

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

Notes of Grace

Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA), Brownton, Minnesota

September 2019

September Servants

Acolyte

- 1 Grace Lipke
- 8 Sydney Harpel
- 15 Open (volunteer)
- 22 *New schedule done at
- 29 confirmation meeting

Communion

Ben Schuft

Altar Guild

Deb Messner & Lori Lindeman

Ushers

- 1 Ron & Mary Bullert, Jackie Bullert, Dean Katzenmeyer
- 8 Bob & Lori Lindeman, Bryce Lindeman
- 15 Youth Group
- 22 Joyce Peterson, Yerks & Kottke families
- 29 Eric & Bev Werner, Lori Copler, Shalon Werner

Readers

- 1 Oather Martin Jr
- 8 Vicki Herrmann
- 15 Cheryl Schwarze
- 22 Youth Group
- 29 Doug Karg

Greeters

- 1 None
- 8 Ben & Gloria Schuft
- 15 Darrell & Michelle Gens
- 22 Larry & Jeanette Tongen
- 29 Jim & Shirley Lindeman



Fall Festival is September 8th!

Here are some early reminders for members as we join together to make this a successful day:

1. Raffle tickets have been distributed in boxes of women of the church to be sold for the WELCA baskets, if want/need more tickets contact Tammy Kosek or Vicki Schlenner. Money/sold tickets can be turned into Gloria Schuft. ***Please remember to bring donated baskets prior to Fall Festival if possible!**
2. Meal tickets are in boxes! Remember each family is requested to try to sell 5 tickets.
3. Sign up sheets for food items & volunteers are on the bulletin board!
4. Each family is asked to bring a pie or dessert on September 7th or 8th for the dessert table.
5. Please consider bring donations to help fill our Country Store - baked items, crafts, canned goods, garden produce and such. Can bring prior or morning of the Fall Festival.
6. The Youth Group will be also helping with the set up and clean up of the meal. Members should contact Vicki, Steffie, or Karla if they would like to work 1st or 2nd shift.

Confirmation

Classes for first and second year students (generally 7th and 8th graders) will begin Wednesday, September 18 at 3:45-5:00 pm. There will be a registration and parent/student orientation on Wednesday, September 11 at 6:15 pm at church. Pastor Linda will be teaching these classes as we begin this fall.

Our third year confirmation students will meet with Pastor Linda on Sunday, September 15 after worship at 10 am. We have two students Hunter Gens and Ross Jerabek preparing for their confirmation service on Sunday, October 27 when we will also celebrate Reformation Sunday.

Sunday School starts September 15!

Sunday School is looking for 3 Thrivent members that are willing to apply for action cards to be used for service projects (fleece blanket making in October and college kits in January) and for purchasing more Christmas Program costumes. Contact Stephanie Loncorich, Terri Helland or Karla Trettin if you can help with this.

Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
Abiding in Christ through grace, we are gathered to grow and sent to serve.

August 14, 2019

Attending: Pastor Linda Pedersen, Nancy Deppe, Michelle Gens, Oather Martin, Jan Messner, Tim Olson, Vicki Schlenner, Ben Schuft, Dave Wendlandt, and Brandon Yerks. Absent: Keith Tongen

President Jan Messner called the meeting to order.

Devotions/Bible Study & Prayer - Pastor Linda led devotions and prayer.

Treasurer's Report:

- 1) Treasurer Brandon Yerks provided Jan-Jul 31, 2019 financials.
- 2) General Fund Checking: \$12,319.06 as of July 31, 2019; \$7,279.78 as of August 13, 2019
- 3) Memorial Fund Checking: \$3,169.72 as of July 31, 2019; \$3,527.72 as of August 13, 2019
- 4) Building Fund Checking: \$18,148.39 as of July 31, 2019; \$9,346.15 as of August 13, 2019
- 5) Building Fund Certificate of Deposit: \$10,000 as of July 31, 2019
- 6) Memorial Fund Certificate of Deposit: \$20,000 as of July 31, 2019
- 7) Total Contributions & Other Income: \$64,260 through August 13, 2019
- 8) Total Operating Expenditures: \$99,276 through August 13, 2019
- 9) Total Current Assets: \$63,637.17 as of July 31, 2019
- 10) M.S.C. to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Secretary's Report: M.S.C to approve the July 10, 2019 minutes.

