

# The Grace Greeter

Grace Lutheran Church 2225 Washington Street Lincoln, NE 68502

[www.egrace.org](http://www.egrace.org), [facebook.com/glclincoln](https://facebook.com/glclincoln), prayer requests, dialogue and questions welcomed.

March 22, 2016



## HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Maundy Thursday**, March 24, 6:30 PM

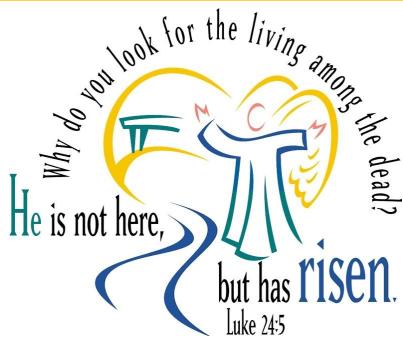
(Holy Communion, stripping of the altar)

**Good Friday**, March 25, 6:30 PM

(Adoration of the Cross, Solemn Reproaches)

**Holy Saturday Easter Vigil**, March 26, 6:30 PM

(Holy Communion, reception following service, please bring an appetizer or dessert to share)



## Resurrection of Our Lord March 27

Festival Easter Services with Holy Communion

7:30 and 10:30 AM

Featuring the Choirs of Grace and the Grace Foundation Brass  
Breakfast in Lesher Hall, 8:30—10:00 AM

Menu: Oven omelet, ham, fresh fruit, cinnamon roll, orange juice, milk, and coffee.

Served by Thrivent

Easter egg hunt begins at 9:30 AM. Children should meet in the Atrium.



I have always found April Fool's day to be an interesting holiday. Although it is not an official holiday this day of April 1st is celebrated around the world. I often wonder why we are so tempted and amused by the foolishness of others on our behalf. We could say that it is all in good fun and worth some innocent laughter but still the idea of making someone look foolish seems harsh or unfair to me.

Paul described himself as a fool for Christ. He did this for two reasons. One was to remind his readers that they must always be grateful and not boastful. Sometimes we like to fool others because it makes us look better. But before Christ we are all fools. None of us is better than the other. Paul also reminded his readers that the world thinks we are foolish for following Christ. Especially when discipleship leads to hardship on our part. What fool would do this? Paul and his partners in ministry were proud to call themselves fools for Christ. Not because this gave them an advantage over others but simply because they were thankful for the opportunity to serve Christ in his church.

So what about us? In this month when we seek ways of making others look foolish what can we say about ourselves? What does this say about how we understand each other as sisters and brothers in the faith? Are we all in this together or are some of us more deserving of attention than others? Will we be gracious in our attitude towards each other or will we be boastful about ourselves? So have a happy April Fool's day and may God be with you as you grow in the likeness of Christ.

In Christ,

Pr. Eric Lesher

Pr. Eric Lesher



## From the Church Office

**Deaths:** Billene Nemec (former member), Jolene Hokanson, Bertha Sears

**To contact Pastor Eric after office hours,** you can call or text him at 308-708-1146 or email pr.eric@egrace.org.

**The deadline for the next Greeter will be April 20th.** It will be mailed on Tuesday, April 26.

**Bulletins have been shared by:** Betty Shaw [Grace Lutheran Church, St. Petersburg, FL]

**Help us bolster our Facebook presence! Go to [facebook.com/glincoln](http://facebook.com/glincoln) and "like" the page.**

 Pastor Eric does a weekly devotional, we share news from the ELCA and other churchwide organizations, and announce our own events and activities. If you like a post or two, you will be more likely to see the church's regular posts in your Facebook newsfeed. And, if you share Grace's posts on your own page, you help us spread the word as we seek to "Make Christ known to all through Grace."

**On March 27, our Easter Brunch donations** will help fund the repair of the stained glass windows in the sanctuary. We are grateful for another THRIVENT ACTION TEAM grant that will purchase the supplies for the brunch. That means every penny you donate at the meal will go to help repair the windows. Thank you to everyone for your generous support of another important goal.

**Don't forget to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars!** Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through the Thrivent Choice program can help support organizations you care about. Don't let designated Choice Dollars expire. Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until **MARCH 31, 2016** to direct any remaining **2015** Choice Dollars. Go to [Thrivent.com/Thrivent choice](http://Thrivent.com/Thrivent choice) to learn more and find program terms and conditions. **OR** call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



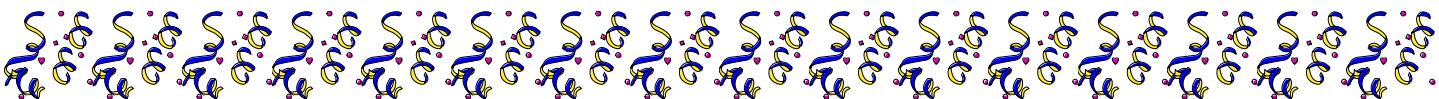
**SEEDS TO FEED TWICE** - Again this year, the Social Ministry Committee is planning to make a produce table available. During the growing season, gardeners will be invited to share the bounty from their gardens with others at Grace. Donations to World Hunger in return are optional. Thanks to another Thrivent Financial Action Team grant, on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and April 10<sup>th</sup>, various seeds will be available at no cost, in Lesher Hall, for individuals to take home and to plant. Several weeks later there will be tomato and pepper plants ready for distribution. While not mandatory, hopefully people will then later have garden surplus to contribute to the produce table.



