

# The Grace Greeter

Grace Lutheran Church 2225 Washington Street Lincoln, NE 68502

March 28, 2017



**Maundy Thursday**, April 13, 6:30 PM  
(Holy Communion, stripping of the altar)

**Good Friday**, April 14, 6:30 PM  
(Adoration of the Cross, Solemn Reproaches)

**Holy Saturday Easter Vigil**, April 15, 6:30 PM  
(Holy Communion, reception following service, please bring an appetizer or dessert to share)

We will continue to offer a 12:15 pm service in the Chapel on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Eve. These services will last about 30 minutes.



## Resurrection of Our Lord April 16

Festival Easter Services with Holy Communion  
7:30 and 10:30 AM

Featuring the Choirs of Grace and the Grace Foundation  
Brass

Donuts, coffee and juice will be served between services.



N. T. Wright says, "Jesus's resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven."

As Easter approaches we wonder how God will use us to bring the life of heaven to earth. We wonder what this life looks like. We begin to remember the teachings of Jesus. We begin to remember the miracles that were created in his presence. We begin to discover that the Easter story interrupts our expectations of what makes sense in life. Our priorities change. Our values change. Our lives change. Our world changes as Christ becomes the center of all that we do and say. We find ourselves connected to a community that knows no borders here on earth or in heaven. This community is not restricted to the present but lasts forever and includes those who have died before us. It is a community not bound by time or space. It is diverse from people of all nations. It is rich as we share with each other. It is compassionate as we care for each other. Sorry, no room for nationalism, tribalism or any "ism" for that matter. All are welcome to come and follow the One who is no longer bound to time or space but is free to be the Messiah of us all. Happy Easter!

Pr. Eric Leshner

Pr. Eric Leshner



## 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 April 20th. It will be mailed on Tuesday, April 25.
- ◆ Pastor Eric will have a First Communion Class for anyone in 3, 4 or 5 grade. If your child hasn't taken the class and would like to, please contact the church office by April 5. The class will be held on Wednesday, April 12 from 6:00—7:30 PM and then First Communion would be on Maundy Thursday.
- ◆ 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 member's death.



### Themes for Midweek Lenten services - beginning at 6:30 pm

March 29 "We are Catholic"

April 5 "We Are Apostolic"

*Mid week Lenten offerings have been designated for the Lutheran food pantry.*

*Midweek Lenten Dinners will be served starting at 5:30 PM*

Join us in Christ Chapel for a noon midweek service. The service will begin at 12:15 and end by 12:45. The themes will be the same as Wednesday evening, but we will use the Responsive Prayer service.



### Lenten meal menus:

Suggested donation—\$5 adults, \$3 children (under age 10). Dinner proceeds will be given to The Lutheran Center, UNL or the Grace dishwasher fund.

March 29 (served by Church Council): Baked potato bar, tossed salad, dessert

April 5 (served by WELCA Group 2): Tater-tot casserole, salad, dessert



- **It's Annual Spring Yard Clean-up Time Again!** Remember the date of Saturday, April 1st at 8:30am, to do the annual yard clean-up. If there should be inclement weather for that chosen date we'll do the clean-up on the following Saturday, the 8th at 8:30am. Bring your yard tools for raking up leaves and other debris and a garbage container. Everyone is invited to help out and enjoy the outdoors, including all Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Grace Youth and Church Members who would like to help. We really do appreciate your volunteering for this worthy project. Roger Potts, Property Committee Chairman

