

DECEMBER 2023



Good News of Grace

Family Worship Times

Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Pastor

Michael Buchhorn

904 Logan Wayne, NE 402-375-1905

A Different Kind of Christmas

In the midst of the conflict between Israel and Hamas, I understand that Christmas will be observed differently in Bethlehem this year. Several news articles have shared the decision to cancel all public festivities in Bethlehem. It has been reported for example that for the first time since modern celebrations began, the birthplace of Jesus will not decorate the Manger Square tree.

An ambassador to the area wrote: "This year in Bethlehem, there will be no Christmas tree, choirs, lights or decorations. The 100-plus-year-old Christmas parade composed of marching bands and bagpipers from the parish scout troops has been canceled. Instead, by edict of the Patriarch and Church Heads of Jerusalem, this December will be very much like that first Christmas 2,000 years ago. No gifts, no celebrations, no fireworks or festivities-- Just a babe born on a deep winter night under a bright star."

The decision is understandable in many ways. In the face of conflict, terrorism, security concerns, and the rest, the twinkling lights and bagpipers on parade seem very far out of character with what so many are feeling in their hearts.

But for me the news from Bethlehem is a good reminder that while all of the external trappings of Christmas can be suspended or omitted entirely, the unchangeable reality of what happened there two millennia ago dare never be forgotten. When the parties are cancelled and the parades are stilled, the one part of Christmas that is absolutely essential is Jesus. Hope and salvation do not

come to us through our gift-giving and decorating but through the wonder of God coming in human flesh and blood to save us. The circumstances of the world may force the cancellation of festivities but thank God the world's circumstances did not cause God to cancel His plan to send a Savior.

Sadly, those of us living in a place of peace and prosperity can lose sight of that central truth. The story of Christ's coming can get increasingly pushed aside by all of our other activities as though Jesus was the disposable part of the celebration. But the news from Bethlehem is a sad reminder that for all of our Christmas card sentiment concerning "peace on earth," this world is still filled with much conflict. Maybe we don't even have to look to the other side of the world to see it, there may be enough conflict even in our own families to make the point clearly enough. In such a world now more than ever we are called to draw near to Christ who drew near to us. Peace on earth begins with the declaration of God's goodwill toward humanity revealed in the Child of Bethlehem.

This year's Christmas will be different in Bethlehem. Maybe it should be different in our homes as well. The ambassador said in Bethlehem the focus will be "Just a babe born on a deep winter night under a bright star." I think we would do well to center our celebration on the same thing.

May God bless you in this season of hope and joy as you fix your eyes on Christ. In Christ, Pastor Buchhorn

THE GIVING TREE: The Ladies Aid will be putting up the basement Christmas tree again this year and we are asking your help in decorating it. Ornaments of your choice. Suggestions include hats, gloves, mittens, socks, toothbrushes, underwear and other useful items. All donations will be given to Orphan Grain Train.



ADVENT/CHRISTMAS DAY SERIES

Every morning, the sun rises, alarm clocks sound, foggy eyes open, and then, at some point, we get dressed. Mark Twain once said, "Clothes make the man." Twain was right on that statement. And it's this King, Jesus, first wrapped in the rags of a swaddle, who then hangs naked on the cross in order to clothe us in the riches of His righteousness. This year's midweek Advent Sermon Series tells some Old Testament stories of the clothing of the coming King:

"The Clothes of Conviction."

Wednesday, December 6: 6:15 PM: "And the Lord God made for Adam and his wife garments of skins and clothed them" (Genesis 3:21). **"God Becomes a Tailor"**

Wednesday, December 13: 6:15 PM: "To each and all of his brothers he gave a change of clothes" (Genesis 45:22). **"Clothes, Clothes, Clothes, All Kinds of Clothes"**

Wednesday, December 20: 6:15 PM: "The word reached the King of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes" Jonah 3:6. **"Sackcloth, the Material for Repentant Clothes"**

Christmas Day, December 25: 9:00 AM: "And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths" Luke 2:7. **"Jesus' Manger Clothes"**

Hark the Herald Angels Sing! The Children's Christmas program is scheduled as our **10:30 a.m. Sunday morning worship service December 24**. (This time change is just because of this year's calendar peculiarities.) Practices have begun following church on Sundays. The final rehearsal on Sunday, December 17 will go a little longer since our annual Jesus' birthday party will also be held that day. We do very much hope that all of our congregation's children will be a part of the program.

