Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church

GRACE NOTES

Dear Friends,

"You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house." 1 Peter 2:5

Thank you for your generous support of Grace's ministry. Thank you, for the moments captured in photos and the sacred moments seen by only those present. God's presence, God's ongoing story of love, grace, and forgiveness, is realized through us. Manifested in our ministry.

As I prepared short videos for stewardship, I saw photos and videos that captured moments in Grace's ministry. Smiling faces, hardworking dedicated people, children having fun while learning about God, and meaningful worship. There was the joy of Holy Humor Sunday as the choir sang in their costumes when we all did the chicken dance together. Quilters, volunteers giving blood, the boxes of food or menstrual products donated, told of our passion to care for those in our community and beyond.

These are only a few moments captured on film. It doesn't show the ways in which we visit our members who can't join us on Sundays or how we support one another through challenges. Absent are the times we have prayed for one another, grieved together, studied scripture, or found the words of Sunday sustaining us on Wednesday. Unseen are the ways we make an impact on the lives of those we meet and serve.

At Grace Lutheran Church, we receive and participate in God's unending story of grace and love. We become like living stones as described in 1 Peter. We, as individuals and together, become a spiritual house, welcoming visitors and regulars alike into the joy of worship and discipleship. We tell God's story and witness to God's activity in our lives! The Spirit sustains our ministry and leads us to unique ways to serve God by serving our neighbors.

Since Covid we have met the challenges before us and risen to the opportunities provided to us. We have witnessed our vibrant ministry grow. With God's guidance and your help, we will build on the momentum and continue to discover where God will lead us next. But, in this moment, Grace stands at a pivotal point of discernment and transition. Our mortgage will soon be paid off and our our budget which has been supplemented by a Commitment to Mission fund will end.

Together, we can pay off our mort-



gage by the end of the year and direct our resources to sustain and grow Grace's ministry moving forward. To continue meeting the needs of those we serve and to further explore ministry opportunities through 2025, we seek an additional \$961 per week. To help us move forward, a few generous donors will donate \$24,000 to pay off the mortgage, when 45 people increase their giving to the **General Fund on their Statement** of Intent! You can help us pay off the mortgage and continue Grace's powerful ministry into next year.

I invite you to mail in, pledge online, or bring your Statement of Intent to worship on November 10, as we celebrate God's work within our community and the commitment, we have made to Grace's ministry. We will even have cake to share as part of the celebration.

Thank you again for your generosity and the ways in which you make Grace's ministry possible. Together we are and will continue to be God's living stones. Telling of God's story and God's activity within our lives.

God's Peace, Pastor Stephanie

STORIES OF LIFE & FAITH



STORIES OF LIFE AND FAITH

We often sit next to people on Sundays and some we know well, some we have barely spoken to. Have you ever wondered, what is their story? Beginning in November, Connie Lannan will be writing a special article that will be included in our newsletters this program year. She will interview members of the congregation and learn a bit about who they are and how God is active in their lives. If you know someone who should be interviewed or you would like to tell your story, contact Connie or the Office.

Dr. Ruth McAndrews, Optometrist

For Dr. Ruth McAndrews, it's as simple as seeing an issue and taking action

When you hear the name Dr. Ruth McAndrews, so many images might come to mind — the calm and reassuring doctor of optometry, the world traveler and the ultimate volunteer both at Grace and beyond. Those examples just scratch the surface, but what they all demonstrate is how she embodies and walks her faith.

For McAndrews, it's as simple as "seeing what needs to be done, knowing I am capable of doing it and then being willing to do it. It is not really something I think about. I just do it. It is what I am called to do," she says.

Service has been the underlying theme of her life. That is why she became a doctor of optometry, why she joined the Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH) organization while still a student, has headed up many of its clinics, served as its international president and is still involved in several committees and efforts. It is why she was instrumental in getting a grant to establish a school of optometry in Nicaragua and joined a group of Grace members a number of years ago to travel to Guatemala.

At Grace, she has served on the Council, including as president, has sat on the finance, personnel and social ministry committees, currently serves with the Spiritual Growth Mission, is actively involved in the Centering Prayer group and all aspects of worship, from being assistant minister to usher and teller. Again, these are just the highlights.