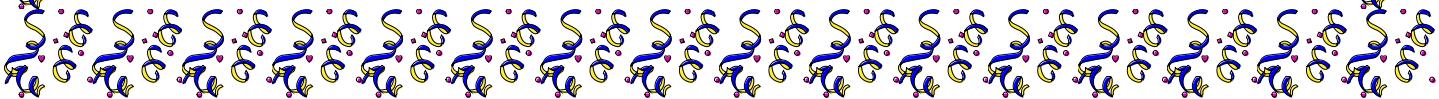
\*\*\*\*\*  
**Women of the ELCA** - Unit meeting, Wednesday, April 6 – lunch at noon, hosted by Group 2 with devotions by Beverly Hillman. The program will be presented by a representative from The Light-house. Group reservations are turned in – others who wish to attend may call the Church Office. All women are encouraged to attend and are most welcome.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Members of Thrivent Financial** will meet on Sunday, April 3rd at 10:30 am in the Staff Conference Room. Bring your cup of coffee - invite others to join us - bring ideas.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**If you are 55 years or older**, come join us at Yesterday's Youth, Wednesday, April 13th at 11:30. We meet the second Wednesday each month in Lesher Hall. From 11:30 to 12:00, we meet for some social time. We eat at 12:00 after which we have devotions and a program or activity. The meal is Pot Luck, so bring a dish to share and your table service. Drinks are furnished. We will have a game day, so please bring some white elephant items that can be used as prizes. See you there.



Everett and Velma Giles will celebrate their 75th wedding anniversary with an open house in the Garden room, The Legacy, 5600 Pioneers Blvd., on April 16, 2016 from 2 to 4 PM. Cards may be sent to 5600 Pioneer Blvd., Apt. 123, Lincoln, NE 68506 if you are unable to attend.



Do you have a family member or a friend with dementia or alzheimers? Check Jolene Brackey's book out of the Library. It is called "Creating Moments of Joy". She discusses practical solutions and insights for helping with difficult moments and unresponsive individuals. She knows how to accentuate the positive!! Her "can do" approaches maintain individual dignity and enhance life quality! Janet Jodais will be glad to help you.

**The Lutheran food pantry** is in need of the following items: juice, fruit, pasta, and peanut butter and jelly, soap and shampoo, dental items. Collection baskets are located outside the church office. Monetary donations are also appreciated.

**Celebrate the Triduum at Grace!  
All services begin at 6:30 p.m.**

The Three Days is the church's annual experience of the heart of the Christian faith. At Grace, we refer to this three-day service by its ancient Latin name of Triduum. The service begins on the evening of Maundy Thursday, continues on Good Friday, and ends finally with the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. Please join us -- each day's installation is a vital part of understanding the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection!

**Maundy Thursday:** The gospel for this day narrates two events on the Thursday before Jesus' death: his last meal with his disciples, and his symbolic gesture of washing their feet. We begin our service by acknowledging our sin and receiving forgiveness. Being forgiven by God turns us toward reconciliation with and service to our neighbor, as commanded by Christ when he said, "Love one another as I have loved you." The service ends with the Stripping of the Altar. In medieval times, the stripping of the altar was likened to the stripping of Jesus' body before his crucifixion. Perhaps you think instead of the church's sorrow over Christ's death, or the paring down of the self in order to receive the life of Christ, or the final stripping away of your own life before death. Psalm 22, chanted during this ritual, provides metaphors to accompany the somber emptying of our beloved worship space. The psalm ends, and there is silence. The service pauses, to be resumed on Good Friday.

**Good Friday:** We return to an empty room, an unfolding story, the mystery of faith. English-speaking Christians call this day Good. It is a day, not of unmitigated mourning as if Jesus were dead, but of profound contemplation of the mystery, that from the cross of death, God grants the world new life. Held together in the passion of Christ, we hold out our hands in prayer for all the world. Having heard the Passion of Christ according to St. Luke on Palm Sunday, now we turn to the Passion according to St. John. John offers a triumphal view of Christ's death; Christ, God among us, reigns from the cross. From his divine death comes human life. The great intercessions of the Bidding Prayer open to ever-widening circles of concern. We pray in front of the cross, and ask God to have mercy on every living person and thing in the cosmos. We sing the Solemn Reproaches, Christ's lament against the church, and a final triumphant hymn (*Sing, My Tongue*) before leaving. Our service will continue on Holy Saturday.

