



# The Grace Greeter

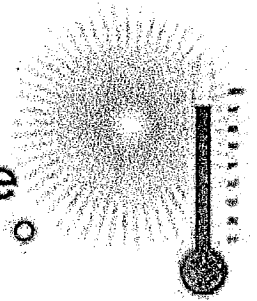
Grace Lutheran Church 2225 Washington Street Lincoln, NE 68502  
Office Hours : 9:00am -3:00 pm — 402.474.1505

June 27, 2019

happy  
4<sup>th</sup>  
of  
July

## Summer Safety Tips

Summer heat is here.  
Work or play smartly  
when outside when the  
heat index is above 91°



Drink plenty of fluids!



**BEAT THE HEAT!** DURING HOT WEATHER, STAY INSIDE WHERE IT'S COOL. IF YOU MUST BE OUTSIDE, REST OFTEN. CUT BACK ON EXERCISE AND SEEK SHADE. WEAR SUNSCREEN. DON'T WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE THIRSTY TO DRINK. SMALL SIPS OFTEN. STAY AWAY FROM ALCOHOL AND SUGARY DRINKS. NEVER LEAVE ANYONE - ESPECIALLY CHILDREN OR PETS - IN A PARKED CAR ON A HOT DAY.

**VACATION DESTINATION!** BE AWARE OF NATURAL DISASTERS THAT OCCUR MORE FREQUENTLY IN THE SUMMER, SUCH AS HURRICANES, WILDFIRES AND TORNADOES. KNOW THE RISKS OF THE AREA YOU ARE VISITING. WATCH FOR WEATHER WARNINGS AND KNOW WHERE TO SEEK SHELTER.

**BE BUG FREE!** PROTECT YOURSELF FROM TICK-AND MOSQUITO-BORNE ILLNESSES. ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER, ZIKA VIRUS, AND LYME DISEASE ARE SOME ILLNESSES SEEN MORE IN THE SUMMER MONTHS. WEAR INSECT REPELLENT. PROTECT INFANTS BY SPRAYING CLOTHING AND BLANKETS RATHER THAN DIRECTLY ON CHILD.

**SPLISH SPLASH!** SET RULES AND BOUNDARIES FOR WATER SAFETY, ESPECIALLY AT HOME. LADDERS UP WHEN POOL NOT IN USE. CHILDREN MUST HAVE LIFE-JACKET'S ON WHEN IN THE BACKYARD. NO SWIMMING WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION. NEVER LEAVE CHILDREN UNATTENDED, EVEN IN SMALL AMOUNTS OF WATER. INFANTS NEED PROTECTIVE SUN CLOTHING, PLUS SUNSCREEN. TAKE SHORT BREAKS OFTEN FOR SHADE AND HYDRATION.

ADAPTED FROM THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION



Independence Day is not too far off and so I am reminded of my own family members who came to the United States to escape violence and poverty in Germany. What is interesting is that today's refugee comes to the United States with a desire to escape what my family escaped, violence and poverty. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 68.5 million people are displaced in the world today—one-third are refugees and many are children. So, what would Jesus do?

In the New Testament, Jesus' family fled into Egypt during Herod's persecution. Later, Jesus tells a story about the end of time when the Son of Man separates the nations as a shepherd separates sheep and goats. The sheep inherit the kingdom: "For I was hungry and you gave me food ... I was a stranger and you welcomed me ... just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me" (Matthew 25:35-45). In his teachings, Jesus calls us to radically welcome our neighbors in need.

In response to this teaching, Bishop Michael Rinehart makes the following observation, "Today we know the need is great, yet the U.S. administration has set the ceiling for refugee arrivals at 30,000 a year. (Canada, on the other hand, will welcome around 330,000 refugees this year.) For context, U.S. refugee admissions peaked in the 1980s, welcoming some 200,000 annually."

He adds, "Refugees are legal immigrants. We must not shut our doors to them because we're afraid. Fear caused religious leaders and others to ignore the man in the ditch in the parable of the good Samaritan. However, our faith urges us to "not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Hebrews 13:2).