Many paths have allowed McAndrews to pursue her other passion — travel. She'll never forget the time she was in Mexico seeing the monarch butterflies. "There was no sound except the wings of the butterflies. God was in that place. That was such a special opportunity," she says.

Even though taking those paths sometimes "made no sense at the

time, they make sense now. Looking back, I can see where it was leading," she says.

Now she is being called in a totally different direction: learning about prairie planning and woodland management. "I have property in southern lowa that has a prairie and I plan to raise switchgrass for biofuel. It's a weird circle that I wouldn't have planned," she says.

Even so, she is grateful. "God has blessed me with a marvelous career, a very supportive husband and the opportunity to meet so many wonderful, amazing people," she says.



LEARN & GROW

Grief Support

Next Meetings: Nov 6 & 20

The Grief Support Group meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month 5:30pm in Pat Bell Hall. Please join us! Anyone is welcome at anytime, and please be assured our conversations are kept in confidence. Questions? Cindy Lee 563-370-5386.

Centering Prayer

Mondays 4:30pm via Zoom (excluding holidays)

In the Christian tradition, Contemplative Prayer is considered to be the pure gift of God. It is the opening of mind and heart--our whole being to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words, and emotions. With grace we open our aware-ness to God whom we know by faith is within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than choosing; closer than consciousness itself.

Centering Prayer is a method designed to facilitate the development of Contemplative Prayer by preparing our faculties to receive this gift.

Cheryl Kritsch is the facilitator. Periodically the group will meet in person in the Grace Church Choir Room providing the ZOOM option, as well. Please contact Cheryl 563-343-0135 with any questions and to verify the location (zoom or in person).

Click <u>HERE</u> to enter Zoom for Centering Prayer. **Meeting ID:** 392 407 7028 **Passcode:** 2020

Bible Study: THE STORY

Mornings – Weekly on Wednesday, 11am in Pat Bell Hall **Evenings** – Monthly on the first Thursday, 7pm



THE STORY Bible Study continues, and anyone who is interested is welcome to join us at anytime during the series. **THE STORY** helps people understand God's Word and powerfully engages with Bible reading like never before. Pr. Stephanie can answer any questions.

Women ELCA

Here at Grace we have three women's circles open to anyone who is interested. As you read about them below, please consider which one works best for you and feel free to contact the person listed. They'll be happy to answer any questions!

Deborah Circle meets the third Monday of the month at 6:30pm in members' homes for Bible study from the Gather Magazine. Contact Claire Johansen <u>claire.d.johansen@gmail.com</u> or 563-271-1311

Naomi Circle meets the third Tuesday each month, September through May, at 9:00am at church for Bible study. Contact Marilyn Schreiber 563-340-0350 or **marilyn.schreiber@icloud.com**

Service Day Quilters meet the second Tuesday & second Wednesday 9:00am-Noon each month. The quilts made are donated to the community and LWR. In recent years we have made LWR school bags.

Contact Gloria Lange **langejg1@msn.com** or 563-271-1542 or Kathy Miller 563-676-0914 or **kathyk1679@aol.com**



We have a new outdoor sign at Grace! Be sure to take a look at the corner of Bridge & High St. At night it's lit from the back, so it's easily readable day or night.

It includes worship times, important contact information, and a QR code for our website (for those that may be walking

by). A special thank you goes to Marty Sagers and Dan & Kristi DeMarr for installing the sign.

GATHER





Sunday, November 24 5:30pm @ St. Mark

(2363 W 3rd St, Davenport)

Let us join to GIVE THANKS TO GOD with our brothers and sisters at St. Mark for a joint Thanksgiving worship service. The service will take the form of lessons/readings, a message, and music/hymns giving thanks to God for the abundance of what God has provided for us and for us to share with others. There will be a joint choir, and music will be provided to both choirs and any additional individuals who would like to sing in advance.

A fellowship time with light refreshments will follow the service in the lounge. All are welcome.

