



# The Grace Greeter

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



## **Maundy Thursday,**

April 18, 12:15 (chapel) or 6:30 PM

## **Good Friday,**

April 19, 12:15 (chapel) or 6:30 PM

## **Easter Vigil,**

April 20, 6:30 PM

## **Resurrection of Our Lord**

**April 21**

**8:00 AM or 10:00 AM (note time change)**

Festival Easter Services with Holy Communion  
A continental breakfast will be served from 9:-00—9:45 AM

*Christ  
is  
Risen!*



"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." - Psalm 118:24

She would spend her mornings confined to a wheelchair and looking out her window in the morning as the flag was being raised in front of the senior care facility where she lived. As that flag was being raised, she would recite the above verse.

This is how she started every day and she was one of the most positive people I have ever met. So much so that her life verse became mine. "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." This verse is full of Easter promise. Promise that is always there for us at the beginning of each day.

So, what is Easter anyway? Christians consider Easter to be the "first day." From Easter comes the practice of worshiping on Sunday morning. It is the first day of the week. It is also the first day of the new creation, sometimes called the "eighth day" of the week, for on this day Christ restored the image of God in the human and in so doing also brought restoration and renewal to all of creation.

May this restoration and renewal find you this Easter and Easter season. Start your day remembering whose day it is (God's) and what attitude you need to carry into the day (joy). A day always worth rejoicing because it is a day that belongs to God and not us. Thank goodness! A day not grounded in how I feel about the world but grounded in God's desire to restore and renew all of us.

Happy Easter!

P. 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).
- ◆ 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 April 20. It will be mailed on April 23.



**Perfect Love Casts Out Fear: Evening Prayer for Lent**

In 1 John 4:18a we read, "Where God's love is, there is no fear because God's perfect love drives out fear." In a world marked by fear, it is important to remember and celebrate the power of God's love to drive out fear. So during each week of Lent, we will be exploring dimensions of God's love for us and the love of Christ we share.

Join us for food and table fellowship at 5:30 in the gym. Worship at 6:30 in the nave.

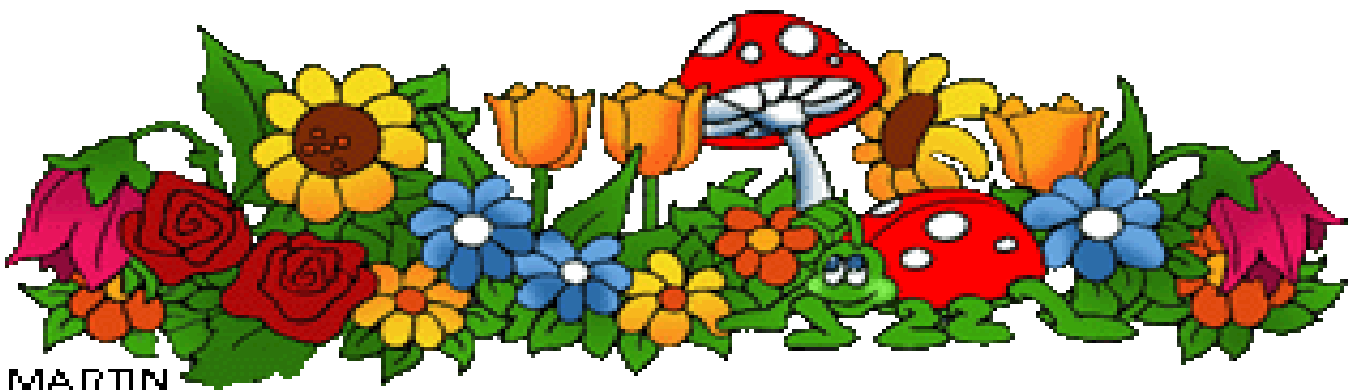
**Lenten dinners**

**Served 5:30—6:15 PM**

free will offering (suggested donation \$5, adults; \$3, children under 10)

April 3: Hosted by the Church Council: Menu—baked potatoes and toppings, bread, salad, dessert

April 10: Hosted by WELCA #2: Menu—ham, scalloped potatoes, salad, roll, dessert



MARTIN



Mark Your Calendars

# EVENTS



- ◆ Grace's Thrivent Financial group will meet in the staff conference room at 10:30 am on April 7th.. The meeting is open to anyone who wishes to attend.
- ◆ Calling All Grace Women: Join us for our Women of the ELCA Unit meeting on Wednesday, April 3rd at 1 p.m.
- ◆ Yesterday's Youth welcomes anyone 55 or older. Please come and join us Wednesday, April 10th. We meet the second Wednesday of each month in Leshner 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. The program this month will be the second half of the CD "Military Chaplains".