- **Thrivent Members** – The next meeting will be held on Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. in the Staff Conference Room, so please join us. We would really like to have more of you meet with us and help us with planning and projects and to learn more about Choice Dollars and Action Teams. And – do remember that 2016 Choice Dollars expire on March 31.
- **WOMEN of the ELCA – PLEASE NOTE** – because of Lent our Unit Meeting will be a **BRUNCH** at 9:30 am., hosted by Group 6 on Wednesday, April 5th. The program will be given by Chrissy Gartin on Racial Justice Advocacy. She is the NSWO (Nebraska Synod Women's Organization) Racial Advocacy appointee who attended a TDTR (Today's Dream, Tomorrow's Realty) training in Kansas City in August. The training focused on three areas; How we got here, Where we are, and Having helpful conversations about Race in the Church. These three areas are all shaped by the three C's; Content, Connection, and then Conversation. She looks forward to sharing this information with us. Devotions will be given by Lorraine James. Please join us – all are welcome.
- **Be part of the Passion (Palm) Sunday processional** on Sunday, April 9 by coming to the atrium prior to the worship service. Receive a palm branch, hear the children sing Hosanna, and process with us into the nave, remembering that procession so long ago in Jerusalem! The service begins in the Atrium with a prelude; the children's choir will sing there (you will miss them if you don't come to the atrium); and the Palm Sunday gospel is read there. If the weather is nice, we will process outside the church. If it is inclement, we will process down the hallway
- **Holy Week Morning Prayer** - "*O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise*". So begins the beautiful service of Morning Prayer, which once again will be held during Holy Week, April 10, 11, 12. The short service (20 minutes) begins at 10 a.m. in the Christ Chapel, and is followed by fellowship and refreshments. Martin Luther once described prayer and worship as "holy conversation" - God's speaking the living and saving word and the church replying in song and prayer. The scriptures for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in Holy Week focus on the events of the last week of Jesus' earthly life.
- **If you are 55 years or older**, come join us at Yesterdays Youth , Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 11:30. We meet the second Wednesday of each month in Leshner 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. The meal is potluck, so bring a dish to share and your table service and enjoy the fellowship. Drinks are furnished. The program for April 12th will be a dvd "Herod's Lost Tomb".



# Freed & RENEWED in Christ 500 YEARS OF GOD'S GRACE IN ACTION

## **Lutheran mythbusting or.... Things you thought you knew about Martin Luther**

On the show *Mythbusters*, the hosts unmask assumptions about our world — scenes from movies, familiar sayings or Internet sensations — and rigorously test their plausibility. When it comes to history, however, certain legends and inaccuracies can persist for generations without being challenged or corrected.

In the run-up to commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we will share some “myths” about Martin Luther that deserve busting.

### **Luther got the melody for “A Mighty Fortress” (or other hymns) from a barroom. (Busted)**

Here, perhaps, truth is stranger than fiction. The association with “bars” comes from a mistaken understanding of a term modern hymnologists use to describe the *form* of Luther’s hymnody: “bar form.”

Bar form simply means that the melody would begin with a theme repeated once before introducing a secondary theme and then ending with the last part of the original theme — rather like A-B, A-B, C, B. “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 503-505) is just such a melody.

Now a great many of Luther’s tunes come from medieval modes and chants that he slightly revised to fit the rhymed German hymns he was producing. For example, he reworked an Advent hymn attributed to Ambrose of Milan, “Savior of the Nations, Come” (ELW, 263), setting the German translation to a medieval chant.

But some of Luther’s original hymn tunes *were* criticized for being too upbeat. He was one of the first to employ a major key for some of his hymns, including “A Mighty Fortress.” One scholar notes that Luther’s opponents complained about another such hymn, “Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice” (ELW, 594) for being far too joyous a melody to be sung in church.

Such melodies that Luther, and quickly other Lutheran Christians, used sometimes had their origins in dance melodies and folk tunes — but probably not bars.

*By Timothy J. Wengert*

*Wengert, an ELCA pastor, is professor emeritus of Reformation history at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. Reprint information was granted by Living Lutheran magazine for this article as it first appeared in the (Feb./2015) issue of Living Lutheran.*



**Lutheran Food Pantry needs:** canned fruit, saltine crackers, jelly, rice, instant potatoes, pancake mix, and pancake syrup. Donations can be left in the baskets outside the church office. Monetary donations are also needed to purchase items not donated.



### Lincoln Lutheran Choir concert

April 2, 3 pm

Grace Lutheran

Brett Epperson, the choir's Artistic Director and Conductor, has selected our theme: "Peace, Rest, Renewal". The program takes the shape of a musical prayer seeking lasting peace, quality rest and time for spiritual renewal. The concert will feature the Lincoln Lutheran High School Choir. We look forward to the guest choir enhancing the spirit of our program with their energy and enthusiasm! As always the concert will include congregational singing. Come sing with us!

