



Good News of Grace

July 2021

Pastors

Michael Buchhorn
Erik Christensen

Family Worship Times

Sunday: 8:00am &
10:30am
Sunday School
9:15am



904 Logan

Wayne, NE

402-375-1905

grow
with US
in
grace

“America, May God Thy Gold Refine”

As I was doing some looking ahead to our upcoming worship services, I took a closer look at the familiar song, “America, the Beautiful.” What struck me about the song was the interesting balance between seeing the beauty of America with its fruited plain, amber waves of grain and purple mountain majesty but also its prayer that God would shed His grace on the nation.

In the second and third stanzas of the song there are prayers that God would mend her every flaw and that God would her gold refine. Someone in commenting on those verses said, “This country has always been, and will always be, a work in progress. The Founding Fathers never claimed it was perfect.” The shortfalls of the nation as originally constituted under the Articles of Confederation left room for improvement. The preamble to our Constitution which served as the replacement said, “We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union... establish this Constitution for the United States of America.” A more perfect union was the goal. The process set forth in the same document for amending the constitution was a reminder that further improvements might be needed. In each generation citizens have been reminded to give thanks for the blessings of God and seek His aid in mending any shortcomings.

It is sad that many of our fellow citizens seem to be losing that perspective. Some seem fixated only with the nation’s flaws. You no doubt have heard the rhetoric describing our nation as systemically racist, intolerant, and oppressive. Others seem unwilling to recognize that there is anything less than perfect about the union as is presently exists.

I think in such times, prayers like the ones contained in “America the Beautiful” are appropriate. This Independence Day as we celebrate the great blessings we enjoy in this good land, we have much to thank God for including the fruited plains, the freedom which our forebearers came to this land seeking, the heroes who preserved that freedom even at the cost of their own lives, alabaster cities filled with good things.

Is there still room for improvement? Yes. The place that improvement begins is on our knees seeking the mercy of almighty God. Maybe that is the larger problem our nation faces. So many seem to have forgotten Him. When we forget about Him, our hope is diminished and we degenerate into people who seek only what is good in our own eyes instead of the common good as articulated by God. It is God who calls us to live for something higher than ourselves.

As Christian citizens we can recognize the good in our land while also seeing the challenges. We can do that because we see the same in ourselves. We can recognize our blessings while acknowledging our need to continue to grow in godliness. That is why we can make no better use of our freedom than to gather together to call upon God to guide us as we seek improvement. We seek that improvement for ourselves that God would help us to repent of our sins, be mindful of His blessings, and make wise use of gifts. We seek that improvement in our nation as we pray for our fellow citizens, for those in authority over us and that we ourselves would be good citizens.

This is what Paul wrote to Timothy, *“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.”*(1 Tim 2:1–2). To lead peaceful, quiet lives, godly and dignified in every way is a goal with seeking.

So let us join together this Independence Day and thank God for our nation and pray that God would bless our native land by shedding His grace on it from sea to shining sea.

In Christ,
Pastor Buchhorn

Chicken Days Help is needed for our Chicken Days Float. We are looking for volunteers to decorate the chicken day parade float on July 9th at 7PM at the church. We also will need a few people to help us with walking beside and riding on the float during the parade. If you want to help during the parade, we will meet at church at 8AM on July 10th. If you are interested in helping with that you can contact Pastor Erik via the church office or contact Sara Ruwe and Symphony Jareske for more information as well.

National Youth Gathering Fundraiser Our next NYG fundraiser will be a car wash on August 1st from 2pm until 5pm! We hope you can join us as we will be raising money to go to Houston, Texas in July of 2022! And all money that we raise will help us meet the goal of making pastor Erik shave his head and beard, and possibly even kiss a pig at our Rally Day event on August 15th!

High School Sunday School Class We want to invite all of our High School Youth and Parents to the High School Sunday School class that Jeff and Colleen Simpson are leading! We will continue to meet in the fellowship hall right by the sanctuary. Come join us as we want you to be strong in your faith, and Biblical knowledge since God promises to speak to us through His Word. Let's continue to build strong relationships together in fellowship as well!

