give and click the button to make your one time or recurring gift.

NEW MEMBERS

Grace recently welcomed new members John and Kay Heidrich, Russ and Jean Ward, and Anne Roberts.



OFFUTT SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for the 2024 Offutt Scholarship are now available. These scholarships are available to members of Grace UMC and their families for post-secondary education for the coming academic year. Applications are due in the office by August 1, 2024. These funds are generated by a generous gift from the Ron and Lidia Offutt family to the Grace UMC Endowment Fund. The applications are available on the Church website: www.graceumcmoorhead.org under forms. If you have any questions about the Scholarships or about the Grace UMC Endowment and its activities, please contact P. Anderson.

GRADUATION



Congratulations to all the students who are graduating in May. Please let the office know by April 22nd if anyone in your family is graduating to be listed in the May Newsletter.

We wish all graduates much success on their future plans of furthering their education or beginning their working career.

NEW LIFE CENTER

The New Life Center Auxiliary Luncheon on April 19th will be hosted by Grace UMC. Del Larson, CLM will give the message and Sharon Fangsrud will provide the special music.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The group interested in making prayer shawls will begin meeting again on Wednesday evenings at 5:00 pm

THANK YOU



Thank you to Russ and Jean Ward for heading up the team in preparing, serving and cleaning up after the pancake breakfast. Also thank you to all the people who were involved with the photo booth and kids activities to make the celebration a success.

TRUTH AND GOODNESS WILL PREVAIL

Any newspaper or newscast contains enough bad news to wreck any Christian's hope for mankind. Wars, murders, brutality, crimes and other inhumane acts we witness daily can make us feel hopeless and wilted. Yet despite the great horror in this world, we must not despair. Our Lord said: "The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers....Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Fathers" (Matthew 13:41, 43, NRSV). God will always have the last word. His truth and goodness will prevail.

James Russell Lowell wrote:

Though the cause of evil prosper,
Yet 'tis truth alone is strong;
Though her portion be the scaffold,
And upon the throne be wrong;
Yet that scaffold sways the future,
And behind the dim unknown,
Standeth God within the shadow
Keeping watch above his own.



Date	Psalms	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Apr 1	am: 102, pm: 142, 143	Jer 20:7-11	1 Cor 10:14-17, 11:27-32	John 17
Apr 2	am: 95, 22, pm: 40, 54	Gen 22:1-14	1 Pet 1:10-20	John 13:36-38
Apr 3	am: 95, 88, pm 27	Job 19:21-27a	Heb 4:1-16	
Apr 4	am: 148-150, pm: 113, 114	Exod 12:1-14		John 1:1-18
Apr 5	am: 93, 98, pm: 66	Jon 2:1-9	Acts 2:14, 22-32	John 14:1-14
Apr 6	am: 103, pm: 111, 114	Isa 30:18-21	Acts 2:26-47	John 14:15-31
Apr 7	am: 97, 99, pm: 115	Mic 7:7-15a	Acts 3:1-10	John 15:1-11
Apr 8	am: 146, 147, pm: 148, 149	Eze 37:1-14	Acts 3:11-26	John 15:12-27
Apr 9	am: 136, pm: 118	Dan 12:1-4, 13	Acts 4:1-12	John 16:1-15
Apr 10	am: 145, pm: 104	Isa 25:1-9	Acts 4:13-31	John 16:16-33
Apr 11	am: 146, 147, pm: 111-113	Isa 43:8-13	1 Pet 2:2-10	John 14:1-7
Apr 12	am: 1-3, pm: 4, 7	Dan 1:1-21	1 Jn 1:1-10	John 17:1-11
Apr 13	am: 5, 6, pm: 10, 11	Dan 2:1-16	1 Jn 2:1-11	John 17:12-19
Apr 14	am: 119:1-24, pm: 12, 13, 14	Dan 2:17-30	1 Jn 2:12-17	John 17:20-26
Apr 15	am: 18:1-20, pm: 18:21-50	Dan 2:31-49	1 Jn 2:18-29	Luke 3:1-14
Apr 16	am: 16, 17, pm: 134, 135	Dan 3:1-18	1 Jn 3:1-10	Luke 3:15-22
Apr 17	am: 20, 21, pm: 110, 116, 117	Dan 3:19-30	1 Jn 3:11-18	Luke 4:1-13
Apr 18	am: 148- 150, pm: 114, 115	Dan 4:1-18	1 Pet 4:7-11	John 21:15-25
Apr 19	am: 25, pm: 9, 15	Dan 4:19-27	1 Jn 3:19-4:6	Luke 4:14-30
Apr 20	am: 26, 28, pm: 36, 39	Dan 4:28-37	1 Jn 4:7-21	Luke 4:31-37
Apr 21	am: 38, pm: 119:25-48	Dan 5:1-12	1 Jn 5:1-12	Luke 4:38-44
Apr 22	am: 37:1-18, pm: 37:19-42	Dan 5:13-21	1 Jn 5:13-21	Luke 5:1-11
Apr 23	am: 105:1-22, pm: 105:23-45	Dan 6:1-15	2 Jn 1-13	Luke 5:12-26
Apr 24	am: 30, 32, pm: 42, 43	Dan 6:16-28	3 Jn 1-15	Luke 5:27-39
Apr 25	am: 63, 98, pm: 103	Josh 4:19-24, 5:1-9	1 Pet 5:1-11	Matt 7:15-29
Apr 26	am: 41, 52, pm: 44	Josh 10:16-27	Col 1:1-14	Luke 6:1-11
Apr 27	am: 45, pm: 47, 48	Josh 10:28-43	Col 1:15-23	Luke 6:12-26
Apr 28	am: 119:49-72, pm: 49, 53	Josh 11:1-23	Col 1:24-2:7	Luke 6:27-38
Apr 29	am: 50, 59, 60, pm: 114, 115	Josh 13:1-13	Col 2:8-23	Luke 6:39-49
Apr 30	am: 40, 54, pm: 51	Josh 13:14-32	Col 3:1-11	Luke 7:1-17

Grace United Methodist

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 1:00 pm Quilting	2 7:00 pm AA	3 6:00 am Donut Making 5:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Latter Rain Ministries	4 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline	5	6 10:00 pm Latter Rain Dance Practice
7 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Latter Rain Ministries	8 1:00 pm Quilting	9 7:00 pm AA	10 5:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Latter Rain Ministries	11 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline	12	13 10:00 pm Latter Rain Dance Practice
14 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Latter Rain Ministries	15 1:00 pm Quilting 6:30 pm Leadership Team	16 7:00 pm AA	17 6:00 am Donut Making 5:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Latter Rain Ministries	18 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline	19	20 10:00 pm Latter Rain Dance Practice
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28 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Latter Rain Ministries	29 1:00 pm quilting	30 7:00 pm AA				

RUN THE RACE

“The Christian life is a race along a course that is set out before us,” said William Barclay. Hebrews 12:1 encourages Christians to run our particular race with perseverance.

Interestingly, the Greek word for race is *agon*, which means aching or agony. Like marathon runners, we may be tempted to give up long before the finish line.

But the Hebrews passage also offers hope for how we can continue on: “[look] to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame.... Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart” (Hebrews 12:2-3, NRSV).



If you don't fill your mind with the word of God, the enemy will fill it with fear, anxiety, stress, worry, and temptation.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Grace United Methodist Church
1120 17th Street South
Moorhead, MN 56560