**Easter Vigil:** The Easter Vigil is the central event of the Lenten and Easter seasons. It is truly the most significant liturgy of the year. We gather outside around a new fire; we follow the paschal candle (the Light of Christ) into a darkened nave. We gather to hear the ancient stories of God's saving acts for God's people. We remember baptism on this day that emphasizes renewal, rebirth and resurrection. And finally, we celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter, with bells, lights, lilies and joy! This service is rich and wonderful and full of symbolism, and is followed by a reception so that we can break our Lenten fasts and celebrate Christ's resurrection together!

-Adapted from Worship Guidebook for Lent and the Three Days published by Augsburg

## *Sampling Stewardship*

God loved us so much that God gave each of us a variety of talents, time, money and stuff. Each of us has resources that we can use to love God and our neighbor. We need only to look in, at our Grace community, to discover the abundance that God has entrusted to us.

Jesus talks about money more than any other subject except the Kingdom of God. Money is a powerful resource because it has the power to take our hearts with it.

How might God be calling us, both as individuals and as a congregation, to use our time and our unique gifts to love God and our neighbors?

Adapted from the ELCA publication "Stewards of God's Love"



It was truly a unique experience. Leap years are rare enough, let alone to have the 29th of February fall on a Monday, so that people from Grace would serve at The Gathering Place on the fifth Monday in February. Sloppy joes were prepared by Regina and Steve Paschold. Carla Ingersoll donated lettuce for a tossed salad. Other menu items were potato chips, applesauce, and cake, brownies and cookies contributed by Joy Kokes, Dennis Madison, and Helen and Don Carnes. All of those mentioned above, along with Tom Range, helped to serve and to clean up after 128 portions had been distributed. Thanks go to Cynthe, Kevin and Kaitlyn Dumler for a generous donation of ground beef, and to Dean Dumler and Beth Kimmerling Dumler for hamburger buns.



### **"One Day Without Shoes" Collection of shoes for the People's City Mission (Sponsored by Cornhusker Bank)**

This will be the fifth year that we've participated in this event. Last year Grace was one of the many drop-off sites available throughout the Lincoln area. Together over 47,100 pairs of shoes and over \$42,000 was collected for the People's City Mission. A barrel will arrive at Grace by April 1st and be picked up by the 19th. That gives us almost 3 weeks to fill it up with new and (gently) used footwear. If you would rather make a monetary donation, please make your envelope/check with "One Day Without Shoes". Drop in the offering plate or delivery to the church office.

On April 12th, everyone is encouraged to remove your shoes and walk at 11:00am with others from the Cornhusker Bank (11th and Cornhusker Highway) to the Mission to raise awareness. If you are unable to join them, you can show your support by going shoeless for all or parts of the day on the 12th. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Social Ministry Committee. God's Blessings, Lori Drake, Larry & Sue Clymer, Barb Smith, Pat Lickei, Steve Paschold, and Pastor Megan Morrow

# For the Beauty of the Earth

Celebrating the beauty of God's creation

## Lincoln Lutheran Choir

Brett Epperson  
*Artistic Director & Conductor*

David Schack  
*Organ*



Sunday, April 10, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
321 N 10th St • Beatrice, NE

Sunday, April 17, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church  
2225 Washington Street • Lincoln, NE

A free-will offering will be taken

Supplemental funding provided by Thrivent Financial Lancaster County Chapter

[facebook.com/LincolnLutheranChoir](https://www.facebook.com/LincolnLutheranChoir) • [www.LincolnLutheranChoir.org](http://www.LincolnLutheranChoir.org)



## Holy Saturday: A space between Good Friday and Easter

By Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

*They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there (John 19:40-42).*



Holy Saturday. A pause. A space between Good Friday and Easter. A full tomb and, except for the guard, an empty garden. Still. Silent.

We don't pay a lot of attention to Holy Saturday other than as our day of preparation for Easter Sunday. The youth group needs to get ready for the Easter breakfast. The altar guild is busy arranging lilies and preparing the altar. Grocery stores are filled. Eggs are dyed. We are occupied with busy anticipation. We have moved on from Good Friday. Even the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night looks forward to and heralds the resurrection.

We, of course, live after the first Easter. We do know how the story turns out, and it would be contrived to be in Holy Saturday as if we didn't know about the resurrection. But we are given this one holy day to pause. We are given this holy space to grieve, to be empty, to realize that life, as we know it, is over.

This is deeply uncomfortable in our culture. We see this on the news when people start to speak about closure immediately after a tragedy. This could be a well-meaning attempt to relieve the pain, but it doesn't heal. There is danger in moving too quickly from grief. It is important to resist the urge to usher the afflicted to "closure."

Grief from Sandy Hook, Mother Emmanuel, Katrina, San Bernardino and other tragedies cannot be rushed. None of the Good Fridays in our lives can. The resurrection came after an actual death. The crucifixion was not a metaphor. A heart stopped beating. He breathed his last. A son died. Mothers in Syria and El Salvador and the South Side of Chicago stand at the cross.