Correspondence:

- 1) Directory of Churches Brochures – Reviewed with no action taken as the annual fee would be \$140.
- 2) Common Hope Annual Report – Reviewed individually at meeting.
- 3) Lutheran Reformation T-Shirt Offer – Reviewed and posted a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.
- 4) Crow River Habitat Newsletter – Reviewed individually at meeting.

Pastor's Report:

- 1) Pastor Linda's contact information is listed in the bulletins.
- 2) Pastor Linda will not be able to preach on August 25th. Bill Nelson, a retired ELCA minister, will take her place for that day.

Calendar:

- 1) Aug 21st 7pm – Choir practice starts
- 2) Sept 8th – GLC Fall Festival 10:30am - 12:30pm
- 3) Sept 15th – Sunday School start date and Confirmation parents' meeting
- 4) Sept 18th – 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation start date
- 5) Sept 18th 1pm – Adult Bible Study
- 6) Oct 27th – 9th Grade Confirmation Sunday

Old Business:

- 1) Raise the Roof Pancake Breakfast Report – 176 people were served with \$1,218 in deposits to the building fund.
- 2) Brownton Days Report - \$150 paid to the City of Brownton for insurance towards the bouncy houses with \$43 from the donation bucket deposited to the building fund.
- 3) Fall Festival – After review of the food bids a M.S.C. to approve Main Street Meats in Buffalo Lake as the pork chop vendor for this year. A second M.S.C. vote to approve ordering corn, carrots, and potatoes from Hutchinson VFW.
- 4) Church sign, rain gutter, and roof report – Sign project supplies have been purchased, but the construction of the project will be put on hold until next year. Supplies kept at Jeff Messner's. The rain gutter has been replaced. The roof project is just about complete. Snow bars have been reordered and will be installed over entrances once it comes in. Jan Messner and Jeff Messner completed the Certainteed damage claim form and mailed it to the manufacturer on August 9th.

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- 5) Garage Roof – An emergency meeting was held on July 29th. M.S.C to approve utilizing the leftover pieces of the main roof project to install them onto the garage roof and order additional roofing and labor to complete the garage roofing project. The expected additional amount will keep us under the approved project amount of \$45,000.
- 6) Council positions -- After discussion was held to determine the best way to handle the change in officer positions, M.S.C. to accept the resignation of Nancy Deppe as Council Secretary effective August 31, 2019. M.S.C. to accept Nancy Deppe as GLC Treasurer starting September 1, 2019. Next meeting, we will discuss who will take over as Council Secretary.

New Business:

- 1) Interim Bridge Pastor – Pastor Linda Pedersen has accepted the position and started August 7, 2019. Portico retirement and insurance work have been completed. Contract needs to be signed yet.
- 2) Call Committee – Council was updated on the call process.
- 3) Invitation received from St. Paul Lutheran of Stewart for a conversation between councils on the possibility of sharing a full-time pastor. Discussions followed. M.S.C to contact St. Paul Lutheran of Stewart, Swedlanda, and Neighbors in Christ Parish (Augustana of Gibbon, First Lutheran of Winthrop, and St John's of Bismarck Township). Jan Messner will make phone calls to those congregations. .

Committee and Group Reports: No activity reported.

Next Meeting: September 11th at 7pm.

M.S.C. to adjourn the meeting. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Deppe, Secretary

Grace Women of the ELCA
August 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes

6 women present

Treasure's Report: A balance of \$1,225.10

There was some discussion on what things we will purchase for the kitchen. It was suggested we have a list made up. Nothing was decided.

Fall Festival: General Store Audrey Tongen will help. We need to work towards doing the store without her help. A price list and other chores could be written down and kept for future reference. Tables will be set up for store before hand by Vicki and Tammy.

Dessert Table: Vonnie Schuett will call for helpers.

Sales of raffle tickets: Gloria Schuft will take care of tickets on the day of the Festival and will look for a helper. Tammy will prepare labels for boxes the boxes and tables will be set up today.

We will ask for volunteers for these tasks in the bulletin. Volunteers will be asked to contact Vonnie Schuett or Tammy Kosek.

The Fall Gathering for the south west synod Women of the ELCA will be on Oct 12, 2019. Watch for a signup sheet and more information on the bulletin board.