**Easter Candy:** Parish Education is asking for Easter candy to fill eggs for the Sunday School Easter egg hunt. If you want to donate candy please sign up on the board outside the office and bring it to church by April 9th. Please stay clear of candy that is made or processed with peanuts. If you have any questions about what candy to get please talk to Tyler Johnson, Elizabeth Krueger, or Lindsey Howard.



Art Hillman is celebrating his 90th birthday with a family gathering and open house on April 8th, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM in Leshner Hall. We would also like to invite Art's Grace family to continue the celebration on Sunday, April 9th during the fellowship hour.

Happy Birthday!

Please come join us for birthday cake and to wish him a Happy birthday!

### Don't Forget to Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice program can help support organizations you care about. Don't let designated Choice Dollars expire.

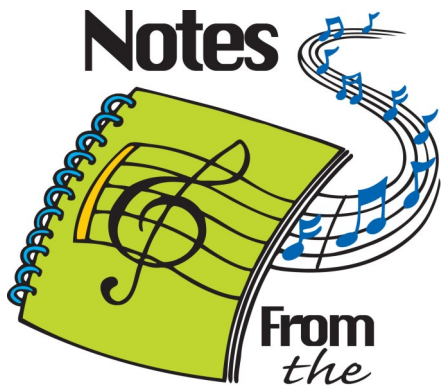
Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until **MARCH 31, 2017** to direct any remaining **2016** Choice Dollars. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more and find program terms and conditions. **OR** call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



**From Ardyth Wolfe:** I would like to thank all those that prayed for my son, Dick, who was going thru very aggressive chemo. The last pet scan he had showed that the cancer is gone

**From Carol Schroeder:** I want to thank all the people who came for cake to acknowledge my 90th birthday. I wish everyone would have this special experience.





## Music Director

### From the Director of Music

One of the things that I learned early on as a musician is that many people have not had the opportunity to learn how to listen to and appreciate music, especially music in the classical or sacred genres. Sometimes people feel intimidated about “serious” music and think that it is beyond their ability to enjoy or appreciate. Sometimes they think it is boring, because they aren’t sure what else to think about it.

When I am teaching kids about a piece of classical or sacred music, I use a really simple system to get them listening and thinking about what they are hearing. It works for adults too, and it might help you! For kids, I divide a sheet of paper into four sections. The sections are labeled instrumentation, dynamics, tempo, mood. These four sections work for all music; and for choral music, we add one more: text.

**Instrumentation:** what instruments are used in this particular piece? Organ, brass, voices, bells, strings, flutes, piano? Here at Grace, the primary instrument for leading worship is the pipe organ. It functions a bit like an orchestra in that it has many different sounds: warm principals, smooth flutes, biting reeds, various solo stops, etc. What sounds are you hearing in any particular piece?

**Dynamics:** Is the music loud or soft? Are there sudden contrasts, or gradual building up or decreasing of volume?

**Tempo:** Fast, slow, medium? The same all the way through, or with contrasting sections?

**Mood:** How does the piece make you feel? Joyful? Contemplative? Comforted? Hopeful?

**Text:** The most important part of sacred music is the text. Sometimes we don’t even need singers to have a text – we might play an organ arrangement of a familiar hymn that causes you to think of the text even though no one is singing it. You can look up the hymn and read the text as the prelude is played, thinking about what it means and how the music makes the meaning more clear. Text is the first thing I consider when selecting music for the choir – if it doesn’t say something true and faithful to what we believe, there is no way we would use it. We put all the texts in the bulletin so that you can think about them during (and even after) you’ve heard a piece in worship. Once you are thinking about the text, you can think about how the music “paints” it, and you can let it sink deep into your heart and mind. The texts of the hymns and anthems are beautiful pieces of Christian poetry and thought that have stood the test of time and are worthy of contemplation.

As we approach Holy Week and Easter, the musicians of Grace are working hard on many pieces of music. We aren’t “performing” these pieces for the congregation, because worship is not a concert. We are instead trying our best to bring pieces of truth and beauty to worship. Martin Luther believed in the power of music to teach and proclaim the faith, and that is what the music ministry at Grace is about. All of Grace’s musicians wish a blessed Holy Week and Easter to each of our members and visitors at worship, and we pray that our musical offerings help you on your faith journey!