Thank you to all who donated items in our Thanksgiving Food Drive and for those who helped to deliver the items to the Wayne Food Pantry. Your generosity is much appreciated.



BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE - - This year the Blue Christmas Service will be held Sunday, December 17 at 6:00 PM. Many former Stephen Ministry members of Grace Lutheran Church will be supporting this worship service with Pastor Lilenkamp leading the service. Christmas can be a painful time for some as it may be the first Christmas without a loved family member. The constant refrain of "Jingle Bells" and other Christmas songs may only make the loss more unbearable. The commercial trappings of Christmas are a reminder of what is lost. In addition to loss through death, there are many factors that cause sadness during this joyful season. The Blue Christmas service offers needed space and time to acknowledge human sadness and find healing through God's Word. The service will reflect on the Christmas joy of the Savior in a quiet reflective way. A time of "remembrance" will be observed by lighting a candle in remembrance of loved ones or any other loss. Prayer shawls will be given as a physical token of Christian love, and a fellowship time with refreshments will follow the service. Please invite family and friends who have lost a loved one in the past couple years, or who are struggling to return to normal after COVID. Service time: December 17 at 6 PM, Grace Lutheran Church.

PRAYER SHAWLS The Blue Christmas service will be held on December 17, and we plan to give Prayer Shawls again this year. If you are currently working on a shawl, please finish it. There is also yarn available in the church library. All completed shawls can be left in the church library on the bench. Thank you for your help. The shawls are definitely a blessing to those who receive them.



Holiday Cards

Consider sending a Christmas card to our sister in Christ; as she will be staying at the Hope House through the holidays.

Pam Nolte
Room 203
8030 Farnam Drive
Omaha, NE 68114

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

NEW MEN'S BIBLE GROUP will be offered 1st & 3rd Saturday mornings at 7:30 AM at Cup of Grace. The class will be taught by Pastor Lilienkamp. Men, being the spiritual leaders of the home, are especially invited to:

- Enjoy meeting with other men to discuss and apply God's Word for these unsettling times.
- Support and pray for one another, the church and world community.
- Enjoy casual conversation and encouragement.
- Have breakfast and coffee and be on your way by 8:30 AM.
- The group will be discussing "hard passages" of the Bible. These hard passages provide opportunity to talk about many hard circumstances of being a Christian man today.

Women's Bible Study for December is scheduled for Sunday, December 10th @ 5:30pm hosted at Julie Bose's home. This Bible study will be fellowship oriented as we will be enjoy holiday treats (that you are welcome to bring), and fun holiday crafts. Reminder; this is a low key group that plans to meet monthly but that doesn't mean to join you need to be there every month. Come as it fits in your schedule, all are welcome! Questions contact Julie Bose or Teresa Tiedtke.

Grace Ladies Aid will have their annual Christmas coffee on Wed, Dec. 13 at 2 P.M. in the church basement. All women of the congregation are invited to bring their favorite coffee mug and join us for an afternoon of Christian fellowship.

