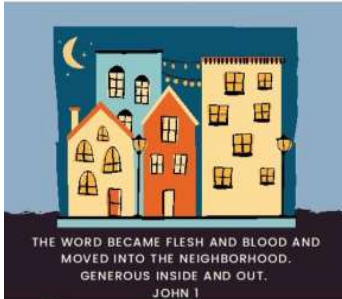


# grace notes

March 2022

*transforming*  
INSIDE + OUT



Grace Lutheran Church

## *Transforming Inside & Out*

March is always a big month for me. It's my birthday and my anniversary. I turn 45 years old on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and I will have been married for 21 years on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Those feel like pretty big milestones and yet, I have a feeling they will pass by as most of the events from this year have with a card and a nice meal, and some quiet time with my family. Nothing huge, nothing over the top. Transitioning into middle age, and into these middle years of marriage feel different than I thought they would. I don't need the celebration and the grandeur as much as I need the solid, dependable relationships in my life. I don't need the big anniversary weekend as much as I need the connection and care that I receive day after day from my husband. And yet, I recognize that this hasn't always been true. There were years when Jeff signing my birthday card in front of me, made me super angry. "Can't you be more prepared?!" I asked. There were years when planning a weekend away was imperative to the health of our marriage. I am not saying weekends away are not still important, or kind ges-

tures are a thing of the past, or even presents, but what I long for now is more presence with my own loved ones, with people both in and out of the church and with God.

The thing about March, however, while significantly important in my life is that I often feel it is the ugliest month of the year. The snow melts, the grass is brown and muddy if we can see it at all. It's slushy and messy, and we are all done with winter. Even if we get a nice day- which has happened (it's been 70 on my birthday before) it is still ugly in the state of Minnesota. March is a month of transformation. Beneath the slush, and the snow, or the mud, the warmth of the sun is transforming our world from winter to spring. New life starts to germinate in March. New possibilities, new hopes realized. But before we can get to Forsythia, Daffodils of April, or the Lilacs of May, we first must wade through the mud.

Transformation is something that often happens in the dark. Be it the cocoon of the caterpillar where a butterfly is hatched, or a seed bursting forth beneath the ground, or the spirit of a person finding forgiveness and renewal. On the surface, you can't see the transformation happening. Transformation doesn't happen without death and darkness. Something new cannot be born until we are willing to put something else to rest.

Throughout the month of February, we have been celebrating generosity and looking into the future of what God is calling us to do at Grace. We have heard important testimonies about the ways that Grace has been a family to so many people throughout the years, providing care, nurturing, and spiritual growth for all. We have great visions of what God is calling us to do next. But today, we wait in the darkness. It's March (or almost) and because of that we can't quite see the transformation that is happening inside ourselves or within our church. It is happening within. And yet, I believe it is happening. I can feel it!

In walking this path of transformation together, I have already been changed. Changed by your faithfulness. Changed by your commitment and dedication to this church. Changed by your belief that God is still working and moving in and through the hearts and people of Grace. As I listened to Pastor Maria preach on February 13th, she pointed out that the Gospel writer wasn't interested in the miracle or describing it, but in the people, being fed, being filled, being satisfied. The people being transformed in generosity and love. Yes! This is what it is all about! How has God transformed you to see others? How has God moved in you to share what you have with the world around you? How has God stretched you to look at the ugliness of the world or March, and believe that something beautiful is happening underneath the surface?

This March there are big things happening, and it's not just about me and my birthday and anniversary. It is about how God is transforming Grace inside and out. And so we are going to celebrate. Celebrate generosity by coming together on Commitment Weekend March 5th and 6th and sharing what we have been stretched to give in whatever amount, and ask God to bless it and bless us. On March 19th/20th and 26th/27th we are going to celebrate! Why two weekends? Because even in Lent, even in March, we need to celebrate all that God has given us and how God has been present with us in this journey of faith and this transformation. I hope that you will be here, because our family at Grace is not complete without you, and what I desire more than anything is your presence as, together we celebrate the abundant gifts of our transforming God.

