

The Grace Greeter!

**Grace Lutheran Church 2225 Washington Lincoln, NE 68502
November 2020**

Remembrance and Gratitude

19 Then Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." - Luke 22:19

It is interesting to note that November begins with All Saints Sunday and ends with our national Thanksgiving holiday. Both are significant because both offer us an opportunity to remember.

To remember all the saints triumphant who have gone before us in death and now surround us in a great cloud of witnesses. Take time to honor these saints you have known in your life. But also take time to remember how these saints in your life shaped who you are today and pass their witness on to someone else who needs to know the presence of the living God in their lives.

To remember all that God provides for us and the goodness of God that surrounds us every day. Gratitude is a gift from God. When used by us this gift helps us become more aware of God's goodness in our lives and in our world. A lack of gratitude makes it difficult for us to experience the goodness of God that is available for us every day.

Remembrance and gratitude. Don't forget to include these gracious gifts in your life this month and every month. They will change you for the better and change your world for the better.

Thanks for reading,

Pr. Eric Tesher



- ◆ PLEASE CONTACT US! HIPPA laws do not allow the hospital to notify the church if there is a member in the hospital. The patient or a family member must contact the church office to let us know that about the hospitalization. During office hours, call 402-474-1505 or email office@egrace.org to let us know. Thank you!
- ◆ To contact Pastor Eric after office hours, you can call or text him at 308-708-1146 or email pr.eric@egrace.org.
- ◆ The deadline for the next Greeter will be November 20th.
- To help us stay connected during our time apart please send an email or letter with any personal update you want to share about yourself or prayer concern for someone else. We will post these under news and prayers in our weekly digital newsletter and our monthly newsletter.



Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response collaborates with other disaster response organizations and religious entities in the United States and around the world. This enables the greatest stewardship of resources and maximum impact of response. They are a welcome partner because they respect the perspectives and strengths of others. They work to accompany that community from immediate relief through long-term recovery.

If you would like to donate to LDR then go to the following website:

<https://community.elca.org/lutherandisasterresponse>

UPCOMING

Mark Your Calendars

EVENTS



On All Saints Sunday we remember those saints triumphant who have gone before us: Eileen Rudd, Gladys Badberg, Jim Meyer, Loretta Ahl, Vivian Condon and Janet Jodais.



Thanksgiving Eve Service
November 25
7:00 PM
in the nave and online

Sunday at 9:00 AM with Holy Communion in the nave and online.



Notice of Congregational Meeting
November 22 at 10:00 AM in the nave

At this meeting we will accomplish the following agenda items:

- Approve a 2021 Budget
- Vote for new Council Members
- Amend our 2017 Constitution

To prepare for this meeting a copy of the 2021 budget will be available in the narthex and outside the office starting November 15.

A ballot for new Council members will be available the day of the meeting.

The following changes are suggested for our current 2017 Congregational Constitution:

Chapter 12.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

C12.01. The voting membership of the Congregation Council shall consist of the pastor(s), the officers of the congregation, and six members of the congregation. Any voting member of the congregation may be elected, subject only to the limitation on the length of continuous service, which is no more than three (3) **(currently two)** consecutive two (2) **(currently 3)** year terms. A member's place on the Congregation Council shall be declared vacant if the member a) ceases to be a voting member of this congregation or b) is absent from four successive regular meetings of the Congregation Council without cause. Consistent with the laws of the state in which this congregation is incorporated, the congregation may adopt procedures for the removal of a member of the Congregation Council in other circumstances.

C12.02. The members of the Congregation Council except the pastor(s) shall be elected at a legally called semi-annual meeting of the congregation during the month of November. The term of office shall be for two (2) **(currently 3)** years The term of office begins on January 1 and ends on December 31. Newly elected Congregation Council members and those who will continue on the Council shall be installed at a Sunday worship in December following their election.

