



# The Grace Greeter

Grace Lutheran Church 2225 Washington Street Lincoln, NE 68502 April 26, 2019

Grace Lutheran's Vision is...

love      **welcoming**  
**peace**      hospitality  
invitation      **community**      renewal  
**faith**      passionate      Christlike      kind      transition  
generous      collaboration      friendly      outreach      service  
caring fellowship      vision      prayer      safehaven



"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. - 1 Corinthians 15:55-57

May Day is a May 1 celebration with a long and varied history, dating back millennia. Throughout the years, there have been many different events and festivities worldwide, most with the express purpose of welcoming in a change of season (spring in the Northern Hemisphere). In the 19th century, May Day took on a new meaning, as an International Workers' Day grew out of the 19th-century movement for labor rights and an eight-hour work day in the United States.

One tradition of May Day involves the maypole. While the exact origins of the maypole remain unknown, the annual traditions surrounding it can be traced back to medieval times, and some are still celebrated today. Villagers would enter the woods to find a straight tree which was limbed to form a maypole that was set up for the day in the center of small towns or sometimes permanently in larger cities. People would dance around the pole clad with colorful streamers and ribbons in celebration of May Day.

We also celebrate the cross as a tree of life. Maybe an empty cross in the front yard, decorated with ribbons or maybe large enough to dance around would be a good May Day tradition for us. A reminder that the cross stands at the center of our faith. Always reminding us of the new thing God is doing for us every day. That God continues to bring life to our death. Happy May Day!

Pr. Eric Teske

**From the Church  
Office**

- ♦ PLEASE CONTACT US! HIPPA laws do not allow the hospital to notify the church if there is a member in the hospital. The patient or a family member must contact the church office so we can schedule a visit while you are in the hospital here in Lincoln or Omaha. During office hours, call 402-474-1505 or email [office@egrace.org](mailto:office@egrace.org) to let us know. Thank you!
- ♦ To contact Pastor Eric after office hours, you can call or text him at 308-708-1146 or email [pr.eric@egrace.org](mailto:pr.eric@egrace.org).
- ♦ If you would like to be included on the weekly email update list (it comes from Constant Contact), please send an email to the office at: [office@egrace.org](mailto:office@egrace.org). These messages will normally go out on Wednesday and will also inform the congregation of a members death.
- ♦ The deadline for the next Greeter will be May 20. It will be mailed on May 28.



***Beginning May 1st...***

Dinner: 5:30 pm—Lesher Hall.

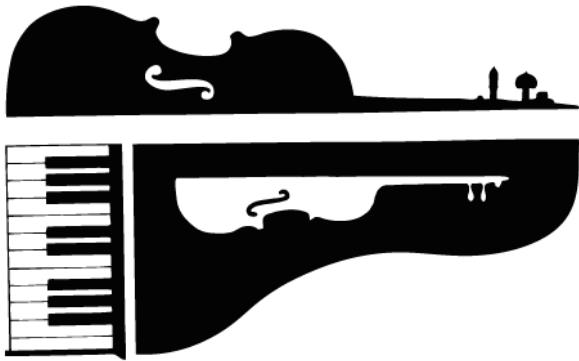
Wired Word with Pastor Eric: 6:00 pm—Library

Youth Choir Rehearsal: 6:15 pm - choir room

Evening Prayer: 7:00 pm - Christ Chapel

In Stitches: 7:00 pm—Atrium

Confirmation: 7:30 pm - Conference room



**Jazz Evening Prayer**  
**May 19th @ 7:00 pm**  
**Christ Chapel**

**A service of word, prayer,  
and a little jazz too.**

**Many Thanks**  
Thanks  
Thanks  
Thanks

The Spring Eggstravaganza was a huge success! We had 102 children in attendance( not counting adults)! The Congregational Life Committee would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to help at the event and contribute to its success. We thank Carla Ingersoll, John and Patty Plambeck, Karen and Mark Billings, Jeannette Allen, Lorraine James, Doug, Sara and Elizabeth Krueger, Connie Thorson, Dave Ripa, Pastor Megan Morrow, Pastor Eric and Julene Lesher and our Easter Bunny K.C. Melang-Thoren. We would also like to thank Robert Stimbert for setting up the tables according to our floor plan, Roger Potts for putting up our banners, and Curt Mann for posting our event on Facebook.



