

“Abiding in Christ through grace, we are gathered to grow and sent to serve.”

Notes of Grace

Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA), Brownton, Minnesota

January 2019

January Servants

Acolyte

- 6 Hunter Gens
- 13 Hunter Gens
- 20 River Hansch
- 27 Braxton Streich

Communion

Michelle Gens

Altar Guild

Shirley Lindeman &
Jeanette Tongen

Ushers

- 6 Norman & Cheryl Schwarze
- 13 Dave & Janice Mielke
- 20 Jeff & Tammy Kosek
- 27 Jeff & Deb Messner,
Mark & Sara Katzenmeyer

Readers

- 6 Cheryl Schwarze
- 13 Roxanne Wendlandt
- 20 Jeff Kosek
- 27 Diana Lindeman

Greeters

- 6 Ben & Gloria Schuft
- 13 Darrell & Michelle Gens
- 20 Larry & Jeanette Tongen
- 27 Jim & Shirley Lindeman

Christmas at Grace!

Just a few pics of the Sunday School Christmas Program held December 16th and the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve



Mark Your Calendars!

January 27th, 2019: Annual Meeting

Annual Reports should be turned into Sarah by Wednesday, January 9th! If possible, please email them instead of turning in on paper, then easily formatted to fit where needed. Thank You!

Please send to: gracebrowntonsecretary@embarqmail.com OR sjtongen@gmail.com

Congregation Assessment

(if you have not done yet, please do so)

LEAD Congregational Assessment is ready to be taken online. This assessment will help finding our congregation's strengths & opportunities for growth to help identify next steps moving forward.

To take the survey go to:

<https://waytolead.org/take-lead-assessment>

Password: **Assessment-cong** (this is case sensitive)

*Committee members are available for any help. Paper forms are available.

Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Abiding in Christ through grace, we are gathered to grow and sent to serve.

December 12, 2018

Attending: Karla Trettin, Jan Messner, Nancy Deppe, Dave Wendlandt, Oather Martin, Tim Olson, Keith Tongen, Brandon Yerks, and Pastor Hummel. Absent: Michele Gens, Jake Wendolek

President Jan Messner called the meeting to order.

Devotions/Bible Study & Prayer

Pastor Hummel led devotions and prayer, the 23rd Psalm

Special Report from Finance Keeper – Julie Olson

Julie worked with the new software, Iconcmo for a trial period. The council voted to move forward with the purchase and will plan to begin using January 2019.

Secretary's Report:

M.S.C.: to approve the minutes of the November 2018 meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

M.S.C.: to approve the Treasurer's Report

General Fund: November ending balance \$11,483.92

Total income for November \$10,442.45

Total expenditures \$7,484.71

Line of Credit: \$0.00

Memorial Fund: November balance \$3,083.98

Building Fund: November balance \$100.32

Memorial Fund CD: \$20,000.00

Building Fund CD: \$10,000.00

2019 Budget was adjusted and approved

Correspondence:

1. Living Lutheran - \$19.95/yr. per person if interested in purchasing
2. Christ Lutheran Church is beginning a laundry outreach program, the Stewardship Committee will look more closely at the program.
3. Green Lake Camp

Pastor's Report:

1. Calendar of Activities
2. Vision and Mission Committee Report – surveys are being collected with results to be shared at the Annual Meeting
3. Pastor's Schedule
4. Housing Allowance Request - budget was adjusted to move dollars from salary to housing allowance. Total package remains unchanged.

Calendar:

December 16th, 2018– Sunday School Program with free will offering to help offset the costs of the new costumes

December 24th, 2018– 5 pm Christmas Eve Worship

January 27th, 2019 Annual Meeting

Old Business:

1. Confirmation Crosses from Thrivent – voted to purchase 12 crosses for the 2018 Confirmands and future classes.
2. Mission Support for SW Minnesota Synod – discussed the budget line for Mission Support and increased to \$6000 for the 2019 year.

New Business:

1. Now including Building Supervisors duties in Usher duties – new list of responsibilities will be included with the Annual Report.
2. Date of January council meeting - January 16th, 2019
3. Pastor Andrew's mentoring check - last check has been received and deposited.
4. Confirmation pictures have arrived, Jan Messner and Roxanne Wendlandt will update the picture frames in the dining room.
5. Mileage Budget for 2019 – council voted to include 1 round trip per month for Pastor Hummel in the 2019 mileage reimbursement.
6. Process and Timing of Establishment of Call Committee – will be asking for volunteers and nominations.
7. Snow Removal – Eric Werner will donate the use of his plow truck again this year.
8. R.S. Fiber – they will let us know if we are able to get on their service, as of now we are not. Dish option is not going to work for us as there are too many trees in the way of the signal.

