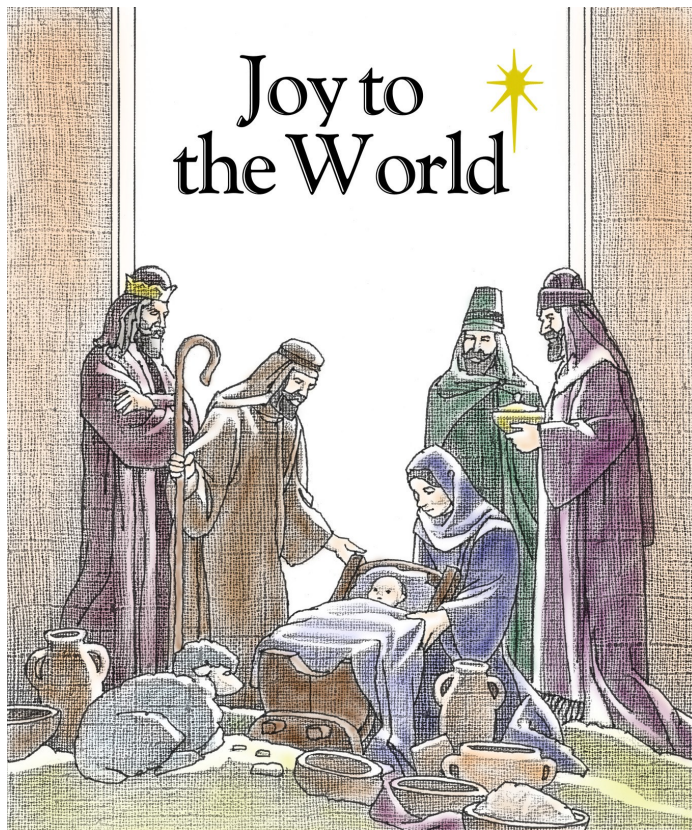




The Grace Greeter

Grace Lutheran Church 2225 Washington Street Lincoln, NE 68502

December 16, 2014



December 24 *Lessons and Carols of Christmas*

5:00 PM

*Hearing the story.
Rejoicing in song.*

The Christmass

11:00 PM

*Worship the Lord in the
beauty of holiness.*

December 25 *The Nativity of our Lord*

10:00 AM

Pastor's Prayers

Dear Friends in Christ,

Well, here we are at the threshold of the New Year! At least the new year in our secular calendar. As Christians, following our liturgical calendar, we started the New Year when Advent began four Sundays prior to Christmas Day.

Well, I'm thinking about calendars because I've been filling out my new one for 2015. In our Christian faith, we learn and re-learn that to live "in" the world but not become too much "of" the world, we should pay attention to things like calendars. We are called to witness, which is living "in" the world. But we do not accept the values "of" the world that lead us away from Christ. So, we live in God's time, centered on love, and we call it by the Greek word *Kairos*. But we also live in the 21st century, following a sequential calendar that helps us do things like make appointments and celebrate birthdays. We call that calendar by the Greek word *Chronos*.

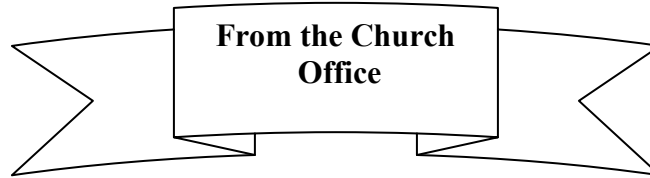
Either way we look at it, a new year is a time of renewal and re-dedication to the meaning and values of our lives. Seeking holy guidance as we make decisions and plans with our calendars and our time. A time to discern God's will and purpose for our lives now. No matter what our age or where we are in life's journey.

Also, at Grace Lutheran Church, we know we are in a time of transition as a community of faith. That transition is both *Kairos*, as in God's time and purpose, and *Chronos*, as in wondering how many months it will take as the Call Committee and Council do their holy work.

So, as we start this new year, here are some things I strongly encourage you to do:

- ◆ Make time for daily prayer. No excuses now - make time for it! You may not believe you have time, and maybe you don't have an hour. That's thinking in worldly ways. But I'm sure you can just find the God-time to say these simple but profound prayers: thanks, help me, help my friend, have mercy, forgive me.
- ◆ Use resources such as written devotion books or online services. You can find these things through our church office, the Lutheran magazine, the ELCA website and lots of other places. A caution - some of the things on the Internet are not solid Christian theology, and some aren't even truthful, so be careful. Come ask me if you are puzzled.
- ◆ Make a habit of thinking about and then saying a prayer to surround your Council, your Call Committee, our staff and seminarians here at Grace Lutheran. We are listing all those names in the back of the bulletin each weekend. If some of these people are unknown to you, please try to pray in this way: "Lord, help this person follow You and fulfill his/her calling to serve you through our congregation."
- ◆ Practice healthy communication with each other, which is also another form of prayer. Remember what Martin Luther taught in the Catechism for the explanation to the Eighth Commandment: speak well of your neighbor; interpret their actions in the best possible light.

