



May  
2022

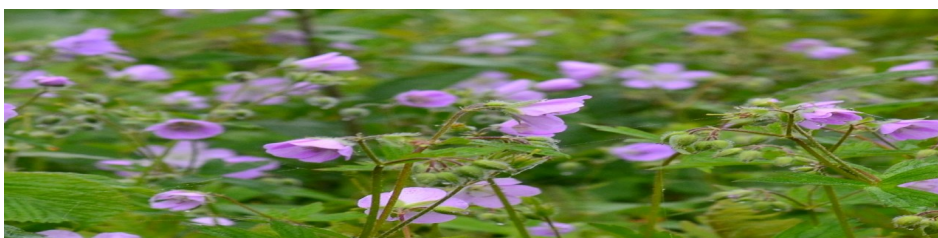
# GRACE MESSENGER

Grace Lutheran Church, an ELCA Congregation  
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Keith Voigts - Church Council President  
Sunday School - 9:00 am Adults & Youth  
Worship & Communion 10:00 a.m.  
Office Hours: Pastor Dave 9-12 Tues. - Friday  
Staff, Tues. All day - Wednesday 8-12,  
Thursday 12-4 & Friday 8-12  
Please call to make sure someone is in the office.

## Pastor's Column



There's an old saying regarding the relationship of weather and flora in the Spring: "April showers bring May flowers." We had the April showers; now here come the May flowers! This is the month when God shows off some extraordinary gardening skills! Our senses of sight, sound, and smell are blessed by the beauty of flowers and greenery, the melodious sounds of birds singing, and the fragrant smell of blossoms filling the air with God's natural perfume! What wonderful gifts of God for the people of God! It seems to me this is one of God's ways of telling us we are loved.

God has many other ways of showing us Divine and Unconditional love. Some are a bit more subtle than the sights, smells, and sounds of Spring. Some could be in the form of a simple note or card letting us know that someone is thinking of us and perhaps even praying for us. As we open the card or note, it seems we can almost feel the gentle breathe of the Holy Spirit escaping from the envelope! I received such a card a few days ago, and it warmed my heart and lifted my spirit. Someone felt a nudge from the Spirit and responded. It's truly amazing how big a small thing can be!

I firmly believe that God's love is manifested through the response of God's people to the "nudge" of the Spirit. And as Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." (*NIV 1 Cor. 1:4 – 8a*).

In a world where acts of hatred, tyranny, terrorism, and war seem to dominate the headlines, I propose we herald some Good News: **"Christ is Risen! Alleluia!"** This is not just Easter News, it's the Daily News!

Thanks be to God! Amen!

In Christ,

Pastor Dave



## Readings for May

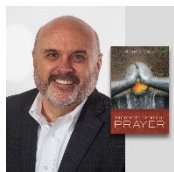
Date	Sundays	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Psalm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gospel
1	3rd of Easter	Acts 2:1-20	30	Revelation 5: 11-14	John 21:1-19
8	4th of Easter	Acts 9:36-43	23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
15	5th of Easter	Acts 11:1-18	148	Revelation 21:1-6	John 13:31-35
22	6th of Easter	Acts 10:9-15	67	Revelation 21:10,22-22:5	John 14:23-29
29	7th of Easter	Acts 16:16-34	97	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	John 17:20-26

