

grace notes

August & September 2018

Our Lives Continually Encounter Transition

At Home, at School, at Work, the Seasons, and at Church!

Rally Day is September 9th - Come, Transition With Us!



Transition

Transition Team Presentations and Listening Sessions

Transition into Fall Worship Times

Transition into Ministry Opportunities

Transition into Outreach Opportunities

Transition into Adult Education

Transition of the Parking Lot

Transition into SONday School

Transition into Kids Night Out

Transition into Catechism

Transition into Own Your Faith

All the details of these transitions are inside

Grace Lutheran Church Staff

Interim Senior PastorBruce Arnevik
Ext. 110.....brucea@graceandover.org

Visitation Pastor.....Delwayne Hahn
Ext. 105 .. delwayneh@graceandover.org

Dir. of Youth Ministry.....Kristi Larson
Ext. 100 kristil@graceandover.org

Coord. of Youth Ministries.....Tom Baker
Ext. 123 tomb@graceandover.org

Director of Children's Ministries.....Kristin Lowe
Ext. 112..... kristinl@graceandover.org

Director of Nursery Ministries.....Annie Fitzl
Ext. 116..... annief@graceandover.org

Dir. of Outreach Ministries.....Debbie Jorgens
Ext. 109 debbiej@graceandover.org

Dir. of Worship & Music.....Jonathan Orwig
Ext. 113 jonathano@graceandover.org

Church Administrator.....Kate Morphew
Ext. 102 katem@graceandover.org

Dir. of Grace Choir.....Doreen Hutchings
doreenh@graceandover.org

Accompanist.....Justin Cook

Administrative Assistant.....Kris Miller
Ext. 101 krism@graceandover.org

Bookkeeper.....Beth Clarstrom
Ext. 111 bethc@graceandover.org

Parish Nurse.....Lily Tunby/ Lori Ackerson
Ext. 100.parishnurse@graceandover.org

Head Custodian.....Mark Kempenich
Ext. 117 markk@graceandover.org

Dir. Of Golden Rule Child Care Center
421-1996

If you would like to contact any of the Vision Board members, please visit graceandover.org and click on leaders.

Vision Board Members

Scott Christensen (Pres.)	Alden Riley
Johnna Rohmer-Hirt (V.P.)	Dave Trapp
Lynn Noren (Secretary)	Carla Renner
Chad Hadler	

Hello
my name is

Bruce Arnevik
Unstable Pastor

Reflections from an Unstable Pastor!

When I recently met with one of Grace's ministry teams, someone in the group said "when we get our stable pastor", referring to when Grace eventually calls its new pastor. I've wasted no time in claiming my new title as "unstable pastor"!

While there are advantages to being a "stable", "settled", or "permanent" pastor (and remember that once upon a time I served a congregation for 20 years), there are also advantages to being "unstable". As the Alban Institute has pointed out, during interim times congregations tend to become unstuck and free to look at themselves – their identity, mission, and future – in new and fresh ways. My perception is that this is beginning to happen at Grace. Correct me if I'm wrong, but I feel Grace is weathering relatively well with the staff losses and transitions of 2017 and relaxing into this interim time. And it seems there is an openness and hopefulness for the future.

I'm impressed with the Transition Team and the work they are about. I'm amazed at how many people at Grace completed the ELCA Congregational Vitality Survey at the urging of the Transition Team. And I hope that you will respond in similar fashion when the Transition Team invites everyone to complete another survey in the coming weeks which the Transition Team is developing. This survey will be homegrown with Grace-specific questions, including questions about the skills and leadership qualities needed in your next senior pastor.

As I've said, we want to make our way through this interim time at a pace that emerges for the congregation, without trying to either artificially speed things up or slow things down. With the Transition Team currently setting the pace, I think

(continued on next page)

Transition Team Update

this is the case. On Sunday, September 30, and Wednesday, October 3, the Transition Team will offer congregational gatherings to present information they've gathered (including survey results) and to listen to your perspectives on Grace and what you're looking for in your new "stable senior pastor"!