Worship Volunteers Needed

Would you like to help with worship? We have a variety of duties that support worship here at Grace, some very easy, some with a bit more responsibility, all important to the worship experience – let the office know if you have any questions or if you'd like to be added to the list for any of the following positions:

- **Acolyte** Light candles before service, extinguish candles after worship (8:30am)
- **Crucifer** Carry in the Cross during the procession, carry out after worship (8:30am)
- **Ushers** Hand out bulletins, count attendance, be available for anyone needing assistance during the service, excuse pews for communion (both services), pass offering plates (8:30 only)
- Greeters Greet worshipers as they arrive (both services)
- **Assisting Ministers** Assist the pastor with portions of the service. Your reading parts are sent to you ahead of time, and copies with your parts highlighted in yellow are available Sunday mornings. (both services)
- Communion Assistant serve wine or collect cups (both services)
- Communion Bread make communion bread, recipe provided
- **Sound System** Run the sound system and monitor it during worship (both services)
- **Make Coffee** keep the coffee flowing on Sunday mornings between services
- Bring Treats or Healthy Snacks supply our coffee hour snacks between services



Altar Guild Opportunities

A very important part of our worship experience relies on members to prepare communion, set the altar table, and manage worship supplies like candles and wine. Please consider signing up to help with altar guild in 2025 - you can serve for two weeks or one month at a time. A sign-up sheet is on a clipboard in the narthex. This is a wonderful way to support worship here at Grace and is a great "behind-the-scenes" job if you prefer not to be in the spotlight. Questions? Contact Mike Keller at 563-340-8990.

GATHER & SERVE

Men's Lunch & Conversation

Men's "Lunch & Conversation" meets every Wednesday at Noon, and now that the weather has turned colder, we meet in the narthex at church. You can bring a lunch from home or pick something up from a local restaurant. Contact Dennis Boehme at

boehmed@aol.com or 563-320-2661 to be added to the email list.

UTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Once again Grace has embraced Lutheran World Relief projects!

Thank you to members of Grace Lutheran Church for participating in the annual WELCA Lutheran World Relief projects. We were happy to send 90 quilts, 102 school kits, 9 personal care kits, and 2 fabric kits this year. There are so many people to thank. Some have worked many hours constructing quilts and school bags, while others shopped for school supplies, personal care items, sewing materials, and helped pack these items

for shipment. A special thanks to Rod and Colleen Levsen for donating the use of their trailer and transporting the boxes to the Ingathering in Cedar Rapids on

October 12. From there a semi takes these items, along with others gathered from our area of lowa, to the Minneapolis LWR warehouse. WELCA also donated \$575 to the flood victims in Ashville NC. The generous response from members of Graces to these projects is welcomed and appreciated.

Food Pantry Weekend

Food Pantry Collection is Sunday, November 3 Bring your non-perishable food donations in a bag, and leave at the altar before the service. Ethnic Cooking Supplies: Go to <u>imu.uiowa.edu/food/food-</u> <u>pantry/donate/multicultural-food-item-donations-requested</u> for a detailed list of commonly requested multicultural food items.



The Mystery Guest by Nita Prose

When an acclaimed author dies at the Regency Grand Hotel, it's up to a fastidious maid to uncover the truth, no matter how dirty—in a standalone novel featuring Molly Gray, from the #1 New York Times bestselling author of The Maid, a Good Morning America Book Club Pick. **Host:** Luanne Taylor 563–370–1747 **Location:** TBD



CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY

Join us for Junior Bible Studies!

Both the 8:30am and 10:30am Worship services We meet after the children's message at both Sunday services.

This year in JBS, we are reading through

THE STORY for Kids and The STORY for Little Ones. Each week we will hear familiar Bible stories and enjoy the beautiful illustrations. The Story offers us a fresh perspective and an opportunity to engage Bible stories in a



new way. UPCOMING CLASS THEMES: **November 3** All Saints; **November 10** A Few Good Men and Women; **November 17** The Faith of a Foreign Woman; **November 24** Message from God

School Partnership

Thank you for the incredible amount of support Grace has shown our neighborhood schools! We've donated multiple bags of clothing, shoes, and hygiene items. This month we are focusing on

Thanksgiving boxes. Last year, we put God's Grace in action by sharing five overflowing Thanksgiving boxes with Garfield Elementary School. God's generosity poured over! We had so much fun with this food drive last year, we are going to share Thanksgiving boxes once again.