Blessings, Pastor Joanna Mitchell

## Associate Pastor's Message

### LISTEN | GROW | SERVE

#### Our Lenten Journey by Pastor Maria Markman

"Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one! Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." -Deuteronomy 6:4-5

This Lent, join us as we learn all about The Shema. The Shema, literally translated, hear or listen! is an ancient prayer of the people of God. First given through Moses before the Israelites entered into the promised land and continuing to be used even to this day as a sort of creed in the Jewish faith. This ancient prayer is lifted up by Jesus' teachings as well. Although I had read these words in the Bible numerous times throughout my life, it wasn't until I was in the Holy Land March 2020 with my mother (pictured here at the wailing wall in Jerusalem) that I realized it's practicality and significance in the life of everyday faith.



Whenever we entered a Jewish home or business, we would see these small, often decorative containers on the doorframes. In Jewish homes, families will place a mezuzah (decorative cases) on each of the doorframes of their home as a symbol of their faith. A Mezuzah holds, written within it, The Shema. It serves as a reminder for those in the home of God's covenant and promises to God's people. And for those who do not live there, it is a marker of the faithful who live there, that the people who reside there have certain beliefs and practices.

The Shema is also a sign post for us in our faith. A practical way to live out our faith in the world. When the people of God first received the commandments from Moses, they were reminded through these words that God's commands will be inscribed on their hearts and lived out. Then it should be taught to their children and handed down through generations. Grace, as a congregation whose mission is to be "a community of faith united by God's love to listen, grow and serve in the name of Jesus, so that all might experience grace," let us listen and grow in our understanding of this prayer throughout Lent and how it's meaning might inspire us to serve in Jesus name, so that all might experience grace! You won't want to miss out on our worship, educational and fellowship opportunities -join us!



**Each Wednesday of Lent ((Ash Wednesday -7:00pm) March 2nd- April 6th) we will worship at 1:00pm and 7:30 PM.**

#### **Wednesday Lenten Schedule**

##### **Afternoon**

1:00-1:30PM | Lenten Worship and Shema preaching series with fellowship, cookies & coffee to follow

##### **Evening**

5:45-6:45PM | Meal and fellowship served in the Fellowship Hall

6:30-7:30PM | Education Hour: Catechism (worship center and small groups), Adult Bible Study (105/107), Kids Programming (Preschool classrooms).

7:30-8:00PM | Lenten Worship Holden Evening Prayer and Shema preaching series

## Vision Board

And I heard the voice of the  
Lord saying, "Whom shall I  
send, and who will go for us?"

Then I said,

"Here I am!  
Send me."

-Isaiah 6:8



### Can I Do More??

Does that sound familiar? You are not alone. I ask myself that every week. I should do more to be more involved, I say. But by the end of the service I am already thinking about the grocery store and the endless weekend chores that still need attention. It's easy to fall into a pattern, even at church. Humans are creatures of habit. We like being comfortable. But not God, he likes to shake things up and make us uncomfortable. It's on purpose,

it's how we grow both in faith and in life. Church has been a hub of activity lately. As we continue our generosity campaign, Transforming Inside & Out, I am struck by the word inside. Almost like it was chosen for me. I feel called to take a hard look at where I am at, and put my faith in God to get uncomfortable. Currently, the Vision Board is studying a book about giving to God. That God owns everything. All we have are gifts from God. It goes into depth about not only giving money to God, but also our time and our talents. When I think and pray about our readings, I feel almost overwhelmed to become more involved. I just need to act. Am I using my gifts in a way that would be pleasing to God? It makes me think of Isaiah 6:8 "When I heard the voice of the Lord, saying "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."" I want to take a good look at my life. Is God truly the center of it, or is there more that I can do? Of course yes there is, that is the answer. It really can be quite simple. There are so many ways to be more involved in the church, and so many wonderful people to get to know better. But being faith centered is more than just Sundays and more than just a building. There are lots of opportunities in both the community and the greater world that would welcome more involvement. And then there are our actions. What can I do to be more selfless and how can I serve my neighbors better? So I'm going to welcome God to shake things up. It's time to get uncomfortable. Will you join me?