Blessings and prayers, Pastor Sylvia



Ill or Hospitalized: Ann Gebhard, Bonnie Drohman, Claire Baumann, Amy Remington (Kathie and Wayne's daughter-in-law).

Funeral: Dr. Eugene Rudd, long-time professor of physics at UNL, died on November 23rd at the age of 87 years. His funeral service was at Grace on November 29th followed by inurnment in the Grace Columbarium. Our sympathy is expressed to his wife Eileen and their children, Eric, Leif and Nancy and their families.

Pastor Sylvia is available by cell phone at 308-995-7161. If you have any pastoral care emergency, please do not hesitate to call her. You may text her also. She also likes to meet people, and enjoys visiting over a cup of coffee!

2015 Grace Greeter Schedule— The Greeter will now be mailed on the 4th Tuesday of the month (January—October) The deadline for the newsletter articles will always be the 20th of the month. The only exceptions will be in November when the deadline will be the 13th with the publication on the 17th and in December the deadline for articles will be the 11th, with publication on the 15th.

The publication schedule is: January 27; February 24; March 24; April 28; May 26; June 23; July 28; August 25; September 22; October 27; November 18; December 16

Please remember to get all 2014 offerings into the US mail, the offering plate or the church office on or before December 31. For offerings to be recorded as 2014 contributions, they must be postmarked by 12\31\14. Anything received after this MUST be considered a 2015 contribution.

To All Committee Chairs and Auxiliaries: Please turn in your report for the annual reporting meeting by Monday, January 12. You can send them via email to glc@inebraska.com. This is the preferred way of turning in your reports! There is a great deal of work that goes into preparing the Annual Report of the Congregation after your report is turned in, so please get your reports into the office on time! Thanks.

Semi Annual Reporting Meeting will be in Leshner Hall on Sunday, January 25 after worship. The 2014 reports will be available for review on Sunday, January 18. The Constitution that was approved at the November semi-annual meeting will be ratified.

2015 offering envelopes are ready to be picked up! They are located in the atrium.

The deadline for the next Greeter will be January 20th. It will be mailed on Tuesday, January 27.

The church picture directory will not arrive until sometime in January.



Mark your calendars....

Lincoln Organ Showcase and Grace Lutheran Church presents Erik Wm. Suter in concert. Sunday, January 18, 2015, 3:00 p.m. Erik, a native of Chicago, served as organist at Washington National Cathedral from 1998 to 2007. Now he is a full time commercial pilot and a highly sought after organ recitalist.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

With Jesus we have peace, we have hope, we are loved—and not just at holiday



I remember this jarring image: It was the Christmas Eve candlelight service at my home congregation. A banner depicting Mary and Jesus in the manger had been hung from the ceiling at the front of the nave completely obscuring the large suspended cross. I had seen that banner on Sunday mornings, but on this Christmas Eve in the semidarkness something else appeared. A spotlight that illumined the cross now shown on the banner with the effect of making the outline of the cross appear as the background of the Christmas scene.

The cross on Christmas? I didn't want the crucified Christ casting a shadow on the Christ child. Christmas is about angels and shepherds and the babe, lying in a manger, not betrayal and death. I didn't like it.

Christmas can be such a fraught season. It is forced to carry so much emotional freight. We must be merry. We must be filled with good cheer. We must be home surrounded by family. We must turn our lives into the happy endings of every TV Christmas special. There is a certain drivenness to get everything done, to get everything perfect by the stroke of midnight on Dec. 24.

Secular culture reflects this. A Christmas Carol and How the Grinch Stole Christmas are stories of redemption. The song "I'll Be Home for Christmas" and the film Home Alone are filled with wistful longing. I remember a M*A*S*H episode where the doctors in the operating room turned the clock back to 11:59 p.m. on the 24th so a young soldier's death wouldn't be recorded on Christmas.

But what are we longing for?

Certainly we want peace in our homes and in the world. We want love and a place to belong. We want life and the end of all the deadly things in the world that bring death and destruction. We want reconciliation. We want rest. We want hope. We want the assurance that all of this means something. We want to know that someone cares. And so we try to accomplish all of those things and squeeze it all into the weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. No wonder we can find ourselves exhausted and empty on Dec. 26. The mall scene the day after Christmas—returning broken toys and ill-fitting or unwanted sweaters, the picked-over look of marked down Christmas decorations and wrapping paper—is the retail version of the reality of a broken world that doesn't know peace or love or hope. Except

The hope of Christmas is fulfilled on Good Friday. The cross is part of Christmas. "Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 296). All of our Christmas glorias are realized in Jesus' glorification on the cross. We have peace. We have hope. We are loved. And not just at Christmas.