Mark Your Calendars

# EVENTS



- ◆ Grace's Thrivent Financial group will meet in the staff conference room at 10:30 am on May 5th. The meeting is open to anyone who wishes to attend.
- ◆ Women of Grace—Please join us on Wednesday, May 1st, at 1:00 pm for The Grace Women of the ELCA general meeting and social time. We look forward to sharing fun and fellowship.
- ◆ Yesterday's Youth welcomes anyone 55 or older. Please come and join us Wednesday, May 8th. We meet the second Wednesday of each month in Lesher Hall. 11:00-12:00 for social time. We eat at 12:00 after which we have devotions and a program. The meal is potluck. So bring a dish and your table service and enjoy the fellowship. There will be a special speaker from Tabitha.
- .
- ◆ Camp Carol Joy Holling Work Day on Saturday, May 18th @ 8:00 am through lunch. RSVP to Katherine Albin by May 15th if you can help. [KAlbin@NLOM.org](mailto:KAlbin@NLOM.org). 402-944-2544



## Cinco de Mayo

### at Grace

Come one, come all,  
to our special  
May 5th  
(Cinco de Mayo)  
Sunday service!

We are taking this opportunity to incorporate music from Central and South America! It should be exciting and a meaningful way for us to connect our minds and hearts with our neighbors to the south! We are all one in Christ! God's holy children! The Spirit draws us together!

Come join the celebration!

\*\*\*\*\*

Note: Our Lenten dinner proceeds totaled \$1422.75. Those funds will be used to repair our stained glass windows. Thank you!



Stop in Saturday night, May 18 between 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm at Grace Lutheran Church for a Spaghetti dinner. Goodwill donations will be taken to help the girls of Troop 30 go to summer camp and help them along their adventures.

## Summer Plans—VBS & Camp

Vacation Bible School is July 29 - August 2. We will serve an evening dinner at 5:30. Our theme is Who Is My Neighbor? You may register on line.

Carol Joy Holling Camp has many wonderful camps for our youth to attend. Please see the bulletin board in the gym for detailed information. Camp scholarships are available.



It doesn't take a village to prepare the evening meals for The Gathering Place, but quite a large contingent of people from Grace helped to provide and serve the food on April 15th. A big surplus turkey from the Prescott School Christmas boxes project was finally pulled from one of the church freezers and became part of a total of eight 9 X 13 turkey noodle casseroles made by Jan Branting, Ginny Potts, and Regina and Steve Paschold. Also on the menu were green beans, bananas, bread, and tossed lettuce salad contributed by Carla Ingersoll. Cakes and brownies were donated by Betty Shaw, Fran and Kevin Gade, Judi and Chris Schroeder, Charlyne and Denny Berens, and Joy Kokes. Helping to serve and to clean up after 137 portions had been distributed were Joy, Carla, Regina and Steve, Ginny and Roger Potts, and Jan and Terry Branting. After having eaten, one of the most stringent food critics pronounced her meal to have been "da bomb"—meaning it was very good.

## 2019 Annual Spring Yard Clean-up



The Annual Spring Yard Clean-up was held on Saturday, April 6th at 8:30 am and we had a good hard working group. There were nineteen (19) Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Scout leaders and parents. We also had 10 combined Church Members and Property Committee members pitch in. In all, there were 29 helpers ranging in age from 1 ½ years young to somewhere in the 70's years young. Everyone pitched in and we had the job completed by 11:00am. Snacks and beverages were provided and Terry Branting provided the trailer to haul the debris away. A big **Thank You** to all who helped out and especially to Pack 30 and Troop 30 scouts, leaders and parents. Roger Potts, Property Committee Chairman

**Lutheran Food Pantry 'WISH LIST':** saltine crackers, boxed mac & cheese, boxed dry dinners, breakfast bars, canned meals (stew, ravioli), canned fruit, canned peas, tuna, Pork & beans, personal care items, and monetary donations.