As I write this on July 11, I know that plenty of summer remains. But since this newsletter already reaches into September, I foresee a fall at Grace that's full of rich experiences in worship, education for all ages, and mission opportunities to serve our neighbors. And the Transition Team will continue to move us forward this fall as they write their final report following their conversations with the congregation. Your prayers and your participation are needed. I believe the Holy Spirit is at work in and through this (unstable) time together!

Pastor Bruce Arnevik, Interim (Unstable) Pastor

Transition Team Update

Transition is an important aspect in many different settings and can sometimes be seen as a component that can either help or hinder a situation. Transitions in the educational world can symbolize smooth or problematic classroom management that can improve or discourage learning. Transitions in the arts, such as a dance sequence, a musical piece or even a theatrical performance can enhance or deter from the experience of the audience. Transitions in a church setting can have the similar, potentially beneficial or not-so-beneficial effects, depending on how they are approached.

During our transition time, we are fortunate to have the gift of time and leadership, through both Pastor Bruce and Pastor Hahn; the Transition Team working on behalf of the congregation and Vision Board; and the Synod. The time we are taking to transition is allowing us to engage in a process of determining who we are as a congregation, who God is calling us to be in the next phase of our journey as a place of Grace in the heart of Andover and beyond, and identify the qualities and characteristics in our next Senior Pastor that will most effectively walk with us and challenge us to be who we are called to be.



Transition Team: (back row) Mike Seide, Lori Ackerson, Johnna Rohmer Hirt, Sue Melody, Chuck Donaldson, Kevin Gast
(front row) Ann Lange, Pastor Bruce Arnevik and Nancy Jenkins

The Grace Transition Team has been meeting twice a month since the end of April and is currently planning to finalize our work in a culminating report to the Vision Board, the call committee that will be convened in the coming months, and the congregation by late fall or early winter. As part of the work we have done so far and are planning to do, we have reviewed the Focus 20/20 report and other historical information as a way to ground us in who we have been and what has brought us to where we are. In June, both in worship services and online, we conducted a congregational vitality survey to provide us input as to who we are, currently. We are also digging into information about our community to learn more about the people that live in the area surrounding our physical location as well as their experiences and perspectives. (*Watch for the overview of the vitality survey results to be shared later this summer when they become available.*)

We are so truly grateful for your input and prayers for the Transition Team and the congregation as a whole as we process through this critical time in our story. Each of us plays a vital role in discerning and doing God's will as we take the next steps in His plan for us. We look forward to our continued work together!

See page 4 for details regarding the Presentations and Listening Sessions on Sept. 30 and Oct. 3.

Thank you again for your participation and prayers,
The Transition Team

Musings from the Vision Board



Transition Team Presentations and Listening Sessions

As part of the process of calling a new senior pastor, the Transition Team will hold meetings to present a summary of the congregational survey results along with key demographic information and trends identified in our area. The Transition Team seeks to define who we are as a church, who is our neighbor and what attributes we need in a senior pastor. The sessions will include time for feedback from and discussion among attendees.

September 30th
OR
October 3rd

The sessions will be held on Sunday, Sept 30 and Wednesday, October 3. The meeting times and Grace room locations have yet to be determined but it is anticipated that the sessions will be approximately an hour in length. Additional meeting information will be provided via Grace at a Glance, the church website, the bulletins and during announcements in September. Attendees do not need to register in advance. The agenda and presentations will be the same on both dates so attendees need to attend only one session.

It is my pleasure to serve on the Vision Board for the next three years. Even though I have been a member of Grace for over 25 years this is my first time on the Vision Board. Over those 25 years, Grace has provided my family a place to worship our Lord and a place that facilitates helping those in need.

I hope the following will answer some questions you may have concerning Grace.

Who takes care of the church grounds during the summer?

We are blessed to have dedicated volunteers that take care of the grounds and gardens that surround Grace. Weeding, tree and bush trimming, cutting the lawn and maintaining the flower beds at Grace are just a few of the many outside property maintenance items that are taken care of by Grace volunteers. Thank you volunteers for using your talents and enabling Grace to use our resources in other areas.