The cross is the Christmas gift. Through it God reconciles and heals. Through it God's love is made known and in God's love we are known and have our home. And it is a gift. We don't have to spend our energy and time hoping to attract the gift or the Giver by making everything right by Christmas. If we aren't physically at home, if our lives have not turned into the happy endings of TV Christmas specials, if we are estranged from family, if we are not merry, even if we should die, this gift of life has come to us.

Let's be gentle with ourselves and each other this Advent and Christmas. Let's not fret about imperfect lives and incomplete holiday preparations. We won't ever get it completely right. That's God's work. It is the best gift exchange ever. Martin Luther wrote: "Is not this a beautiful, glorious exchange, by which Christ, who is wholly innocent and holy, not only takes upon himself another's sin, that is, my sin and guilt, but also clothes and adorns me, who am nothing but sin, with his own innocence and purity? And then besides dies the shameful death of the cross for my sake ... that I may live with him eternally" (Luther's Works, Vol. 51).

Good Christian friends, rejoice!



Sunday School Christmas Program
The Hanging of the Greens
December 21st, 10:30 a.m.

Join our Sunday School students this year for a special Christmas program in which they will present the traditions involved in decorating the church for Christmas, as well as actually doing the decorating before your very eyes. The students and congregation will sing Christmas carols and songs, place greens, change paraments, and decorate the Christmas tree. Everyone who attends will be able to help decorate the tree as well. After the program, everyone is invited to Leshar Hall for a chili feed sponsored by the Grace Youth Group.

A Christmas Carol Sing!

Come to worship a few minutes early on December 28 to sing your favorite Christmas hymns! Sara will be at the piano at 8:40 a.m., taking requests for your favorites from the ELW. Join us for the fun start to the First Sunday after Christmas!

A Christmas Gift for Grace – As we come to the end of 2014, it's a great time to count our blessings! It's also a great time to make an extra year-end donation to keep our community strong! If we could finish the year by meeting our current spending plan goal, then our council has a great start to managing expenses going into the new year. Let's remember that God has abundant blessings flowing over us – for the last 125 years – for this transition time – for going into the future! A blue offering envelope is in the pew holder for your extra Advent contribution. Or you may drop it off or send it into the church office. Please be generous.

PASTOR SYLVIA TO BE GONE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION IN JANUARY

Pastor Sylvia plans to attend a class January 12 – 16 called "Essential Skills for Successful Church Leadership." It is held at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, Arizona. Providing time and financial assistance for Continuing Education is a benefit for pastors and part of the guidelines issued by the ELCA. Pastors are both encouraged and expected to attend two weeks of education every year, and we are required to report annually on what we have completed to the Bishop of the Synod. So, her schedule is that she will officiate at the wedding of Mandi Hohenstein and Robert Haumont on January 10, and then she and Lynn will get on the road! We are driving to Arizona, in order to have our car and be able to take a second week of vacation while there. We will spend time with our four-year-old grandson Isaak. And his parents, too, of course. Altogether, Pastor Sylvia will be gone from January 11 through January 23.



THRIVENT FINANCIAL members – our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 4th at 10:30 a.m. Bring your cup of coffee and join us for information and fellowship. All are welcome.



**Epiphany Service of Holy Communion , January 6,
6:30 p.m. Christ Chapel**

Join your church family for the word and sacrament in a beautiful service full of candlelight and wonderful music!

WOMEN of the ELCA – Unit Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 7th at noon with a pot-luck lunch. The program will be a DVD about *Sarah*, portrayed by Anita Gutschick, as she follows Abraham into an unknown land. Bring a covered dish and your own table service. Group members will be called – others may call Tricia Rosno (402-488-6775) for reservations.

If you are 55 years or older, come join us at Yesterday's Youth, Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 11:30. We meet the second Wednesday of each month in Leshar 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. This will be our Soup Luncheon, the soup will be furnished, thanks to the volunteers who are preparing the soup. Bring your own table service and a dish to share. The program will be announced.

THESE ARE TASTY TIMES!!! It's time for another exciting--and scrumptious--year with the Grace Global Dining Group! What cuisines will we enjoy this time? It's up to you, so join us and we'll find out together!! This year's kickoff meeting will be on Saturday, January 24 in Leshar Lounge. The meeting will begin at 6:30, after evening services. Please call Susan & Alan Givens at 402-484-5042 no later than Sunday, January 18 to reserve your place at the dinner table. For the January kickoff meeting, please bring a favorite dish to share; drinks will be provided. See you then!