But Holy Saturday is more than the necessary and holy space to face death without denial and to grieve without the dulling anesthetic of sentimentality. There is something much deeper going on. It is an invitation to accept that life, as we know it, is over. All of our plans, all of our willfulness and all of our good intentions are over.

On Holy Saturday we are invited to shed our life and enter the tomb. Our effort and righteousness as much as our sin bind us. Our effort to save our lives binds us. This is true as much for the church as it is for each member.

I'm grateful for the faithful innovation and hard work of our people and congregations. I'm not so far removed from parish ministry that I don't remember its struggles as well as its joys. There is something noble and dear about saints who come week after week, year after year to hear and receive the gospel and, as a response to grace, participate in God's reconciling work in the world. But there comes a time to take to heart Jesus' teaching: "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 16:25).

The day between Good Friday and Easter can be seen as empty, a void, something to be resisted at all costs, something to be filled. It is the same reaction that many in our culture have to silence. It's as if sound and activity prove that we still exist. But I think the space between crucifixion and resurrection—truly terrifying and truly compassionate—beckons us from our life to life in Christ. After all, it wasn't all the noise and fireworks that got Elijah's attention, but the sound of sheer silence (1 Kings 19:11-13).

When we shed our lives and enter the tomb, when silence is all around, then we see that Jesus is already there ahead of us, anticipating us, welcoming us to be still and to die in him and find our life in him. Rest, dear church.

## **Appreciation to the Yard Clean-up Group!**

The Property Committee would like to express appreciation to all who helped out at the Annual Spring Yard Clean-up on Saturday, March 12th. We had approximately 16 helpers including Boy Scouts, a leader and a parent from Troop #30. We want to give them special thanks. Several Church Members and Property Committee people

volunteered and without everyone's hard work this would not have been successful. We cleaned up around the whole yard and facility and edged all the walkways. We hauled out a large trailer load of debris making the grounds look really good. Terry Branting provided the trailer. Goodies and beverages were provided for all.

Roger Potts,  
Property Committee Chairman



The kitchen has a new ice machine.  
Memorial funds from Leoma Winch  
and Bonnie Ahrens were used.

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

Proverbs 29:18

The Council has had three active months working on the exciting mission of our church. We have focused our efforts using the vision statement, "Making Christ Known to All, through Grace," and our mission statement, "Gathering to Worship, Called to Witness, Sent to Serve."

The Council also identified the values we all see in the Grace community: gracious hospitality, honest conversation, genuine humility and divine anticipation. We are asking all of the Grace committees to remember these statements and values as they plan for the future. We see all of this coming together through the use of a theme that we hope to approve in April.

The council also has identified a set of principles for Grace:

Glorifying God in all that we do at Grace.

Encouraging each other in the journey of faith.

Serving the neighbor in need, both locally and globally.

We will be asking all of our members to take the Nebraska Synod's QUICK CHECK SURVEY on May 15 after the 9 a.m. service. The Council completed the survey and used the results in our January planning retreat. Now we want to use your responses to help us refine the vision for our work together this year and for 2017. We will do a short training on the 15th to help everyone feel comfortable completing this very important tool.

#### *Electronic media*

Please look at our website and our Facebook page and let us know how we can better use these social media tools. How else we can use technology to link our congregation to our Lincoln community?

#### *Housekeeping*

The Council and committees are catching up on some needed repairs and maintenance. Yard work is being done this month. We are looking to upgrade the screens on the east windows. We have a new scrubber to clean our floors and, as you directed us to do at the January congregational meeting, we are selling our old bus.

Phase two of the organ repair is going well and will include a small addition to the organ, which will be explained and celebrated when it is completed.

We are thankful that the Lord has moved all of us to work together to accomplish these projects.

#### *Thrivent grants*

We have received several Thrivent grants that underwrote the purchase of groceries for the Lenten meals and the Easter breakfast. That means all donations at those meals have gone to help the Lutheran Center, to support a fund for future replacement of our dishwasher and to help pay to repair our stained glass windows. We thank our sponsor and our generous members for their gifts.

### *Gift-giving workshop*

Immediately after the service on Sunday, May 1, Grace Foundation and the Council will host a gift-giving workshop to help our members plan for their future. Our leader, provided by Nebraska Synod, has extensive experience and expertise in this arena. Please bring any family members or friends who may not or do not have a will or other financial planning tools in place.

### *Columbarium*

We soon will have additional guidelines regarding the columbarium available to help the Council and the committee and, most importantly, to help each of you in planning for this final phase of life. The columbarium and garden are real blessings for our church. For more information, see Dean Dumler.

### *Director of faith formation*

We have offered the director of faith formation position to one of the four candidates who applied for the position and are awaiting the candidate's final decision. A Council committee reviewed the four applicants and recommended that three of the four be interviewed by the executive committee and chair of the Parish Education committee. That group recommended that the full Council interview two of the four. One of the remaining two withdrew from consideration, and the Council interviewed the final candidate and voted to offer her the position.