Brook Vander Leest  
Vision Board Member

# Transforming

## INSIDE + OUT

### Dates to Remember

February 26/27-Campaign Weekend

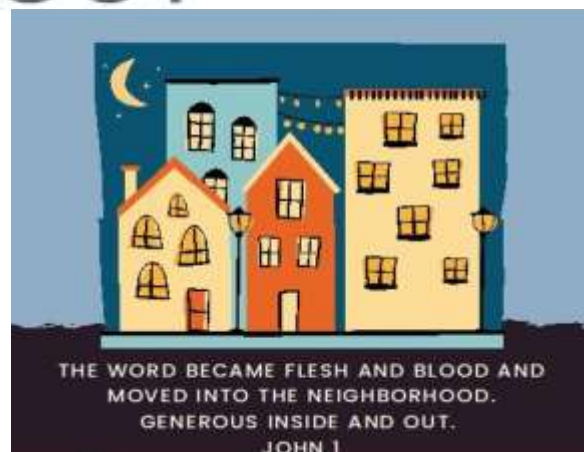
March 5/6-Commitment Weekend

March 19/20-First Fruits and Celebration Weekend

March 26/27-First Fruits and Celebration Weekend

For more information visit us at

[www.graceandover.org](http://www.graceandover.org)





## Devotional



### Devotion: Intersectionality & Empathy

Chrissy Gast – January 2022

Over the past couple years, the concept of **intersectionality**—this framework for understanding how the intersections of different aspects and identity create unique experiences—continues to come up throughout my life. One of the things I love about intersectionality is that it acknowledges that we are all unique human beings and most of us have both advantages and disadvantages based on our complex identities. At the November Conversations on Race & Culture we did an exercise where we identified all our various identities and reflected on the ways those identities become more or less visible or felt at different times, how those identities impact the way we perceive ourselves and how others perceive or treat us. One thing that stood out to me was that the identities that I most keenly identify with, such as being a Christian and a mom, are not things that people would necessarily know just looking at me—but I carry those identities with me and they impact how I live and experience my life, and how I treat and consult others.

In Genesis 1:26-27, God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us...” So God created human beings **in God’s own image**...

As I reflect on intersectionality, our similarities and our differences, seen and unseen, and how complex we all are, it always seems to circle back to **empathy**. I was recently reading the book “Peaceful Parent, Happy Kids” by Dr. Laura Markham and rather than defining empathy as “seeing things from the other person’s point of view,” she defines empathy as “**feeling** from the other person’s point of view.” As we go through life, let’s keep an open mind and be kind to others—we rarely know all of their complex identities and what they’re going through. After all, Christ calls upon us to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Let’s pray together...

*Source of Life, in Your wisdom You have made each of us a unique treasure; cause us to flow with courage, strength, and compassion to live our stories openly, proudly, and joyfully. Presence of Love, may we embrace ourselves, our partners, our lovers, our friends, our children, our dear ones with the power of Your unending, boundless love. Spirit of Peace and Wholeness, open our eyes to the gifts and blessings we offer and receive from each other; open our hearts to welcome each other fully and truly; open our hands to embrace, to support, to lift each other with joy, song, peace, and deep friendship. Let us walk together with strength, compassion, empathy, and love. Amen.*

#### Jan. 1 to Jan. 31, 2022

Current & Capital Offerings \$68,781.82  
Other Income \$3,089.32  
Expenses \$65,803.77  
Building Project Offerings \$2,335.00  
Dedicated Offerings \$1,756.41  
Dedicated Funds in Balance Sheet \$88,693.44  
Dedicated Expenses \$9,346.83