**March Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 12, 2019**

Present: Karen Billings, Doug Krueger, Pastor Eric Lesher, Dave Ripa, Curt Mann, Carla Ingersoll, Dustin Haider, Teddi Reckling, Jan Branting, Fran Gade

Guest: Roger Potts

Dustin Haider called the Council meeting to order at 7:04PM.

Roger presented a safety training checklist from Brotherhood Mutual: "10 easy ways to create a safer church this Sunday". Council asked Roger to proceed in setting up a safety team and possibly having someone from Brotherhood Mutual doing a training session with the congregation.

**Devotions:** Jan

Thank you notes received from Lutheran Food Pantry for the donation and Prescott School for the Christmas Food Baskets.

**Approval of Council Minutes:**

January 15 and March 3 council minutes approved as printed.

**Pastor Eric's report:**

We discussed whether Grace would participate in the M.DivX program through Luther Seminary. Pr. Eric will make a call to get more details.

Director of Music Report:

Pastor and Director of Music Reports: Approved as printed.

**Treasurer and Financial Secretary Reports:**

Offerings received in December, January and February were lower than hoped for. We discussed the next steps to rectify the situation. Dustin will do a temple talk on March 17 and present the congregation with the expense/budget numbers. A second temple talk will be presented on March 24. The bulletin insert and greeter will also have this information. Approved and submitted for audit.

**Committee Reports:**

Finance/Stewardship-written report.

Worship & Music-written report.

Parish Ed- written report

Congregational Life- written report: Spring Eggstravaganza on April 13

Property-written report

Social Ministry-written report: The Feast is at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on April 28.

Committee reports approved as printed.

**Old Business:**

Office Administrator: Approved Temp interviewed on March 11.

**Visioning Conversation:** Second retreat to work on Vision Statement will be May 4 from 9-11AM.

**New Business:**

**Approval of Audit Committee:** Dave moved that Neil Larson, Kevin Dumler and Roger Potts be approved for the Audit Committee. Jan seconded. Motion carried.

**Council Lenten Dinner:** Potato Bar. Council to bring desserts and come at 4:30 to help set up and get ready to serve.

**Easter Brunch:** Will request Thrivent dollars. Menu will be cinnamon rolls, muffins and fruit.

**Open House for Sandi:** March 19 from 1-4:30. Dave made a motion to use the Miscellaneous Parish Expense Fund for the reception costs. Fran seconded. Motion carried.

**Directory:** Discussed possibility of updating directory. Further discussion planned for next meeting.

Being no further business to discuss, Dave made a motion to adjourn. Curt seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49PM.

Pastor closed meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Ingersoll, Secretary

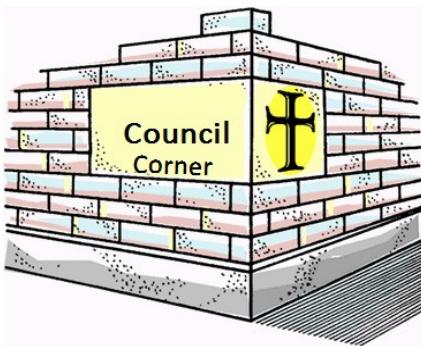


## Our Spring Clean up Crew in Action!



Thank you!





### Several **Thank You's** from the Church Council...

Thank you to everyone who is helping fill-in now that Sandi has left. We appreciate your hard work!

Thank you to all who helped with the Eggstravaganza and who volunteered during Holy Week. It has been a busy time and we couldn't have done it without you!