May the vision God has revealed to us during the season of Lent and in the joyous celebration of Easter permeate our Grace community and all those we serve!

Dennis Berens  
Council President



Nebraska Brass presents: Brass Across Nebraska  
Polished Brass  
Sparkling Brass Selections

Sunday, April 10  
3:00 pm  
Grace Lutheran Church

Tickets: Adults \$15; Seniors \$12; Students free

For more information and tickets contact the Nebraska Brass at 402-477-7899

**February Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 9, 2016**

Present: Pastor Eric Lesher, Denny Berens, Terry Branting, Connie Whyrick, Dave Ripa, Kevin Gade, Teddi Reckling, Peter Schnake, Wendy Apple, Elizabeth Krueger, Carla Ingersoll,  
Absent: Barb Smith

President Denny Berens called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll call taken

Connie Whyrick provided devotions and the opening prayer

No Correspondence.

Terry B. moved that the January Council Meeting minutes, the Semi-Annual Minutes and the correction for the December Council meeting minutes be approved. Seconded by Dave R. Motion carried.

**Staff Reports:**

**Senior Pastor:** Written report

**Director of Music:** Written report

**Financial Secretary's Report:** Written report

**Treasurer's Report:** Written report

Dave R. made a motion to accept and file for audit all staff and financial reports. Seconded by Terry B. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports:**

**(Dennis asked the group to interact about how to use these minutes for better collaboration)**

**Parish Education:** Written report

**Evangelism:** Written Report

**Property:** Written report

**Social Ministry:** Written report

**Stewardship:** Written report

**Finance:** Written report

**Youth:** No report

**Memorials:** written report

**Worship and Music:** Written report

**Media Committee:** Written report

Teddi R. made a motion to receive and place on file all committee reports. Seconded by Barb S. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous discussion:

There was an update of the process of getting the Church Policy Book in place. A request will be made to Sara Schott and Roger Potts to see if we can obtain the electronic policies to give to Sandi for loading onto the website.

Dave R. made a motion to dissolve the ad hoc Policy Committee. Teddi R. seconded. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**Columbarium:** Terry made a motion to accept a by-law addition written by Denny to by-law CR13.07.G14 for the Columbarium inclusion in the Grace by-laws. Connie W. seconded. Discussion provided an amendment to the motion.

Terry B. moved that the committee submit a minimum of quarterly reports. Kevin G. seconded. Motion carried.

Recommendation that someone from Property and Finance meet with the Columbarium committee for discussion on Columbarium duties, pricing, etc.

Consent to Transfer Cremains form discussion. Hold further action until March was accepted.

Dave R. made a motion to use congregational \$6689.00 from of the debt retirement fund and \$1011 from the Windstream funds to retire the \$7700.00 debt to the Columbarium fund. Terry seconded. Motion carried.

**Sale of old bus:** Bob Anderson will start advertising the bus for sale in March.

**Council Retreat:** Terry B. moved that we pay \$250 to the Seeking the Spirit Within ELCA fund for Connie Stover's work at the retreat. Connie W. seconded. Motion carried.

Pr. Eric and Teddi R. will work on the values and 2016 theme for the congregation. Further discussion will continue in March. Vision and Mission statement will remain unchanged. Terry B. made a motion that paper copies of the congregation survey be mailed out to all members with a cover instruction letter. On May 15, at Adult Fellowship, there will be training and completion of the survey for those who did not mail the survey back. After the results of the survey are compiled, the results will be given to the congregation. Teddi R. seconded. Motion carried.

**Director of Faith Formation:** Teddi R. moved that the Exec Committee and Connie W. make the calls for references and interview present Faith Formation candidates. They will recommend the finalist to the council for final interview and selection. Kevin G. seconded. Motion carried.

**Organ Repair Funds:** Decision will be made what to do with funds after proposed expenses for the dedication concert and zymbalstern are reviewed and accepted.

**Vanco Model:** Peter S. made a motion to begin the Vanco giving categories with General Fund, Facility Improvement Fund, Good Samaritan Fund and Other, with the flexibility to change these categories as needed. Dave R. seconded. Motion carried.

**CPR Update:** Work is still in progress.

**Children's Noisy Gift Offering:** Council needs to review by-laws to determine whether it is Council's responsibility approve gifts giving and special projects.

**Finance and Stewardship by-law revisions:** Dave moved that the finance and stewardship revised by-laws be approved as written. Kevin G. seconded. Motion carried. Will go to November congregational meeting for final approval.

#### New Business:

**Gift Giving Workshop:** Foundation requested council's assistance. Pr. Eric will work with Synod specialist to present. Date picked – May 1. Need to have PR. Need to have a brunch after church while the workshop is being held.