Ardis Waller will do Guest Day again this year. Guest Day is Saturday Dec. 3rd the theme is Heavenly lights and Earthly sounds. Group 2 is serving.

We did not have a request for money for Bible Camp this summer.

We will meet again in November.

Minutes submitted by: Vicki Schlenner, Secretary

Raising the Roof Update

The new roof construction is complete. Thanks to all those who helped working with KWAM Contractor to complete the aluminum roof project. The cost of the project came to \$45,101.68. This included being able to also roof the garage.

As of August 13, 2019 we have raised \$21,755.39 through donations and fund raising efforts like the two breakfasts. On January, 2020 we will cash a \$10,000 CD to raise our total available to pay off this expenses to \$31,755.39.

That leaves us with only \$13,346.29 to pay off.

In the narthex there is beautiful Homemade Quilt to be raffled off at the Fall Festival with all proceeds going to the "Raise the Roof" effort.

Finally your personal donation is needed to complete this necessary building improvement. The council has asked each family to make a donation of \$300, recognizing for some you will be able to give more and for others this would be a challenge. But we believe with your generosity and appreciation for all Gods' blessings in your life, this is an achievable goal to have the roof balance, paid off by the end of 2019. Thank you for your past and future gifts to pay off this roof project.

Pastor's Note: **September 2019**

CHANGE, yes change. I am Pastor Linda Pedersen and I will be serving as your "Bridge Interim" for the next few months. Some of you may know that my husband Dave and I joined Grace Lutheran when we moved to Brownton after I accepted a call to serve on the Southwestern Minnesota Synod Staff in 2004. My recent retirement provided an opportunity for God to call me to serve as an interim pastor at Grace.

So what is a "Bridge Interim"? As Pastor Leonard Hummel completed his one- year interim contract and accepted a new call to serve as a Hospice Chaplain there was still a gap as Grace completes the process of calling a new Pastor. My role as "Bridge Interim" is to help Grace and its leaders by serving as Pastor as the congregation completes this process. I am not the next settled Pastor.

I am grateful for the leadership Pr. Hummel provided and the work of the council and call committee over the last year. Decisions have been made to explore two parallel paths toward completing this call process.

The call committee is prepared to interview Pastors for our less than full-time call to serve as a solo Pastor at Grace. With a limited number of Pastors seeking non-full-time calls they know that it would not be wise for us to limit our search to only a small group of Pastoral candidates. We are actively seeking a solo Pastor and ready to interview possible candidates.

So the council has also decided to explore opportunities for sharing Pastoral service with neighboring ELCA congregations. This begins with a conversation with other area church councils about how we might together serve God's mission through our ministry together. Since these conversations are just beginning there is no specific information to share with the congregation as this time. As your Interim Pastor, I am committed to making sure we share information on a regular basis on Sunday mornings and in future newsletters.

Also, as your Interim Pastor, please share with me your Pastoral concerns. In September I will begin meeting with an adult Bible Study on Wednesday's at 1 pm, confirmands at 3:45 and we will continue to move forward the call process.

The call to serve as Pastor is a privilege I treasure, but I also hope to return to a full-time call of retirement as soon as possible.

My contact information is: lindamarypedersen@gmail.com and cell number 507-430-2046.

God's grace and peace,
Pastor Linda Pedersen

Adult Bible Study

We resume a gathering for Adult Bible Study on Wednesday, September 18 at 1 pm. Each week we will explore the upcoming Sunday lessons, with an ear for what God had to say and what God could be saying to us today. No experience needed, just an openness to listen and learn.



September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45am Worship/Communion	2	3	4 6pm Choir Practice	5	6	7
8 <u>FALL FESTIVAL</u> 8:45am Worship 10:30am-12:30pm Pork Chop Dinner Country Store WELCA Raffle	9	10	11 6:15pm 7th & 8th grader Confirmation Reg/Orientation 7pm Council Meeting	12	13	14
15 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School Starts 10am 9th grade Confirmation Meeting	16	17	18 1pm Adult Bible Study 4pm Confirmation Starts	19	20	21
22 8:45am Worship/Communion 10am Sunday School	23	24	25 1pm Adult Bible Study 4pm Confirmation Class	26	27	28
29 8:45am Worship 10am Sunday School	30					