**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





· **Christian stewardship is rooted in the nature of God's very self.**

Throughout Scripture, God creates and nourishes life and abundantly provides for God's people time and again, despite difficult, sometimes near-impossible circumstances. In Jesus, God gives the gift of God's very self, embodying radical love, mercy, and hospitality. In the Spirit, we encounter the God who stirs the early church into existence, calling communities together who share all things in common and then sending them out in mission. Abundance, generosity in love, and mission -- grounding principles of Christian stewardship.

· **Generosity begins with hearing the cries of our neighbors, but the act of giving also transforms the giver.**

In order to be faithful stewards of our money, our time, and our vocations, we must listen carefully to the needs and experiences of our neighbors. However, we can also expect to be transformed through acts of generosity and shouldn't be surprised to discover that as people of God, we actually have a need to give. After all, we are made in God's image.

· **Stewardship practices are often learned within the context of one's family.**

Many of today's stewardship leaders remember watching their parents write out checks to the church even when money was tight, delivering meals to sick or elderly neighbors with their siblings, or setting aside 10% of their babysitting money to give to people in need. We learn much from our families of origin, and churches have a profound opportunity to engage entire families in conversations around stewardship.



**Reserve your Easter Lily now for our Easter Garden  
(deadline for ordering, Monday, April 10)**

**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 12.

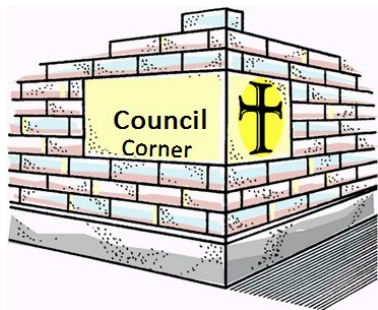
\_\_\_\_\_ I would like the church office to order a lily for me at \$10.00 each. (Payment is enclosed)

Plant (s) given by:

\_\_\_\_\_

<b>April 2</b>	
Assisting Minister	Charlyne Berens
Lector	Denny Berens
Communion Assistants	Denny Berens, Darlene Stutheit, Teresa Serafin, Brady Garvin
Altar Guild	Dustin & Rachel Haider
Greeters	Darlene Stutheit & Joyce Krueger
Acolyte	Elli Petersen
Communion bread	Karen Billings
<b>April 9 – Palm Sunday</b>	
Assisting Minister	Tina Loseke
Lectors	Tina Loseke, Pastor Leshar, Barry Moore, Sophie Schott, Colt Ballou, Chloe Fitzgibbon, Curt Mann
Communion Assistants	Bruce and Cheryl Petersen, Dave Ripa, Kevin Dumler
Altar Guild	Sharon Gottsche, Pat Lickei
Greeters	Bruce & Cheryl Petersen
Acolyte\Procession	Kaitlyn Dumler, Chloe Fitzgibbon, Cameron Krueger, Sophie Schott, Kyle Givens
Communion bread	Helen Carnes
<b>April 23</b>	
Assisting Minister	Estelle Riemann
Lector	Amy Knobbe
Communion Assistants	Lori Drake, Doug & Jeannette Allen, Donna Hansen
Altar Guild	Doug & Sarah Krueger
Greeters	Amy & Matt Knobbe, Nora and Connor
Acolyte	Chloe Fitzgibbon
Communion bread	Pat Lickei
<b>April 30</b>	
Assisting Minister	Roger Potts
Lector	Kyle Givens
Communion Assistants	Ginny Potts, Charlene Johnson, Steve Paschold, Alan Givens
Altar Guild	Ginny Potts, Carla Ingersoll
Greeters	Charlene Johnson; Pat Lickei
Acolyte	Kaiden Noecker
Communion bread	Bev Madison

