

The Grace Greeter!

**Grace Lutheran Church 2225 Washington Lincoln, NE 68502
June 2021**

WORSHIP RESTRICTIONS

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** during worship. 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.

There will hand sanitizers in the narthex. **Sanitize your hands** prior to entering the worship space.

During worship we ask you to **practice physical distancing** especially as you greet one another. Use a wave in place of a hand shake. 6 feet is the minimum.

There will be **no offering**. There will be an offering basket located at the entrance door to the sanctuary.

There will be **no sharing** of the peace.

The presiding minister will **greet** you in the narthex after the postlude.

There will be **no** assisting minister, reader, or acolyte

There will be **no nursery** available.

There will be a **coffee fellowship** (mask optional) in the gym after worship.

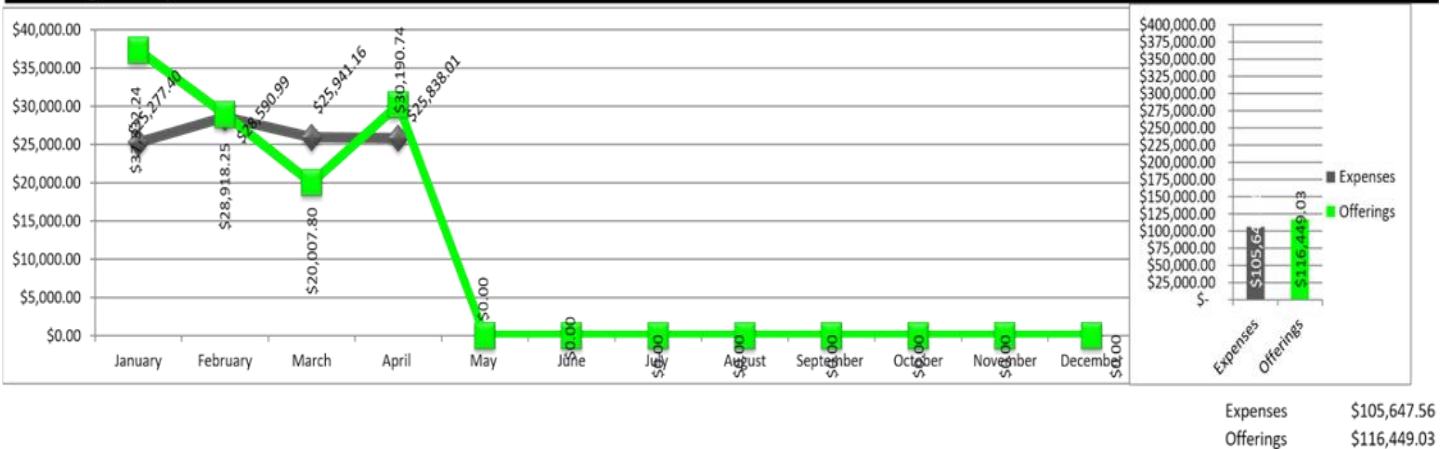
Singing restriction has been lifted. Communion distribution will be “flow-through”. Which means we need two communion assistants each Sunday for now. If you want to help then please contact Pr. Eric via voicemail or email.



- ◆ **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 June 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/or our monthly newsletter.

Update

Offerings & Expenses



2021 Giving Envelopes

You can pick-up your box of 2021 giving envelopes in the atrium after worship on Sunday morning or during the week Monday-Friday 9am-3pm.



Mark Your Calendar!

Juneteenth Day is June 19

Juneteenth day celebrates the end of slavery in the United States. President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on September 22, 1862. It was not until June 19, 1865 that all slaves were finally freed. That concluding event was when General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas with his troops and issued Order Number 3 which finally freed the last of the slaves. The formal end of slavery was marked by the passing of the 13th amendment of the constitution.



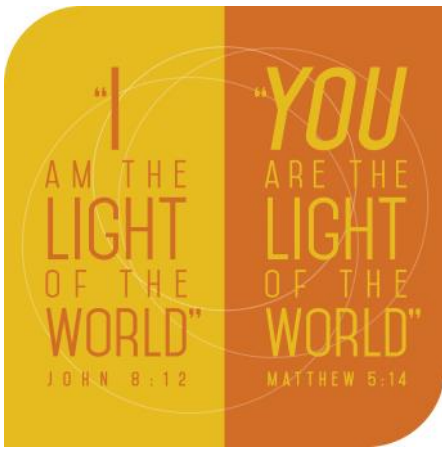
Father's Day is June 20

The nation's first Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910, in the state of Washington. However, it was not until 1972—58 years after President Woodrow Wilson made Mother's Day official—that the day honoring fathers became a nationwide holiday in the United States. It was not endorsed with much enthusiasm because as one florist observed, "fathers haven't the same sentimental appeal that mothers have."