COME TO A "LISTENING" SESSION

As we continue through our transition time, you are invited to a Listening Session, facilitated by Pastor Sylvia. The objective for these get-togethers is to share our thoughts, feelings, and hopes about our interim time.

The process includes taking a few moments to think about and pray about what is on your heart and mind before we start talking. The process used keeps it from becoming a debate, and everyone's opinion is heard. Each session will last about an hour and a half and the group size will be around ten for each meeting.

There will be several opportunities to participate in one of these sessions. They will be held on different days and at varying times of the day to make it easier for people to attend. All sessions will be held at the church.

Call the church office 402-474-1505 to sign up for one of them. Here is the schedule:

Saturday, January 31, 9 a.m.

Sunday, February 8, 3 p.m.

Wednesday, February 11, 5 p.m.

Friday, February 13, 7 p.m.

Sunday, February 15, 3 p.m.

Sunday, February 22, 11:30 a.m.

If NONE of these dates works for you, please call the church office, we'll try something else!

Please prayerfully consider coming to one of these – it's a way to be listened to and to listen to others.



Thanks to everyone for their generous gifts to Prescott Elementary! All the wish tags are gone and under the tree is full of donations! The Christmas baskets will be delivered this week.



Some Things to Look for in Adult Study Forum in the New Year

January 4th: All Good Things About Tabitha's Offerings to the Community with Francie Cable from Tabitha.

January 11th: "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Hospice Care, but Were Afraid to Ask" with our own Jan Branting, R.N. and Connie Whyrick, R.N.

January 18th: Former Pastor Peter Jacobsen returning as a Q125 guest. All congregational forum.

January 25th: And, of course, the ever-popular Annual Congregational Reporting Meeting.

Moving on to February:

February 1st: Pastor Sylvia and husband Lynn tell us all about it ("it" is whatever they choose to tell us all about!) All-congregational forum.

February 8th: Former intern/pastor Paul Hoffman coming as Q125 guest. All congregational forum.

February 15th: Bishop's assistant and Director of the NE Synod Candidacy Program, Betty Heier, will brief us on all of the ins and outs of the Candidacy Program of the ELCA – that's the program one enters if one wants to enter seminary to be a member of the ordained ministry of the ELCA. This will be a full congregational forum held in Leshner Hall. With three seminarians from Grace now enrolled in our ELCA seminaries, we need to be informed how the process works. (Pr. Megan Morrow, bishop's assistant who offices here at Grace, will be a guest some other Sunday to tell us about the Call Process in which we are engaged.)

. . . and lots more to come throughout the year. Come, visit ASF any time you like; you'll be glad you did!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER

The Chancel of Grace will be decorated in the traditional, festive manner for Christmas services. Your contribution of a poinsettia will make this possible. Please fill out and return to the church office.

____ I wish to order a poinsettia for Christmas, \$10.00 is enclosed
(These plants will be 6 - 9 blooms)

____ I wish to buy a poinsettia and bring it to the church no later than the morning of Friday, December 19. (Wrapped in gold foil -no bow)

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Given by _____

Deadline for order is December 17. Call the church office to place your order.

Living in Grace

Celebrating
125 years

1890 – 2015



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Guest Preacher Series: Celebrating our Congregation's Liturgical Heritage January 2015

The Quasquicentennial Committee cordially invites you to the first installment of the Guest Preacher Series! Pastor Peter Jacobson will be returning to Grace to preach during services on January 17 & 18!

Pastor Jacobson served as Associate Pastor to the Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Hallstrom at Grace Lutheran Church from August 1992 through July 2002. While at Grace, he had general oversight of Social Ministry, Evangelism, Christian Education and Youth ministries, and served on the Building Committee in 1999. For three years while at Grace, he served as Dean of the Clergy of the Lincoln Cluster. Since August, 2002, the Rev.

Jacobson has served as the Pastor of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Wichita, Kansas. He has been a member of the pan-Lutheran ministerium, the Society of the Holy Trinity, since 2001. Pastor Jacobson and his wife Anne were married in August, 1989; Anne is a Licensed Master Social Worker for the Wichita School District. They have four children: daughter Kari (23), son Kristian (21), daughter Petra (19), and son Thomas (14).

Please plan on attending either (or...both!) of these services to hear Pastor Jacobson's message. In addition, please join us for Fellowship Hour following the January 18 service. There will be no Adult Study Forum that Sunday so that the congregation may catch up with Pastor Jacobson and share memories of Grace!