MidWeek Classes Because of the timing of Palm Sunday this year we will be waiting until September 1st to start meeting for MidWeek Classes. We look forward to having all of our 3rd graders through 8th graders active with them. The church office will be sending out letters as usual in mid July to see who all is planning on attending these classes with us. Watch for those and for more information soon.

Jr. High and High School Trip to Adventureland Theme Park July 17th (6am to 11pm)

July is a busy month... With Chicken Days, and the County Fair, but we hope you will make time for one more event for your family! Our hope is that on July 17th you will meet Pastor Erik and the other youth group members at church at 6am to travel to Altoona, Iowa to ride roller coasters, slip and slide at the water park and have a fun fellowship time of youth group bonding. We will be home by approximately 11pm if not sooner, as we will leave no later than 6:30pm. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Erik. As we will be driving to Altoona, we need some parental help getting us to the theme park, and then getting us home. If you can chaperone and drive, please let me know that as well. You will need money for food, souvenirs, and anything else you would like throughout the day. Please be sure to bring enough sunscreen, church appropriate clothes that can get wet if riding water rides, water shoes, and a change of clothes for the ride back home.

Visionary Parenting Bible Class with Pastor Erik

Pastor Erik is continuing his Visionary Parenting Class throughout the month of July. He is very excited to welcome any parent that is interested in diving into God's word, and who want to be connected to a strong community that is ready to offer support and help as you travel the path of parenthood. Together we will cover great topics like God's grand vision for the home, a God-filled normal life, Biblical fatherhood and motherhood, family worship, multi-generational faithfulness, a safe home, and disciplines that disciple. What you will hear and learn is that God has brought your family together for a grand purpose! Our study called Visionary Parenting will help you discover and lean into this awesome opportunity. Through studying God's Word in this Visionary Parenting series, you will be inspired to catch a fresh vision of God's purpose for your family, while also being inspired to build faith and character in the hearts of your kids.

Duo Club The Duo Club is a group of our senior members who gather for Bible Study and fellowship once a month. The group helps to support and promote the work of the Lutheran Laymen's League which produces the Lutheran Hour radio program. In July, the group will meet at the Wayne Senior Center following lunch on July 20. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. Everyone is invited to join them. If you are planning to eat, please let the senior center know by noon the day before. Hope to see you there.

L.I.F.T. Outing to Lewis & Clark Lake This family friendly outing open to all congregation members is scheduled for Sunday, July 18th. We will be meeting at the Weigand Marina on the Nebraska side at 4pm. Bring your beach gear for swimming, boating, relaxing on the beach, and so much more. Join us for an evening meal together. The meat will be provided; we just ask that you bring a side dish or two to share and your own drinks; plus a lawn chair or blanket. Have any questions please contact Julie Bose or Teresa Tiedtke.

VBS THANK YOU: As we wrap up this year's Vacation Bible School, we hope you are as excited as we are to take the lessons about God and His great love for all of His children out of Mystery Island and into all the world! The kids had so much fun with lessons, crafts, and games. They shot off our paper mache volcano, and they even got to watch a movie under the stars. We also raised enough money to feed over 150 meals to kids in Haiti, and we were blessed to take wonderful care packages to our local nursing homes. All of this would not have been possible without your support though! And we want to say a huge thank you to everyone who worked tirelessly before, during and after our VBS program! We can't name you all because the list is too exhaustive, but to share a little glimpse of the joy that you brought to our families we encourage you to check out the wrap-up video that can be found on our church Facebook page. Again, we hope you know that it is only because of you that all of this took place! We are already excited for next year's Vacation Bible School and will continue to see how God is at work amongst us in the meantime!

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid – June 9, 2021

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid met June 9, 2021, with 8 members and Pastor Buchhorn present. Pastor Buchhorn led the Bible study, “Therefore.” Bible verses were read explaining the meaning of “therefore.” We closed with prayer and singing “On My Heart I Print Your Image.”

