

FEBRUARY 2024



# 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

**"Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God.**

**Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith." (Hebrews 13:7)**

Somewhere, I remember reading an old quote which said, "Anyone can count the seeds in an apple, but only God can count the number of apples in a seed." It was a simple but eloquent way of declaring that it is impossible for us to know the full impact of things we see, say and do. Each seed of an apple holds within it life which in the right surroundings can grow into a tree. A single tree if it reaches maturity can produce more apples. Over its productive lifetime a healthy tree can produce thousands of apples which in turn would cumulatively contain tens of thousands of new seeds. Certainly, most seeds never make it that far, but the ones that do should lead us to marvel.

I got to thinking about this reflecting on the life of our beloved pastor emeritus Carl Lilienkamp taken from us so suddenly through death. If you scoured enough church record books and old bulletins, you could probably count up the number of baptisms he performed, the confirmations he officiated, the sermons he preached. Each sharing of the word was like a seed being planted. At the service held in honor, I heard a number of stories about his work. I got a glimpse into some of the fruitful trees those seeds had grown to be. But even that was but a glimpse. For him and for each of us we will not know the full significance of our lives until God shows it to us in eternity. We have to wonder if his parents realized how they would impact future generations in Nebraska and Alaska through their son.

I think about that in terms of the work we still carry on together. We can count the seeds. We can easily enough count the number of dollars given for ministry, we can count the number of people baptized or

confirmed. The numbers in Sunday School classes or worship. But what we cannot fully know this side of heaven is what this work will grow into. Which of those children baptized or instructed will be used by God to bring others to the Savior? Which of them will grow up to be that church worker who touches countless more lives? How many lives will be blessed for all eternity by the ministry our offering funded? What good will someone instructed by God's Word do to make the world better? What sin leading to pain and heartache for someone else will be resisted, avoided or overcome? We can't know the answer for sure. We can't look into the future.

We can trace back the way that the seeds planted in the past have been a blessing to us. It began with Jesus who said concerning himself in John 12: **Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.** Jesus like the grain of wheat lived, died and was buried. But Jesus also rose from the dead as the first-fruits of them that have fallen asleep. Jesus brought life to his apostles, the apostles went into all the world to make more disciples and share that life. Generation to generation the faith was passed on, the seed was planted in new places. The life Jesus won was spread.

In time that precious gift was shared with us. We are part of the church, because someone in an earlier time spread the seeds of life. They made an investment in baptizing and teaching. One day in heaven we will see how the seeds of life planted during our lifetime grew and flourished. Until that blessed day when we are in heaven, we realize that now is our time to bear fruit for God.

As we await the day when the complete impact of the work we have done will be seen, may we hold fast to his promise. **"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain"** 1 Cor. 15:58.

Just as God alone knows the potential of an apple seed, He alone also knows the full potential of our acts of service. So may we abound in such acts and trust God to bring them to their fruitful conclusion.

In Christ,

Pastor Buchhorn





**Lenten Questions:** The theme of our midweek Lenten worship services for this year will be questions asked by Jesus and others in the hours leading up to his crucifixion. As we consider the story of Jesus' suffering these questions can help us to examine our own connection to Jesus, His suffering, and the amazing love of God. We will begin on Ash Wednesday, Feb 14 with the question Jesus asked of his disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane "Are you sleeping?" In the weeks following we plan to take up questions such as: "Are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" "What is your verdict?" "Are you one of this man's disciples?" "What did you do?" "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" And finally, "My God why have you forsaken me?" May God bless our Lenten journey as we grow nearer to Jesus in anticipation of the question of the angels, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?"

**The Season of Lent:** Ash Wednesday, February 14, begins the season of Lent. Lent is a 40 day season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope. We pray that our dear Father in heaven might richly bless this Lenten season for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts. We will observe Ash Wednesday with both morning and evening worship services with communion. The services will be at 9:00 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. Note that due to the penitential nature of the day there will be no Lenten Supper on Ash Wednesday. These will begin February 21.

**Lenten Suppers:** Beginning February 21 a light fellowship meal will be served beginning at 5:15 p.m. each Wednesday in Lent. Groups or individuals who would like to sponsor one of these meals are encouraged to contact the church office.