### *Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers for....*

Kevin Baker, Gracie Blair, Jennifer Bonstaff, Jim Bryant, John Bull, Family of Charles Busby, Don Bridges, Jan Bruner, Lonnie Calvin, Margaret Cannon, Sharon Cates, Charissa, Cynthia Chadwyck, Meredith Clark, Vivian & Mike Collins, Alice Crandall, Cole Crane, Bill Creasy, Susan Cross, Stan Cross, Robert Crowley, Richard Cuevas, Alvin Culberson, Gina Dale, Timothy Davis, Toni Davis, Christie Deshotel, Itty Dodson, Amberly Favre, Azalee Fullmer, Emily Galloway, Madelyn Gordon, Vickey Gordon, Joe & Jonathan Gray, John Guthans, Brandy Haydin, Devon/Emily Head, Steve Hiles, Brenda Hiles, Sherry Holbrook, Pat Holliday, Ann Holliday, Peggy Jefcoat, Mike Johnson, Carmela Jones, Sarah Koehn, Cheryl Lacey, Rachel Lacey, Breanna Ladner, Carrie Ladner, Patti Lastorka, Danny Leggett Patricia Lindsey, Lois Long, George Lorricks, Jr., Betty Marshall, Gloria Mays, Glen McElwee, Nancy Mills, Cindy Mitchell, Val Mueller, Johnney Odom, Mike/Kathy Pearson, Patience Poupart, Pat Pruitt, Lucy Puckett, Christopher Ryan, Karen/Bud Samuelson, Kim Schultz, Kay Shushan, Corky Sidell, Ryder Simoneaux, Rachel Singleton, Ruth Spera, Mike Spurlock, Larry Strohsack, Boyd & Rita Swenson, Fred Tagge, John Thompson, Maggie Tirrell, Jeff Turner, Fred Turrentine, Juanita Vann, Brantley West, Janyce Westerman, Dolly Williams, Larry Wilson, Hope Wood

**Prayers of thanksgiving for assistance provided for others:** Richard and Linda Mueller and Pat Holiday to Emily Galloway

**Deployed & Active Military ~ Victims of Domestic Abuse ~ All who have been furloughed. ~ All Medical Personnel and First Responders.**



### ***A Message from the President***

Ok, so this is a shameless plug. I'll admit it. Many of you know my son, Mike, who has been here many times and has conducted a few summertime revivals for us here at the church. Mike has just released his new book, *The Fourth Degree of Prayer*, and for me it really has provided new concepts about living a life that Christ has shown us by His example. This is not a thriller fiction book or a deep dive into a biography, both of which I enjoy. But it does get the mental senses flowing and describes a devoted lifestyle in which prayer is a central element. Of course, I am biased, but it really spoke to me and affected my heart and soul. Reading the book let me know just how far I am from a perfect life, but then I realize that God's grace takes care of all that as I strive to bring myself back to the really important element of existing in God's world. Sometimes it's good to see this world from a different view. I am sure that when you get to the fourth degree, your attitude toward life and prayer will be changed! It's on Amazon, etc. in case you are up to the challenge.

*Keith*

### ***Mutual Ministry ~ Art Speck***



Grace Lutheran, Don't forget about your Mutual Ministry Committee we are here for YOU Comments/Suggestions/Complaints/Compliments come see or talk to one of us: Pastor Dave, Art Speck, Don West, Dolores Dupont, Danny Sween, Roy Puckett, and Barbara Gaines.

# Thank You for serving in May!

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Christians welcoming and serving

The marks of discipleship are to:

- \*Pray daily \*Worship weekly
- \*Serve your church & community
- \*Relate to others in a small group
- \*Read the Bible
- \*Give a tithe and beyond

## READERS

- 1 Jamie Ruoss
- 8 Rilyn Speck
- 15 Barb Gaines
- 22 Art Speck
- 29 TBD

## ASSISTING MINISTER

- 1 Duane Wilson
- 8 Ron Schmidting
- 15 Judy Hierstein
- 22 Kevin Schultz
- 29 Keith Voigts

## COMMUNION ASST.

- 1 Babs
- 8 TBD
- 15 TBD
- 22 TBD
- 29 TBD

## ACOLYTES

Please Volunteer

## USHERS

- 1 Don/Diane Cross
- 8 Sweets
- 15 Raif/Puckett
- 22 Raif/Puckett
- 29 Puckett/Youth

## TELLERS

- 1 Jarrell/Saglibene
- 8 Schultz/Seslar
- 15 Puckett/Gaines
- 22 Voigts/D. West
- 29 D. Wilson
- 30 D. Dupont

## ALTAR CARE

Jeanne Sween

## FLOWERS

- 1 GLC
- 8 Christy Authement
- 15 GLC
- 22 Jarrells
- 29 GLC

## FELLOWSHIP

- 1 Birthday Celebration
- 8 Mother's Day
- 15 Maria V. & Crew
- 22 Authements
- 29 TBD