CHILDREN'S *Sunday School*

Hello Grace Congregation From Your 4th and 5th Grade Classes and Lora Heithold,

Here we are, already in December! The Sunday School 4th and 5th graders have been learning many great life lessons from our Sunday School curriculum as mentioned in prior letters. This month the Sunday School will be reading lessons from Exodus and Numbers starting with Exodus 17:1-7 “water from the rock,” then Exodus 31:18-32:35 “the idle idol,” Exodus 25:1-19, 40 “a tent for God,” and finishing the month with a lesson from the book of Numbers 13:1-14:38 “the twelve spies.” I share these with each of you so you may read along with us and engage in conversation with our Sunday School students. Along with all these lessons 4th and 5th grades will also be taking some time to learn about the wonderful gifts we have in our Church Year. The 4th and 5th grade classes will be learning about the Advent season in the Christian Church, and how these wonderful seasons are opportunities to praise and honor God while we wait in great anticipation. We will answer the questions about why we celebrate this season and what our church symbols mean to us. We invite all our congregation members to join our class this Advent season by holding Advent devotions in your home and lighting an Advent wreath. Have a blessed Advent season! How truly blessed we are that our Savior would come to earth for us and walk alongside each of us. Our prayer is that each of you will be filled with the Holy Spirit this Advent while we wait and watch with great hope and anticipation for the coming of our Lord.

Youth Group HAPPENINGS



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

*Cup
of Grace*

Saturday, December 2nd
@ 5:30pm

*Gather
around
the Shepherd
with
Bible Study
& Supper*



**UGLY
SWEATERS**

SHOW THEM OFF
PRIZES FOR THE TOP
FESTIVE ATTIRE

WHITE Elephant Gift
EXCHANGE



\$15

spending limit

If you want to participant
please bring a gift

Holiday Ham Sales **continue to sell**

Thank you to all who are selling hams! Please continue selling we have a total of **150 hams** that need a good home! With your support we will be able to offer more events with little if no cost to our youth and their families!

Cornhole TOURNAMENT RECAP

Thank you to the 10 youth: Kortney, Alivia, Courtney, Brodrick, Linnea, Chase, Colston, Myles, Emma, Bryn for joining our first corn hole tournament!



Doubles Champs

1st Place: Bryn & Emma
2nd Place: Chase & Colston

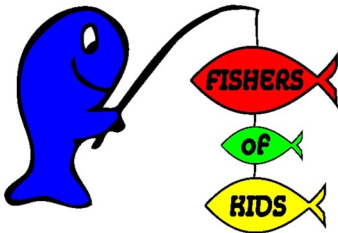


Single Champs

1st Place: Myles
2nd Place: Colston

Questions contact Lora 402-518-0791 or Teresa 402-369-2653
Parent Volunteers are always welcome!

Fisher's of Kids Preschool



The preschoolers ended the month of October by learning about the parts of a pumpkin, and also tasting roasted pumpkin seeds! Our fall parties were fun with students enjoying games and treats! In November, we celebrated Veterans Day by learning a new song, and students took home flags to give to veterans. We discussed giving thanks for what we have, and students shared ideas on what they are thankful for. Handmade turkeys were finished and are ready to be displayed during our Thanksgiving program on Tuesday, November 21st. Cookies will also be decorated to share with others after the program. At the end of the month, our theme is Winter Holidays.

Next month, we will prepare for Christmas by discovering "What God Wants For Christmas." Students will be making ornaments, and having their Christmas parties and gift exchange. Enjoy the time with your families as we celebrate Thanksgiving!



Fishers of Kids Preschool Thanksgiving program.

The Fishers of Kids students did a wonderful job of reminding us to be thankful at their program on November 21. The students sang songs of thanksgiving and their art displaying the things they were thankful for was on display.



Thank you to all who have supported campus ministry as we serve the students of Wayne State College and try to provide opportunities for students to live out their faith. A particular word of thanks to all who have provided meals for the Sunday Supper during the fall semester. If you would like to help for the spring semester, a sign up list is on the bulletin board in the church library. (Food to serve 10 is needed.) Also a big word of thanks to Dan and Bonnie Hansen for helping to coordinate and host our meals. Good Luck with your final exams students!

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid

November 8, 2023

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid met November 8, 2023, with 16 members and Pastor Lilienkamp and Darlene present. Pastor Lilienkamp and Darlene shared information about Alaska Missions for Christ.

This is a non-profit mission organization reaching the lost in Alaska with the love and grace of Jesus.

President, Ellen Heinemann, opened the business meeting by leading us in reciting the LWML Pledge. Christian Growth Chairman, Mary Lou Erxleben, shared a Mustard Seed devotion entitled "In Times of Need a Healing Touch, based on Matthew 8:2-3.