So, as we celebrate our Independence let us also not forget that many seek the freedom, we take for granted and may that reality give us the courage to live out our freedom in faith and not fear.

*P. n. Eric Tesher*



## 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).
- ♦ The deadline for the next Greeter will be July 20th. It will be mailed on Thursday, July 25th.
- ♦ The church council will not meet in July. Committees can meet if they wish.
- ♦ 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 message will normally go out on Wednesday and will also inform the congregation of a members death.



**From Andrea Holtgrewe :** Thank you to everyone for your prayers, cards, and support during my cancer journey and continuing treatments. The power of prayer is definitely at work. I am so very grateful. Thank you!

### Words from FDR

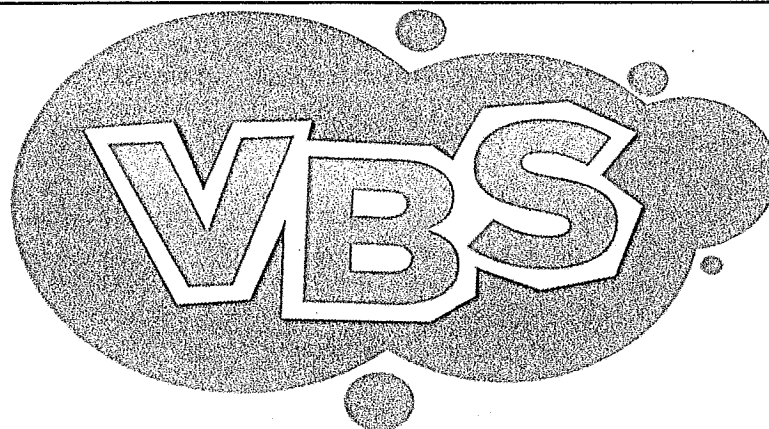
We still remain true to the faith of our fathers who established religious liberty when the nation began. We must remember, too, that our forebears in every generation, and wherever they established their homes, made prompt and generous provision for the institutions of religion. We must continue their steadfast reliance upon the providence of God. No greater blessing could come to our land today than a revival of the spirit of religion. I doubt if there is any problem in the world today — social, political or economic — that would not find happy solution if approached in the spirit of the Sermon on the Mount.

—Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1938



Mark Your Calendars

# EVENTS



***Who is my Neighbor? Vacation Bible School:***

**The Parable of the Sower**

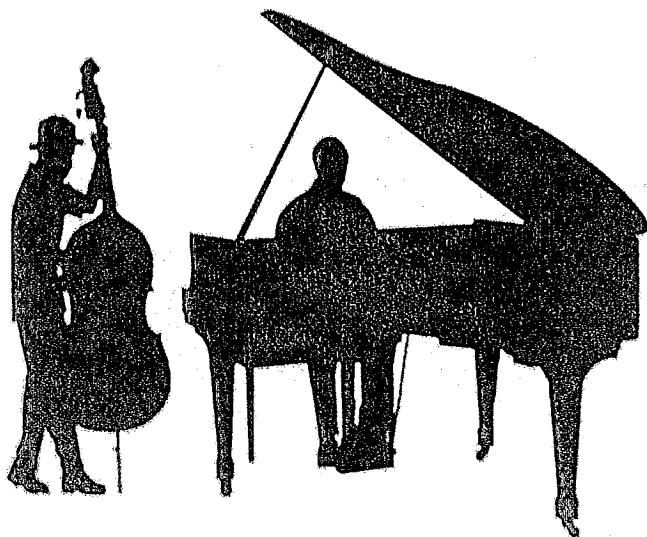
VBS is July 29—August 2 starting at 5:30 each evening.

Meals for students and families will be served at 5:30. At 6:00 we will start with an opening and continue having a lesson, crafts, singing, and fun.

Please invite your neighbors and friends.

The congregation can support VBS but donating items for food and crafts.