Cub Scout Pack 30 invites you to their summer craft/vendor sale. This is part two of the sale that was impacted by weather last month. The sale will be June 12th from 9:00 am-4:00 pm in the Grace Lutheran Church parking lot and a couple of vendors in the gym.





In January 2021, National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman presented her poem “The Hill We Climb” at the presidential inauguration. The final lines read: “For there is always light, / if only we’re brave enough to see it. / If only we’re brave enough to be it.”

How often we long for light! In recent years we’ve agonized amid pandemic, angry politics and new awareness of racism. Some have suffered deep sorrow. But Jesus says, “I am the light of the world” and invites us to turn to him. God is always bringing light into darkness, through helpers, healers, peacemakers, friends.

Sometimes bravery is required to turn our focus from the negative to the positive — to see the light of God.

Jesus also says, “You are the light of the world” and calls us to brighten the gloom. That requires bravery, as Gorman notes, but as Christians we’re urged to look for light not just to make our own lives better but to shine into others’ lives too. The Holy Spirit gives us the needed courage — to both *see* and *be* light.

So to help us be a light for others we closed with the wisdom of another poet:

True, needful, kind

*If you are tempted to reveal
a tale to you someone has told
about another, make it pass,
before you speak, three gates of gold;
these narrow gates.*

*First, “Is it true?”
Then, “Is it needful?” In your mind
give truthful answer. And the next
is last and narrowest, “Is it kind?”*

*And if to reach your lips at last
it passes through these gateways three,
then you may tell the tale, nor fear
what the result of speech may be.*

—Beth Day, “The Three Gates” (1835)

Grace Lutheran Church Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Neil Larson called the meeting to order at 9:50 AM with a quorum present.

Revisions in the Constitution and Bylaws for Grace Lutheran:

Chapter 6.05 Part B: Within 10 days after the resolution has been voted upon at the first meeting, the secretary of this congregation shall submit a copy of the resolution to the bishop, attesting that the special meeting was legally called and conducted and certifying the outcome of the vote, shall send copies of the resolution and certification to voting members of this congregation.

Chapter 7.05 Part B: Shall – upon written demand by the Synod Council, pursuant to S13.23 of the constitution for the Nebraska Synod – convey and transfer all right, title, and interest in the property to the synod.

Chapter 8.02 Part C Membership and voting: They (members) shall not have voted as a seasonal member of another congregation of this church in the previous two calendar months.

Chapter 9.14 The parochial records of this congregation shall be maintained by the pastor and shall remain the property of this congregation. If the pastor should leave, we must ensure all records are in order beforehand.

Chapter 9.26 This congregation shall make satisfactory settlement of all financial obligations to a former deacon before calling a successor. A deacon shall make satisfactory settlement of all financial obligations to this congregation before beginning service in a call to another congregation or employment in another ministry setting.

Chapter 10.01: This congregation shall have at least one regular meeting per year. The regular meetings(s) of the congregation shall be held at the time(s) specified in the bylaws. Consistent with the laws of the State of Nebraska, the bylaws shall designate one regular meeting per year as the annual meeting of this congregation.

Chapter 10.08 Added to the Constitution: This congregation may hold meetings by remote communication, including electronically and by telephone conference, as long as there is an opportunity for simultaneous aural communication. To the extent permitted by state law, notice of all meetings may be provided electronically.

Chapter 12.01: Changed our constitution to include 8 members on council from 9 members.

Chapter 12.02 Added to the Constitution: The members of the Congregation Council except the pastor(s), the deacon(s) shall be elected by written ballot at a legally called semi-annual meeting of the congregation during the month of November to serve for two years or until their successors are elected. Such members shall be eligible to serve no more than three full terms consecutively. Their terms shall begin January 1 and end December 31.

Being there were no questions or comments, Roger Potts moved to accept the amended changes as submitted. Dave Ripa seconded it. Motion passed.

Roger Potts moved that we close the meeting at 10:03. Jon Thorson seconded it. Motion passed.