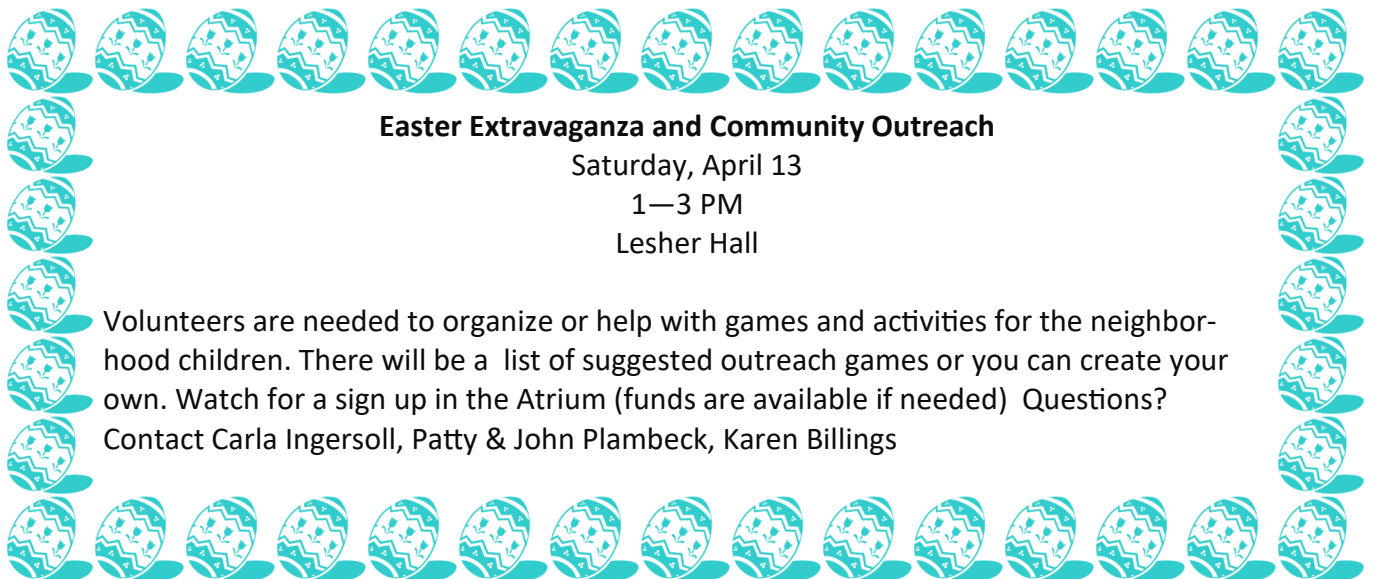
## First Communion Class

Pastor Eric will offer a first communion on Wednesday, April 17, from 7—8 pm in the Lounge, for students in 3rd grade and older. They will then receive their first communion during worship service on Maundy Thursday, April 18, at 6:30 pm. Please contact the office so we know how many will be attending the class.

## Grace Yard Clean Up

Weather permitting the annual clean up day is scheduled for Saturday, April 6th, beginning at 8:30 am. Bring your rakes, gloves, and other clean up supplies to lend a hand. Contact Roger Potts if you need further information. If the weather doesn't cooperate, this event will be scheduled for after Easter.

**Note: The church office will be closed on Monday, April 22nd.**



## Easter Extravaganza and Community Outreach

Saturday, April 13

1—3 PM

Leshner Hall

Volunteers are needed to organize or help with games and activities for the neighborhood children. There will be a list of suggested outreach games or you can create your own. Watch for a sign up in the Atrium (funds are available if needed) Questions? Contact Carla Ingersoll, Patty & John Plambeck, Karen Billings

## Parish Education News

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.



The Lincoln mandatory water restrictions affected the normal routine at The Gathering Place on March 18. Instead of using institution style divided trays, the meals were served on paper plates, with plastic cutlery. But as usual, a hearty meal was

available. Regina and Steve Paschold prepared the macaroni and cheese with ham bits. Carla Ingersoll donated the tossed lettuce salad. Other menu items included bananas, bread, and green beans. Cookies, brownies and cakes were contributed by Fran and Kevin Gade, Ginny and Roger Potts, Curt Mann, Joy Kokes, and Regina and Steve. All of those mentioned above, except Steve, helped to distribute the food and to clean up after 125 portions had been served. Special thanks go to Marilyn Holmquist, Joyce Krueger, and Brady Garvin for recent financial donations to support this important ministry.