The secretary's report was given and approved. The treasurer's report was reported and filed for audit. Correspondence was received and shared from Lutheran World Relief, LAMP, Last Man Down and a thank you from Haven House for the 12 blankets we tied. Also information in regards to the possibility of a bus to Omaha for National convention.

Committee Reports:

- Betty Wittig reported on the greeting card ministry.
- Ruth Victor reported that the group met on October 26th and tied 6 quilts. They will not meet again until January.
- Grace Kanitz stated UPC labels were slow in collecting.
- Ellen Heinemann remembered the confirmands with pocket crosses this month. Bonnadell Koch will do something for the confirmands in November, Rhonda Sebade in December and Kathleen Johs in January.

Old Business:

Reports were given by those attending the Fall Rally in Martinsburg. The Spring Workshop will be hosted by Immanuel, Laurel, NE.

New Business:

The December 13th meeting will be a Christmas tea for members and all women of the congregation are invited. Each member should provide 2 dozen cookies and cookies will be distributed to shut-ins. The Ladies Aid will sponsor the Giving Tree and donations will go to Orphan Grain Train. We will accept any donation – mittens, hats, scarves, underwear, socks, etc.

Officers for next year will be the same as this year – President Ellen Heinemann, Vice-President Rhonda Sebade, Secretary Jan Casey, Treasurer Verna Mae Baier, and Christian Growth Mary Lou Erxleben.

No cash donations will be made to any organizations at this time. Will give as needed throughout the year.

Information on Mission Grant #2 – Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, North Dakota for \$100,000 was distributed for our reading.

The birthday song was sung for Bea Kinslow and Bonnadell Koch. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Annual Voters' Meeting Minutes

Grace Lutheran Church

November 19, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Mission Council President, Craig Evans.

Pastor Buchhorn led with an opening prayer.

There were 69 voting members, 3 college guests, and 10 children present at the meeting.

Secretary minutes from the November 13, 2022 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded. The motion carried.

The nomination committee report was given listing the names of the nominees who accepted nomination and were willing to serve should they be elected. Craig called for any additional nominations to be presented. There being no additional nominations from the floor, a motion to accept the ballot as presented was made and seconded. The motion carried.

The assembly proceeded by casting their ballots. The following members were elected for 2024: Secretary-Michelle Ekberg, Treasurer-Louise Green, Elder(s) 2 Elected-Chad Janke and Chuck Potosnyak, Mission Council 2 Elected -Nick Diediker and Parker Janke.

REPORTS:

Written reports were presented from a variety of entities and officers. Please see the handout package distributed at the meeting for complete reports. Noted are points made during the meeting.

Treasurer's report: Louise Green presented the 2023 treasurer report. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. The motion carried.

Elder's report: The board of Elders' report was reviewed. Chuck Potosnyak highlighted the completion of the pictorial directory, and encouraged participation in the various Bible Study opportunities available to the congregation. The board of Elders along with others serves as the congregation's call committee so the associate pastor vacancy led to many additional meetings as a part of that group.

Preschool report from Rhonda Sebade: The written report was reviewed. Rhonda highlighted that a Thanksgiving program is scheduled on November 21, 2023 at 10:30 AM in the church basement with refreshments to follow. The preschool still would welcome volunteers to assist.

Lutheran High Northeast report from Julie Bose was reviewed. Craig highlighted the importance of Lutheran High fundraising events like Beef Blast which are essential for many aspects of the school.

Congregations for Concordia University, Nebraska (CCUNE) report from Sonya Tompkins was reviewed. Concordia had the largest number of incoming students in 50 years during 2023. All full-time students from CCUNE

congregation receive a \$1,150 scholarship for the 2023-24 school year. Grace presently has one of its members, Sarah Tompkins, studying to be a Lutheran school teacher at Concordia University.

Campus Ministry report by Craig Evans was reviewed. The next semester meal sign-up will be posted soon if you would like to provide a meal. Thanks were expressed to Dan and Bonnie Hansen for helping to coordinate the Sunday meals and for those who have prepared food for the meals.