What is going on with our "holy" parking lot? (See page 10 for details)

I heard that the portables at Grace need to be removed. Is this true?

At this time the portables are still going to be used. In the not too distant future, the Vision Board will be gathering information from the City of Andover and Anoka County in order to make an informed decision as to the future of the portables.

All Volunteers at Grace

Grace is blessed with many volunteers. Some of these volunteers are visible and some work behind the scenes. **All** our volunteers are critical to the life, vitality and mission of our congregation. "Thank You!"

God bless you as summer draws to a close and we look forward to a new church year of worship and activities.

Dave Trapp, Vision Board Member



Vision Board Message

God is (NOT) Missing

A few weeks ago an old friend of mine sent me this story.

Two young brothers had the reputation of being the cause of most of the trouble in their small town. Their mother was beside herself, not knowing what to do. She brought her problem to a local pastor who was known to be very good at solving these kinds of problems. It was decided he would counsel the boys individually starting with the youngest.

On the first day of counseling, the pastor looked at the younger brother and asked "Where is God"? The young boy's mouth dropped open, he couldn't speak. The pastor asked him again "Do You know where God is"? Again the young boy could not answer; instead he jumped up, ran home and hid in the back of his closet.

When the older brother came home he began looking for his younger brother and found him still hiding in the back of his closet. "What happened", he asked? His young brother responded, "We're in big trouble this time. God is missing and they think we did it".

I had a good chuckle over this cute story. Then the horror of it struck me. What if it were true? After all, whenever you read a paper or listen to the news, our senses are assaulted with stories of beatings, stabbings and shootings. Children are being forcibly removed from their parents.

Countries who have been close allies are squabbling over trade agreements, nuclear proliferation and strips of land that holds no interest to anyone else.

This past week, Judy and I have been following the story about the soccer team trapped in the flooded cave in Thailand. This morning it was reported that all twelve boys and their coach were rescued.

God was not missing!

We have been praying for my sister-in-law who had major surgery to remove her entire large intestine. The surgery was successful and she is recovering nicely.

God was not missing!

A month ago I was privileged to provide security for VBS. It was controlled chaos, but very uplifting. I encourage anyone who has not witnessed VBS at Grace to participate at least once, even for one day. It is such joy to watch the Grace youth mentor the preschool and Sunday school age children. I guarantee if you were to ask any of these kids "Where Is God", they would tell you.

God is not missing!

God is not, nor will God ever be missing. Scott Christenson reminded us at our last Vision Board meeting of Gods great promise "I will be with you always".

Alden Riley, Vision Board Member

Vision Board Minutes

The July Vision Board meeting was held at Grace. All Vision Board members were in attendance at the meeting.

Interim Pastor Bruce Arnevik shared a report of his activities for the past month.

Kate Morphey reviewed our financial statements and financial performance through June. Contributions to date are down about 10%, however expenses are also less than budgeted.

The Transition Team continues to meet. The congregational vitality survey is completed and the response rate was excellent. The aggregated results will be sent back to Grace within the next few weeks for the Transition Team to review. The Vision Board continues to review policies and practices of Grace.

Parking Lot lighting and surface repairs will be completed in the next few weeks. There are also plans being made for the replacement of the portables in 2019.

The next meeting of the Vision Board is August 21, 2018. The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. at Grace. We ended the meeting in prayer.

Submitted by Lynn Noren

Children's Ministries

SONday School Open House on Rally Day, September 9th



What do I do on Rally Day?

- Register your child for SONday School. This can be done online through Gracelink or by going to the Children's Ministry Page and clicking the SONday School link. Registration forms are also at the Welcome Center and will be available Rally Day Weekend.
- Meet your child's teacher and see their classroom.
- Children will begin in worship and be dismissed after the Children's Message to the Fellowship Hall, and be introduced to their teachers, then return to worship before communion.
- We will have fun activities and snacks to enjoy after worship services.