**From the Council President—>** We would like to wish you all a blessed Easter season- Christ is risen, indeed!

The *Te Deum* is an especially meaningful hymn during this season, I would encourage you to reflect upon it. The following portion of the *Te Deum* sticks with me this time of year:

*When you had overcome the sharpness of death / You opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. / You sit at the right hand of God / In the glory of the Father. / We believe that you will come / To be our judge. / We therefore pray you to help your servants, / Whom you have redeemed with your precious blood. / Make them to be numbered with your saints / In glory everlasting.*

The council is actively working on finding an office administrator. We have had several interviews and are currently waiting on the results of background and reference checks. You should be seeing a new face in the church soon!

**From the Worship and Music Committee—>** Be sure to show-up to worship on May 5<sup>th</sup>, we will have special music for Cinco de Mayo!

**From the Parish Education Committee—>** Confirmation Sunday has been changed to May 12 and Chloe Fitzgibbon, Kaiden Noecker, and Conrad Schroeder will be confirmed. We invite the congregation to join these students and their families to the special service and reception.

Bible School registration is on our website and we hope all congregation members will invite their relatives and friends to join us. The dates are July 29 through August 2.

**From the Congregational Life Committee—>** Thank you to all of the helpers for the Eggstavaganza! We were excited to have over 100 children attend. We are thinking about a project for "God's Hands, Our Work", scheduled for September 8.

**From the Property Committee—>** We have been working on getting the necessary upgrades to our chime system. There are still a few bugs that we are working out. We have 3 stained-glass windows left to refurbish. As we get the money, we will continue to refurbish them.

**From the Social Ministry Committee—>** We will be sponsoring the "Produce Table" again this year. A table will be available in the gym! All proceeds will be collected and sent to World Hunger Relief next fall.

**From the Finance & Stewardship Committee—>** We had a strong start to April! We appreciate everyone's continued support!



1	Ed & Nancy Hoffman	3	Gladys Badberg	18	Chloe Robinson
6	Kevin & Fran Gade	4	Jordan Billings	20	Aislynn Haider
7	Dennis & Bev Madison	7	Sawyer Jager	21	Michael Lewis
14	Ben & Jennifer Klein	4	Shawn Rathjen	22	Ron Ossian
	Don & Estelle Riemann	7	Everett Haider	22	William Abbott
15	Kevin & Cynthe Dumler	8	Amy Knobbe	24	Kevin Melang-Thoren
19	Ken & Carmen McKillip	9	Grace Fitzgibbon	25	Laura Coatney
21	Andy & Joan Anderson	10	Joel Winterfeld	25	Amber Lesher
27	Chris & Wendy Apple	11	Sadie Heim	26	Bob Anderson
		12	Kaitlyn Dumler	26	Andrea Holtgrewe
		14	Josh Lantis	27	Shawn McKillip
		12	Erin Serafin	28	Rhys Hughes
		16	Ken McKillip	29	Robin Hoffman
			Johnathon Olston		Phyllis Krueger
1	Mildred Needham	16	Sandra Robinson	30	Kevin Gade
2	Colton Billings	17	Corene Herbster		Anthony Zimmerman
	Joanie Rathjen		Patricia Lickei	31	
			Siri Stewart		Jon Thorson





### Wednesday, May 1st

1:00 pm WELCA meeting with dessert  
5:30 pm Supper  
6:00 Wired Word  
6:15 pm Youth Choir  
7:00 pm Evening Prayer, In-Stitches  
7:30 pm Confirmation

### Thursday, May 2nd

6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
9:00 am Quilting, Lincoln Literacy  
7:00 pm N. A. Mtg./Bells

### Friday, May 3rd

5:30 pm YWCA respite care

### Saturday, May 4th

8:30 am Lounge Reserved  
9:00 am Council Retreat  
5:00 pm Worship

### Sunday, May 5th

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Adult Bible Study, Fellowship,  
Choir, Sunday School, Thrivent Mtg.