C12.03. Should a member's place on the Congregation Council be declared vacant, the Congregation Council shall elect, by majority vote, a successor until the next semi-annual meeting. Individuals who have served less than a full term in this way shall be eligible for election to complete the term at the semi-annual meeting.



Please notice the beautiful Legacy Sugar Maple trees by the south parking lot of Grace. These trees were purchased with memorial funds given in memory of beloved departed members of Grace. They were selected, planted, watered, and cared for by Bob Anderson, former Chair of the Memorials Committee. Let the beauty of these trees remind you of the dearly departed.

Sandie Anderson

It is Friday evening and I am thinking about how much I miss my Grace Family. I miss being there to say hello and give a hug. I miss the fellowship.

That being said I would like to thank the council for keeping things going at church and adjusting to the new rules, changes in what will or will not work. Keeping the congregation informed of the new policies.

I thank the congregation for being flexible as we struggle through these uncharted territories. I don't know about the rest of you but change is very hard for me and things are changing whether I like it or not.

Thank you Pastor Eric for being so accommodating with the services. They are very uplifting. I want to thank Anne for the beautiful music and the variety of music. A little jazz to put a spring in our step is good for the soul. I am not a singer but I do miss the choirs. I am happy you chose not to do that until it is safe for everyone. (just my opinion) Please keep up the good work.

Proud of Grace Lutheran Church and their love for one another. Considered yourselves hugged by me please.

Kathie Remington



Grace Lutheran Covid-19 Ongoing Response

When Martin Luther was dealing with the Black Plague in his time, he wrote, *"I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others.... If my neighbor needs me however I shall not avoid place or person but will go..."* (Luther's Works, Volume 43, pg. 132).

Worship Life (Sunday service only. No Saturday service until further notice)

The following temporary changes will occur for the foreseeable future:

- As always, if you are ill or at risk, **please stay at home** and watch the service online.
- Wearing a **face covering that covers the mouth and nose is required** while you are in the building. A disposable mask will be provided if you do not have one.
- We will **enter** the building through the **North doors**. The doors will be locked at 9:10. All other doors will be locked.
- At the north door you will be given a **bulletin**. You will **take this home** with you after worship. Do not leave it in the building.
- There will hand sanitizers at the entrance door to the sanctuary. **Sanitize your hands** prior to entering the worship space.
- **Sit** only with persons from **your own household**.
- During worship we ask you to **refrain from physical contact** especially as you greet one another. Practice good "physical distancing". Use a wave in place of a hand shake. 6 feet is the minimum. 12 feet is recommended.
- There will be **no offering**. There will be an offering basket located in the narthex.
- There will be **no sharing** of the Peace.
- There will be **no singing out loud**. You can hum or sing to yourself.
- The **presiding minister** will not greet you after worship.
- There will be **no assisting minister, reader, or acolyte**
- There will be **no nursery available**.

Community Life

- There will be **no fellowship** after worship.
- **Sunday school, Adult Education, and Confirmation** will be in-person or virtually during this time. We will announce this at the appropriate time.
- **Committees, auxiliary groups, and council** will meet in-person or virtually. This will be left to our committees, auxiliary groups and council to decide.
- **Choirs** will meet in-person or virtually. Choirs will need to decide how they want to meet.

Giving and Stewardship

Offering income during a time like this could be a concern. How can you give if you cannot make it to worship? Two easy options are to mail your offerings to the church office, deliver them in person to the office, or take advantage of online giving on our website. Good stewardship also involves self-care. Be aware of and maintain your health. Engage in the best practices of handwashing, wearing a mask, staying home if you are sick or at risk, and physical distancing.



September Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Present via Zoom: Neil Larson, Doug Krueger, Cindy Eberspacher,
Connie Thorson, Carla Ingersoll, Jan Branting, Roger Potts, Karen Billings,
Pr. Eric Leshner

Absent: All present

Neil Larson called the council meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Opening Prayer: Jan Branting opened with prayer.

Approval of Council Minutes:

Jan made a motion to approve the August meeting minutes. Cindy seconded. Motion passed.