**Imposition of Ashes:** On Ash Wednesday, February 14 there will be the opportunity for the optional imposition of ashes. In the Bible following his sin Adam was told “for dust you are and to dust you will return.” Dust or ashes became a symbol of mortality and death. In the Old Testament, being covered in ashes and wearing sackcloth was an outward sign that a person was in mourning. In the Christian church it became a custom to observe the beginning of the season of Lent with penitents being marked by ashes. It is from this custom we get the name “Ash Wednesday.” Those desiring to be marked by ashes as a part of your Ash Wednesday worship are invited to come to the Altar area for the imposition of ashes prior to the beginning of Ash Wednesday services or after the conclusion of the service.

**Women's Bible Study for February** is scheduled for Sunday, February 11th @ 5:30pm in the church basement. This month as we dive into a short devotional: we plan to do a soup swap. How does this work? There are plastic containers and Ziplock bags in the front of the church to fill up with soup options. How many soup options are up to you. We just ask that you bring a sample of soup to share as well as the recipe to our Bible Study. Then we will swap away. If time allows, we will also plan to make our candles and soap. As always, bringing items is optional. This is open to all ladies and friends are always welcome. *Reminder;* this is a low key group so if you are unable to make it every time that's okay you are always welcome to come when it works in your schedule. Questions contact Julie Bose or Teresa Tiedtke.

**Thank you** to everyone who donated to the Giving Tree that was in the church basement during the Christmas season.

Because of your generosity we were able to donate 113 pair of socks, 13 hats, 24 underwear, 13 pair of gloves,

2 scarves, 1 t-shirt and 5 hat and glove sets. These gifts have been taken to Orphan Grain Train.

**Prayer Shawl kits** are back in the library and ready to be taken and made into shawls. Please use the pattern of your choice and return the finished project to the church library. This yarn has been purchased with a Thrivent grant.

# **Lutheran Bible Institute**

## **SATURDAY, February 10th, 1:00-4:00**

416 W Park Ave, Grace Lutheran Church, Norfolk



**Rev. Nabil S. Nour**

**Come listen to a man from Nazareth  
who will speak about**

**The Man from Nazareth.**



Rev. Nabil S. Nour,  
4th Vice-President of  
the Lutheran Church  
Missouri Synod, who  
was born in Nazareth,  
will present a detailed  
Bible study about the  
root of the conflict in  
the Holy Land.

Congregations  
and individuals  
are all invited  
to attend this event  
at Grace Lutheran  
Church in Norfolk,  
on Saturday,  
February 10th, 1-4pm.



**New Day: SATURDAY  
February 10th  
New Time: 1-4pm**

## **Fisher's of Kids Preschool**

Happy New Year! What a snowy way to start our new year! Some of our themes have been rescheduled to February. This month, we will be learning about polar animals. Groundhog Day will be discussed the last week of January. Students are working on "cool" elephant crafts. In February, our themes include: Keeping Warm In Winter, Presidents' Day, Dental Health, and Shape Review. Students will also be having their Valentine exchange parties on February 13th and 14th. During Dental Health week, Dr. Burrows is scheduled to come up and visit the preschool to show the students how they can take care of their teeth. We look forward to his visit! We also look forward to a new month of learning!

# CHILDREN'S *Sunday School*

Telling the Wonders of God....

During the month of January we have been learning about some of the more action packed stories from the Old Testament including stories from the book of Judges. The dramatic stories concerning the wonders of God will continue in February as we meet faithful Ruth and the first kings of Israel Saul and David. In the face of what seem to be gigantic problems children will learn from David's victory over Goliath to trust in God. Come and be a part of the excitement.

Parents do your children know about Samson, Ruth, King Saul, Goliath and King David? If not they need to be in Sunday School!

Sunday School Classes are available for children of all ages beginning with preschool. We get started with a unified opening in the basement at 9:15

## *Mark your Calendar*

*Saturday, March 23rd We will hold a special VBS style event "Journey to Easter" where children will have the opportunity to interact with the Easter story. Don't miss it.*



7th-12th Grades Friends are always welcome!