The Memorial Committee report from KimBerly Hansen was reviewed. KimBerly highlighted the process by which decisions on memorial projects are made. A major project during 2023 was the kitchen appliance upgrade.

The Endowment Committee report from Craig Evans was reviewed. A brief explanation of the mission projects supported in 2023 was given along with the list of recommended 2024 grant recipients. The missionaries/entities recommended for a gift of \$5,000 each in this distribution include: Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Preschool of Winnebago, Lutheran Hour Ministry, Alaska Missions for Christ, Rev. Daniel Conrad-Missionary to the Dominican Republic, Siouxland Hispanic Ministry, Rev. Brian & Keah Payne-Missionaries to Tanzania, Mainstreet Living-television ministry, Tuition assistance for Seminarian Riley Hlavac. A summary of the work presently being done by many of these recipients was included in the handout set.

The written circuit forum report and LCEF report were reviewed without further comment.

Written reports from auxiliary groups were reviewed.

During the Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid and LWML report from Ellen Heinemann mentioned the group does make Greeting cards including Christmas cards available for sale in the basement by the Sunday School office.

The Grace Altar Guild report included a mention that the group has coordinated a project to remake the Christmon Tree ornaments.

In addition to the written report the Kitchen Sisters expressed gratitude to those who helped supply food or who came to help serve when funeral meals are served.

The written Call Committee report from Chuck Potosnyak was reviewed which explained the call process for a Parish Assistant which led to the congregation extended a call to DCE Brian Pike from Lafayette, Indiana. The congregation was informed the day of the meeting that after prayerful consideration, Mr. Pike decided to decline the congregation's call. Given that decision, a discussion was held on the future direction for the Parish Assistant Call Process. We are also entering the time for completing applications to our colleges or seminaries if it is the congregation's desire to seek a candidate via one of these routes. Since calling an ordained minister from the field, a candidate for ordination completing their seminary training, a vicar, a commissioned minister from the field, a candidate for commissioning or a DCE intern each involves a different search process, the call committee felt it was desirable to see the direction the congregation preferred the call committee to focus on.

A straw poll was distributed to the voters concerning various possible ways to fill our called worker vacancy. The voters were asked to rank their preference from most to least desirable. The top preference was to pursue a candidate for ordination (a graduating seminary student). The call committee will now focus its efforts on this path forward.

The Congregation Chairman written report from Craig Evans was reviewed. He highlighted his gratitude to those that help behind the scenes to help make Grace run smoothly. Appreciation was also expressed to the outgoing Mission Council members for all of their help and contributions this past year. Craig also thanked Pastor Lilienkamp for his willingness to serve part time since his return from Alaska and to Pastor Buchhorn for his leadership.

Pastor Emeritus Lilienkamp added to his written report an expression of his prayer to finish his time of doing active ministry 'well'. He spoke of his mentor's and how they lived their final chapter's 'well'.

In addition to his written **Senior Pastor** report, Pastor Buchhorn thanked the many volunteers who helped on the variety of projects that the congregation was able to complete during the year including the donors who helped fund them. He offered a special word of thanks to Pastor Lilienkamp for his continuing service in our congregation on a part time basis since September. He also expressed gratitude to those serving on our congregation's call committee for their input and time given to the many extra meetings required..

The proposed budget for 2024 was presented and reviewed. The proposed budget anticipated total expenses for 2024 of \$489,294 which was an increase of approximately \$17,000 from 2023's budget. A motion to approve the proposed 2024 budget was made and seconded. The motion carried.

A Preschool Landscaping Proposal was discussed. As a part of a sprinkler system expansion in front of the preschool an old driveway was removed. A question concerning whether to retain the Main Street curb cut in front of the building by reinstalling a portion of the driveway or to eliminate the curb cut with solid curbing was presented to the voters. After discussion the voters were asked to choose between the two proposals. Option A which involves replacing the curb is to create a uniform grass area between the street and the sidewalk across the entirety of the church's property in front of the preschool received the majority of votes and will be followed up by the Mission Council. A preliminary bid for this work was \$2,700.