President's Update/Correspondence: none

Staff Reports:

Pastor Eric's Report: submitted

Director of Music Report: submitted

Financial Secretary's Report: submitted

Treasurer's Report: submitted

Doug made a motion to accept the reports. Roger seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Finance/Stewardship – council position remains vacant

Worship & Music – did not meet; email exchange regarding church opening

Parish Ed – written report submitted

Congregational Life – did not meet

Property – written report submitted

Social Ministry – did not meet

Memorials – did not meet

Roger made a motion to accept the committee reports as printed. Jan seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Building Use Options – Discussed safety protocols for activities to resume in church including when and how they will meet.

New Business:

November Annual Meeting – will present to our congregation 1) council elections, 2) the budget, 3) amend the constitution to change the length of the council terms, and 4) nominations. An in-person Annual Meeting is planned on November 15th following worship and the option to Zoom by computer or phone. A letter will be sent out in the October newsletter to the congregation informing them of agenda, date and time.

Rally Towels – Council decided not to pursue.

Additional Items – Roger made a motion that due to the pandemic, it was not possible to meet for an annual audit for 2020. Jan seconded. Motion passed.

Roger closed with prayer.

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Thorson, Secretary

The Gathering Place

Difficult economic conditions for many people at this time are evident in the number of people served at The Gathering Place each day.

When Regina and Steve Paschold assisted on October 19th, 147 individuals were served. The menu included pasta with meatballs, tossed lettuce salad, fresh fruit and pre-packaged snack cakes. The “no seconds” policy continues as meal containers are filled and taken outside to distribute.

Members of The Gathering Place staff prepare meals now when people from Grace help because volunteers are not permitted to bring prepared food into the building. Special thanks go to Brady Garvin and Marilyn Holmquist for recent contributions to Grace’s fund for The Gathering Place.

Prescott Elementary

Thank you to everyone who donated paper cups, tissues and money to Prescott School. They are always so appreciative as well as myself. They do not need anymore paper cups but with winter and flu season upon us soon, they will continue to need tissues. If you would like to donate tissues, please leave them at the office and I will get them to Prescott.

Thank you for your continuous support of Prescott School.

Pat Lickei

The Lutheran Food Pantry

Current list of needs include the following items:

- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables
- Soups
- Pork n' beans
- Tuna
- Canned chicken
- Jelly

As always, personal care items (shampoo, bath soap, toothbrushes/tooth paste) are always needed.

Please bring your donations to St. Andrew’s Lutheran at 1015 Lancaster Ln between the hours of 8-12 am Tuesday through Friday.

Birthdays

<u>Henry Lambert, Jr.</u>	<u>Nov 2</u>
<u>Michael Genthe</u>	<u>Nov 3</u>
<u>Blake Anderson</u>	<u>Nov 4</u>
<u>Paul Mehling</u>	<u>Nov 5</u>
<u>Haidyn Haumont</u>	<u>Nov 6</u>
<u>Sasha Hoxie</u>	<u>Nov 6</u>
<u>Todd Robinson</u>	<u>Nov 6</u>
<u>Beverly Melichar</u>	<u>Nov 7</u>
<u>Ashley Branting</u>	<u>Nov 9</u>
<u>Susan Paschold</u>	<u>Nov 9</u>
<u>Teddi Reckling</u>	<u>Nov 9</u>
<u>Terrill Branting</u>	<u>Nov 10</u>
<u>Evan Johnson</u>	<u>Nov 10</u>
<u>Owen Peterson</u>	<u>Nov 11</u>
<u>John B. Johnson</u>	<u>Nov 12</u>
<u>Cynthe Dumler</u>	<u>Nov 14</u>
<u>Ken Holmstrom</u>	<u>Nov 15</u>
<u>Jennifer Serafin</u>	<u>Nov 15</u>
<u>Kathleen Miller</u>	<u>Nov 16</u>
<u>Nanci Wells</u>	<u>Nov 16</u>
<u>Olga Nielsen</u>	<u>Nov 17</u>
<u>Wayne Remington</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>
<u>Scott Krueger</u>	<u>Nov 21</u>
<u>Connie Thorson</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>
<u>Frankie Ptacek</u>	<u>Nov 25</u>
<u>Keith Herbster</u>	<u>Nov 27</u>
<u>Lori Drake</u>	<u>Nov 30</u>