February 2024

# Youth Group HAPPENINGS

## ICE SKATING RETRY



Join us for an evening of  
ice skating in Sioux City on  
Saturday, February 24th.

Public Skating is from 7-9pm. We will be  
leaving the church parking lot  
@ 5pm and will return around 10pm

Needing parents to help drive; if able please  
contact Lora or Teresa

The cost is \$8 per person (friends are welcome)!

Supper will be provided.

May want to bring extra cash for snacks and drinks at the rink.

RSVP by Sunday, February 18th if you plan to attend

## Planning Ahead

Let's plan to find a hill to  
go sledding in early March.

More details to come.



**SAVE THE DATE ... Sunday, March 31st**  
**EASTER BREAKFAST**

# Arcade Fun



Thanks to this **GREAT** group of youth that came to Sioux City for an afternoon of *FUN* at the arcade on Sunday, January 28th!  
Thank you to Ashley & Michelle for driving!

## Grace Lutheran Church Mission Council Minutes January 10, 2024

Mission Council for Grace Lutheran Church met at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2024.

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

Meeting was called to order by President, Craig Evans.

Opening devotion and prayer was led by Pastor Buchhorn.

### SECRETARY REPORT

Minutes from December 11, 2023 Mission Council meeting was reviewed. Louise made a motion to approve minutes as presented; Mike seconded. Motion carried.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

December 2023 financial report was presented by Louise. Approval of the treasurer's report was made by Ron; seconded by Mike. Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS:**

Congregation members are welcome to bring business items for council consideration to any Mission Council member. For reporting concerning the various activities and boards of the congregation the following assignments are made to facilitate reporting activities, needs and opportunities to the Mission Council.

### **Designated committee reporter was assigned:**

Property/Trustee: Lowell Johnson

Campus Ministry: Craig Evans

Auxiliaries (Altar Guild & LWML): Pam Janke

Education: Diana Langemeier

Endowment Administrative Committee: Louise Green

Stewardship/Finance: Mike Temme

Administrative Handbook: Louise Green

Evangelism/Publicity/Community Engagement: Parker Janke

Fellowship/Kitchen: Nick Diediker

Preschool: Ron Sebade

**Call Committee:** The committee met Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> to review seminary student profiles. On January 15<sup>th</sup> candidate interviews will be conducted.

**Elder's Report:** The Board of Elders met at 7:30 p.m. on January 3, 2024. Pastor Buchhorn opened the meeting with prayer and we continued with the study of the Seventh Commandment in Luther's Large Catechism. There were no Official Acts or Membership Transactions to report. Junior Confirmation and Midweek classes are continuing successfully. The Sunday School Christmas Program was very well received. Thank you to all the students and teachers for their efforts. Thank you also to Symphony Jareske for her service as program director. There will be a one-day Easter VBS on March 23, 2024. It will be called "Journey to Easter" and will highlight the events of Jesus during Holy Week. Preparations are underway. A new meal schedule has been posted for anyone wishing to provide a meal to college students on Sunday evenings at Cup of Grace. The Youth enjoyed a successful ham sale and their January events are in the planning stage. A Circuit Meeting was held at Grace on January 2, 2024, and a Circuit Bible Institute is planned for January 28, 2024 from 2-4:00 p.m. at Grace. Pastor Russ Sommerfeld from Concordia University will be presenting. The Advent/Christmas Worship Schedule was discussed and reviewed. Christmas will be on a Wednesday in 2024. Pastor Lilienkamp will be conducting the Midweek series for Lent. Ash Wednesday is on

February 14, 2024, with two services being offered at 9:00 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. There will be an optional imposition of ashes at each service. There will be five Midweek Lenten services following Ash Wednesday, starting at 6:15 p.m. A Lenten meal will be offered before each service. Palm Sunday is on March 24, 2024. On that day there will be a Communion service at 8:00 a.m. and the Rite of Confirmation will take place in the 10:30 a.m. service. There will be no communion in that service. Maundy Thursday is March 28, 2024. It will be at 7:00 p.m. and communion will be offered. There will be two Good Friday services on March 29 at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. On Easter Sunday there will be 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service with communion followed by an 8:00 a.m. breakfast sponsored by the youth. A 10:30 a.m. Festival Worship Service will be held with communion. The bulk mailing of the newsletter was discussed in light of USPS price and process changes. It was decided sending the newsletter is still a valid way to reach and make contact with our members and that we will be continuing to send it at this time. Pastor Buchhorn will be on vacation January 29-February 5, 2024.