**Narrative Budget Model:** most agreed to do it but further discussion among the committees needed by March.

**Worship/Lenten Offering:** Dave R. made a motion that all Wednesday Lenten Worship loose offerings should go the Lutheran Center Capital Campaign Fund. Kevin G. seconded. Motion carried. Teddi R. moved to allow the group in charge of a Lenten congregational meal donations determine where the offerings go. (most have been committed) Connie seconded. Motion carried.

**Recognition of Retiring Council Members:** Will discuss further in March.

**Volunteers for Synod Assembly In June:** Lindsay Howard. Need one other person.

**Joint Advertising:** Talk in committees

**Property Committee:** Bell Tower, digital equipment and Ice machine will be taken care of by Memorials. Council reviewed the Committees short and long term needs. Especially the need for a scrubber.

**Lenten service meal:** March 9 at 5:15. Dave R. will organize. All council asked to help.

**Memorials:** Added to minutes on February 23: The majority of the council approved the memorials request to purchase a Pall from the James family, the ice machine for the kitchen and the zimbalstern.

There being no more business to bring before the Church Council, Connie W. moved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:30 p.m. and was seconded by Peter S. Meeting was closed by saying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carla Ingwersoll, Council Secretary

<b>April 3</b>	
Assisting Minister	Doug Allen
Lector	Sharon Genthe
Communion Assistants	Kathie Remington, Pat Lickey, Lois Schuerman Jeannette Allen
Altar Guild	
Communion Bread	Darlene Stutheit
Greeters	Jan & Terry Branting, Connie Whyrick
Acolyte	Kaitlyn Dumler
<b>April 10</b>	
Assisting Minister	Charlyne Berens
Lector	Denny Berens
Communion Assistants	Denny Berens, Arlene Reighard, Ginny Potts, Robert Stimbert
Altar Guild	Jon & Connie Thorson
Communion Bread	Wendy Apple
Greeters	Yvonne Nielsen, Betty Shaw, Bill Hokanson, Carol Olson
Acolyte	Kaiden Noecker
<b>April 17</b>	
Assisting Minister	Jacob Krueger
Lector	Janet Jodais
Communion Assistants	Darlene Stutheit, Bruce and Cheryl Petersen, Janet Jodais
Altar Guild	Mark & Karen Billings
Communion Bread	Fran Gade
Greeters	Betsy Johnson, Charlene Johnson, Jeannette Allen, Robert Stimbert
Acolyte	Chloe Fitzgibbon
<b>April 24</b>	
Assisting Minister	Tina Loseke
Lector	Phil Sorensen
Communion Assistants	Alan Givens, Teresa Serafin, Phil and Donna Sorensen
Altar Guild	Cindy & Curt Eberspacher
Communion Bread	Cindy Eberspacher
Greeters	Mark & Karen Billings, Darlene Stutheit
Acolyte	Kyle Givens



#### Friday, April 1

9:00 am Church Women United Mtg.  
5:30 pm YMCA Respite Care

#### Saturday, April 2

5:30 pm Worship

#### Sunday, April 3

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship, Sunday School,  
Choir, Thrivent  
10:40 am ASF  
3:00 pm L.L.C. rehearsal

#### Monday, April 4

7:00 pm Scouts

#### Tuesday, April 5

9:30 am Al-Anon  
4:00 pm Lounge reserved  
6:00 pm Scouts, L.L.C. Mtg.  
7:00 pm Committee Mtgs., L.L.C. rehearsals  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

#### Wednesday, April 6

12:00 pm WELCA lunch & meeting  
6:15 pm Children's Choir  
7:00 pm Evening Prayer Service  
7:00 pm Comm. Mental Health Mtg.  
7:30 pm Confirmation

#### Thursday, April 7

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

#### Friday, April 8

5:30 pm YMCA Respite Care

#### Saturday, April 9

10:00 am L.L.C. rehearsal  
12:00 pm Lounge reserved  
5:30 pm Worship

#### Sunday, April 10

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship, Sunday School,  
Choir, Thrivent  
10:40 am ASF  
11:30 am Bell Choir  
3:00 pm Nebraska Brass Concert

#### Monday, April 11

1:00 pm WELCA #2 Mtg.  
7:00 pm Scouts

#### Tuesday, April 12

9:30 am Al-Anon  
6:00 pm Scouts  
7:00 pm Council Meeting, W.R.T. Mtg.,  
7:00 pm WELCA #6 Mtg.  
8:00 pm AA Meeting

#### Wednesday, April 13

12:00 pm Yesterday's Youth  
6:15 pm Children's Choir  
7:00 pm Evening Prayer Service  
7:00 pm Comm. Mental Health Mtg.  
7:30 pm Confirmation

#### Thursday, April 14

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

#### Friday, April 15

5:00 pm Lesher Hall reserved

#### Saturday, April 16

10:00 am L.L.C. rehearsal  
12:00 pm Lesher Hall reserved  
5:30 pm Worship

#### Sunday, April 17

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship, Sunday School, Adult  
Choir  
10:40 am A.S.F.— Lounge  
11:30 am Grace Notes bell choir  
3:00 pm Lincoln Lutheran Choir concert