## Birthdays in May

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 3 Michael Carrubba  | 15 Richard Mueller      |
| Ja'Kye Smith        | 21 Doreen Spine         |
| 4 Lisa Peneguy      | 24 Dolores Dupont       |
| 7 Jerry Luzadder    | 29 Carol Loew           |
| Ryder Simoneaux     | Klarye Eckoff           |
| 8 BrynnLee Haydin   | 31 Duane & Cathy Wilson |
| 9 Brian Prendergast |                         |
| 11 Bella Conley     |                         |

## Anniversaries in May

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3 Linda & Richard Mueller | 22 Chris & Pat Jarrell   |
| 4 Wendy & Rick Allard     | 24 Diane & Don Cross     |
| 9 Jamie & Jonathan Ruoss  | 27 Kitty & George Huddle |
| 16 Cathy & Duane Wilson   |                          |
| Sheila & Travis Ladner    |                          |



## Fellowship Ministry—Chris Jarrell

April was a very busy month for Fellowship

It started with Birthday Sunday. Thank You Jeanne and Doris for serving the cake and other refreshments every month.

The Wednesday night suppers during Lent were well attended and there were some delicious soups!

Easter Sunday began with a wonderful breakfast buffet! Thank You to all who brought a dish, helped with cleanup and, of course, all who were there to share the meal. A special Thank You to Babs for designing the beautiful floral cross on Easter morning.

At the end of the Month we had a dinner for new and new(ish) members. Thank You, Cathy, for cooking the spaghetti!

Mother's Day is Sunday and the guys are taking care of refreshments.

Reminder: There is a sign-up sheet for providing refreshments following worship. Thank You for signing up!

## Sunday School

The last day of Sunday School for the 2021-2022 school year will be May 22nd. This year has had a consistent attendance by Raymond and Rilyn and friends that have been able to attend on Sundays. We look forward to the summer as we plan Vacation Bible School activities. Dates to be announced soon.

Lisa Speck



# Worship Committee - Candis Raif

Thanks to Babs for decorating our floral cross and to everyone who donated flowers and/or purchased Easter lilies! The cross and sanctuary were beautiful!

**Please check the sign-up sheets in the Narthex!** We need Readers, Communion Assistants, Acolytes, Greeters, Altar Care Volunteers, Tellers, and volunteers for Children's Sermons. Thanks to all who serve! **If you are interested in serving in one of these areas but are unsure what your duties would be, see me for more information!**

If you have signed up to assist in worship and are unable to serve, please find a replacement and notify me, Pastor Dave, or Julie as soon as possible by phone or email. Thank you to those who serve, all are welcome and appreciated! **Remember to arrive at least 15 minutes before the service begins if you are serving! Arriving late may mean someone else has been asked to serve in your place!**

## May Service / Liturgy Schedule

### May 1, 2022 – Third Sunday of Easter (White)

**Gospel: John 21:1-19...** The risen Christ appears again to the disciples by the sea (where the first calls occurred). Jesus gives a reminder about the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 2:1-20 Psalm 30 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Revelation 5: 11-14

### May 8, 2022 - Fourth Sunday of Easter (White) Often referred to as 'Good Shepherd' Sunday

**Gospel: John 10:22-30** ... When questioned about his identity, Jesus responds by stating that He and the Father are one, and those who understand this are his sheep who know and hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched out of his hand.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 9:36-43 Psalm 23 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

### May 15, 2022 – Fifth Sunday of Easter (White)

**Gospel: John 13:31-35** ... after washing the disciples' feet, predicting the betrayal, and revealing the betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. The deep love – even to death – makes this love the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

### May 22, 2022 – Sixth Sunday of Easter (White)

**Gospel: John 14:23-29** ... As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all he had taught. And those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 10:9-15 Psalm 67 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Revelation 21:10, 22:1-5

### May 29, 2022 - Seventh Sunday of Easter (White) [This last Sunday of Easter, follows the Ascension 5/26]

**Gospel: John 17:20-26** ... Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by a unity of identity with God. That means they (we) share in God's mission to proclaim the word that will bring others into the same unity.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

## Mid-week Worship Schedule May 4, 11, 18

Shared Meal at 6 pm Midweek Worship, with communion ... in person & on Zoom at 7 pm.