A motion was made and seconded to approve these grants from the Endowment Fund to the missionaries/entities recommended by the Endowment Grant Committee. The missionaries/entities recommended for a gift of \$5,000 each in this distribution include: Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Preschool of Winnebago, Lutheran Hour Ministry, Alaska Missions for Christ, Rev. Daniel Conrad-Missionary to the Dominican Republic, Siouxland Hispanic Ministry, Rev. Brian & Keah Payne-Missionaries to Tanzania, Mainstreet Living-television ministry, Tuition assistance for Seminarian Riley Hlavac. The motion was approved.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Ekberg

**Grace Lutheran Church
Mission Council Minutes
November 19, 2023**

This meeting followed the Annual Voters' Meeting.

Members present at this meeting were Craig Evans, Pastor Buchhorn, Louise Green, Chuck Potosnyak, Mike Temme, Lowell Johnson, Dwight Mock, Ron Sebade, Pam Janke, and Michelle Ekberg.

A bid for snow removal from the church property was submitted by Sebade Construction. This will include removal of snow, sand/salt, and hauling large snowfall accumulations off the property. A motion to approve the bid was made by Michelle; seconded by Mike. Motion carried.

Call committee will meet in December before the Elder's meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Louise; seconded by Mike. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Ekberg

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Elder on duty

03	8:00 am.	Josh Ruwe
	10:30 am.	Chuck Potosnyak
06	6:15 pm.	Josh Ruwe
10	8:00 am.	Jared Heithold
	10:30 am.	Mike Heithold
13	6:15 pm.	Mike Heithold
17	8:00 am.	Payton Janke
	10:30 am.	Doug Heithold
20	6:15 pm.	Jared Heithold
24	8:00 am.	Chuck Potosnyak
	10:30 am.	Josh Ruwe
	8:00 pm.	Doug Heithold
25	9:00 am.	Payton Janke
31	8:00 am.	Mike Heithold
	10:30 am.	Jared Heithold

Acolytes

03	8:00 am.	Lauren Ekberg & Bryn Tiedtke
	10:30 am.	Dreu Jensen & Colston Starzl
06	6:15 pm.	Chloe Kai & Sadie Fredrickson
10	8:00 am.	Trecyn Ocampo & Lucille Ocampo
	10:30 am.	Grant Reeg & Chase Rethwisch
13	6:15 pm.	Myles Tiedtke & Reagan Heithold
17	8:00 am.	Brayden Stegemann & Lauren Ekberg
	10:30 am.	Courtney Roeber & Veronica Daum
20	6:15 pm.	Evan Bose & Kennedy Junck
24	8:00 am.	Brayden Stegemann & Sadi Fredrickson
	10:30 am.	Ashlynn Trautman & Evan Bose
	8:00 pm.	
25	9:00 am.	Myles Tiedtke & Reagan Heithold
31	8:00 am.	Trecyn Ocampo & Lucille Ocampo
	10:30 am.	Colston Starzl & Kennedy Junck

Lay Readers

03	8:00 am.	Irene Mock
	10:30 am.	Mary Temme
10	8:00 am.	Jeanette Swanson
	10:30 am.	Brain Kesting
17	8:00 am.	Diane Zach
	10:30 am.	Andy Bose
24	8:00 am.	Lowell Schardt
	10:30 am.	
	8:00 pm.	
25	9:00 am.	Louise Green
31	8:00 am.	
	10:30 am.	

Greeters

03	8:00 am.	Tiedtke Family
	10:30 am.	Doug & Mary Temme
10	8:00 am.	LeRoy & Carol Robbert
	10:30 am.	Jerry & Loree Echtenkamp
17	8:00 am.	Gene & Jan Casey
	10:30 am.	Don & Lisa Nelson
24	8:00 am.	Lowell & Kathy Johnson
	10:30 am.	
	8:00 pm.	
25	9:00 am.	Jesse & Cassie Heithold
31	8:00 am.	
	10:30 am.	Galen & Kathy Wiser