This year, Garfield Elementary has asked us to provide seven Thanksgiving boxes to families. These families do not have transportation and cannot pick up a food box at a public site. We have compiled a few lists of ingredients we are asking to be included in each of the boxes. If you prefer, you may donate funds to be used for these ingredients. Please let Pastor Kirsten if you're interested in purchasing items for a box. This could be a meaningful way to share God's Grace as a family or with friends. Thank you! We need the Thanksgiving boxes completed and returned to Grace by Wednesday, November 20.



Thanksgiving Box List

(please talk to Pastor Kirsten <u>before</u> going shopping so she can give you the most current items needed)

- 2-3 cans of chicken broth
- 2-3 cans green beans
- 1 container French fried onions
- 1-2 cans of mushroom soup
- 1 can cranberry sauce
- 1 large box mashed potato mix OR 1 bag potatoes
- 1-2 boxes stuffing mix
- 1 box of butter (to make mashed potatoes and for rolls and/or mac & cheese)
- powdered milk (to make mashed potatoes and/or mac & cheese)
- 1-2 dozen dinner rolls
- 1-2 jars gravy OR 1-2 packets gravy mix
- 1 aluminum roasting pan
- 2 aluminum cake pans
- pumpkin pie
- apple pie

Optional (but nice to have)

- 1-2 boxes macaroni and cheese
- rice (plain or flavored)
- canned corn (or other veggies)
- canned fruit
- black olives
- sweet potatoes
- marshmallows

Special Extras

- Salt and pepper
- Poultry seasoning
- Jarred garlic
- Vegetable Oil
- Coffee/Tea
- Hot chocolate mix
- candy
- holiday napkins
- crackers/cheese



GOD'S STORY

We made Butterflies

Bobbing for Donuts

...IS OUR STORY

Please celebrate with me! This October we received two checks from Birdies for Charity. The first check is the compilation of our congregation's donations. This check totaled \$1,305.00. Thank you to everyone who contributed! We also received a bonus for 8% of our donations. This check totaled \$104.40. Both checks have been deposited into our Pray and Play account and will be used directly to care for the children of the program. An extra \$104 means we can sustain this program longer by providing food for the program day.

This October, we welcomed 15 children for Pray and Play and 12 children for a Fall Kids' Party. Through games, learning about monarch butterflies, playing outside, the children learned that all of God's creation is important and that we are never lost from God. We continue to welcome families who have never been to Grace Lutheran. Some families have a faith home and for others, this is their only exposure to church and learning about God. These photos tell the story of how they learn that God's Story of creation, love, and forgiveness is always and forever their story. We continue to rely on volunteers. As the demand for children's ministry grows, we need a greater network of adults to help us ensure their time is well supervised. Whether it is a few hours at Pray and Play or at a children's party, your gift of time will be well appreciated.

ALL SUNTS DAY NOVEMBER I

After Hallow's Eve on October 31, All Saints Day is celebrated by many Christians on November 1. All Saints can also be a time for families to talk about loved ones who have passed into sainthood and are now with Jesus. Whether this is a grandparent or other relative, friend, or pet, we can model how to talk about death and the special people (or animals) we miss. In the words of Illustrated Ministry, a children's ministry resource database: "We are part of God's endless creation; each of us a strand of yarn. God knits us together to create beauty, warmth, protection, and comfort in the world as we walk through life alongside one another. Not one of us is left out. Celebrating All Saints' Day with kids teaches them that they, too, are a strand in God's ongoing masterpiece."

3 Wondrous Ways to Celebrate All Saints' Day with Kids (illustratedministry.com)

Whether it is around All Saints or a time when a beloved person or pet dies, here are some ideas to help with a conversation. Discussing death and loved ones we miss can be uncomfortable as adults often have more questions than answers, but kids don't always need answers - just a place to sort through feelings and wonder out loud. If you would like more suggestions or support, please don't hesitate to ask.