Registration forms are available online at <http://egrace.org>



**Evening Prayer with Jazz**

**July 20th**

Join us the third Sunday of each month at 7 pm in the Chapel.

## Worship Leaders for July 2019

July 7th

Greeters	Lorraine James and Darlene Stutheit
Assisting Minister	Tina Loseke
Lector	Nail Larson
Communion Assistants	Dave Ripa, Neil Larson, Lorraine James and Jeannette Allen

July 14th

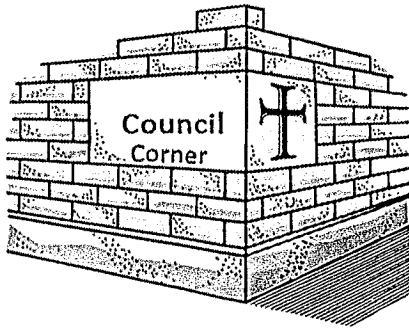
Greeters	Yvonne Nielse, and Lorraine James
Assisting Minister	Dean Dumler
Lector	Beth Kimmerling Dumler
Communion Assistants	Jan Branting, Beth Kimmerling Dumler, Keving Melang-Thoren and Connie Whyrick

July 21st

Greeters	Darlene Stutheit
Assisting Minister	Peter Schnake
Lector	Lorraine James
Communion Assistants	Tina Loseke, Karen Billings, Mark Billings and Fran Gade

July 28th

Greeters	Dave Ripa and Pat Lickei
Assisting Minister	Roger Potts
Lector	Brady Garvin
Communion Assistants	Dave Ripa, Ginny Potts, Lois Shuerman and Pat Lickei



**From the Church Council:** Immanuel Vision Foundation IVF : President Fran shared information regarding this one time \$1000 grant to help celebrate ministry. The council discussed applying for this grant and using the funds to help purchase additional water bottles for the Gods Work. Our Hands. Sunday service project on September 8th as proposed by the Congregational Life committee.

Meetings in July: There will be no Committee meetings in July. Instead, the council will hold a special retreat on July 20th 9am– 11am in the lounge. Topic: Hot to fulfill the vision statement. Discussion will also include the possibility of applying for synod mission grants.

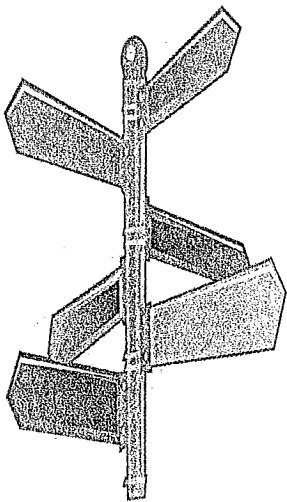
**From the Parish Education Committee:** Did not meet in June

**From the Congregational Life Committee:** Nothing to report

**From the Property Committee:** We continue to discuss the replacement of the lights in the Nave. After going through a few options we have decided to keep exploring.

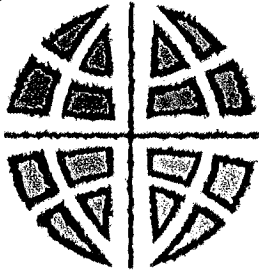
**From the Social Ministry Committee:** Did not meet in June

**From the Finance & Stewardship Committee:** Remember to turn in your **Time and Talent** sheets! Please share your time and talents with your church. Timetable for 2020 spending plan and Stewardship Sunday were discussed.



Need directions? These days, online map services can tell you how to get to just about any destination. Yet even these sites make no guarantees. Disclaimers absolve them of responsibility if the directions run awry. "These directions are for planning purposes only," one site warns. "You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly."

Fortunately, the Bible has no such disclaimers. God's Word always gets us where we need to go. In fact, when the unexpected happens, that's when Scripture is at its best!



# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

## *Feeding, clothing and caring for our Lord*

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 26: 35-36

Jesus speaks these words as part of his story about Judgment Day. The King – the Lord – will speak these words to the people he welcomes into his kingdom. The King speaks these words to us, too.