GRACE FAMILY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Allison Echtenkamp, Dan Frevert & Josh Lubke
- 2 Isaac Bodlak, Veronica Daum, Anna Victor & Gretchen Wilke
- 3 Angie Fredrickson
- 5 Bonnie Kai, Ann Ruwe & Rhonda J. Sebade
- 6 Connie Mindrup
- 8 Esther Brader, Cody Henderson & Brian Kesting
- 9 LeRoy Robbert & RoNelle Woodward
- 10 Janet Fuoss, Darci Slama & Deb Starzl
- 11 John Heithold & Julie Munson
- 12 Parker Janke & Kent Wilke
- 13 Skylar Jones & John Rebensdorf
- 14 Jeff Mrsny & Hunter Schultz
- 15 Chloe Klug
- 16 Coleman Broders & Kaleena Heithold
- 18 Addilynn Hass
- 19 Bradley Longe & Mallorie Mathieson
- 20 Jason Beiermann & Tiffany Maturey
- 21 Kimber Roeber
- 22 Mark Niemann & Kennedy Stowater
- 23 Aprill Bodlak & Eric Bodlak
- 24 Aaron Daum, Ivy Harmer & Aaron Ocampo
- 26 Julie Bose & Kara Heithold
- 27 Kelsey Heggemeyer
- 28 Cindy Echtenkamp, Mariah Frevert & Lonnie Matthes
- 29 Sarah Greenwald, Dylan Hurlbert, Kristine Niemann & Abby VanderVeen
- 30 Michelle Ekberg & Kelly Witt
- 31 Karen Knudsen, Gerald Poppe, Halzey Ruwe & Brodrick Tiedtke

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



What is Advent?

Advent marks the beginning of the Church Year. Advent is made up of the four Sundays that come right before Christmas. In other words, the deeper into Advent you go, the closer you get to Christmas Day. For Christians, the First Sunday in Advent is kind of like the “New Year’s Day” of the Church Year calendar.

Why do we celebrate Advent?

The word Advent means “coming.” During Advent, we prepare for the coming of the One who was born that first Christmas in a stable. We prepare for the One who saved us from sin, death and the power of the devil: our Lord Jesus Christ! What a wonderful and exciting time of preparation!



Parents:

At home, in order to help your children better prepare for the birth of Jesus, try using an Advent devotional booklet provided by the church for family devotions.



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Grace Lutheran Church
904 Logan
Wayne, Nebraska 68787

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

DECEMBER 2023

Grace Lutheran Church — Activity Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 7:30a Men's Bible Study 4p Family Communion 5:30p Youth Christmas
3 8a Worship 9:15a S.S. & B.C. 10:30a Worship 11:30a S. S. Practice 7:30p Sun. Night Dinner	4 3:30p Kinship Communion 6:30p Call Cmt. 7:30p Elders	5	6 9a Bible Study 10a Preschool Chapel 4:30p Bell Choir 5:15p Advent Supper 6:15p Advent Worship 7p Midweek	7 10a Preschool Chapel 7p Choir	8	9 4p Family Communion
10 8a Worship/Comm 9:15a S. S & B.C. 10:30a Worship/Comm 11:30p S.S, Practice 7:30p Sun. Night Dinner	11 7p Mission Council	12	13 9a Bible Study 10a Preschool Chapel 2p Christmas Tea 4:30p Bell Choir 5:15p Advent Supper 6:15p Advent Worship 7p Midweek	14 10a Preschool Chapel 7p Choir	15	16 7:30a Men's Bible Study 4p Family Communion
17 8a Worship 9:15a S. S & B. C. 10:30a Worship 11:30am S. S. Practice 6p Blue Christmas	18	19	20 9a Bible Study 10a Preschool Chapel 5:15p Advent Supper 6:15p Advent Worship 7p Midweek	21 10a Preschool Chapel 7p Choir	22 	23 4p Family Communion
24 8a Worship/Comm 9:15a S. S. 10:30a Children's Program 8p Christmas Eve Worship	25 9a Christmas Day-Worship	26 1:30p Country-View Communion	27	28	29	30 4p Family Communion
31 8a Worship 9:15a S.S. & B.C. 10:30a Worship						Grace Lutheran Church 402-375-1905 www.gracewayne.com