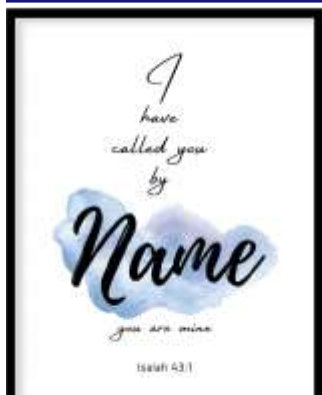
*faith and*  
**finances**

#### Jan. 1 to Jan. 31, 2021

Current & Capital Offerings \$80,642.18  
Other Income \$3,462.95  
Expenses \$77,791.94  
Building Project Offerings \$0.00  
Dedicated Offerings \$7,522.47  
Dedicated Funds in Balance Sheet \$97,536.64  
Dedicated Expenses \$5,232.82

To better align with accounting practices, dedicated revenues and expenses have been separated from operating revenue and expenses to give a more accurate picture of our financial standing. Dedicated Offerings and Dedicated Funds are those offerings that are directed by the giver to a specific ministry fund.

## Devotional



### "I Have Called You by Name"

#### – The Practice

As part of the capital campaign team, I had the opportunity to attend and participate in the various events held prior to the "Transforming Inside & Out" Kickoff Weekend. As part of each event, those who attended were asked to think about, discuss, and share how they have been transformed (by God) through Grace Lutheran Church. This is a tough question to answer much less share aloud with others.

A common response among people who have been at Grace for several years was that they first were impacted by Pastor Mark knowing their names after visiting our church just once. Many commented about being welcomed by name by Pastor Mark the second visit and being shocked by his fantastic memory. It is amazing to hear the impact this talent had on so many people, and yet I am not surprised. It IS powerful to be known and called by name. I experienced this myself at Grace with Pastor Mark as well as another person on staff who unexpectedly greeted our family at our first Christmas Eve service at Grace.

These stories of being seen and remembered are important, and I have been pondering what they tell us about who God is, who we are, and what more we might do now at Grace. Pastor Mark was "mirroring" for us the broader image of how God works: God sees us, knows us, and calls each of us by name. This is the first step for many of us - experiencing a God who sees us, knows us and loves us just as we are. However, this is just the beginning! There is more for us to do! I think that we are being asked to expand our perspective and for each of us extend this gift of welcoming to others. What does being welcoming look like for people visiting Grace in 2022? What new story might we share with them about how God has been at work in and through the community at Grace?

Those of you who know me might say that I have the "gift of gab", particularly when talking with strangers. I do love talking with strangers, and yet I am actually an introvert who has simply practiced talking with people I don't know. I am horrible at remembering names, but I am not afraid to ask someone their name again. Wearing masks for months gave me an excuse for not recognizing someone or knowing their name. I think most of us would say that we feel awkward and uncomfortable reaching out to people we don't know well. However, we **can** do this "work" (we can practice!) and we will get better as we use these skills. As individuals we can reach out to people we don't know by name (... yet). The next time you are at Grace, please look around and ask yourself: Who do I not recognize? Who do I not know by name? Who would I like to meet? Who do I know who lives alone and would enjoy even a brief conversation? Who is standing alone and could be included in my group or conversation? Who looks like they would like to make a new friend? How can I welcome someone else because I know firsthand what it's like to feel welcomed and to call Grace my church home?

As I think about this invitation to reach out to others, I view this practice in the context of our "Transforming Inside & Out" Generosity campaign. Being welcoming is another way of being generous with others.