### Monday, May 6th

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
1:00 pm WELCA Board Mtg.  
7:00 pm Scouts BSA

### Tuesday, May 7th—General Election

9:30 am Al-Anon  
1:00 pm Nebraska Synod Mtg.  
7:00 pm Committee Mts.  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

### Wednesday, May 8th

11:30 am Yesterday's Youth  
5:30 pm Supper  
6:00 pm Wired Word  
6:15 pm Youth Choir  
7:00 pm Evening Prayer, In-Stitches  
7:30 pm Confirmation

### Thursday, May 9th

6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
9:00 am Quilting, Lincoln Literacy  
7:00 pm N. A. Mtg., Bells

### Friday, May 10th

4:00 pm Suzuki  
5:30 pm YWCA Respite Care

### Saturday, May 11th

1:00 pm Lounge Reserved  
1:30 pm Chapel Reserved  
5:00 pm Worship  
6:00 pm Dinner for Confirmation Class

### Sunday, May 12th Confirmation

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Adult Bible Study, Fellowship,  
choir, Sunday School

### Monday, May 13th

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
1:00 pm WELCA mtg.  
7:00 pm Scouts BSA

### Tuesday, May 14th

9:30 am Al-Anon  
6:30 pm Cub Scouts  
7:00 pm Council/Wildlife Team  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

### Wednesday, May 15th

1:00 pm WELCA mtg.  
5:30 pm Supper  
6:00 pm Wired Word  
6:15 pm Youth Choir  
7:00 pm Evening Prayer, In-Stitches

### Thursday, May 16th

6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
9:00 am Quilting, Lincoln Literacy  
7:00 pm N. A. Mtg./Bells

### Friday, May 17th

5:00 pm Gym reserved

### Saturday, May 18th

1:00 pm Recital  
4:00-7:00 pm Spaghetti Feed-gym  
5:00 pm Worship

### Sunday, May 19th

8:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Adult Bible Study, Fellowship,  
Choir, Sunday School  
2:00 pm Lincoln Lutheran Choir Bd. Mtg  
6:00 pm Faithful Conversations  
7:00 pm Jazz Evening Prayer

### Monday, May 20th

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
5:00 pm Gathering Place  
7:00 pm Scouts BSA

### Tuesday, May 21st

9:30 am Al-Anon  
7:00 pm WELCA #6  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

### Wednesday, May 22nd

5:30 pm Supper  
6:00 pm Wired Word, Library  
6:15 pm Youth Choir  
7:00 pm Evening Prayer, In-Stitches

### Thursday, May 23rd

6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
9:00 am Quilting, Lincoln Literacy  
7:00 pm N. A. Mtg., Bells

### Friday, May 24th

Saturday, May 25th  
1:00 pm Chapel reserved  
5:00 pm Worship, Chapel

### Sunday, May 26th

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Adult Bible Study, Fellowship,  
Choir, Sunday School

### Monday, May 27th Memorial Day

Office Closed  
7:00 pm Scouts BSA

### Tuesday, May 28th

9:30 am Al-Anon  
8:00 pm AA mtg.

### Wednesday, May 29th

5:30 pm Supper  
6:00 pm Wired Word  
6:15 pm Youth Choir  
7:00 pm Evening Prayer, In-Stitches

### Thursday, May 30th

6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
9:00 am Lincoln Literacy/Quilting  
7:00 pm NA mtg./Bells

### Friday, May 31st

# Grace Staff and Council Members

**Rev. Eric Lesher,**  
*Senior Pastor*  
308-708-1146  
[pr.eric@egrace.org](mailto:pr.eric@egrace.org)

*Office Administrator*

**Anne Melang-Thoren,**  
*Director of music*  
[anne@egrace.org](mailto:anne@egrace.org)

**Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson**  
*Assistant Organist*

**Robert Stimbert,**  
*Custodian*

**Judi Schroeder**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Elizabeth Krueger,**  
*Nursery attendant*

## Council Assignment to Committees:

Dustin Haider:	Council President
Dave Ripa:	Worship & Music; Memorials
Carla Ingersoll:	Congregational Life
Curt Mann:	Stewardship\Finance
Karen Billings:	Congregational Life
Jan Branting:	Social Ministry
Teddi Reckling:	Worship and Music
Doug Krueger:	Property
Fran Gade:	Parish Education



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