Kindergarten Pins & Blessing of the Backpacks September 8th & 9th

We will celebrate children going off to school during each of the services during Rally Day Weekend

- Kindergarteners will be presented a little angel pin to remind them that God will be with them as they travel to school and go through their days.
- K-12 students should bring their backpacks with them to Worship for a special blessing. We, as a congregation want to support and encourage our children as they start a new school year.

Baptism Class September 30th at 11:45am

Baptism is welcoming your child into the family of faith. We will also share insights to help you as you raise your child to know and love God by creating habits, traditions, and making God a part of everyday life. You may register on line through *GraceLink* or contact Annie Fitzl at annief@graceandover.org or the church office to sign up for the class. Families can schedule baptisms at most Worship Services. Contact the Church office to confirm available dates and times.

Kids Night Out @ Grace Wednesdays beginning September 12th 6:30 – 8 pm

NEW this year children in K- 5 can sign up to attend Kids Night Out @ Grace, where we will get to KNO the Bible and Jesus's love for us through songs, Bible stories, crafts and games. You may register online through Grace Link or by going to the Kids Night Out page on the web site. We will also have forms at the Welcome Center. If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Lowe at kristinl@graceandover.org



Children's Ministry needs many helping hands this Fall, would you like to help?

- ☞ Serving in the **Nursery** is an opportunity to play, giggle, and do a little dancing as you care for the littlest ones at Grace. Come make a difference in the lives of our Grace families!
- ☞ We need **Teachers**. Our curriculum is designed to make it easy for you. All the materials you need to teach your lessons are provided. You can teach bi-weekly or weekly.
- ☞ Do you like teaching, but don't want to make a big commitment? Please consider being a **Substitute Teacher**. Substitutes are great blessing to our teaching staff and we would like a big list for our teachers!
- ☞ **Youth Helpers** are a blessing to the teachers of our younger children. If you had fun helping at VBS, please consider being a Youth Helper.
- ☞ **Leaders** for Kids Night Out @ Grace on Wednesdays are needed. This includes Small Group Leaders, Craft Leaders and Game Leaders. To be a blessing, sign up on the opportunity sheets or contact Annie Fitzl annief@graceandover.org or Kristin Lowe at kristinl@graceandover.org. Training is Sunday, August 26th

Youth Ministries

Catechism (6th - 8th Grade) Wednesdays beginning September 12th 6:30 – 8 pm



Do you miss seeing your friends and small group leader every week this summer? Catechism meets each Wednesday, in accordance with Anoka Hennepin SD11 calendar, from 6:30-8:00 and ALL 6-8th grade students are welcome! Bring a friend and check out the website at www.graceandover.org for more info! *(family pizza begins the same night as well at 6pm)*

6th grade students and those new to catechism this year please see below for details on the parent/student meeting on September 5th!

Parent/6th grade Student Catechism Informational Meeting September 5th 6:30 – 8 pm

Join us to get an overview of the program, meet the staff, ask questions, and connect with other families. Contact Kristi Larson with any questions. (7th and 8th grade students new to Catechism are also asked to attend.)

Family Pizza

Returns on September 12th for all participating in Wednesday night programming at Grace! Come and enjoy pizza, salad and connecting with other families at Grace from 6-6:30pm.

Catechism Small Group Leaders Needed!

Do you like hanging out with cool young people? Are you interested in understanding your own faith more? Do you like being goofy and having a lot of fun – with also being a positive role model in student's lives? Be a Catechism small group leader! Leaders meet every Wednesday with Catechism students from 6:30-8pm. They join them for the large group learning and then spend that last 40 minutes guiding them through a discussion or a lesson. Leaders are given teaching material so prep time is minimal. Contact Kristi Larson. Training night is September 10 at 7pm.