*Loving God – we acknowledge that we each have unique gifts and talents and that we are all siblings in Christ. Help us to view a stranger as a sibling in Christ. Help us to do hard and uncomfortable things and to generously reach out to others, as You first reached out to us. Help us to extend the spirit and gift of welcome to all people. In Your name we pray. Amen.*

Nancy Jenkins

## Outreach Ministries



### Outreach Ministries Initiatives

I am so grateful and excited to be entrusted with the opportunity of being the Coordinator of Outreach Ministries here at Grace Lutheran. Communicating with the team leaders of most of the outreach ministerial initiatives in this congregation, I am so impressed with the energy and passion with which you respond to the Spirit's call to reach out to those in need in the Andover community and beyond....way beyond! May you continue to know God's richest blessing in your endeavors.



There are two new areas of outreach that I would ask you to consider for your involvement, and one that I have been told is very familiar to you, but one in which your interest has waned recently.

Beginning with the two new opportunities. First, Anoka County Meals On Wheels is looking for meal deliverers in the Andover area. Second, ACBC Food Shelf is also in the need of volunteers. If either of these opportunities interest you, please call me at church for details. If I'm not in when you call, please leave me a message and I'll get back to you.



And the third opportunity? I have reserved 25 slots for us at Feed My Starving Children in Coon Rapids for Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> (Yes, St. Patrick's Day!) for two time slots; 2:00-3:45pm and 4:30-6:15pm. You may register directly on line at [www.fmssc.org](http://www.fmssc.org) OR you can call the office and either Kris Miller or I will register you. It's been at least two years since I have participated in a pack at FMSC, and I am really looking forward to being there with you on March 17th.

If you have an interest in any area of Outreach Ministry that is currently here at Grace or any thoughts regarding how we can improve or expand our outreach ministry, please feel free to give me a call. Thanks for your attention and, once again thanks for your amazing grace filled ministry. Blessings, AP Hopper

### An Exciting Youth Outreach Opportunity at Grace!



Did you notice that \$5,000 of our tithe money from the land sale of the land went to an organization called "Treehouse"? Treehouse Ministries is a Minnesota based organization that is working to end hopelessness in young people, one youth at a time. TreeHouse has been serving teens since 1979, helping them build relationships and resiliency rooted in living hope. Every week teens across the state gather in host homes that provide a meal and safe space for them to find support and belonging. Through mentorships, retreats, and other off-site activities, teens have the opportunity to build even deeper relationships with peers and caring adults.

Anoka County is facing a mental health crisis with our young people and Grace Lutheran Church is exploring how we can help by opening our doors and hosting a weekly support/community group for teens in our area. But to do this we need help from the Congregation in the form of drivers, people to provide meals, and mentors for these young people. This is an amazing opportunity and we know Grace is up for the challenge. The gift of the tithe money, generously given, will pay to fund this program at Grace for up to 3 years. Thank you! To learn how you can help in more ways (and we will need help!) please contact Kristi Larson at [KristiL@graceandover.org](mailto:KristiL@graceandover.org).

## Ministries



### GRACE 4 RAKAI UPDATE

Schools are open again over in Rakai, Uganda! After one of the longest school closures around the world caused by the global COVID pandemic, schools re-opened again on January 10<sup>th</sup> in Rakai.

The African Children Today (ACT) Junior School (pre-school thru Grade 7) welcomed back nearly 700 students and the new ACT High School (grades 8-13) opened their doors for the first time with more than 250 students. Many of the high school students are sponsored by members of the Grace community. Thank you: your generous support is so needed and appreciated!

As you can imagine, there is incredible excitement in the air as the children are returning to school and reuniting with their friends and teachers. ACT continued to pay the salaries of the teachers at the ACT Junior School throughout the pandemic. The teachers prepared study packets for the children at home, delivered weekly via the ACT staff on motorcycles. As a result, the children not only maintained their educational status during the pandemic, but have continued to grow and advance while schools were closed! This is how distance learning was adapted for Rakai, where there is no internet. Amazing how the Spirit has worked in this community!