Our reply is the same as that of "the righteous" in Jesus' story. Good grief! The Lord has never appeared to us in a vision and asked for our help. So we ask, "Lord, when did we do these things for you?"

And the answer we get is the same as the King's reply in Jesus' story: "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 26:40

Pretty obvious, isn't it? Our Lord expects us to feed him, clothe him, look after him when he is sick; he expects us to care for him by caring for each other. It's not optional; it's our mission.

We answer God's command every time we care for another human being:

- when we give to the Prescott Pantry or the Gathering Place or the Good Samaritan Fund.
- when we volunteer at or donate to one of the many caring agencies in our community.
- when we hold the hand of someone in pain or despair.
- when we teach Sunday School, provide food for Fellowship Hour, bake bread or provide wine for communion, serve on a Grace committee.
- when we give our monetary gifts to support our congregation's outreach programs and those of our synod and the ELCA.

We answer God's command, we fulfill our mission as believers, with our service here in our congregation and as we reach out to the greater community.

The rewards are enormous. Of course, we do not earn our salvation by what we do, but we know we are feeding, clothing and caring for our God when we feed, clothe and care for his people. We *are* God's hands in this world. What greater joy could there be?

## **May Council Meeting Tuesday, May 14, 2019**

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

Dustin Haider called the Council meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**Devotions:** Teddi

Thank you note received from Lincoln Lutheran Choir.

**Approval of Council Minutes:** April 9 council minutes amended. Dave moved to remove the name of the additional candidate for the office administrator and change the wording to late candidate, then to approve the minutes as amended. Fran seconded. Motion passed.

**Pastor Eric's report:** Pastor will be meeting with Brady in May to discuss how to make our website more friendly. The one click software called Word Press.

Director of Music Report:

Pastor and Director of Music Reports: Approved as printed.

**Treasurer and Financial Secretary Reports:**

Approved and submitted for audit.

**Committee Reports:**

Finance/Stewardship-did not meet

Worship & Music-written report.

Parish Ed- written report

Congregational Life- written report

Property-written report:

Social Ministry-written report

Memorial: Did not meet

Committee reports approved as printed.

Property Discussion: Possibility of costs savings switching to LED lights in the Sanctuary. Fran moved to give approval to the property committee to update to warm LED lights in the Sanctuary, using the building fund.

Jan seconded. Motion approved.

**Bus:** Anyone wanting a bus ride on Sunday morning should call into the office by Friday noon. This information should be put into the bulletin and the greeter.

**Old Business:**

Office Administrator: Amanda Whited was approved by email voting on May 2: 5 to 1 by the council. The office administrator contract will be amended and approved via email by the council. Pastor will meet with Amanda on Friday to have her sign the contract. Amanda will be starting as Office Administrator on May 21. She will write a letter of introduction to the congregation.

Stained Glass Windows: Discussed how we proceed with the repair of the stained-glass windows. Dave made a motion that the Property Committee include the cost of \$4000 for repairing one stained glass window in their budget for years 2020, 2021 and 2022. Teddi seconded. Motion passed.

**New Business:**

Resignation/Election:

Dustin submitted his immediate resignation. Council sadly accepted his resignation.

Council will need to request another congregation member to volunteer to fill in the vacant spot for 6 months—until December elections. Volunteers will contact Pr. Eric.

Fran volunteered to be interim president until December. Council approved 8-1.

Being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:55PM.