Anniversaries

<u>Sharon and Larry Genthe</u>	<u>Nov 5</u>
<u>Jack and Arlene Reighard</u>	<u>Nov 22</u>
<u>Kathryn and Edward Vader</u>	<u>Nov 25</u>
<u>Richard and Jayne Brown</u>	<u>Nov 29</u>
<u>Terrill and Janice Branting</u>	<u>Nov 30</u>





November 1:	All Saints Sunday Bell Quartet A	9:00 am 9:45 am	November 14:	Danish Sisterhood Recital	1:00 pm 6:30 pm
November 2:	Lincoln Literacy WELCA Board Meeting Boy Scouts	9:00 am 9:00 am 7:00 pm	November 15:	Worship Bell Quartet A Schroeder Family	9:00 am 9:45 am 12 pm
November 3:	Al-Anon Cub Scouts Committee Meetings	9:30 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	November 16:	Lincoln Literacy Gathering Place Boy Scouts	9:00 am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm
November 4:	WELCA Unit Meeting Confirmation	1 pm 7 pm	November 17:	Al-Anon Cub Scouts WELCA Group 6	9:30 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm
November 5:	Men's Bible Study Quilting Lincoln Literacy NA Bell Quartet B	6:30 am 9 am 9 am 7 pm 7 pm	November 18:	WELCA Group 3 Confirmation	1:00 pm 7:00 pm
November 6:	YWCA Respire Care	5:45 pm	November 19:	Men's Bible Study Quilting Lincoln Literacy NA Bell Quartet B	6:30 am 9 am 9 am 7 pm 7 pm
November 8:	Worship Bell Quartet A	9 am 9:45 am	November 20:	BNRR	4:00 pm
November 9:	Lincoln Literacy Memorials Committee Boy Scouts	9:00 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	November 22:	Worship Bell Quartet B Semi-Annual Meeting	9 am 9:45 am 10:00 am
November 10:	Al-Anon Cub Scouts Wildlife Rescue Council Meeting	9:00 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	November 23:	Lincoln Literacy Boy Scouts	9:00 am 7:00 pm
November 11:	Yesterday's Youth Confirmation	11 am 7 pm	November 24:	Al-Anon Cub Scouts	9:30 am 6:30 pm
November 12:	Men's Bible Study Quilting Lincoln Literacy NA Bell Quartet B	6:30 am 9:00 am 9:00 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	November 25:	Thanksgiving Service	7:00 pm
November 13:	YWCA Respite Care	5:45 pm	November 29:	Worship	9:00 pm
			November 30:	Lincoln Literacy Boy Scouts	9:00 am 7:00 pm

Grace Staff & Council

Rev. Eric Lesher

Senior Pastor
308-708-1146
pr.eric@egrace.org

2020 Church Council

David Sage

Parish Administrator
office@egrace.org

Anne Melang-Thoren

Director of music
anne@egrace.org

Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson

Assistant Organist

Robert Stimbart,

Custodian

Judi Schroeder

Nursery Coordinator

Elizabeth Krueger

Nursery attendant

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Neil Larson | Council President |
| Carla Ingersoll | Vice President |
| Karen Billings | Congregational Life |
| Jan Branting | Social Ministry |
| Cindy Eberspacher | Parish Education |
| Doug Krueger | Memorials |
| Roger Potts | Property |
| Vacant | Stewardship/Finance |
| Connie Thorson | Secretary |
| Jim Krueger | Treasurer |



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