#### Monday, April 18

5:00 pm Gathering Place  
7:00 pm Scouts

#### Tuesday, April 19

9:30 am Al-Anon  
6:00 pm Scouts  
8:00 pm AA Meeting

#### Wednesday, April 20

1:00 pm WELCA #1 Mtg.  
6:15 pm Children's Choir  
7:00 pm Evening Prayer Service  
7:00 pm Comm. Mental Health Mtg.  
7:30 pm Confirmation

#### Thursday, April 21

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

#### Friday, April 22

4:00 pm Suzuki music lessons

#### Saturday, April 23

10:00 am Chapel reserved  
10:00 am Lesher Hall reserved  
5:30 pm Worship

#### Sunday, April 24

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship, Sunday School, Adult  
Choir  
10:40 am A.S.F.— Lounge  
11:30 am Grace Notes bell choir  
1:30 pm Chapel reserved  
4:00 pm Chapel reserved

#### Monday, April 25

7:00 pm Scouts

#### Tuesday, April 26

9:30 am Al-Anon  
6:00 pm Scouts  
8:00 pm AA Meeting

#### Wednesday, April 27

6:15 pm Children's Choir  
7:00 pm Evening Prayer Service  
7:00 pm Comm. Mental Health Mtg.  
7:30 pm Confirmation

#### Thursday, April 28

6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
9:00 am Quilting, Lincoln Literacy classes  
12:00 pm Conf. Rm reserved  
7:00 pm Bells, N. A. Mtg

#### Saturday, April 30

5:30 pm Worship

\*child care provided



2  
Ron & Judy Holtgrewe  
Shawn & Joanie Rathjen

7  
Delmar & Darlene Motycka

16  
Everett & Velma Giles  
Jon & Connie Thorson

18  
Tim & Christina Riemann  
Rick & Becky Williams

26  
Robin & Shirleen Hoffman

30  
Karen & Mark Billings  
Bruce & Cheryl Petersen



1  
Tess Noecker

2  
Janet Ahler  
Florence Stokke

3	Michael Drake	21	Susan Gruttis
4	Stormy Eberspacher Rick Williams	22	Betty Shaw
5	Joan Anderson Carla Ingersoll	23	Lianne Garza
7	Donna Hansen Carmen McKillip	25	Amanda Genuchi
8	Kelli Stokke	26	Eric Hoffman Julene Lesher
10	Brittany Billings	27	Susan Givens Teresa Serafin Jeanne Weisbrook Becky Williams
11	Art Hillman		
12	Delmar Miller Florence Prusia		
14	Ruth Lantis		
16	Kennedy Abbott		
17	Christane Drake Sara Olston		
19	Debbie Basler Marilyn Holmquist		



## Grace Staff and Council Members

**Rev. Eric Lesher,**

*Senior Pastor*

*308-708-1146*

*pr.eric@egrace.org*

**Sara Schott,**

*Director of Parish Music*

*sara@egrace.org*

**Colt Ballou,**

*Assistant Director of Parish Music*

**Sandi Knippelmeyer,**

*Parish Administrator*

*office@egrace.org*

**Robert Stimbert,**

*Custodian*

**Judi Schroeder,**

*Nursery Coordinator*

**Elizabeth Krueger,**

*Nursery attendant*

**2016 Council members and committee assignments:**

Wendy Apple—Worship and Music

Denny Berens—President

Terry Branting—Property

Kevin Gade—Finance

Carla Ingersoll—Evangelism

Elizabeth Krueger—Parish Ed.

Teddi Reckling—Finance

Dave Ripa—Stewardship

Peter Schnake—Evangelism

Barb Smith—Social Ministry

Connie Whyrick—Parish Ed. And Memorials

# EXPLORE

A Day Retreat  
at Carol Joy Holling Camp  
for Elementary Kids



**Saturday, April 23rd, 2016  
9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**Carol Joy Holling Camp - Holling House  
Grades 1-6  
Cost - \$10 per participant**

Explore is designed to help grade schoolers  
discover the magic of creation and life at camp.