Pastor closed meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Ingersoll, Secretary





# JULY BIRTHDAYS



2  
Elizabeth Johnson

3  
Lindsey Howard

4  
Adam Branting  
Bob Viox

6  
Lynn Chamberlin  
Audrey Coatney

7  
Cindy Morales  
Judi Schroeder

9  
Abby Filbert  
Jo Miller

10  
Janet Jodais  
Sarah Krueger  
Mac Madison  
Sydney Robinson

11  
Colton Anderson

12  
Darlene Motycka  
Lois Schuerman  
Tanya Zimmerman

13  
Ray Delka  
Drue Genthe

14  
Emersyn Haumont  
Skylar Hoxie  
Cheryl Petersen

15  
Matt Peppmuller

17  
Don Riemann

18  
Steve Faust

20  
Doug Allen  
Chris Disney

22  
Craig Potts

23  
Kaycee Lange  
Lilyann Newman

24  
Lorraine James  
Barb Smith  
Savannah Newman

25  
John Lunde  
Kathryn Vader  
Grace Weigandt

26  
Braden Riemann

28  
Sue Clymer  
Kim Fritchie  
Barry Moore

29  
Judy Grabow

31  
Wendy Apple

15  
Richard & Sondra Block  
Eric & Julene Leshar

16  
Dean & Beth Dumler

18  
Reid & Amanda Genuchi  
Matt & Amy Knobbe

20  
Bob & Donna Schnell

25  
Michelle & Shane Jensen

28  
Michael & Lynette Lewis  
Steve & Sara Schott



### Monday, July 1

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
9:00 am Girls Basketball  
7:00 pm Scouts

### Tuesday, July 2

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

### Wednesday, July 3

9:00 am Girls Basketball  
**Office closed**

### Thursday, July 4

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
9:00 am Quilting  
7:00 pm N. A. Mtg.

### Friday, July 5

9:00 am Girls Basketball

### Saturday, July 6

10-12 Lincoln Literacy  
5:00 pm Worship

### Sunday, July 7

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship

### Monday, July 8

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
9:00 am Girls Basketball  
7:00 pm Scouts

### Tuesday, July 9

9:30 am Al-Anon  
7:00 pm Wildlife Rescue  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

### Wednesday, July 10

9:00 am Girls Basketball

### Thursday, July 11

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
9:00 am Quilting  
7:00 pm N. A. Mtg.

### Friday, July 12

9:00 am Girls Basketball  
5:30 pm YMCA

### Saturday, July 13

10:30 am Lincoln Literacy  
1:00 pm Danish  
5:00 pm Worship

### Sunday, July 14

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship  
7:00 pm Jazz Evening Prayer—  
Chapel

### Monday, July 15

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

### Tuesday, July 16

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

### Wednesday, July 17

9:00 am Girls Basketball

### Thursday, July 18

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
9:00 am Quilting  
7:00 pm N. A. Mtg.

### Friday, July 26

9:00 am Girls Basketball

### Saturday, July 20

5:00 pm Worship  
9:00-11:00 am...Church Council  
retreat Lounge

### Sunday, July 21

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship  
5:00 pm Latino worship -Chapel

### Monday, July 22

Noon Greeter Submission Deadline  
9:00 am Girls Basketball  
7:00 pm Scouts

### Tuesday, July 23

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

### Wednesday, July 24

9:00 am Girls Basketball

### Thursday, July 25

9:00 am Quilting  
7:00 pm N. A. Mtg.

### Friday, July 26

9:00 am Girls Basketball

### Saturday, July 27

5:00 pm Worship

### Sunday, July 28

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship  
5:00 pm Latino worship -Chapel

### Monday, July 29

VBS  
9:00 am Girls Basketball  
5:00 Gathering Place  
7:00 pm Scouts

### Tuesday, July 30

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

### Wednesday, July 31

VBS  
9:00 am Girls Basketball



## Grace Staff and Council Members

**Rev. Eric Lesh,**

*Senior Pastor*

308-708-1146

*pr.eric@egrace.org*

**Amanda Whited,**

*Church Administrator*

*office@egrace.org*

**Anne Melang-Thoren,**

*Director of music*

*anne@egrace.org*

**Jennifer Aliwarga-Carlson,**

*Assistant Organist*

**Robert Stimbert,**

*Custodian*

**Judi Schroeder,**

*Nursery Coordinator*

**Elizabeth Krueger,**

*Nursery attendant*

### Council Assignment to Committees:

Fran Gade:	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 Parish Education