**Property/Trustee:** Lowell reports the roof leak over the northwest corner of the church will need addressed soon to prevent larger issues. Craig Evans and Nick Diediker will look at the heating vent pipe on the next warm day. Lights have been placed under the cabinets in the kitchen. Bids will be ready to view at the next meeting for the curb replacement project in front of the preschool.

**Campus Ministry:** Craig reports Sunday night meals at the Cup of Grace begins January 17. Dan and Bonnie Hansen will continue to coordinate these meals. There have been eight to ten attending meals. Grace Brockmeier will be the spring resident in the Cup of Grace apartment. Snow removal in the east and west parking lots will need to be cleared with a significant snow fall; Ron will double check with Sebade Construction to make sure this area gets completed.

**Auxiliaries (LWML/Altar Guild):** Pam reports from Mary Temme wishing to 'thank' everyone who purchased a poinsettia from the Altar Guild. There was no January meeting for LWML due to inclement weather. They will be discussing having a quarterly meetings.

**Education (Sunday School/Midweek/VBS/Children's Programming):** (Diana) The Christmas program went well. A 'thank you' is extended to all those who participated in and helped with the 2023 program. Input for next year's program will be sought at the next teacher's meeting.

**Preschool:** (Ron) National Lutheran Schools week is January 21-27, 2024. One student has left and another has begun leaving the enrollment numbers unchanged. Each of the classes is going well.

**Endowment Administrative Committee:** Louise noted a meeting has not taken place; therefore, no new reports were given.

**Stewardship/Finance:** (Mike) 2023 Offering Statements will be coming out soon. There are now seven teams to count offerings.

**Memorial:** Louise reports from KimBerly the beginning balance for the month of December was \$2,433.19. After a \$100 deposit, the ending monthly balance was \$2,533.19.

**Administrative Handbook:** Louise notes December items have been completed.

**Evangelism/Publicity/Community Engagement:** (Parker) No new reports given.

**Fellowship/Kitchen: (Nick):** Ron reports from KimBerly-lights under the cabinets were mounted and extends a 'thank you' to Lowell for their completion. Advent meals were served and 'thank you' to all the groups who helped. Labeling on the drawers was completed by Neal Greenwald. A 'thank you' was extended towards Neal and this addition.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**District & Circuit Items:** Grace hosted the Circuit Pastor meeting on January 2, 2024. Thank you to Ellen Heinemann and Mary Lou Erxleben who served the meal on behalf of the Ladies' Aid.

Circuit Bible Institute scheduled for Grace on January 28, 2024 with Rev. Sommerfeld representing Concordia University, Seward. He will be presenting on missions.

"Thank you" to Mission Council and other church groups for serving a Midweek Advent meal.

Encouragement for those using the facility to clean up after themselves after using the fellowship/kitchen areas. Proper usage instructions have been updated in the kitchen area. Please schedule any planned use of the facilities through the church office to help prevent events from getting double scheduled.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mission Council will sponsor a Lenten meal on February 21, 2024. Designation of proceeds will be determined at the next meeting.

2024 Mission recipients for the Congregation Direct Mission Support budget line was discussed. A motion was made to support Jesus our Savior Lutheran Preschool in Winnebago, Alaska Mission for Christ, and the Wayne Circuit in the amount of \$1,200 each by Michelle; seconded by Nick. Motion carried.. The remaining \$1,200 of the direct mission support budget was not allocated at this time. Previously Siouxland Hispanic Ministry was supported. Since it is still without a full time pastor it was decided to wait until their needs become clearer before designating a fourth mission fund recipient. This will be considered mid-year

Meeting was adjourned and followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is set for February 12, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Ekberg