With schools open once again, there is a great need to recruit more sponsors for children in the program who have lost their sponsors during the pandemic. If this is something you can consider, or if you know of a family member, friend, or neighbor who may be interested in sponsoring a student, please refer them to Scott Christensen or Stacy Surratt on the Grace4Rakai ministry team. You can reach Scott by cell at 612-247-3599 or e-mail at [scottc@nuaire.com](mailto:scottc@nuaire.com) with any questions you have about child sponsorship.

The vulnerable women and children over in Rakai are so thankful for the generous support they have received from "Grace Church." Thank you for being a Blessing to them!



### NAMI Guest Speaker: Nancy Howe

*April 25th at 6:30pm*

Parents of middle school through young adult children, save the date for Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm! Guest speaker, Nancy Howe, will be joining us from NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) to talk about early warning signs of mental illness in young people. Did you know that mental illness typically starts to present itself in late adolescents and early adulthood? But what is a warning sign, and what is just....being a teenager? Come learn what to look for in your child (and their friends!) as they grow and mature. All are welcome, so invite your child's grandparents, coaches, and anyone else that interacts with young people on a regular basis.



## Ministries



### Graceful Seniors

Graceful Seniors is a group of mostly retired folks who meet the second Tuesday of each month (March 8th) in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast and a Bible study (8:30-10:00 am). In March, we will begin our Lenten Study on the Shema, a Jewish confession of faith that Jesus exalts in his teaching too. In preparation for our time together you can read Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 11:13-21; Numbers 15:37-41 and Mark 12. Where have you heard this in your life?



### The Chosen Season Two Video Series and Study

Sunday Evenings

6:30-8pm

Back for another season, Grace Lutheran Church Adult Education invites you and your family to join Sunday Evenings starting February 27th at 6:30 PM to view and study scripture through **The Chosen Season Two**. This series study is eight episodes in length and will meet at least 8 times following February 27th. We will not meet on Sunday April 17th, Easter Sunday. Note that although this is the second season, viewers need not have seen season one to participate. If you want to catch up on Season one, you can watch on your own at home through The Chosen App (Pastor Maria would be happy to help you find this). Sign up now on Realm or just show up February 27th. If you need childcare make sure to indicate your need on your registration so we can schedule someone to be there. Questions email Mike Schaaf ([mcccc06@msn.com](mailto:mcccc06@msn.com)) or Daron Yates ([daronyates@gmail.com](mailto:daronyates@gmail.com)).



### Family Table Sunday, March 20th

Grace will be serving another Family Table "take-out" meal on Sunday, March 20th. There are plenty of opportunities for you to help, whether it's making food, or donating bottled water! We also need assistance packing meals and bringing the meals out to our guests in the parking lot. If you can help, please sign up! If you can help, contact Lynda Wilde at [lrwilde@comcast.net](mailto:lrwilde@comcast.net) or visit [www.graceandover.org/outreachministries](http://www.graceandover.org/outreachministries).

### Resurrection

#### Garden

Sun., Apr. 3rd in  
Fellowship Hall in  
between worship  
9:45-10:20 am



EVERYONE is welcome to participate. It is a fun activity for your family, a great teaching tool about Jesus' resurrection, and a beautiful centerpiece that will grow just in time for Easter. Each kit is \$20. Please register on Realm.



### Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle is a group of mostly retired women who meet the first Monday of each month following quilters (12-12:30pm lunch, 12:30-1:30pm study) Bring your lunch and join Pastor Joanna, Pastor Maria and others as we engage the Gather magazine monthly Bible Study. Our next gathering is March 7th.



## Children's Ministry



### Children's Ministry

by Jackie Anderson

In the 4th week of Advent, the Children's Ministry Team helped put on the Christmas Pageant. There was excitement and lots of energy from everyone around. Every kid wanted to make sure that they were known and what they could do to make the pageant a success. Throughout the process, many kids were able to ask countless questions about the Christmas story and why we were performing it. Each student was excited to tell the story of Jesus's birth.