Hot turkey noodle soup was a big hit at The Gathering Place on November 17, as the wind chill hovered close to zero degrees. In spite of the cold weather, 139 portions were distributed, the most for any evening to that point in the month. Once again, many Grace members had a hand, at least indirectly, in this important ministry.

Leftover turkey from Yesterday's Youth supplemented meat from a turkey donated by the Givens family. Thanks to Grace's Women of the ELCA, there was strawberry gelatin salad, along with pumpkin bars, that were contributed after the semi-annual meeting the day before, tossed lettuce salad supplied by Carla Ingersoll, crackers, and desserts from Joy Kokes and Donna Hansen and Phil Sorensen rounded out the meal. Those helping to serve and clean up were Donna, Phil, Carla, Joy, Pastor Bob Rademacher, Tom Range, and Regina and Steve Paschold.

For those who use gluten-free wafers: In our effort to be sensitive to those who use gluten-free wafers, we are asking you to tell the distributor and he/she will have the acolyte bring to the communion railing a container with gluten-free wafers from which you may take your own wafer. In this way, no one handles them, nor do they come in contact with wheat-containing bread. We are also being very careful not to touch those wafers "behind the scenes" when they are being stored and being prepared for worship. Please do not hesitate to ask for the gluten-free wafers if that is your preference.



Empyrean Trail 5K Run

Presented by Empyrean Brewing Company & Lazlo's Brewery and Grill
Carol Joy Holling Camp, Ashland, NE

Saturday, February 7, 2015 • 11 a.m.
Check-in begins at 9 a.m.

Come join the winter fun at Carol Joy Holling Camp. This event is packed with adventurous running, wonderful food and amazing, Empyrean beer! You don't want to miss this one. Plus, the funds raised from this event support the summer camping programs of Carol Joy Holling Camp. No child is ever turned away from camp because they can't afford the fee. In 2014, more than \$80,000 was given in camp sponsorships! This 5K fun run will take you through the trails of Carol Joy Holling Camp. Over the hills, through the woods and maybe even through a couple of frozen creek beds. Of course, depending on how much snow is on the ground and the temperature, it could be snowy, muddy or frozen solid - memories waiting to be made!

Food and beer

After your run, you'll be treated to a sandwich and soup combo and two beers of your choice — including their special Luther Lager, brewed just for this event! Your lunch and two beers are included in the cost of registration. Of course, you can purchase additional food and drinks too. Be sure to carry your ID on you at all times, so you can get your beer. (Sorry - no ID= no beer.)

Run Cost

\$36 before January 1.

\$41 after January 1.

Full fee is due at registration. Sorry - no refunds.

To register: <http://caroljoyholling.org/empyrean-trail-5k-run->

A winning pattern for the New Year

Some anonymous wise person penned the following directions for living without bringing pain to others or oneself:

"You will never be sorry — for thinking before acting, for hearing before judging, for forgiving your enemies, for being candid and frank, for helping a fallen brother, for being honest in business, for thinking before speaking, for being loyal to God and the church, for standing by your principles, for refusing to participate in gossip, for holding your words when tempted to demean another, for not entertaining impure or hateful thoughts, for sympathizing with the afflicted, for being courteous and kind to all."

Grace History – The pastorate of the Reverend Dr. Leland H. Leshar was the longest in the history of Grace. He started January 15, 1939. He knew the congregation well. A lot of us were baptized by him. He knew the congregation well enough he could add his own knowledge of an individual in his message at funerals. When Pastor Leshar wanted something done he knew the people well enough to go straight to those that could get the job done. In 1960 he wanted Art & Bev Hillman to be Junior Luther League sponsors. They would need a babysitter for their three young daughters, but could not afford to hire anyone. Pastor Leshar said he would make sure there was a babysitter for the girls. The Reverend Stanley Rogge was an Associate Pastor at Grace from 1958 – 1961. At the Congregational Meeting in January 1964 Dr. Leshar announced he was ready to retire after 25 years. He would serve until a successor could be found. After that he and Mrs. Leshar would spend more time at their lakeside cabin in Minnesota, doing some fishing. He still spent a lot of time in Lincoln at Grace. As a tribute to Dr. Leshar for his long and faithful service to the congregation he was honored with the title of Pastor Emeritus. In 1969 the new educational wing of Grace was dedicated as Leshar Hall in tribute to the many years he and Mrs. Leshar had given to the church. Pastor Leshar passed away in February 1985 at the age of 89.

The Nebraska Synod is looking for people to serve on the Synod Prayer Team.

The Synod Prayer Team is responsible for providing prayer care for those who identify specific prayer requests to the Synod office and will be asked to serve as a prayer team as needed at Synodwide events.

Members of the Synod Prayer Team are expected to be in e-mail contact as appropriate with those who have requested prayers. Prayer requests are received and responded to on a continual and timely basis, while a list of prayer requests received by the Synod will appear weekly in the Synod's E-News.