Jan Casey, Christian Growth Chairman, read a memorial for Lanora Sorensen, entitled “On the Shadow of Death” and a prayer. Lanora passed away April 22, 2021. Jan also had the ladies read sentences of a Father’s Day Prayer, “Remember our Heavenly Father.”

The business meeting was opened by the group reciting the LWML Pledge. Roll call was taken and minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer’s report was filed for audit. Committee reports were given. Sewing reported tying seven quilts and will sew again June 24th. Jan Casey sent a thank you to Kathy Satteran for quilt tops she had put tighter for the group to tie. Visiting committee reported sending many cards. Grace Kanitz reported 700 UPC labels will be sent in.

Acting President Mary Lou Erxleben handed out the LWML Convention time schedule for the group to view.

Kinship Pointe and Country View are once again opened for visitation. We will decide in the fall if we will start to visit again.

A “Mite” memorial will be made in memory of Lanora Sorensen.

The birthday song was sung in honor of Mary Janke and Verdelle Reeg.

The next Ladies Aid meeting will be held July 14, 2021. The meeting closed the Lord’s Prayer.

Sunday School Updates and Reminders

The Children's Sunday School program will continue regular instruction, 9:15AM to 10:15AM, during the months of June, July, and August. During these summer months, beginning with June, music practice for the Sunday School students, both Lower and Upper Divisions, will take a break, and as we look toward the fall, we will hope to bring back this experience after Rally Day. Although we are not currently practicing music we have started meeting downstairs for a joint Sunday School and Bible Study opening at 9:15AM. Everyone wanting to participate in any type of study should meet with our group for snacks, a quick Bible review, and then teachers will take the kids to their respective classrooms. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Erik using the information below. Also, please continue to check for updates, in the bulletin, newsletter, and our Facebook page.

The Sunday School will continue to work to provide a safe educational experience for all of our children. As such, masks will continue to be provided, and teachers will be encouraged to continue their current cleaning practices. We appreciate your continued support!

The next Sunday School Teacher Meeting time is scheduled for July 15th at 6:30PM. Our hope is that this will give us an opportunity to complete plans for Rally Day which will take place this year on August 15th during the 10:30AM service.

For the months of June and July, regarding our service project, the Sunday School will be requesting deflated soccer balls and small air pumps for boys ages 8-12. As always, if you are interested in helping with this activity, the Sunday School will be collecting any donations for this project in the marked bin by the Sunday School office, in the basement. Thank you for your continued generosity!

For more information, and updates concerning any future plans for Sunday School activities, please make sure to join and routinely check our Facebook page. Join by searching Grace Lutheran Sunday School, Wayne, NE for updates and weather-related announcements.

To close, we sincerely appreciate the patience of all of our Sunday School parents and students as we strive to continue to offer a Christ centered educational experience. If you have any questions or concerns, or if you have an interest in teaching, subbing, or assisting in a non-teaching fashion, please contact Pastor Erik by phone at 402-375-1905 or by email at pastorerik@gracewayne.com. Thank you!

Respectfully,

The Sunday School Program (sundayschool@gracewayne.com)

Intentionally blank for calendar

Intentionally blank for calendar

Mission Council Minutes

June 21, 2021 7:30 p.m.

The Mission Council at Grace Lutheran Church met at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 2021. The following members were present: Jerry Echtenkamp, Deb Jensen, Justin Anderson, Pastor Buchhorn, Angie Beiermann, Dwight Mock, Chuck Potosnyak, Chad Janke, Brian Frevert, and Pastor Erik, Neal Greenwood.

The meeting was called to order by Jerry Echtenkamp.

Pastor Buchhorn led a devotion and prayer.