Own Your Faith Blessing/ Informational Meeting September 23rd @ 10:30 am

Own Your Faith is a ministry for students to explore adulthood in faith, how they understand God and what it means to confirm their faith. A blessing for all Freshman beginning their final steps towards Confirmation in the spring. A meeting and lunch for students, parents, and mentors will follow the 10:30 worship service/blessing (meeting will start around 11:45am). Further details regarding the Own Your Faith Retreat at Luther Crest in Alexandria on October 18th/19th will be coming your way in the coming

Register Now

**Registration Opens
August 6th**

**SONday School,
Kids Night Out
Catechism
Own Your Faith**

**Gracelink or at
www.graceandover.org**

Ministry & Outreach Opportunities

"GRAB 2"

Please join our all-church effort this August as we share God's Grace by providing support for two specific needs in this world – one local and one global.

As you leave worship, beginning August 11/12, you will walk through the narthex and have a chance to **"GRAB 2" – 1 envelope and 1 sticky note** (hence the idea of 'Grab 2')

- ⇒ **Grab a sticky note** to provide school supplies for students at SAND CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL in Coon Rapids, as part of our Faith & Community Partnership through the Anoka-Hennepin School district.
- ⇒ **Grab a numbered envelope** to financially support OUR ABANDONED CHILDREN in Haiti. Envelopes will be numbered from 1 to 100, and as you grab a numbered envelope, we ask that you donate that dollar amount. But please know that ANY & ALL donations will be welcomed!



PLEASE return all school supplies and financial donations to the bookshelf area in church lobby **by Sunday, Sept. 2**. Please make your individual checks out to Grace, memo lined: Our Abandoned Children, then we'll send just one check to this ministry in Haiti.

This is a creative opportunity for all of us to truly make an impact in this world - watch how wonderfully God's GRACE will be shared around the world – both locally and globally.

THANKS for loving God and His precious children in this very tangible way this August!

Ann Lange and Greg & Lori Ackerson

God's Work, Our Hands

September 9th

For several years, Grace has celebrated "God's Work, Our Hands" Day, a day set apart by congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) all across the country to celebrate who we are – one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor.

If you're interested in exploring ways that Grace can share the love of Christ in this community and beyond, contact Debbie Jorgens, Director of Outreach Ministries debbiej@graceandover.org.



Hotdish for Homelessness!

2nd Annual, Sept. 20th

2nd annual benefit to support Family Promise in Anoka County at Lord of Life Church in Ramsey!

The evening will start at 6pm with doors opening at 5pm. Tickets will be available starting August 1st for \$50 per person, online at familypromiseanoka.org/events or in person during office hours at Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka and Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Ramsey.

All proceeds raised at this event will go to benefit Families in Anoka County experiencing homelessness. Sponsorship opportunities are still available, please contact director@familypromiseanoka.org for inquiries.

New Member Class

Save the date. October 14th, 11:45am-1:45pm

Are you interested in becoming a member of Grace? Or have you been coming here for a long time and have never joined? Then come to our New Member Class. Sign up on Gracelink



Join us as Grace builds with
Habitat for Humanity
Tuesday, August 14, 2018
8:30 am – 4:00 pm

A home is where families grow, memories are made, and possibilities arise. Sadly, not everyone has a safe, healthy place to call home. But you can help change that for the family of Jean Demanou and Annie Laure Ngouanet Djousse! Originally from Cameroon, Africa, Jean and Annie and their five children have lived in Minnesota for the past 3 ½ years. They're excited and very grateful for the opportunity to move from a two-bedroom apartment into a home of their own in White Bear Lake.

This is where you come in! Grace would like to send 13 volunteers to the home construction site on Tuesday, August 14. Please prayerfully consider joining us! You do NOT need to be an experienced carpenter – beginners are always welcome! That said, if hammers and power tools aren't your thing but preparing a meal *is*, we could use your help in fixing lunch for the workers!

For more information or to sign up, please contact Chris Lowe at clowetrw@gmail.com or at 419-376-3101.

OK (Old Kids) @ Play **Upcoming events**

- Two Rivers Vineyard & Winery Tour
 - Stillwater Boat Cruise.
 - Bonfire at Joel and Becky Anderson's.
- Watch for more details to come on these future events and plan to join us!