<b>April 13 – Maundy Thursday</b>	
Assisting Minister	Jacob Krueger
Lector	Kathren Miller
Communion Assistants	Don & Helen Carnes, Judi Schroeder, Ginny Potts
Altar Guild	Dave & Kathren Miller
Greeters	Don & Helen Carnes
Acolyte	Conrad Schroeder
Communion bread	Fran Gade
<b>April 14 – Easter Vigil</b>	
Assisting Minister	Megan Morrow
Lectors	Sara Schott, Pippa Lawson, Roger Potts
Communion Assistant	Dennis Madison
Altar Guild	Robert Stimbert
Communion bread	Sharon Genthe
<b>April 16 – 7:30 AM</b>	
Assisting Minister	Dean Dumler
Lector	Beth Kimmerling Dumler
Communion Assistants	Beth Kimmerling Dumler, Cindy Eberspacher, Joyce Krueger, Kathie Remington
Altar Guild	Kurt & Cindy Eberspacher
Greeters	Beth Kimmerling Dumler
Acolyte\Procession	Kaiden Noecker, Erin & Cameron Krueger, Elizabeth Krueger
Communion bread	Cindy Eberspacher
<b>April 16 – 10:30 AM</b>	
Assisting Minister	
Lector	Steve Rosno
Communion Assistants	Steve Rosno, Janet Jodais, Barb Smith, Jan Branting
Altar Guild	Neil Larson
Greeters	Abbey Filbert & Amy Filbert
Acolyte\Procession	Luke Filbert, Elli Petersen, Conrad Schroeder, Sophie & Jacob Schott
Communion bread	Sharon Gottsche



### From the Council:

Have you seen signs like this showing up around Lincoln? It is one way to communicate that churches and other organizations are open and welcoming to all. That refugees and/or immigrants should feel safe and welcome at this location. Our Grace Lutheran Congregation Council is joining other congregations across the city, state, and country who



are presently developing a position on this very issue. We should be proud that we are already recognized for being a 'welcoming place' as we offer our facility to the Lincoln Literacy program to teach others the English language and for providing a worship location for a group from Guatemala. Please look forward to further information in the near future on how Grace can become even more of a Welcoming Place to All!

A special THANK YOU goes out to the Basler Evangelism Endowment for funding our Holy Week promotional plan. Look for ads in the Lincoln Journal Star, a targeted mailing for the homes in and around our church, and Facebook posts that will help promote what will be happening here at Grace during Holy Week.

**From the Worship & Music Committee:** The committee members and choirs are busy preparing for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. We had a very good Altar Guild meeting on March 5th and are looking forward to adding our new members to the rotation starting this month. We are looking forward to our upcoming choir concert on April 30th as part of our Reformation 500 celebration, as well!

**From the Parish Education Committee:** We will be planning an Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 16th. We would appreciate your monetary gifts or contributions of candy to assist with this project. The committee is looking at dates for Vacation Bible School and new curriculum for the next school year.

**From the Evangelism Committee:** We are looking at ways to promote Grace Lutheran Church throughout the community. A new church brochure is in the early stages of development. We'd appreciate any and all ideas on how to promote GLC in the Lincoln area.

**From the Property Committee:** We have scheduled the annual spring clean up for Saturday, April 1st at 8:30 am (weather date is April 8th). We are working with the company that will help refurbish the stained glass windows and the insurance claim adjuster regarding the hail damage to the roof and other exterior parts of the building. Also, we are working with our service company to figure out why one of our boilers is presently inoperable.

**From the Social Ministry Committee:** The committee has noted an increase in the number of people being served at the *Gathering Place*. Fortunately, due to Grace's generosity, we've been able to meet this increased need. If you have bud vases that you'd like to donate towards our Easter flower delivery project, please drop them off in the church office.

**From the Stewardship Committee:** Progress is being made on the *Time and Talent* surveys for the June mailing. Plans are being firmed up for *Stewardship Sunday* and *God's Work. Our Hands Sunday*. The committee is looking for additional members!

**From the Finance Committee:** Approximately \$650 was donated to World Hunger, the Food Panty, and Food Bank during the month of February. We are currently raising money, via the Noisy Offering, for a bee hive. We are presently \$10,727 short of expenses through the first two months of the year. Please consider an additional gift to help us meet our expenses.