Susan Lauman of Omaha has agreed to serve as coordinator for the Synod Prayer Team. To join Susan and others from around the Synod on the prayer team, e-mail office@nebraskasynod.org with your name, congregation and the e-mail address you wish to be contacted at. You will receive more information from the Prayer Team Coordinator about your duties and will be contacted as specific prayer needs arise.



Greeters for coming Sundays:

December 28:	Doug and Sarah Krueger; Don and Helen Carnes
January 4	Michael and Lynette Lewis; Marvin and Melissa Roberts, Sam, Anna, and William
January 11	Joyce Krueger; Steve Stevenson
January 18	Ken Johnson; Chris and Wendy Apple
January 25	Terry and Jill Cosier; Tricia and Steve Rosno

Serving as greeters is an excellent way to get better acquainted with people in the congregation; please contact Jeannette Allen (402-420-9422) if you might be willing to assist in this.



From Lori Drake, Joyce Lunde, Steve Paschold, and Larry and Sue Clymer: The Social Ministry Committee wishes to thank everyone who donated towards our Thanksgiving Basket Project. Your generous donations were able to provide a Thanksgiving meal for 14 families. Without your support, this project (and many more) would not be possible. God Bless.

From the Remington Family: Thank you so much for all your prayers, phone calls and concern for our daughter-in-law Amy. A very special thank you to Pastor Sylvia and Pastor Bob for the phone calls and encouragement. Amy is now at rehab in Bryan West. She has a long way to go but with the help of wonderful people like you our prayers are being answered. You at Grace Church are truly the most amazing loving people I know. Thank you so much and Bless each and every one of you.

From the Grace Lutheran Church Council and the Property Committee: The windows are now completed and we would like to express our sincere appreciation to everyone who donated to the windows project. This includes donations from the Memorial Committee funds and from the Thrivent Group funds for which we are very grateful. These new windows will certainly improve the efficiency of heating and cooling these areas of the facility. Thank you all very much,

From the Property Committee: Our sincere appreciation to an anonymous donor for the purchase and installation of two new high-rise toilets. One has been installed in the restroom across from the kitchen and the other in the ladies restroom across from the office. We are very grateful for this donation. Thank you

From Pastor Megan Morrow: Dear Grace Friends, Thank you for your wonderful hospitality in providing office space for me this year! The congregations and church staffs that I serve across southeastern Nebraska have appreciated having me in close proximity. It is a joy to work in partnership with you and the staff at Grace! Blessings as we prepare to celebrate Emmanuel - God with us, Pastor Megan Morrow, Assistant to the Bishop, Nebraska Synod of the ELCA, (402) 580-7222, megan@nebraskasynod.org, www.nebraskasynod.org.

Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors and let each new year find you a better [person]. —Benjamin Franklin

Remember and never doubt it: With God's help you can do incredible things. Never think down; always think up. —Norman Vincent Peale

Grace Lutheran Church
October Council Meeting
11-11-2014

Present: Steve Paschold, Roger Potts, Connie Whyrick, Margaret Gipson, Jacob Krueger, Terry Branting, Lynn Chamberlin, Dave Ripa, Jeanne Weisbrook, Fran Gade, Doug Allen, Pr. Sylvia Karlsson

Absent & excused: Lois Schuerman

Staff: Sara Schott, Pr Bob Rademacher

Guest: Dan Warren

President Fran Gade called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Doug Allen provided the opening devotions and prayer.

Dan Warren made a presentation to the Council regarding the Faith Chests, which would be a men's ministry project. He asked for permission to go to the Foundation for funding to make the wooden chests.

It was moved (Ripa), seconded (Potts) and carried to have Dan go to the Foundation for the funding to make the wooden chests.

The minutes from the October Council meeting was presented.

It was moved (Potts), seconded (Gipson) and carried that the minutes be approved as amended and filed.

The minutes from the October Special Budget Council meeting was presented.

It was moved (Ripa), seconded (Weisbrook) and carried that the minutes be approved as amended and filed.

Correspondence:

Thank you notes were shared from Church World Service & Lutheran Family Services, The Lutheran Center and the Near South Neighborhood Association-Thank you

Staff Reports:

Interim Pastor: Written report

Visitation Pastor: Written report

Director of Music: Written report. Discussed fund raising for upcoming Q125 events.

It was moved (Ripa), seconded (Allen) and carried that the Worship & Music Committee is authorized to send a letter in December for Q125 fundraising.

Financial Secretary's Report: Written report presented.

Treasurer's Report: Written report presented

It was moved (Potts), seconded (Ripa) and carried that the financial and staff reports be filed for audit.