Women's Opportunities

W.O.W - Wednesdays at 9:30am - **starts 9/12**
Bible Study on Mondays at 6:30pm
Ruth Circle - 2nd Wednesdays at 12:30pm
Quilters - Wednesdays at 9:00am
Grace Quilters 2 - Last Mondays at 6:30pm

Men's Opportunities

BWW Connection - 1st Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm
Men's Gab & Grub - 3rd Sat. at Baker's Square 8am
Bible Studies on Mon. 6:30am or Sat. 8am

Monday Morning (6:30am)

Men's Bible Study

Men are invited to join in a new Bible Study "Twelve Ordinary Men" on September 10th.

Who were these men? They weren't saints. They weren't even religious sages. What is most amazing about the disciples is that Jesus never selected them at all. Among them, a handful of common fishermen, a hated tax collector, and an impulsive political zealot. It brings you face to face with the disciples as you've never seen them. You'll put yourself in their shoes. You'll understand their doubts and hopes. And you'll hear the power of Jesus' words in a whole new way. The message is clear. If Christ can accomplish His purposes through the lives of common men like these, imagine what He has in store for you.

Contact Ed Beckman (763)421-8208
ejbjr42@gmail.com

MEN'S &
Women's
MINISTRY

Adult Education This Fall

Parking Lot & Choir News

A Global Perspective on Missions

Wednesdays, beginning Oct 3. 6:30-8pm

Missions have evolved over the years since the great commission, from local to global, reaching the ends of the earth with the good news of Jesus Christ. But not all view missions the same, and often we have a different perspective or lens. At Grace, we have spirit-filled missions in many areas, locally and globally, this course is an opportunity to grow spiritually ourselves and gain better understanding of missions --- to better equip us to serve even more meaningfully in connection with others. Please join us on Wednesday evenings, for five weeks at Grace Lutheran --- to listen, learn, and expand our understanding and perspective on missions as we hear from local and international missionaries involved in the great commission. From Andover to Milwaukee, Haiti to Uganda, Tanzania to Cambodia. Hope you can make it! Led by Scott Lien

Theology on Tap: The Beatitudes of Peace

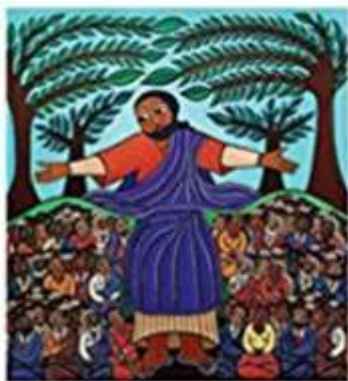
Mondays, beginning Oct 8. 6:30-8pm

"Have you wondered what Jesus meant when he said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit," or "Blessed are the meek"? Have you ever asked yourself if these Beatitudes are merely spiritual ideals or teachings that can ground and center your life choices?" In The Beatitudes of Peace, a brand new course, through four videos from author John Dear, discussion questions and creative exercises, "you will be invited to meet the challenges of our present times by reclaiming Jesus' radical framework for the Reign of God". Needless to say, this is an incredible walk with Christ. Please consider joining us for this four week course about the key teachings of Jesus in the Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount.

Led by John Anderson

Watch for details to come for these courses, and more. Registration to open in September.

*Grace SALT (Seek, Abide, Love, Trust)
Adult Education and Prayer Ministry*



Parking Lot Updates

Many of you have been asking, what is being done about the parking lot? Before I can answer that question, I need to explain the series of events, in order, that must be taken place first.



- 1) We are replacing the parking lot lights with new energy efficient LED lighting. The existing wooden poles have deteriorated and have become unsafe. The existing high pressure sodium lamps are costly to operate and not environmentally friendly.
- 2) Our asphalt company will patch the pot holes. If you have recently lost your car in the huge hole by the garage, we will have them watch for it. Once the lot is patched the GRAMPS team will stripe the lot. We anticipate this work to be completed this summer.
- 3) I am sure most of you have heard the portables will need to be removed by the end of 2019. Our construction team is working with Kinghorn Construction to create a suitable replacement for the space lost by the removal of the portables.
- 4) After the demolition and construction projects are finished, we will have the parking lot milled and overlay applied. This will give us a new parking lot that should last for another 20 years.