**From the President of the Congregation:** An open invitation to the members of Grace Lutheran Church....please, please, please feel welcome to join us and help revitalize GLC in the Near South Neighborhood. We need your ideas, your talents and gifts, and your participation on our various committees. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the church office and you will be connected to the contact person for the various committees. Thank you! Curt

**Did you know Grace now accepts electronic donations.**

It's true, you now have a new option for giving. It's convenient, there's no cost for you to participate, and you can give securely using your smart phone or home PC. You can make one-time donations or set up weekly or monthly recurring donations.

**Here's how -**

**Use the QR Code & donate using your Smart Phone/Mobile Device :**

Using a QR Code Reader app and pointing it at the QR code (*the funny looking square*) tells your phone, or mobile device, how to directly access our secure Online Giving page.



**Use our Website & donate using your home PC or Smart Phone/Mobile Device:**

You can also access our donation page from [www.egrace.org](http://www.egrace.org). Using your home PC, smart phone or mobile device, go to our website and click the 'Online Giving' link located in the Quick Links section of the homepage. Once you reach the secure donation page, you determine the amount, donation category, method, and frequency.

Feel free to contact Jim Krueger or Matt Knobbe if you have questions about how the process works, or if you need help creating an online donation. Thanks for considering Online Giving.



On March 20, the menu at The Gathering Place included a hearty vegetable beef soup prepared by Regina and Steve Paschold, utilizing beef roasts donated by Kevin, Kaitlyn and Cynthe Dumler. Carla Ingersoll provided the tossed lettuce salad. Rounding out the meal were crackers, applesauce and dessert treats contributed by Joy Kokes, Dennis Madison, Charlene Johnson, and Helen and Don Carnes. Helping to serve and to clean up after 121 portions were distributed were Helen, Don, Joy, Dennis, Regina, Steve, Carla, and Roger and Ginny Potts. Thanks go to Janet Jodais, Marilyn Holmquist, Janice Walker, and Brady Garvin for recent financial contributions to support this important ministry.

**February Council Meeting  
Tuesday, February 13, 2017**

Present: Karen Billings, Kevin Gade, Barb Smith, Wendy Apple, Doug Krueger, Pastor Eric Leshner, Dave Ripa, Curt Mann, Carla Ingersoll

Absent: Teddi Reckling

Curt Mann called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

The meeting opened with prayer.

Approval: The January Council Minutes were approved as written.

**Discussion:**

Spreadsheets for committee participants has been developed.

**Staff Reports:**

**Senior Pastor:** Written report

Latino Ministry has begun. They gave a gift of \$200 in gratitude for allowing them to use Christ's Chapel for their worship service.

**Director of Music:** Written report

**Director of Faith Formation:** written report

Reports approved as printed.

**Treasurer and Financial Secretary Reports:**

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

**Treasurer's Report(including Good Samaritan and Voices of Grace):** Written report

Approved as printed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Parish Education/Youth:** written report

**Evangelism:** Written report.

**Property:** Written report.

**Social Ministry:** Written report

**Stewardship:** No written report.

**Finance:** written report

**Memorials:** No written report

**Worship and Music:** Written report

Committee reports approved as printed.



## New Business:

**Appoint Audit Committee members:** Roger Potts, Trish Rosno, and Neil Larson were nominated. Dave made a motion to approve these volunteers. Seconded by Wendy. Motion carried. Audit needs to be done by April. Jim Krueger will give information to the committee members.

**Designation for Lenten Offerings:** Barb moved that the Lenten Offerings be designated to the Lincoln Lutheran Pantry. Seconded by Dave. Motion carried.

**Council and staff Lenten Dinner:** March 29. Decision made to have a baked potato bar, salad and dessert. The free will offering will be given to the Lutheran Student Center.

**Easter Sunday breakfast:** No group has volunteered. Request to be made via the Greeter and Sunday bulletin to see if anyone would be interested.

**Memorial Wish List:** Get any wishes back to Dave in March.

**Membership Roster Review in 2017:** Needs to be completed in 2017. Evangelism Committee will prepare a potential letter for approval by council.

**Children's Choir Assistant Intern:** Dave made a motion to accept Emily Freeman as an assistant intern and provide a salary of \$100 net pay per month from mid-January through mid-May and develop a job description, as a part of staff. Seconded by Wendy. Motion carried. This would be relooked at in August, whether to continue.