**April Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 13, 2021**



Present via Zoom: Neil Larson, Doug Krueger, Cindy Eberspacher, Connie Thorson, Carla Ingersoll, Jan Branting, Roger Potts, Amy Knobbe, Glatha Rathjen, Pr. Eric Lesher

Absent: none

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

Opening Devotion: Pastor Eric

Approval of Council Minutes:

Roger moved to approve the March church council meeting minutes as submitted. Doug seconded. Motion passed.

President's Update/Correspondence: Grace received a thank you card from Rev. Robin Brown, Mission Funding Director of Congregations, for the \$60.00 donation to the ELCA World Hunger. Irene Moore sent a thank you card to Grace members for all the kind sympathy cards she received for husband, Barry.

Staff Reports:

Pastor Eric's Report: submitted

Director of Music Report: submitted

Financial Secretary's Report: submitted; Lent offerings went to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Treasurer's Report: submitted revised version

Jan made a motion to accept the reports as submitted. Amy seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Finance/Stewardship – Jim Krueger and Matt Knobbe meet remotely

Worship & Music – email correspondence; Julene ordered the plants for the Easter services

Parish Ed – email correspondence; report submitted. Friedens will be hosting VBS this summer

Congregational Life – report submitted; notified that the Ross Theatre extended our sponsorship for another six months

Property – report submitted; annual yard clean-up is tentatively scheduled for May 1

Social Ministry – submitted a report; made and sent Easter cards to all the homebound; Grace has a collection site for "One Day Without Shoes" until April 17

Memorials – did not meet; memorial money may go toward planting a tree(s) in Bob Anderson's memory

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

Business:

Monthly Review of our Safety Protocol – Agreed safety protocols have been effective. Suggested using QR codes so people could scan their cell phones to pull up the worship bulletin. This would avoid running out of bulletins and having to share.

Sound system will be tested after a few have expressed they have trouble hearing. Being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8.30 PM.

Neil led the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Connie Thorson, Secretary

Appreciation to the Yard Clean-up Group!

Council Corner

The Property Committee would like to express appreciation to all who helped at the 2021 Annual Spring Yard Clean-up on Saturday, May 15th. We had 10 helpers including several Church Members and Property Committee people who volunteered and without everyone's hard work this would not have been successful. We cleaned up around the whole yard and facility, trimmed some tree branches, cleaned out gutters on the garage and trimmed some hedge and bushes. We hauled out a large trailer load of debris making the grounds look good. Terry Branting also provided the trailer. Kurt Eberspacher sprayed for weeds in the parking lot cracks and around the curbs where needed. We want to give a big thank you to everyone for participating.

Roger Potts,
Property Committee Chairman

Social Ministry - We will not be sponsoring a Produce Table again this year. We hope that the Produce Table will be back in 2022!



Volunteers have recently been invited to come back to assist with daily meals served at The Gathering Place. Since October, employees of Community Action Partnership (the umbrella organization of which The Gathering Place is one activity) have helped to distribute the meals. Now two volunteers each day help to fill take out containers to be given to people on the porch of the house at 1448 E Street. At the current time no food donations are accepted from volunteers, who observe strict COVID-19 protocol protective measures such as masking and proper distancing on the food container “assembly line.”

On May 17th Regina and Steve Paschold represented Grace, and the menu included turkey with mashed potatoes and gravy, tossed lettuce salad, fruit cup, and animal crackers. The daily count of the number of people served lately has been around 60. Lisa Janssen, program administrator at The Gathering Place, theorizes that number has significantly declined due to increased SNAP benefits, as well as coronavirus stimulus funds to individuals.

THE LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY

CURRENT NEEDS LIST:

- Soups, all kinds
- Instant oatmeal (packets)
- Breakfast bars (Pop Tarts, granola bars, etc.)
- Fruit juice (bottles and/or juice boxes)
- Jelly
- Pork 'n beans
- Ramen noodles
- Saltine crackers
- Tomatoes (diced, whole, etc.)
- Canned vegetables (peas, mixed vegetables, carrots, beets, etc.)
- Personal care items (shampoo, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes)

We know the Lutheran Food Pantry is a blessing to families in our community and we appreciate your help and prayers in making it successful!

Tom and Lynn Ochsner
Coordinators, The Lutheran Food Pantry

PANTRY HOURS:

Please bring your donations to St. Andrew's Lutheran at 1015 Lancaster Ln between the hours of 8-3 Tuesday through Friday.