Committee Reports:

Parish Education: Written report

Evangelism: Written report

The church's website was discussed.

It was moved [Ripa], seconded [Potts] and carried that the Evangelism committee create a sub-committee that will be in charge of the website, including terminating our current contract with Firespring, signing a contract with a new web host, and designing a new website to be up in January 2015.

Property: Written report
Social Ministry: Written report
Stewardship: Did not meet
Youth: Written report
Memorials: Did not meet. Will meet Nov. 17
Worship and Music: Written report
Mutual Ministry: Did not meet
Quasiquicentennial Committee: Written report

It was moved (Whyrick), seconded (Ripa) and carried that all committee reports be filed.

Old Business:

Budget watch 2014: \$18,000 behind. The Christmas gift envelopes will be put into the pews and Pr Sylvia will write an article about using them.

Art Show – Sheila Tinkham:

It was moved (Branting), seconded (Potts) and carried to allow Sheila to display her art at Grace, with stipulations.

Terry will contact Sheila about her art show request.

Lifetouch picture directory Apps: 25 apps of the church directory are available for download.

Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting:

It was moved (Paschold), seconded (Weisbrook) and carried to have a resolution at the semi-annual meeting thanking and acknowledging the men who worked so hard on the Lounge improvements.

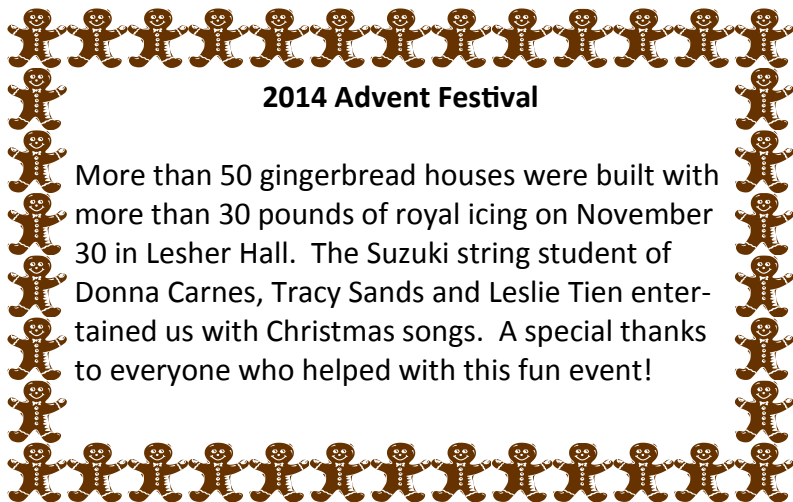
New Business:

Covenant of support : Information was presented regarding our support of our 3 members who are in Seminary.

It was moved (Karlsson), seconded (Weisbrook) and carried that a plan be developed, with Pr Bob Rademacher and the Parish Ed Committee, to support the seminary students.

Fran G. asked if there was any more business to bring before the Church Council. It was moved (Ripa), seconded (Chamberlin) and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 10:15 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandi Knippelmeyer, Recording Secretary



2014 Advent Festival

More than 50 gingerbread houses were built with more than 30 pounds of royal icing on November 30 in Leshar Hall. The Suzuki string student of Donna Carnes, Tracy Sands and Leslie Tien entertained us with Christmas songs. A special thanks to everyone who helped with this fun event!





A blessed Christmas to you all!

Robert

Sandi

Sara

Lincoln

P. Bob

Pastor Sylvia
Beck

Jameson

Jodi



25
Harold & Aldyth Paschold



1
Charles Cartwright
Wayne Remington
Dave Stokke

2
Bev Madison
Dave Ripa

3
Grant Jensen

4
Charlyne Berens
Herb Linville

5
David Cook

6
Mandi Hohenstein

7
Sue Charbonneau
Dean Dumler
Nancy Melichar
Nancy Schilke

8
Rod Basler
William Roberts

10
Gene Garza

11
Jeff Rosno

14
Jessi Anderson
Ruth Meyer

15
Estelle Riemann
Elysabeth Wells

16
Luke Filbert

17
William Anderson

18
Judy Holtgrewe
Carolyn Ossian

19
Troy Guern
Michelle Jensen
Louise Tollefson

20
Rhonda Ihrle

22
Bill Hokanson
Yvonne Nielsen
Eliza Williams

24
Abbie Andersen
Steve Paschold

25
Drew Ostermeyer
Kyle Thorson

28
Adam Fitzgibbon
Steve Warrick

29
Deloras Ferguson
Chad Hohenstein
Leslie Horwart

30
Nancy Andersen
Michelle Etmund
Cy Miller
Blake Rathjen

31
Logan Linville



Thursday, January 1
Office closed

Saturday, January 3
5:30 pm Worship

Sunday, January 4
9:00 am Worship *
10:30 am A.S.F., Choir, Sunday School,
Thrivent
1:30 pm Conf. Rm reserved

Monday, January 5
9:00 am WELCA Executive Brd. Mtg.
7:00 pm Committee Mtg., Scouts

Tuesday, January 6
9:30 am Al-Anon
6:00 pm Scouts
6:30 pm Epiphany Worship Service
Parish Ed. Cmte
7:00 pm Committee Mtgs.
8:00 pm AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 7
12:00 pm WELCA lunch & mtg.
7:00 pm Comm. Mental Health Mtg.