One Day Without Shoes: Cornhusker Bank and Grace's Social Ministry Committee are excited to announce Cornhusker's 9th annual One Day Without Shoes event from March 27<sup>th</sup> to April 15th, 2019. We want you to be a part of the amazing experience again this year! Drop off new or used footwear in the blue barrel located in the entryway from the east parking lot. Monetary donations are welcome also. Clearly identify your donation with the following: ODWS donation. Put in the offering plate or drop off in the office during regular office hours.

Social Ministry Committee: Lori, Steve, Regina, Pat, Jan, and Pastor Megan

Individuals who have Thrivent Financial products should note that March 31 is the deadline for designating Thrivent Choice Dollars that were accumulated in 2018. These Choice Dollars are awarded to people who have certain financial products. By calling 800-THRIVENT and saying "Thrivent Choice Dollars", money can be directed toward Grace Lutheran. Most recently, using Choice Dollars, Grace's Thrivent Financial group has contributed to the new roof fund, and provided new sound equipment for the monthly jazz service.



## **January Council Meeting    Tuesday, January 15, 2019**

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

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

**Devotions:** Dustin

**Approval of Council Minutes:** December 10, 2018 council minutes approved as printed.

**Pastor Eric's report:**

Council Retreat is set for January 19, 9-11AM. (Weather date will be February 9th) Focus will be on creating a visioning statement and what this means for the council and congregation.

**Director of Music Report:**

Council members discussed the present Choral Scholar program. It was noted that plans for the 2019-2020 school year need to be reviewed prior to the spring (2019) meeting of GLC Foundation meeting in order to facilitate the funding request.

Pastor and Director of Music Reports: Approved as printed.

**Treasurer and Financial Secretary Reports:** Approved and submitted for audit.

**Committee Reports:**

Finance/Stewardship-Written report.

Worship & Music-Written report.

Parish Ed- Written report The focus of the February meeting will be planning for the 2019 VBS program scheduled for the week of July 29th.

Congregational Life- Written report

Property-Written report The Council would like to look at the "10 Ways to Create a Safer Church" program noted in the committee report. Roger Potts will be invited to the February council meeting to discuss this program.

Social Ministry-Written report.

Committee reports: Approved as printed.

**Old Business:**

Council seat vacancy: (A one-year vacancy on the church council due to the resignation of Barb Smith.)

Motion made by Dave Ripa/Doug Krueger that Fran Gade complete this one-year term on the church council. Motion carried.

Council retreat: The retreat will be held on January 19, 2019 beginning at 9:00 am. The weather date is set for February 9th. The focus is to establish a vision statement for GLC.

Congregational meeting: 10:00-10:45—brunch (served by the GLC Thrivent Group) and silent auction bidding; 10:45—congregational meeting including the annual reports of staff and committee. Also the congregation will be introduced to the **Transformational Ministry** program.

**New Business:**

Ruth Meyer Estate gift: GLC has received an undesignated \$5,000 gift from the Ruth Meyer estate.

Motion made by Dave Ripa/Fran Gade that Matt Knobbe hold these funds until the Council determines a use for them at a later date. Motion carried.

Devotion Leaders: Council members signed up to serve as devotional leaders for future council meetings.

Committee Assignments: Fran Gade will serve on the Parish Education committee. Karen Billings will shift from Parish Education to the Congregational Life committee.

Lenten Dinners: Curt agreed to organize hosts for the upcoming Lenten dinners.

Scouts BSA: Beginning February 1, 2019, the Boy Scouts of America will allow girls to take part in the Boy Scout program. (Note: Girls have been allowed to participate in the Cub Scout program for the past year.) GLC has been asked by the Cornhusker Council BSA to sponsor a 'linked' troop connected to our current Boy Scout Troop 30. Motion made by Karen Billings/Teddi Reckling to approve the sponsorship of a new 'linked' troop. Motion carried.

Motion made by Dave Ripa/Jan Branting to financially support the new troop with a gift of \$500 (This will match a gift of equal amount given by Curt). Funding would be from the "Miscellaneous Parish Expense" line in the 2019 spending plan. Motion carried

Audit committee: Dustin will be contacting individuals to serve on the 2019 audit committee.