### **Call Committee Update**

Following the direction of our voters' assembly our call committee has been working to fill our associate pastor vacancy by going through the process required to call a candidate for ordination from one of our seminaries. These seminarians are presently completing their training and will be assigned calls in late April and graduate in mid-May. Unlike calling a pastor presently serving another congregation, seminarians are matched with calling congregations through a cooperative effort of the seminary placement departments and the district presidents. During the month of January our call committee was able to conduct interviews with four possible candidates for our associate pastor position to evaluate whether it was believed that they would be a good fit for our setting. It was concluded that any of the candidates we interviewed would be acceptable. Presently there are more requests for pastors from the seminary than pastors available to fill those positions. We hope to learn in February whether our congregation is likely to receive a candidate from this spring's graduating class. We ask you to continue to pray that God would guide this selection process and bless our congregation with a new associate pastor to serve our congregation and community.

## **GRACE FAMILY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Grace Kanitz & Ashley Hoffman
- 2 Sarah Tompkins, James Tompkins, Lorraine Johnson,  
Jared Anderson, Ron Kneifl, Kollins Koch & Adam Hoffman
- 3 Jerry Kruger & Lila Loewe
- 4 Nicole Harmer & Nancy Meyer
- 5 Ty Zach & Brian Biermann
- 6 Landen Roeber & Pastor Buchhorn
- 8 Shona Junck, Steve Mrsny, Brooke Stowater, & Kurt Daum
- 9 Sonya Tompkins
- 10 Neal Greenwald
- 11 Laura Hassler
- 12 Brooks Widner, Kennedy Junck & Dana Tompkins
- 14 Terry Meyer & Candace Jareske
- 15 Larry Johnson & Chad Janke
- 16 Evan Bose & John Rebensdorf
- 17 Kadence Rees
- 18 Randy Surber & Chase Rethwisch
- 19 Cynthia Rethwisch & William Haisch
- 20 Brian Nelson, Marjorie Meyer, Elaine Saul, Rachel Holland &  
Melissa Pickinpaugh
- 22 Hallie Heithold, Keith Knudsen, Derek Schardt, Terry Janke,  
Ruth Victor & Mardelle Brudigan
- 23 Kayla Reed, Nicholas Forsyth, Virginia Nelson &  
Lyndon Jensen
- 24 Liam Blohm
- 26 Roger Saul
- 27 Colleen Janke
- 29 Franklin Mrsny

## SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

### Elder on duty

04	8:00 am.	Chad Janke
	10:30 am.	Chuck Potosnyak
11	8:00 am.	Jared Heithold
	10:30 am.	Mike Heithold
14	9:00 am.	Chuck Potosnyak
	6:15 pm.	Mike Heithold
18	8:00 am.	Payton Janke
	10:30 am.	Doug Heithold
21	6:15 pm.	Jared Heithold
25	8:00 am.	Chuck Potosnyak
	10:30 pm.	Chad Janke
28	6:15 pm.	Doug Heithold

### Lay Readers

04	8:00 am.	Jeff Simpson
	10:30 am.	Doug Temme
11	8:00 am.	Louise Green
	10:30 am.	Jo Junck
18	8:00 am.	Kathy Johnson
	10:30 am.	Andy Bose
25	8:00 am.	Hallie Heithold
	10:30 pm.	Mary Temme

### Acolytes

04	8:00 am.	Lucille Ocampo & Lauren Ekberg
	10:30 am.	Alivia Kesting & Kennedy Junck
11	8:00 am.	Reagan Heithold & Chloe Kai
	10:30 am.	Dreu Jensen & Colston Starzl
14	6:15 pm.	Grant Reeg & Chase Rethwisch
18	8:00 am.	Sadi Fredrickson & Myles Tiedtke
	10:30 am.	Evan Bose & Ashlyn Trautman
21	6:15 pm.	Chloe Kai & Brayden Stegemann
25	8:00 am.	Tre'cyn Ocampo & Lucille Ocampo
	10:30 pm.	Veronica Daum & Courtney Roeber
28	6:15 pm.	Colston Starzl & Alivia Kesting