The minutes from the May 10, 2021 Mission Council Meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Justin and seconded by Chad to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

Deb Jensen presented the Financial Reports for May 2021. It was moved by Chad and seconded by Neal to approve the financial reports. Motion carried. VBS wrapped up and everything went over great. Pastor Erik stated they did go over budget a little. Some of the items purchased are able to be reused in the future for VBS. A donation of \$1200 was also made to VBS.

The Board of Elders report was given by Chuck Potosnyak. The Elders met on June 7, 2021. Pastor Buchhorn opened the meeting with prayer. A study of Shepherding or Strays Workshop Session 2 followed. Membership transactions were discussed. Two transfers in are still pending, one transfer out was approved. The committal service of Lanora Sorensen who died April 22, 2021 was held May 28, 2021 at Greenwood Cemetery. Jr. Confirmation and Midweek is on hiatus and will begin again on September 1, 2021. Rally Day will be held in the Willow Bowl at Wayne State College on August 15, 2021. The board of Elders will be coordinating the lunch. There is a need for two Sunday School teachers. A Sunday

School Retreat will be held on June 26, 2021. Pastor Erik will be meeting with other Campus Ministry leaders at the District Office to gather and share ideas. Plans for Vacation Bible School are proceeding well. Vacancies at St. Paul, Winside, and Trinity, Martinsburg have been filled with seminary graduates. Ordinations are set for June 19 and July 18, 2021. One of our pastors will be covering the worship service in Osmond on July 25, 2021 for Pastor Lilienkamp. The changes made in light of the Corona Virus Pandemic for Communion Distribution will begin on June 13, 2021. Saturday Family Communion Hour will continue in June. A Recognition Brunch for Pastor Erik, Derek Jareske, and Micah Schut was held on May 16, 2021. Pastor Flo from Siouxland Hispanic Ministry updated our congregation during Bible Class on May 23, 2021. Pastor Erik will be on vacation June 30 - July 8, 2021.

Trustee Report, Justin Anderson - Jerry did some work on the water heater tried cleaning out the bottom heating element but unable to get water heater repaired. The hot water is currently working, the 50gal water heater is about 10yrs old. Zach's believe that is the life span of the water heater and recommended that we replace it. Zach's quoted a new water heater at about \$650. Motion made by Chuck and second by Deb to have Zach's replace the water heater. A list of needed repairs for the preschool has been received and we will get working on that maybe in July. Compressor for the fire sprinkler system is getting loud will get in touch with the sprinkler company to come evaluate compressor.

Campus Ministry, Jerry Echtenkamp referred to Pastor Erik for the report. A list of needed repairs was given to Pastor Erik from Micah will try and complete before the new tenants move in.

Education- Heather Reinhardt submitted a written report. The Sunday School teachers met on Thursday, May 13th. A Sunday School Teacher retreat will be held Sat., June 26th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The summer curriculum was decided, "3 in 1: Discovery Our Triune God" which will begin in July. Current teachers should alert Pastor Erik if their plans to teach next year have changed or if they would like to teach a different grade. Treats have been very much appreciated during the Sunday School hour courtesy of KimBerly Hansen. Symphony Jareske will be organizing a float for the Chicken Show on Saturday, July 10th. In addition to Sunday Schools participation in the float, preschool has discussed throwing out promotional items during the parade to promote preschool. Promotional items such as wristbands and plastic cups are being considered.

Preschool-Angie Beiermann reported the preschool has 9 children enrolled as of this point and Keila has signed her contract.

Old Business:

Ongoing Facility Projects-

In regards to the main street sign Jerry has talked with the pastor in Plainview and they did give a good recommendation for SignTech. Dwight will be in touch with SignTech about beginning the project.

Nothing new on the east door project at this time.

District circuit items – St. Paul, Winside had a very nice ordination on Sunday.

COVID Precautions– Still getting closer to normal.

Communion at the altar rail has resumed and elders continue to review other changes.

Financial Secretary and Counters- Dwight and Irene Mock will be the counters for July.

Motion made by Justin and second by Chad to nominate six couples for

counting and also add the financial secretary on the annual election ballot.