Thursday, January 8
6:30 am Men's Bible Study
9:00 pm Quilting\Sewing
9:00 am Lincoln Literacy
7:00 pm Bells, N. A. Mtg., At Ease,

Friday, January 9
4:00 pm Suzuki music lessons

Saturday, January 10
10:00 am Leshar hall reserved
4:00 pm Mandy Hohenstein\Robert
Haumont
5:30 pm Worship

Sunday, January 11
9:00 am Worship *
10:30 am A.S.F., Choir, Sunday School,
Thrivent

Monday, January 12
1:00 pm WELCA #2 Mtg.
7:00 pm Scouts

Tuesday, January 13
9:30 am Al-Anon
6:00 pm Scouts
7:00 pm Council, W.R.T. Mtg.
7:30 pm WELCA #6
8:00 pm AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 14
11:30 am Yesterday's Youth
7:00 pm Comm. Mental Health Mtg.

Thursday, January 15
6:30 am Men's Bible Study
9:00 am Quilting\Sewing
9:00 am Lincoln Literacy
7:00 pm Bells, N. A. Mtg.

Friday, January 16
5:00 pm Leshar Hall reserved

Saturday, January 17
8:00 am Lincoln Music Teacher Associ-
ation all day function
5:30 pm Worship

Sunday, January 18
9:00 am Worship *
10:30 am Sunday School, A.S.F., Choir
3:00 pm Eric Wm. Sutter Recital

Monday, January 19
11:30 am Lounge reserved
5:00 pm Gathering Place
7:00 pm Scouts

Tuesday, January 20
Greeter deadline
9:30 am Al-Anon
6:00 pm Scouts
8:00 pm AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 17
1:00 pm WELCA #1 Mtg.
6:00 pm Cherub choir
6:20 pm Children's Choir

7:00 pm Comm. Mental Health Mtg.
7:00 pm Bell Choir

Thursday, January 22
6:30 am Men's Bible Study
9:00 am Quilting, Lincoln Lit.
7:00 pm Bells, N. A. Mtg

Friday, January 23
5:00 pm Leshar Hall reserved

Saturday, January 24
9:00 am Pinewood Derby
5:30 pm Worship
6:30 pm Global Dining Mtg. -Lounge

Sunday, January 25
Semi-Annual Meeting
9:00 am Worship *
10:30 am Semi Annual meeting,
Sunday School

Monday, January 26
7:00 pm Scouts

Tuesday, January 27
Greeter
9:30 am Al-Anon
8:00 pm AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 28
6:00 pm Cherub choir
6:20 pm Children's Choir
7:00 pm Comm. Mental Health Mtg.
7:00 pm Bell Choir

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

Saturday, January 31
9:00 am Listening session with Pastor
Sylvia
5:00 pm Lincoln Opera Project -Leshar
hall
5:30 pm Worship

Grace Staff and Council Members

Rev. Sylvia High Karlsson,

Interim Senior Pastor

308-995-7161

revkarlsson@aol.com

Rev. Dr. Robert Rademacher,

Visitation Pastor

402-430-6661 (cell)

rdrademacher@hotmail.com

Sara Schott,

Director of Parish Music

sschott@neb.rr.com

Jameson Leftridge,

Assistant Organist

Sandi Knippelmeyer,

Parish Administrator

glc@inebraska.com

Beth Kimmerling Dumler,

Staff Assistant

bethatgrace@yahoo.com

Robert Stimbert,

Custodian

Judi Schroeder,

Nursery Coordinator

Elizabeth Krueger,

Nursery attendant

Doug Allen

420-9422

Dennis Berens

480-0828

Terry Branting

435-0401

Lynn Chamberlin

489-6575

Margaret Gipson

207-610-4037

Jacob Krueger

780-6708

Teddi Reckling

435-5873

Dave Ripa

489-7487

Steve Rosno

540-0702

Barb Smith

429-8139

Jeanne Weisbrook

477-8443

Connie Whyrick

904-2919

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Website: www.egrace.org

Welcome!
2015!

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402-474-1505
glc@inebraska.com

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