LAND

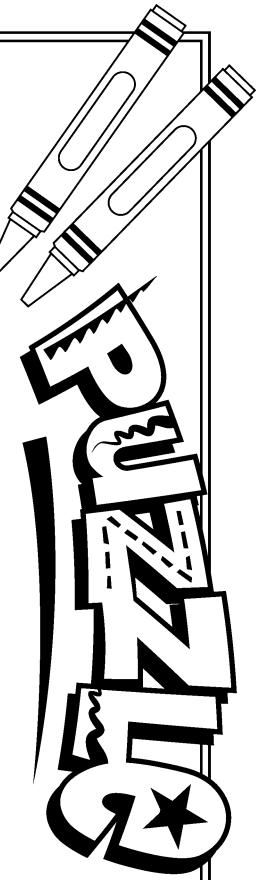


WATER

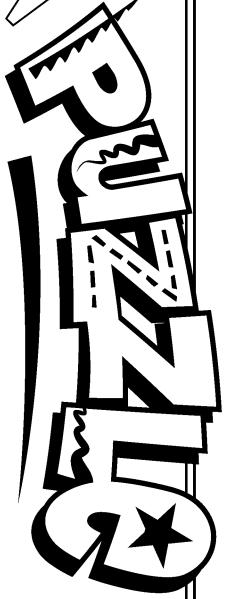


TEAM BUILDING

**Register online at  
[www.cjhcenter.org/explore](http://www.cjhcenter.org/explore)**



# OUR HOPE



Romans 8:34 tells about our risen Lord, who gives us hope.

**Directions:** Write the phrases on the correct numbered lines below. Then, on the final row of blanks, write the bold capital letters in order from top to bottom, left to right, to spell the word that sums up this verse.

- |                  |                  |                |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 5 who was Raised | 8 Right hand     | 6 To life      |
| 3 diEd           | 4 more than that | 7 Is at the    |
| 2 JeSUs who      | 11 intErceding   | 9 Of God       |
| 12 for US        | 1 Christ         | 10 aNd is also |

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_

8 \_\_\_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_\_\_

11 \_\_\_\_\_ 12 \_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 8:34, NIV

RESURRECTION

Answers: ... Christ Jesus who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Romans 8:34, NIV

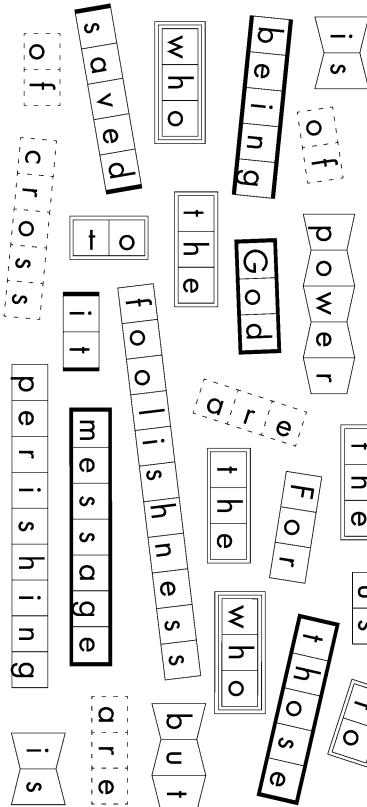
Answer: "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18, NIV

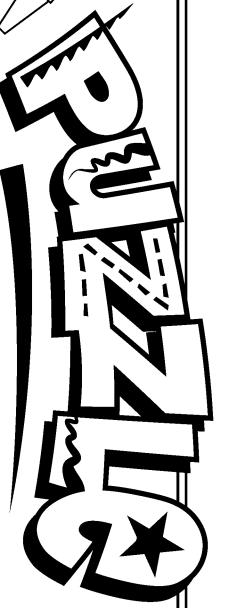
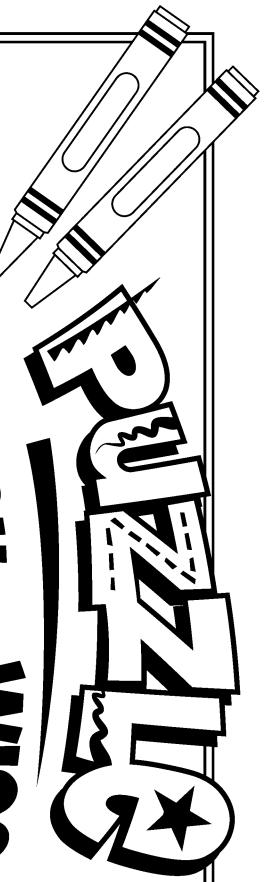
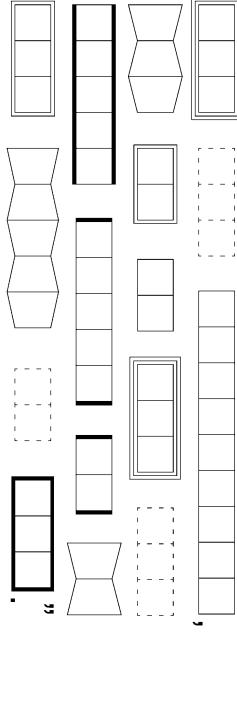
# To Be FOOLISH or WISE

On April Fools' Day, people like to play fun jokes, but there's nothing foolish about God's gift of salvation.

**Directions:** Match the word shapes to reveal the message of 1 Corinthians 1:18, NIV.



1 CORINTHIANS 1:18, NIV



Grace Lutheran Church  
2225 Washington Street  
Lincoln NE 68502  
402-474-1505  
[office@egrace.org](mailto:office@egrace.org)

**Return Service Requested**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Lincoln, NE  
**PERMIT NO. 5**