While there was excitement throughout, there were also great questions that each kid asked throughout the process: How did the donkey feel helping Mary travel to Jerusalem? What is the temperature of Heaven? If Veggie Tales helps us tell the stories of the Bible, does this mean that I shouldn't eat vegetables any more so I am not missing out on the word of God?

While none of us are experts who know the answers to all of these questions, it continues to amaze me at the sense of wonder that every child had. They are constantly asking how they will know God more and what can we do to help tell the stories of Jesus. This childlike sense of wonder is something that amazes me every time we go to Sunday School, have an event with all of the kids, or just the daily interactions that are held with each of the kids of Grace.

We are so excited to announce that we will be doing an Easter Pageant this year too! April 10th in both Worship services, the children will again bring scripture to life in a new way!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sunday School: March 6th, 27th, April 3rd, 24th, May 1st, & 8th.
- No Sunday School March 13th or 20th due to Spring Break.
- No Sunday School Apr. 10th & 17th for Easter
- April 3rd-Resurrection Garden making between worship services in the fellowship hall (Kit cost: \$20) Sign up on Realm
- April 6th-1st Communion class 5-7pm.
- April 14th-1st Communion Celebration at Maundy Thursday worship 7pm (Sign up on Realm, parents can decide when they think their child is ready for this next step in their faith journey. Many choose 3rd grade, but younger and older students are also welcome.)
- April 9-Saturday Dress Rehearsal for the Easter Pageant 9:30-11:30am
- April 10- Palm Sunday Children's program in both worship services (call time 8:15 am) Eggstravaganza (Egg Hunt and celebration with lunch) after worships INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN US THIS WEEKEND.
- May 8- Last day of Sunday School
- VBS- June 12 Kick Off Sunday, 13-16 VBS, 17th 4th and 5th grade event day, 19 VBS Sunday (kids sing in church and special sermon)



### Children's Ministry Schedule

**Wednesday, March 2** | Family meal 5:45-6:45 pm & Ash Wednesday Worship 1 and 7 pm

**Sunday, March 6** | Sunday School 8:45&10:30 am  
Commitment Sunday for the Capital Campaign Transforming Inside & Out.

Easter Pageant Rehearsal 1:30-3:30 PM

**Wednesday, March 9** | Family meal 5:45-6:45 pm & Lenten Worship 1 and 7:30 pm

**Sunday, March 13** | NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ANOKA HENNEPIN SPRING BREAK

**Wednesday, March 16** | Family meal 5:45-6:45 pm & Lenten Worship 1 and 7:30 pm

**Thursday, March 17** | Children's Ministry Team Meeting 6:30 PM

**Sunday, March 20** | Transforming Inside and Out Celebration Weekend, NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ANOKA HENNEPIN SPRING BREAK

**Wednesday, March 23** | Family meal 5:45-6:45 pm & Lenten Worship 1 and 7:30 pm

**Sunday, March 27** | Transforming Inside and Out Celebration Weekend, Sunday School 8:45 & 10:30am.  
Easter Pageant Rehearsal 1:30-3:30 PM

**Wednesday, March 30** | Family meal 5:45-6:45 pm & Lenten Worship 1 and 7:30 pm

**Sunday, April 3** | Sunday School 8:45&10:30 am.  
Easter Pageant Rehearsal 1:30-3:30 PM

## Youth Ministry



### Middle and High School March Event!

Save the Date! Middle and High School activity on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at Bowlero for laser tag, bowling, the arcade and more! Times, costs and details to be announced.

### Cooking with Kristi



Cooking with Kristi for all High School students – Tuesday March 1<sup>st</sup>! Pancakes and breakfast food! Come cook and eat together at 6:00pm.



### Wednesday Night Youth Group

9th-12th Grade Students meet every Wednesday after 7:30pm worship until 9:00pm for time to hang out, snacks, and more!