**Other Items:**

Council and staff members were reminded that monthly reports are due on the Sunday prior to the church council meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Pastor closed meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Curtis Mann, Council Member

**March Council Meeting Sunday, March 3, 2019**

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

Absent: Teddi Reckling

Dustin Haider called the Council meeting to order at 10:40AM.

**Purpose of Meeting:** Accept resignation of Sandi Knippelmeyer

**Resignation:** Karen made a motion to accept the resignation of Sandi Knippelmeyer, with her last day being March 19, 2019. Dave seconded. Motion carried.

**Next Steps:**

Letter and Constant Contact notification to members advising of Sandi's resignation.

Contact a Temp agency to bring in for training until Sandi leaves and until a permanent person is found.

Hours would be 8:30-4:30.

Sandi will be asked to arrange for worship assistants through April.

Immediate financial requirements: payroll, online bill payments, and the church credit card with Union Bank that's in Sandi's name.

Maintenance of church calendar.

Job Posting: Listed as Parish Administrator. Sites advertised: Synod, Facebook, Indeed, others as needed.

Required by applicant: Letter of Application and Resume. Cutoff Date: April 1.

New Parish Administrator will have a 30-hour work week and 1 week of vacation the first year.

Next year, depending upon performance, will be upgraded to 2 weeks.

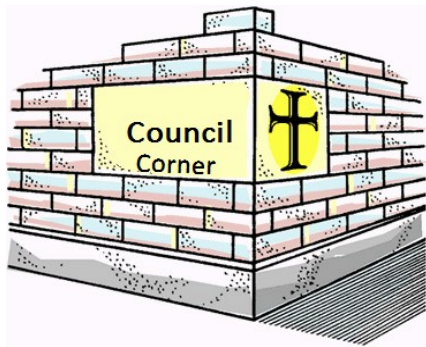
Need of volunteers to help with daily activities.

A specific need is a volunteer for our Good Samaritan Ministry on Thursday afternoons: 1-3PM.

Meeting adjourned at 11:49AM.

Pastor closed meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carla Ingersoll, Secretary



### **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 will be helping with the Egg-straveganza!

**From the President of the Congregation:** Check out the various items posted around our church. We invite you to share your ideas for the vision of Grace. You can also sign-up to help with worship activities, the Egg-straveganza, and other service opportunities. We make our mission work by helping each other help our community. Try signing-up for something new! Who knows, you may find something you really like!

The council is actively working on finding an office administrator. We will have several interviews over the coming weeks. If you see a new face in the office, be sure to stop in and say hi!

**From the Worship and Music Committee:** We have two new jazz vocalists to help us out with our jazz service. Grace will also be participating in the upcoming Lincoln Organ Showcase. You might notice that our pianos have been moved around, we are trying to make sure that pianos are placed where they will be most aptly used.

**From the Parish Education Committee:** Vacation Bible School dates are July 29-August 2. We will be exploring "Who is my neighbor?" register on our website and follow Grace on Facebook for updates!

**From the Congregational Life Committee:** Our next event will be the Spring Eggstravaganza which is scheduled for Saturday, April 13 from 1-3 pm. We still have 6 games that need volunteers and several spots to help serve refreshments. We are looking for someone to volunteer to be the Easter Bunny (we have the costume).

**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. The 2019 Annual Spring Yard Clean-Up is tentatively scheduled for April 6th at 8:30am, if the weather doesn't cooperate, we will postpone it until after Easter.

**From the Social Ministry Committee:** We will be serving The FEAST at Our Saviour's on April 28. The FEAST (Our Saviour's Lutheran Church) is a prison ministry program in which people who are incarcerated are given faith-based support as they reintegrate into society.

**From the Finance & Stewardship Committee:** The year started out cold and snowy! Please make sure your pledged contributions are up to date!