~Alden Riley, Vision Board Member



Grace Choir starts August 29! Join Us!

Fall is just around the corner, and that means the Grace Choir will be starting up again soon! We'd love to have you join us. We rehearse on Wednesdays 6:45-8pm in the Nap Room, and sing in worship for the 8 and 9am services (and sometimes 10:30, too!). You don't have to be a music-reading expert, just willing to learn, even if it is by listening (Did you know we have a number of singers who don't read music? It's True). Join us! For more info, contact Jonathan Orwig or Doreen Hutchings.

Finances at a Glance



ATTN: Thrivent Members

Did you know that you can be a part of a Thrivent Action Team to help someone in need or raise awareness for a cause? Think about an unmet need in your church or community and how you could help. Apply to lead your volunteer team in a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days. Once your project is approved, you'll receive a Thrivent Action Kit, including a promotional banner, invitations and thank-you cards, Thrivent Action Team T-shirts (up to 25 in a variety of sizes), a \$250 Community Impact Card you can use as seed money to get your project off the ground and make a bigger impact.

Wondering how often are you eligible? All Thrivent members are eligible to lead a Thrivent Action Team, however, the number of teams each member can lead per year depends on his or her membership type. Benefit members (those that hold are eligible to lead two Thrivent Action Teams per calendar year, and associate members are eligible to lead one per calendar year (maximum of three).

If you are interested in a Thrivent Action Team and need help, call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Action Teams". If you would be willing to create an Action Team for an event that is happening at Grace, please contact the church office. We can use Action Teams for things like Vacation Bible School, Octoberfest, Youth Mission Trips, etc.



GraceLink

Finances as of June 30

YTD Noisy Offering = \$6,138.03

OFFERINGS	2017	2018
	\$415,063.68	\$382,917.18
EXPENSES	2017	2018
	\$447,945.29	\$394,703.43
<i>Total Difference</i>	<i>(32,881.61)</i>	<i>(\$11,786.25)</i>

YTD Mortgage paid = \$53,076.00

** if you would like a copy of the current month-end report, please contact Kate or Beth.*

We are over halfway through our 2018 budgetary year. Contributions are down from where they were at this time in 2017. The good news is, so are expenses. It is not uncommon with the Senior Pastor leaving to see contributions dip. The congregation and staff are doing a great job keeping expenses down. The past two years, we have finished the budgetary year with a surplus. This surplus helps us pay our bills and meet our financial obligations during the summer, when our contributions are typically less.

It is also time for us to start thinking about 2019. We will begin putting together our 2019 budget soon. Please be thinking about your ministry teams and what funds they may need in 2019. This is your opportunity to have some input. If you have ideas and requests for the 2019 budget, please pass them along to Kate at katem@graceandover.org or drop them off in the church office.

PRAYERS

We celebrate new birth with the families of:
Marik Thomas, son of Tom & Amber Ringwelski
Brody, son of Nicole Javes (Golden Rule employee)

We keep in our hearts and prayers the families with recent loss of:

Don Money, Luke Davich
Jerry Wyandt, Shawn Wyandt
Beverly Beeskow, Matthew Childs



Grace Lutheran Church

13655 Round Lake Blvd NW, Andover, MN 55304

(763) 421-6520

A Ministry of Grace in the heart of Andover and beyond!

www.graceandover.org

NON PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Anoka, MN 55303

PERMIT No. 118

Address Service Requested

WORSHIP WITH US

Now through Labor Day Weekend

Saturday - 5pm Contemporary

Sunday - 8:30am Traditional/Blended

Sunday - 10:00am Blended/Contemporary

Nursery and *Children's Bible Time is offered at all services

***We will not have Summer Bible Time on Labor Day Weekend.**

September 9th begins Fall Worship Times

Saturday - 5pm Contemporary

Sunday - 8:00am Traditional

Sunday - 9:00am Blended

Sunday - 10:30am Contemporary

Nursery is offered at all services

SONday School at 9:00 & 10:30am

Holy Communion at all services