Wedding Anniversaries

Jordan Murphy and Matt Peppmuller on June 3
 David and Kathren Miller on June 4
 Larry and Cynthia Watchorn on June 6
 Arthur and Beverly Hillman on June 7
 Jay and Amy Ostermeyer on June 8
 EJ and Jill Marshall on June 15
 Gerald and Debra Hilde on June 16
 Dennis and Charlene Berens on June 18
 Keith and Corene Herbster on June 24
 Christopher and Nancy Anderson on June 25
 Jordan and Devin Billings on June 27

First Name	Last Name	Birthday
Larry	Group	1-Jun
Emily	Johnson	3-Jun
James	Zak	5-Jun
Darlene	Brydl	6-Jun
Debra	Hilde	6-Jun
Alexis	Lipson	8-Jun
Patty	Plambeck	8-Jun
Anders	Jensen	9-Jun
Michael	Carnes	11-Jun
Jay	Ostermeyer	11-Jun
Bradley	Potts	12-Jun
Kyle	Petersen	13-Jun
Joel	Brown	14-Jun
Ella	Billings	15-Jun
Peter	Schnake	15-Jun
Adam	Brown	16-Jun
Beckett	Jensen	16-Jun
Anne	Senkbeil	16-Jun
Kendra	Jensen	17-Jun
Ansli	Petersen	18-Jun
Chloe	Fitzgibbon	21-Jun
Palmer	Hildreth	25-Jun
Shyanne	Schroeder	25-Jun
Sharon	Genthe	28-Jun
Bruce	Petersen	29-Jun
Connie	Whyrick	29-Jun
Delmar	Motycka	30-Jun





June 15: Al-Anon 9:30 am
 Lessons 4:00 pm
 WELCA Group 6 7:00 pm

June 16: Lincoln Literacy 9:15 am
 WELCA Group 3 1:00 pm

June 17: Quilting 9:00 am
 Lessons 1:30 pm
 Lessons 4:30 pm

June 20: Worship 9:00 am

June 21: Lincoln Literacy 9:15 am
 Lessons 4:00 pm
 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm

June 22: Al-Anon 9:30 am
 Lessons 4:00 pm

June 23: Lincoln Literacy 9:15 am

June 24: Quilting 9:00 am
 Lessons 1:30 pm
 Lessons 4:30 pm

June 25: Respite Care 5:45 pm

June 27: Worship 9:00 am

June 28: Lincoln Literacy 9:15 am
 Lessons 4:00 pm
 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm

June 29: Al-Anon Meeting 9:30 am
 Lessons 4:00 pm

June 30: Lincoln Literacy 9:15 am

June 1: Al-Anon 9:30 am
 Committees 7:00 pm

June 2: Lincoln Literacy 9:15 am

June 3: Quilting 9:00 am

June 6: Worship 9:00 am

June 7 : WELCA Board 9:00 am
 Lincoln Literacy 9:15 am
 Lessons 4:00 pm
 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm

June 8 : Al-Anon 9:30 am
 Lessons 4:00 pm
 Wildlife Rescue 7:00 pm
 Council 7:00 pm

June 9: Lincoln Literacy 9:15 am

June 10: Quilting 9:00 am
 Lessons 1:30 pm
 Lessons 4:30 pm

June 11: Respite Care 5:45 pm

June 12: Craft/Vendor Fair 9:00 am

June 13: Worship 9:00 am

June 14: Lincoln Literacy 9:00 am
 Lessons 4:00 pm
 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm

Grace Staff & Council

Rev. Eric Leshner

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

David Sage

Parish Administrator
office@egrace.org

Anne Melang-Thoren

Director of Music
anne@egrace.org

Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson

Assistant Organist

Robert Stimbart,

Custodian

2021 Church Council

Neil Larson	President
Carla Ingersoll	Vice President
Connie Thorson	Secretary
Jim Krueger	Treasurer
Glatha Rathjen	Congregational Life
Jan Branting	Social Ministry
Amy Knobbe	Parish Education
Doug Krueger	Memorials
Roger Potts	Property
Cindy Eberspacher	Stewardship/Finance

Current monthly council minutes and reports are available outside the office.

Contact the church office to get connected to a council member.



Troop 30 would like to thank the members of Grace for helping them purchase their new tents. A few of them can be seen in the background.

Grace Lutheran Church
2225 Washington Street
Lincoln NE 68502
402-474-1505
office@egrace.org

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