2nd Ron & Judy Holtgrewe  
Shawn & Joanie Rathjen

7th Jackson & Patience  
Bukasa  
Delmar & Darlene  
Motycka

16th Everett & Velma Giles  
Jon & Connie Thorson

18th Tim & Christina Riemann  
Rick & Becky Williams

26th Robin & Shirleen Hoffman

30th Mark & Karen Billings  
Bruce & Cheryl Petersen

1st Tess Noecker

2nd Janet Ahler  
Florence Stokke

4th Stormy Eberspacher  
Rick Williams

5th Joan Anderson  
Carla Ingersoll

7th Carmen McKillip

10th Brittany Billings

11th Art Hillman

12th Florence Prusia

14th Ruth Lantis

16th Kennedy Abbott

17th Sara Olston

19th Deborah Basler  
Marilyn Holmquist

21st Susan Gruttis

22nd Ben Ptacek  
Betty Shaw

23rd Lianne Garza

25th Amanda Genuchi

26th Julene Leshner

27th Teresa Serafin  
Jeanne Weisbrook  
Becky Williams



**Monday, April 1st**

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
6:30 pm Melodrama Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Scouts BSA

**Tuesday, April 2nd**

9:30 am Al-Anon  
6:30 pm Cub Scouts, Melodrama Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Committee Meetings  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

**Wednesday, April 3rd**

1:00 pm WELCA meeting with dessert  
5:30 pm Supper  
5:45 pm Youth Choir  
6:30 pm Worship, Melodrama Rehearsal

**Thursday, April 4th**

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

**Friday, April 5th**

5:30 pm YWCA respite care  
6:30 pm Melodrama Rehearsal

**Saturday, April 6th**

8:30 am Spring Yard Cleanup  
1:00 pm Lounge reserved  
5:00 pm Worship

**Sunday, April 7th**

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

**Monday, April 8th**

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
1:00 pm WELCA Mtg.  
6:30 pm Melodrama Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Scouts BSA

**Tuesday, April 9th****City Primary Election**

9:30 am Al-Anon  
7:00 pm Council Mtg., W.R.T. Mtg.  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

**Wednesday, April 10th**

11:30 am Yesterday's Youth  
5:30 pm Supper  
5:45 pm Youth Choir  
6:30 pm Worship, Melodrama Rehearsal

**Thursday, April 11th**

6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
9:00 am Quilting, Lincoln Literacy  
4:00 pm Gym reserved  
6:30 pm Melodrama Rehearsal  
7:00 pm N. A. Mtg., Bells

**Friday, April 12th**

5:00 pm YWCA Respite Care  
6:30 pm Melodrama Rehearsal

**Saturday, April 13th**

1:00-3:00 Spring Eggstravaganza  
5:00 pm Worship

**Sunday, April 14th****Palm Sunday**

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

**Monday, April 15th**

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

**Tuesday, April 16th**

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

**Wednesday, April 17th**

1:00 pm WELCA mtg.  
7:00 pm 1st Communion Class

**Thursday, April 18th****Maundy Thursday**

9:00 am Quilting, Lincoln Literacy  
12:15 pm Worship, Chapel  
6:30 pm Worship, Nave  
7:00 pm N. A. Mtg.

**Friday, April 19th****Good Friday**

12:15 pm Worship, Chapel  
5:00 pm Gym reserved  
6:30 pm Worship, Nave

**Saturday, April 20th****Easter Eve**

6:30 pm Worship

**Sunday, April 21st****Easter Sunday**

8:00 am Worship \*  
9:00 am Easter Breakfast  
10:00 am Worship\*

**Monday, April 22nd****Office Closed**

7:00 pm Scouts BSA

**Tuesday, April 23rd**

9:30 am Al-Anon  
6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack Mtg.  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

**Wednesday, April 24th**

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

**Thursday, April 25th**

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

**Friday, April 26th**

4:00 pm Chapel & Gym reserved

**Saturday, April 27th**

2:00 pm Chapel & Gym reserved  
5:00 pm Worship, Chapel

**Sunday, April 28th**

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Adult Bible Study, Fellowship, Choir, Sunday School  
1:00 pm Chapel reserved

**Monday, April 29th**

9:00 am Lincoln Literacy  
7:00 pm Scouts BSA

**Tuesday, April 30th**

9:30 am Al-Anon  
6:30 pm Cub Scout Committee Mtg.  
8:00 pm AA mtg.

# Grace Staff and Council Members

**Rev. Eric Lesh,**

*Senior Pastor*

*308-708-1146*

*pr.eric@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:**

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



**Reserve your Easter Lily now for our Easter Garden  
(deadline for ordering, Monday, April 15)  
Please complete and return this form to the church office by the deadline**

I will place an Easter Lily (gold foil, no bow):

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
or

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will purchase the plant and bring it to the church myself by April 18.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like the church office to order a lily for me at \$10.00 each. (Payment is enclosed)

Plant (s) given by:

\_\_\_\_\_

Grace Lutheran Church  
2225 Washington Street  
Lincoln NE 68502  
402-474-1505  
office@egrace.org

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