**Next Council Meeting:** March 14

With no more business to discuss, Barb moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Karen. Motion carried. Meeting concluded with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carla Ingersoll, Council Secretary

Forsaken for us
<p>Church reformer Martin Luther considered Jesus' cry from the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46) as "the greatest words in all of Scripture," writes Timothy Keller. In <i>Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering</i> (Penguin Books), Keller notes, "Luther knew personally about what he called <i>Anfechtungen</i>, a word that means the 'assaults' that the world, the flesh and the devil make on human beings through the evils and suffering of life."</p> <p>Jesus suffered <i>Anfechtungen</i> "in infinite degrees, beyond anything any other human being will ever experience," Keller writes. And he did it all for us. As Luther said, "In Christ, the God-forsaken sinner has a Savior who has taken on himself the full depths of human estrangement from God — and overcome it."</p>

# Puzzle!

After completing this Easter crossword, unscramble the circled letters to discover a special word:

1. What Jesus was wrapped in
2. The site of Jesus' crucifixion
3. One of the rulers who questioned Jesus
4. He washed his hands of Jesus
5. Followers of Jesus
6. He denied Christ
7. A large hill
8. The feast celebrating escape from Egypt
9. Jesus' mother
10. A Jewish teacher
11. The doubting disciple
12. Jesus was mistaken for this
13. One of Peter's other names

Jesus was wrapped in  
the rulers who questioned Jesus  
his hands of Jesus  
Christ  
hill  
celebrating escape from Egypt  
mother  
ish teacher  
doubting disciple  
was mistaken for this  
f Peter's other names

Answers: 1. cloth, 2. Golgotha, 3. Herod, 4. Pilate, 5. disciples, 6. Peter, 7. mountain, 8. Passover, 9. Mary, 10. rabbi, 11. Thomas, 12. gardener, 13. Simon; resurrection



## Agnus Dei

This image is known as the Agnus Dei, Latin for “Lamb of God.” When pictured standing and with a banner, it represents the risen Christ, victorious over death. John the Baptist, seeing Jesus approach, famously declared, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29, NIV). In Revelation, too, Jesus is portrayed as a lamb who was slain but now reigns triumphant.



## Ewer and basin

The ewer (a vase-shaped pitcher) and basin, which symbolize cleansing, are related to two biblical events from Holy Week: when Jesus washed his disciples' feet (John 13:1-17), and when Pilate "washed his hands of" Jesus' blood before the crucifixion (Matthew 27:24). Because of the foot-washing, the ewer and basin have become a symbol of service ministry.



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

4  
Stormy Eberspacher  
Rick Williams

5  
Joan Anderson  
Carla Ingersoll

7  
Donna Hansen  
Carmen McKillip

8  
Kelli Stokke

10  
Brittany Billings

11  
Art Hillman

12  
Delmar Miller  
Florence Prusia

14  
Ruth Lantis

16  
Kennedy Abbott

17  
Christane Drake  
Sara Olston

19  
Debbie Basler  
Marilyn Holmquist

21  
Susan Gruttis

22  
Betty Shaw

23  
Lianne Garza

25  
Amanda Genuchi

26  
Julene Leshner

27  
Susan Givens  
Teresa Serafin  
Jeanne Weisbrook  
Becky Williams



**Saturday, April 1**

8:30 am Spring yard clean up  
5:30 pm Worship

**Sunday, April 2**

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship, Sunday School, Adult Choir, A.S.F., Thrivent  
11:30 am Worship , Bells  
3:00 pm Lincoln Lutheran Choir concert  
5:00 pm Latino Worship—Chapel

**Monday, April 3**

9:00 am Lincoln Lit. classes  
7:00 pm Scouts

**Tuesday, April 4**

9:30 am Al-Anon  
4:00 pm Synod Mtg.  
6:00 pm Scouts  
7:00 pm Committee Meetings  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

**Wednesday, April 5**

9:30 am WELCA brunch and meeting  
12:15 pm Midweek Worship –Chapel  
5:30 pm Lent supper  
5:45 pm Youth Choir  
6:30 pm Worship