Pastor Kirsten Lee

Ways to honor the saints who now rest eternally with Jesus:

- Read The Memory Box: A Book **About Grief**
- Write in The Memory Book: A **Journal for Children and Families**

 Put together a memory box that you can add to as you notice items that remind you of your beloved one

Check out these books:

- The Invisible String by Patrice Karst
- Kids Activity Kit (website) Patrice Karst; This website provides ideas on crafts to do together. Children can learn how they are always connected to people or pets they miss. Suggestions include making a bracelet with hearts for every person they miss, or making a wreath of hearts for every person they miss
- **Dogs in Heaven: Children's Book** about Pet Loss, Helping Families **Celebrate Memories of a Pet** Paperback by Melanie Salas
- How Far is Heaven? A Heartwarming Kids Book About Handling Grief by Amy Skala Tischman

OUTREACH & AWARENESS



November 2024: National Adoption Month

November is National Adoption Month! Lutheran Services in Iowa has served adoptive and foster families for decades, helping to ensure every child has a safe and loving home. For over a year, we joined with Four Oaks Foster and Adoption Services to better serve the families of Iowa. As a subcontractor, we continue to train and support foster, adoptive, and kin

families in the western side of the state. Our team has served over 700 families through assistance during the licensing process and by providing on-going support and development in the past fiscal year.

To learn more about our Foster Care and Adoption services, please visit <u>www.lsiowa.org/foster-care-adoption</u>. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at <u>Deborah.WhitfordeLSlowa.org</u> or 563-676-2065. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the lowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and <u>facebook.com/LSI.iowa</u>.



Some Individual Actions We Can All Take to Transform Food Systems

Research Companies' Commitments to Human & Planet-Centered Policy Look for companies working on advocating for policy that impacts everyone, not just their bottom line. Find out about their governance structures and who owns them. Prioritize buying products from brands that have official policies that place people and the planet over profits.

Prioritize Local

When going out for a meal, consider the establishment you are supporting. Many big national and global restaurants do not prioritize local farmers or sustainable production. They work with big whole sale restaurant food distributors to keep their costs down. All over the world, restaurant owners and chefs are prioritizing local farmers, seasonal produce, and fair trade ingredients. Running a restaurant is hard work, but they are taking the time to learn how crops are grown, how people are treated, and if soil is being restored. They often talk about their commitments on their menus and websites.

Visit Farmers Markets

Visit farmers markets in your neighborhood and support those farmers as much as possible, talk to them, care about how they farm with questions about their land and the workers, thank them for doing the hard work to provide us with healthy food.

Be an Active Citizen

Participate in political systems at the local, state, and federal levels. Learn which politicians are prioritizing policies supporting farmers, workers, and the environment. Donate to them, and remember to VOTE for them! Learn more about the Farm Bill and call your congressman to tell them you want them to push for funding for small-scale organic regenerative farming.

For more information go to: **shop.equalexchange.coop**

Watch for Equal Exchange Coffees, Teas, and Chocolates available for purchase later this month, just in time for Christmas!

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	8:30ar	Office Hours n-3:00pm Monday-Th 8:30am-Noon Friday] 9:30am PEO (Private Event in PBH)	2
3 All Saints Sunday Food Pantry Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Contemp. Worship	4 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Centering Prayer	5 Polling Location - All Day 10am Pastor's Text Study 1:30pm Personnel Meeting 5pm Property Meeting 7pm Worship & Music Mtg	6 11am THE STORY Bible Study 12pm Men's Lunch Group 5:30pm Grief Support Grp 7pm Choir Rehearsal	7 Pray & Play 7pm THE STORY Bible Study 7pm Praise Band Rehearsal	8	9 8:30am Page Turners
10 Stewardship Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Contemp. Worship		12 9am Quilters 10am Pastor's Text Study 1:30pm Social Ministry 2:30pm Outreach & Welcome 6pm CYF (tentative)	13 9am Quilters No Bible Study Today 12pm Men's Lunch Group 7pm Choir Rehearsal	14 7pm Praise Band Rehearsal	15 9:30am PEO (Private Event in PBH)	16
	Pastor Stephanie Continu	ing Education		-		
17 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Contemp. Worship	4:30pm Centering Prayer	19 9am Naomi Circle 10am Pastor's Text Study	20 11am THE STORY Bible Study 12pm Men's Lunch Group 1pm Nominating Committee 5:30pm Grief Support Grp 7pm Choir Rehearsal	21 7pm Praise Band Rehearsal	22 11am Council Reports Due	23
10:30am Healing Worship 5pm Thanksgiving Service	25 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Council Meeting	26 10am Pastor's Text Study	27 12pm Men's Lunch Group 7pm Choir Rehearsal	28 Thanksgiving Holida	29 y - Office Closed	30
at St. Mark	Pastor Stephanie Vacation					