### Greeters

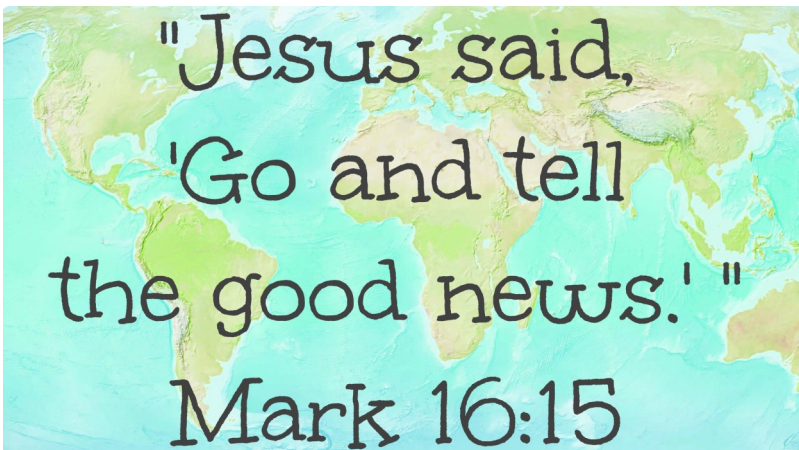
04	8:00 am.	The Tiedtke Family
	10:30 am.	Doug & Mary Temme
11	8:00 am.	Brian & Kris Fox
	10:30 am.	Galen & Kathy Wiser
18	8:00 am.	LeRoy & Carol Robbert
	10:30 am.	Don & Lisa Nelson
25	8:00 am.	Jerry & Loree Echtenkamp
	10:30 pm.	Chad & Pam Janke

## Newsletter Changes

We hope that you enjoy receiving and reading this monthly newsletter. In January the USPS changed some of its rules for bulk mailing and we are still working through how to continue to send our newsletter in this way.

Electronic/mailed versions of the newsletter should continue to be sent as in the past. If you have not been receiving the newsletter in this way and would like to, please contact the church office and provide an email address. You can send it to [kwiser@gracewayne.com](mailto:kwiser@gracewayne.com). An electronic version of our newsletter is also generally available on our church website [www.gracewayne.com](http://www.gracewayne.com) under the "News" tab.

For the month of February, printed versions of the newsletter will be available at the church to be picked up either from your church mailbox or at the entryways. Hopefully by March the details will be worked out to resume mailing the newsletter to those who prefer to receive it in this manner.



Grace Lutheran Church  
904 Logan  
Wayne, Nebraska 68787

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

# FEBRUARY 2024

## Grace Lutheran Church — Activity Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10a Preschool Chapel 7p Choir	2	3 7:30p Men's Bible Study 4p Family Communion
4 8a Worship 9:15a Sun. School & B.C. 10:30a Worship 7:30p Sun. Night Dinner	5 3:30p Kinship Comm.	6	7 9a Bible Study 10a Preschool Chapel 5p Bell Choir 6:30p Midweek 7:30p Elders	8 10a Preschool Chapel 7p Choir	9	10 4p Family Communion
11 8a Worship/Comm 9:15a Sun. School & B.C. 10:30a Worship/Comm 5:30p Women's Bible Study 7:30p Sun. Night Dinner	12 7p Mission Council	13 1p Blood Bank	14 9a <b>Ash Wed. Worship</b> 2p Ladies Aid 4:30p Bell Choir 6:15p <b>Ash Wed. Worship</b> 7p Midweek	15 10a Preschool Chapel 7p Choir	16	17 4p Family Communion
18 8a Worship 9:15a Sun. School & B.C. 10:30a Worship 7:30 p Sun. Night Dinner	19	20	21 9a Bible Study 10a Preschool Chapel 4:30p Bell Choir 5:15p Lenten Supper 6:15p Lenten Worship 7p Midweek	22 10a Preschool Chapel 7p Choir	23	24 5p Youth Ice Skating Trip 4p Family Communion
25 8a Worship/Comm 9:15a Sun. School & B.C. 10:30a Worship/Comm 7:30p Sun. Night Dinner	26 1:30p Country View Communion	27	28 9a Bible Study 10a Preschool Chapel 4:30p Bell Choir 5:15p Lenten Supper 6:15p Lenten Worship 7p Midweek	29 10a Preschool Chapel 7p Choir		<b>Grace Lutheran Church</b> <b>402-375-1905</b> <b><a href="http://www.gracewayne.com">www.gracewayne.com</a></b>