**Thursday, April 6**

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

**Friday, April 7**

5:30 pm YWCA respite care

**Saturday, April 8**

9:00 am Leshar Hall reserved  
5:30 pm Worship  
6:00 pm Lounge reserved

**Sunday, April 9**

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship, Sunday School, Adult Choir, A.S.F.  
11:30 am Worship, Bells  
5:00 pm Latino worship -Chapel

**Monday, April 10**

9:00 am Lincoln Lit. classes  
10:00 am Holy week morning prayer  
1:00 pm WELCA #2 Mtg.  
7:00 pm Scouts

**Tuesday, April 11**

9:30 am Al-Anon  
10:00 am Holy week morning prayer  
6:00 pm Scouts  
7:00 pm WELCA #6 Mtg., W.R.T. Mtg.  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

**Wednesday, April 12**

10:00 am Holy week morning prayer  
11:30 am Yesterday's Youth  
6:00 pm First Communion class  
6:15 pm Children's Choir

**Thursday, April 13**

**Maundy Thursday**

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

**Friday, April 14**

**Good Friday**

12:15 pm Worship—Chapel  
6:30 pm Worship—Nave

**Saturday, April 15**

**Easter Eve**

12:15 pm Worship—Chapel  
6:30 pm Worship—Nave

**Sunday, April 16**

**Easter**

7:30 or 10:30 am Worship  
Donuts, coffee & juice between services  
5:00 pm Latino worship—Chapel

**Monday, April 17**

**Office Closed**

5:00 Gathering Place  
7:00 pm Scouts

**Tuesday, April 18**

9:30 am Al-Anon  
6:00 pm Scouts  
7:00 pm Council Mtg., Chapel reserved  
8:00 pm AA Mtg.

**Wednesday, April 19**

1:00 pm WELCA #1 Mtg.  
7:00 pm Evening prayer  
7:30 pm Confirmation

**Thursday, April 20**

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

**Friday, April 21**

4:00 pm Suzuki lessons  
5:00 pm Leshar Hall reserved

**Saturday, April 22**

5:30 pm Worship

**Sunday, April 23**

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship, Sunday School, Adult Choir, ASF  
11:30 am Worship , Bells  
2:30 pm Leshar Hall reserved  
5:00 pm Latino worship -Chapel

**Monday, April 24**

9:00 am Lincoln Lit. classes  
6:30 pm Scout Cmte Mtg. Lounge  
7:00 pm Scouts

**Tuesday, April 25**

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

**Wednesday, April 26**

6:15 pm Children's Choir  
7:00 pm Evening prayer  
7:30 pm Confirmation

**Thursday, April 27**

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

**Friday, April 28**

4:00 pm Suzuki music lessons  
5:30 pm YWCA respite care

**Saturday, April 29**

5:30 pm Worship

**Sunday, April 30**

9:00 am Worship \*  
10:30 am Fellowship, Sunday School, Adult Choir, ASF  
11:30 am Worship , Bells  
2:00 pm Grace choir concert—Nave  
5:00 pm Latino worship -Chapel

*\*child care provided*

## Grace Staff and Council Members

**Rev. Eric Lesh,**

*Senior Pastor*

*308-708-1146*

*pr.eric@egrace.org*

**Sara Schott,**

*Director of Parish Music*

*sara@egrace.org*

**Tyler Johnson,**

*Director of Faith Formation*

*tyler@egrace.org*

**Sandi Knippelmeyer,**

*Parish Administrator*

*office@egrace.org*

**Colt Ballou,**

*Assistant Director of Parish Music*

**Emily Freeman,**

*Children's Ministry Intern*

**Robert Stimbart,**

*Custodian*

**Judi Schroeder,**

*Nursery Coordinator*

**Elizabeth Krueger,**

*Nursery attendant*

**Council Assignment to Committees:**

Curt Mann: Council President

Karen Billings: Parish Ed and Youth

Kevin Gade: Finance

Wendy Apple: Worship and Music

Dave Ripa: Stewardship and Memorials

Barb Smith: Social Ministry

Teddi Reckling: Evangelism

Carla Ingersoll: Evangelism

Doug Krueger: Property

Happy  
EASTER!

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office@egrace.org

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