SAVE THE DATE

- November 3 All Saints' Sunday •
- November 7 Pray & Play
- November 10 "God's Story Our Story" Sunday
- November 11-15 Pr. Stephanie Continuing Ed
- November 24 Thanksgiving Svc at St. Mark
- November 26-December 1 Pr. Stephanie Vac
- November 28-29 Office Closed, Thanksgiving
- **December 15** Christmas Program
- **December 18** Blue Christmas (tentative)
- December 22 Candles & Carols
- December 24 Christmas Eve Worship 5pm and 7pm

- 1 Michael Kelker
- 2 Stacy Morrison
- **3** Ethan Becker George DaRosa
- 4 Ann Jepson
- 8 Ariel Carter **Bob Peters**
- **9** Sherry McCarty
- **13** Ben McCullough
- 15 Vicki Liebbe
- 16 Shirley Dohrmann
- James Lange 20

17 Jennifer Bayles

18 Russ Finkler Katie Noack

21 Susan McVay

22 Kelli Mougin

27 Scott Sund

30 Pat Hixon

29 Craig Brown

Caroline Kelly



ADMINISTRATION

STAFF

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Claudia Wood, Treasurer treasurer@gracewelcomesyou.org

Vey Rodriguez, Worship Tech worshiptech@gracewelcomesyou.org

MUSICIANS

Sally Meier - Adult Choir Director Kathi Parrish - Accompanist Susan Senn - Organist Vey Rodriguez - Praise Band Leader

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Deb Kirby President Cindy Lee Vice President Paul Lewellan Secretary Claudia Wood Treasurer **Jim Bayles Jackie Cain** Janice Gibbs **Deb Gustafson**

Laura Toland

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Council Corner

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the day approaching" -Hebrews 10:24 -10:25

Council update for Fall ...

Joint Worship Service Dates - In September, Council approved the following joint worship dates: Sunday, December 29; and Grace's Annual Meeting date of January 26, 2025...Mark your calendars!

Staffing Updates - Shelby Juehring was hired as a Small Group Leader for October/November's Fall Pray & Play Program and Jason Halkias will begin as a part-time custodian on November 4, 2024.

Gail McRill has resigned as a Small Group Leader. We want to thank Gail for her time working with the little's in the program. Gail will continue to help out as a volunteer.

Safety & Security Grant - Grace has received preliminary approval through the State of Iowa and FEMA to proceed with submitting our research and statistical data to apply for the security grant funds.

WELCA (Quilters) Fundraiser - as part of a community fundraiser, Council approved hosting of WELCA's Quilt booth at the Figge Art Museum. This event is held on Sunday, December 1, Noon-5pm.

Endowment - the Endowment Committee presented a proposed change to our Endowment structure. Council authorized Endowment to draft a strategy for restructuring. Any Endowment change would require approval of the Council and go to the Grace membership for vote.

Grace Fall Stewardship Campaign is underway...please consider all the wonderful works God performs here at Grace, giving us the opportunity to share and spread his good news within our community. We are so grateful to be able to navigate through life with a little help from our fellow Christian friends...please pray that we may be able to continue to perform his good works.

"That you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him." -Deuteronomy 30:20

God's Blessings to you and yours, Teb Kirbly Council President