Committee and Group Reports: None

Next Meeting: January 16th, 2019 6:30pm

M.S.C. to adjourn the meeting.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Secretary Karla Trettin

Word from the Pastor

The season of Epiphany is fast approaching. In fact, it may have arrived by the time you are reading this.

The day of Epiphany is celebrated on January 6th after the twelfth day of Christmas in order to commemorate the visit by the Three Kings to the infant Jesus.



<https://www.indiatoday.in/education-today/gk-current-affairs/story/three-kings-day-interesting-facts-about-the-christian-feast-day-302370-2016-01-06>

As you may know, this “Day of the Three Kings” is a celebrated day among many Spanish speaking persons around the world.

<http://www.lopeznegrete.com/dia-de-reyes-three-kings-day-facts/>

The season of Epiphany begins on day of Epiphany, continues seven more weeks and, this year, ends on March 3 with the Transfiguration of Our Lord. The texts throughout the weeks of Epiphany center on this question: what does it mean for us that Jesus has come into the world to be the light of the world?

In the first Sundays of the Epiphany Season—that is, in this month of January, I’ll be preaching on texts that illumine much about this season of light and illumination. As I preach on these texts, I’ll reveal something about myself: Epiphany is my favorite Season of the Church Year. The reason why I appreciate it so much is related to question in this image:

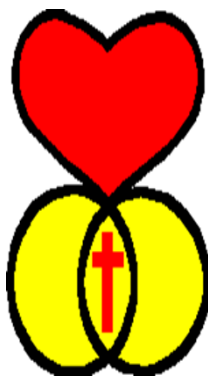
<https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/does-christmas-end-on-epiphany/>

The good news of Epiphany is this: the light of Christmas does not end with the end of the Season of Christmas. The light of Jesus’s birth goes forth into Season of Epiphany and goes out to the world forever.



Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend

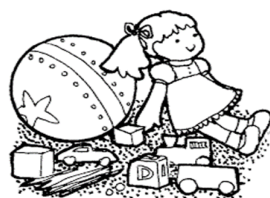
How about this for a valentine's gift? Receive the gift of a closer relationship with Lutheran Marriage Encounter. The next enrichment event is Feb 15-17 in Brooklyn Center. Dave and Pastor Linda Pedersen are one of the presenter couples. Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org, or contact Peter and Phyllis McMahon at mcmahonp@comcast.net or 763-561-1575 for more information. A special 50% discount off the regular application fee for 2019 events is offered in celebration of Worldwide Marriage Encounter's 50 Years of enhancing marriages. Pre-registration is required and space is limited.



Women of the ELCA

Guest Day was held on Saturday, December 1. The women would like to thank everyone who helped prior and during the event.

We are still looking for ladies whom may be interested in being a board member. Please see a current board member if interested.



Youth Group

The Youth Group assisted and fulfilled some of the gifts for the Giving Tree on December 9th following Sunday School.

Watch for more upcoming events.

McLeod County Giving Tree

Thank you to all that Contributed to this project in any way again this year. A complete report will be in the Annual Report.



January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 4pm Confirmation	3	4	5
6 8:45am Worship/Communion 10am Sunday School	7	8	9 1pm Bible Study 4pm Confirmation 7pm Vision & Mission Meeting *Deadline Annual Reports	10	11	12
13 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School	14	15	16 4pm Confirmation 6:30pm Council Meeting	17	18	19
20 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School 10am Choir Practice	21	22	23 1pm Bible Study 4pm Confirmation 7pm Choir Practice	24	25	26
27 Annual Meeting 8:45am Worship/Communion 9:45am Annual Meeting 10am Sunday School Service Project	28 *Deadline February Newsletter	29	30 4pm Confirmation 7pm Choir Practice			

CHURCH CONTACTS:	
Church: gracebrownton@embarqmail.com Pastor Hummel: pastor@gracebrownton.org	Secretary/Sarah: gracebrowntonsecretary@embarqmail.com Treasurer/Brandon: gracebrowntontreasurer@embarqmail.com
2018 CHURCH COUNCIL: Jan Messner, President Dave Wendlandt, Vice President Karla Trettin, Secretary Tim Olson Michelle Gens Oather Martin, Jr Nancy Deppe Keith Tongen Jake Wendolek	

CHURCH CONTACTS:

Church:
gracebrownton@embarqmail.com

Pastor Hummel:
pastor@gracebrownton.org

Church Website: <http://www.gracebrownton.org>

We are also on Facebook! Under Grace Lutheran Church