### Summer Travel Opportunities for Middle and High School Students!

#### High School California Trip! - July 24-29

NEW Travel Opportunity for all current 9<sup>th</sup>– 12<sup>th</sup> grade students to SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. July 24<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> for the trip of a lifetime! Large group gatherings, service projects, worship services, food trucks, games, rock climbing, ropes course, farm

animals (baby goats!), block party, and a full day at DISNEYLAND! Meet kids from all over the country! Sign up on Realm! Space is limited and students must register by April 1st to lock in the price. Go to the [www.graceandover.org](http://www.graceandover.org) for more information.

#### High School Montana Trip – July 8-16

The High School (Current 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade) Montana Backpacking Trip Registration is LIVE on Realm! For those that didn't go last year, it's an amazing place and so very much fun. All 20 students that went last year left the mountain saying what a wonderful and life-changing experience they had at Christikon. When kids arrive at Christikon they will spend one night at camp and then pack up and head out onto the hiking trail for the next 4 nights, where they will sleep in tents, make their food over the campfire and hike to different locations. While on trail, students worship, eat, play, laugh, and bond. They will return for the most wonderful shower they have ever had and a delicious meal. The camp will provide all of the camping materials except for your sleeping bag, camping pad, clothes, and hiking boots. Everything else is provided. We will have a detailed packing list and meeting to go over what people need to bring for the trip. They also send at least 2 well trained Trail Leaders that will teach students all they need to know about life on the mountain. Go to the [www.graceandover.org](http://www.graceandover.org) for more information and to register.

#### Middle School Montana Trip – July 8-16

A week at Christikon Lutheran Bible Camp in the beautiful Montana mountains for all current 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students (Students must have completed 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade by July 2022.) Spend the week at Christikon Bible Camp in southern Montana. Worship and play in one of the most beautiful places in the country. You will participate in programs for both large and small groups. You will also hike into the mountain wilderness for one overnight adventure with day hikes. Within the larger community, you'll belong to a "family group" with seven other campers, and a counselor, for hiking, service projects, Bible study, and other activities. We will drive to Montana in large 12-15 passenger vans and sleep in a church for one night on the way there, and on the way home. While the drive is long, we do have some fun planned. Visit [www.graceandover.org](http://www.graceandover.org).



## Lenten Worship



### Ash Wednesday Worship

March 2nd-1:00pm & 7:00pm

### Lenten Suppers

March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th & April 6th-5:45pm

### Lenten Wednesdays Worship

March 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th & April 6th-1pm & 7:30pm

### Maundy Thursday

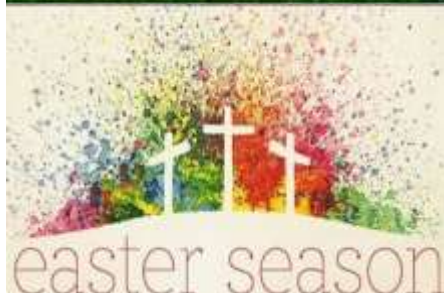
April 14th-1:00pm & 7:00pm

### Good Friday

April 15th-1:00pm & 7:00pm

### Easter Vigil Saturday

April 16th-5:00pm



## Easter Season Events

### Resurrection Garden

Sun. April 3rd-9:45-10:20am

### Palm Sunday & Children's Easter Program

Sun. April 10th-8:45am & 10:30am

### Eggstravaganza

Sun. April 10th-11:30am (There will be Bingo in between worships)



## Easter Worship

**Sunday, April 17th**  
**7:30am, 8:45am &**  
**10:30am**





## Grace Lutheran Church

13655 Round Lake Blvd NW.  
Andover, MN 55304  
(763) 421-6520  
[www.graceandover.org](http://www.graceandover.org)

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## Grace Lutheran Church

### Lent Worship Times

Ash Wednesday Worship 1pm & 7pm

Lent Wednesdays Worship 1pm & 7:30pm

Saturdays at 5pm

Sundays at 8:45am and 10:30am

All are Welcome!