New Business

Church car is in need of some repairs. Will take car to Heikes Automotive and get an estimate on repairs before completing them.

Fellowship events - Pastor Eric and Pastor Buchhorn would like to try and get congregation together to socialize at the church, thinking to do a potluck or game night. Rally Sunday at the Willow Bowl is August 15. The Adult choir director this Fall will be Sara Wibben from WSC. Wakefield school donated a projector and smart board.

The meeting closed with the Lord's prayer.

The Next Meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angie Beiermann

GRACE FAMILY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Gene Claussen
- 2 Levi Heithold
- 3 Sheri Kemp & Carter Lubke
- 4 Chris Nissen
- 5 Cheryl Lessmann, Sally Lubberstedt, Ferris Meyer, Scot Saul & Judy Sorensen
- 6 Cassie Heithold
- 7 KimBerly Hansen
- 8 Nick Diediker
- 9 Jessie Heithold, Tyler Reinhardt, Ethan Sebade & Freya Young
- 10 Baylen Beiermann, Melodie Longe & Mike Wurdeman
- 11 Lainey Ekberg & Samara Evans
- 13 Nancy Endicott
- 14 Kortney Rees, Jon Rethwisch & Joy Smith
- 15 Debra Broders, Craig Fredrickson, Hartley Heithold, Grayson Hoffman, Deb Jensen, Jennifer Schaefer & Rhonda Sebade
- 16 Donovan Doescher & Sarah Surber
- 19 Shelley Frevert & Dan Tiedtke
- 21 Kathleen Johs & Garrett Schafer
- 22 Jessi Jensen
- 23 Tyler Bodlak, Virgil Loewe & Chance Schultz
- 24 Fauneil Bennett, Betty Mitchell, Bryce Sebade & Colleen Simpson
- 25 Louise Green & Courtney Volk
- 26 Pam Ekberg & Trudy Schultz
- 27 Delmar Heithold & Josh Widner
- 28 Candice Rastede
- 29 Robert Haisch, Mardelle Hallstrom & Carl Rump

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Elder on duty

July 4	8:00 am.	Lonnie Matthes
	10:30 am.	Troy Stowater
July 11	8:00 am.	Chuck Potosnyak
	10:30 am.	Josh Ruwe
July 18	8:00 am.	Doug Heithold
	10:30 am.	Scott Hansen
July 25	8:00 am.	Troy Stowater
	10:30 am.	Lonnie Matthes

Acolyte

July 4	8:00 am.	Maddux Heithold & Konnor Kai
	10:30 am.	Dylan Jensen & Graycen Trautman
July 11	8:00 am.	Payton Junck & Taven Ocampo
	10:30 am.	Rachel Holland & Landen Sharer
July 18	8:00 am.	Drew Reinhardt & Hallie Heithold
	10:30 am.	Lanee Rethwisch & Jade Lilienkamp
July 25	8:00 am.	Reese Rethwisch & Hunter Ruwe
	10:30 am.	Brodrick Tiedtke & Blake Kneifl

Lay Readers

July 4	8:00 am.	Jeff Simpson
	10:30 am.	Louise Green
July 11	8:00 am.	Doug Temme
	10:30 am.	Brian Kesting
July 18	8:00 am.	Irene Mock
	10:30 am.	Jo Junck
July 25	8:00 am.	Hallie Heithold
	10:30 am.	Jennifer Kesting

Greeters

July 4	8:00 am.	
	10:30 am.	Don & Lisa Nelson
July 11	8:00 am.	Jaret & Nicole Harmer
	10:30 am.	Chad & Pam Janke
July 18	8:00 am.	
	10:30 am.	Justin & Megan Anderson
July 25	8:00 am.	Gene & Jan Casey
	10:30 am.	Jerry & Loree Echtenkamp

Altar Guild: Diane Hefti & Darci Slama

Counters for July Dwight and Irene Mock

Grace Lutheran Church
904 Logan
Wayne, Nebraska 68787

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED