

GRACE NOTES

APRIL 2025 ISSUE 83-04



Dear Friends,

Potato salad. There are so many versions of this one dish. My Grandma's variation was a favorite among the family, but no one has the recipe and no one has been able to recreate it. I was apparently the only one she made it with and, in theory, should possess the potato salad secret. Unfortunately, I was a teenager at the time. Together we made the famous potato salad, a special marshmallow brownie dessert, and I even think she showed me how to make homemade pasta once. Do I remember any of those instructions? Sadly, no. At the time I didn't know how precious those afternoons were. Being young, I never imagined that I wouldn't be able to go back to her and re-learn at a later date. I would never have guessed I was the only one to carry that knowledge.

Have you ever wished to return to a loved one and ask about their life, choices, or for their advice? Do you have memories that fade over time and wonder what lessons did someone impart on you that you've since forgotten?

As we soon enter into Holy Week and Easter, I wonder if the disciples felt the same. They have sat at Jesus' feet listening to his teachings.

Though they've been warned that his death was coming, I can imagine how it didn't seem real or possible to them. Perhaps they too believed Jesus would always be there as a resource willing to re-teach them the lessons they've forgotten. Upon Jesus' death and in the midst of their grief, did they think back to all of Jesus' commandments and instructions on living a faithful life? Did they worry that they would forget something no one else remembered?

While Jesus is resurrected, life doesn't return back to normal. Instead, they are left with the responsibility of sharing his story and teachings with others. Like me and this darn potato salad, they are the only ones who know the details. What they perhaps took for granted before now becomes precious. A precious story told from one generation to another until it reached you. Where you learned of God's unlimited love and grace.

You too carry a special story and ingredients to a faithful life. Only by you sharing what God means to you will someone know. Though they may not be interested now, it's possible they will look to recreate

(continued on the last page)

LENTEN & HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

LENTEN WORSHIP

April 2 and 9 + 7:00pm

PALM SUNDAY

April 13 + 8:30am & 10:30am

We accompany Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's love.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 17 + 7:00pm

We remember Christ's last meal, and the commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal.

GOOD FRIDAY

April 18 + 7:00pm

Standing at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all.

EASTER SUNDAY

April 20 + 8:30am & 10:30am

Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Grief Support

Next Meetings: April 2 & 16

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 awareness 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 [HERE](#) to enter Zoom for Centering Prayer.

Meeting ID: 392 407 7028

Passcode: 2020

Safer Sack Lunches

The Safer Foundation will be doing the Safer Sack Lunches on Thursday, April 24. This will be our 12th year of participation! Lunches are \$9 and include a meat/cheese croissant sandwich; chips; fruit; & dessert. **Orders are due to Hollie Swain by April 11.** Your cash or check (made out either to Hollie or Safer Foundation) will be needed prior to April 24. Hollie will pick up the lunches and bring them to Grace. If you plan to join us for lunch (or have any questions), contact Hollie at 563-514-4022.



Social Ministry Lenten Collections



This Lenten season, the Grace Social Ministry Mission will be collecting items needed for families working with Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI). Items needed include: diapers and cleaning supplies (sponges, PineSol, bath cleaner, dish detergent, SOS Pads,

Clorox/Lysol wipes, etc.). Boxes will be placed in the narthex to place your donations now through Easter. Many thanks for your support and compassion for these families! **ALSO** - we are hoping to increase our food pantry donations! See page four for suggestions and ideas.

Coffee with the Disciples



Adult Education Sundays April 6 & 13 | 9:45am

Paul Lewellan will lead Coffee with the Disciples.

Through the use of scripture, biographical information, and creative questioning, the class will get to know these complicated men (people much like us).

- **April 6** Thomas and Judas Iscariot
- **April 13** Philip, Nathanael, James (Son of Alphaeus), and Judas (Son of James)

Bible Study: THE STORY

Mornings (weekly) - Wednesdays, 11am

Evenings (monthly) - First Thursdays, 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.





Connie Lannan is interviewing members of the congregation to 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.

Shirley Dohrmann

Grace has played a key role in Shirley Dohrmann's faith walk

Talking with Shirley Dohrmann, you quickly learn the integral roles her Swedish heritage and membership in Grace Lutheran Church have played in her life.

Shirley's Swedish roots run deep. Both her parents were Swedish and lived in Swedish communities in Davenport. As a matter of fact, Shirley's mother didn't even learn English until kindergarten.

The Grace connection is just as long. Shirley's mother was a lifelong member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, which was associated with Augustana College and served as the startup for Grace. Her father joined at age 15 because the congregation "needed a piano player," Shirley says. Her parents met, married and raised Shirley, her three sisters and a brother in the church, which was officially named Grace in 1924.

Shirley, who was born in 1933 and baptized at Grace in 1934, continued that lifelong membership and love of the church.

At first it was attending Sunday School, then playing the violin on occasion when her dad played the

organ during church services and then teaching Sunday School after she was confirmed.

After she graduated from high school, Shirley was chosen "Youth of the Year" and given a week's campership at Camp Augustana in Lake Geneva, Wis.

As a young woman, she joined the Missionettes, a missionary society. "We met at people's homes and studied the missionaries and the work they did," she says.

Her husband, Skip, who she married at Grace in 1954, joined her in actively participating in church activities. While Shirley continued to teach Sunday School, sang in the choir and was in charge of altar guild for 40 years, Skip took on the role of trustee, taking care of the funds and maintenance of the building. That included taking apart and rebuilding the boiler for its inspections. He also built the church's kitchen — putting in the cement block wall, the roll-up window and the tile ceiling.

The two joined the Merry Mixers, the church group for young couples. "We would go bowling, maybe go to someone's house and play games or maybe go out to eat. You could belong until the age of

the husband and wife became 70. As we got older, they kept raising the age because no one wanted to leave," she says with a laugh.

Grace was the foundation for the Dohrmanns' life of faith. "Our life was always based on church," Shirley says, adding they raised their children in the church.

Ever since she was a child, Shirley says, "I always knew I could call on God with any concerns. I knew that God was always here with me." That reliance on God for assistance was especially needed after Skip's death in 2024.

"We were married 70 years when he passed," she says, holding back tears

(continued on the next page)



Shirley Dohrmann

(continued from previous page)

"I know God is here. He seems to be here all the time, especially after I lost my husband."

Since his death, Shirley has returned again and again to the Scripture reading she received from the minister at her confirmation. "The verse he gave me was: 'He who endureth to the end shall be saved.' I thought it was kind of heavy at the time, but it has become very important, especially after Skip's death," she says.

At 91 years young, Shirley is grateful for Grace, her parents and her family. "I know that the church has always been there for me, and it has always been a very important part of my life. I came from a family that was God-loving. They raised their children that way," she says, adding that she and Skip tried to do the same.



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

Service Day Quilters meet the second Tuesday & second Wednesday 9am-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

Calling All Instrumentalists

Once again, Grace instrumentalists will come together to enhance our Easter worship service. We will have three rehearsals:

Sunday, April 13 at 1:00 pm
Wednesday, April 16 at 7:00 pm
Saturday, April 19 at 9:00 am

Easter Orchestra is open to all Grace instrumentalists, 8th grade and up. Come and be a part of our worship as we praise our risen Lord in a unique and exciting way! **Contact Sally Meier at 563-796-0773 or 309-292-0281 so that she can have a part ready for you!**



Food Pantry Weekend

Food Pantry Collection is Sunday, April 6 Bring your non-perishable food donations in a bag, and leave at the altar before the service. **Last month we had 105 items donated - Can we top that this month? Let's make this our best year yet!** ↪

Ethnic Cooking Supplies: Go to imu.uiowa.edu/food/food-pantry/donate/multicultural-food-item-donations-requested for a detailed list of commonly requested multicultural food items.

Donations Needed: nonperishables - especially canned fruits and vegetables, canned & dry beans, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, breakfast items (cereal, oatmeal, etc.)

Always Appreciated: peanut butter, jelly/jam, canned meats, canned chili, boxed potatoes, protein bars, whole grain bread, fresh fruits & vegetables (donated directly to the pantry), items for baking (flour, sugar, baking soda, baking powder, etc.)

Consider: simple spices (salt, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, etc.), neutral cooking oils, vinegars, powdered milk, powdered eggs, wooden spoon sets, hand-held can openers, aluminum foil pans (various sizes), cake mixes and frosting for special occasions

Summer Camp Scholarships!

Did you know that Grace has a camp scholarship program?

A week at camp offers kids and youth an opportunity to grow their faith, leadership, and confidence. I was a kid who did not always like going to camp, but as I look back on those weeks, I can pick out moments that formed my understanding of God and myself. My confidence grew leaps and bounds while away from my parents and home and I remain grateful for those opportunities. God meets our children at camp and shows them life in a new way.

Please don't let the cost of camp deter you from attending.

At Grace, we have funds to offset the expense of camp through a scholarship program. Paper forms are available at church or can be emailed to you. Requests are kept confidential. These scholarships are available for any camp. Camp Shalom is less than an hour away and offers mini-weeks and full weeks for kids in elementary school, Jr. High, and High School. More information is available here: [CAMP SHALOM | \(campshalomia.org\)](http://CAMP SHALOM | (campshalomia.org))

A great way for the whole family to experience the wonder of camp is through family camp!

"Led by the Camp Shalom summer staff, families are invited to help plan worship, toast marshmallows for s'mores, participate in camp activities, and enjoy the beauty of God's creation." For more information click here: [Family Camp - CAMP SHALOM CAMP SHALOM \(campshalomia.org\)](http://Family Camp - CAMP SHALOM CAMP SHALOM (campshalomia.org))

Please let Pastor Kirsten know if you plan to attend family camp or any kind of summer camp. She would like to offer encouragement and prayers to the campers and maybe send them a card while they're at camp.

Here is a list of some other summer camps in Iowa that may be of interest:

- Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps okoboji.org
- Lutheran Lakeside Camp lutheranlakeside.com
- Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp riversidelbc.org
- Camp EWALU ewalu.org
- Dorian Summer Music Camps at Luther College luther.edu/music/festivals-camps/dorian-summer-camps



Men's Lunch & Conversation

Men's "Lunch & Conversation" meets every Wednesday at Noon, at church. You can bring a lunch from home or pick something up from a local restaurant. Contact Dennis Boehme at boehmedeaol.com or 563-320-2661 to be added to the email list.



Page Turners

Saturday, April 19, 8:30am

Come join the Saturday Morning Page Turner's Club! We meet at 8:30am the third Saturday each month at different locations for breakfast, book discussion, and great fellowship. (Haven't read the

book? No problem - Join us anyways!) **April Book:** [Britt Marie Was Here](#) by Fredrik Backman

Host: Sally Haugen 563-514-9335

Location: Vibrant Coffee (3230 Ridge Point, Bettendorf)



Pray & Play

In March, we welcomed two music groups: Common Chord and The Quarter Moon Tinsnips featuring Grace members Sally and Don Haugen. During this fun time, the children played musical instruments they made and composed a song with Ben, the leader of Common Chord. These are the lyrics of the song:

“I’ll tell everyone how God is good.
Yea, I wanna tell everyone
how God is good.

He teaches me to be
the very best like I know I should.
And if you don’t know about church,
well I think you should go.

Yea, if you don’t know about church
well, I think you should go.

They have all sorts of things to tell you
and lots of things to show.

Yea, I’ll tell everyone how God is good.

Yea, I wanna tell everyone how God is good.

He teaches me to be the very best
like I know I should.”

The children wrote these lyrics themselves. They were prompted by Ben who only asked what should our song be about? The Holy Spirit is moving among these children and when we give them these small opportunities, they will speak their faith in a beautiful way!

Coming up...our last Play & Pray program day this school year is April 14. We need a few volunteers.

If you are available and enjoy sharing your time with children, see Pastor Kirsten. Volunteers often remark that they receive more than they give.



Lenten Renewal Events with Bishop Current



Thank you to our wonderful Grace hosts and bakers (Russ Finkler, Gloria & Jim Lange, Cindy Lee, Jane Krumwiede, Vicki Liebke, and Karen Jewel) who helped make the first Synod Lenten Renewal event led by Bishop Current a welcoming and grace-filled gathering for local rostered leaders!



We ♥ our Volunteers

Join us for Junior Bible Study!

We meet after the children's message at both Sunday services.

On April 6, the Junior Bible Studies children will share prayers during our 10:30am worship service. Following the prayers of the day, they will share prayers that they helped write during JBS. We will work on the prayers during JBS on March 30 and April 6.



Birdies for Charity! Coming this June!

This past month, the council approved the fundraiser for Birdies for Charity to benefit Pray and Play. This is currently the only fundraiser for Pray and Play. This fundraiser will begin at the end of May and conclude at the end of June. Birdies for Charity coincides with the John Deere Classic, held every summer in the Quad Cities. Through Birdies for Charity, we earn 100% of what is collected from those who contribute, plus an additional 5% that Birdies for Charity gives to every organization. More info will be shared next month.



Open To

Children ages 4 through Grade 6

Join Us!

- **Dates** June 23-27
- **Times** 8am-4pm
- **Where**
Trinity Lutheran Church
18137 Criswell St.
Bettendorf 52722
- A school bus will provide transportation from Grace Lutheran Church.

Save the Date! VBS June 23-27

Grace Lutheran is partnering with Trinity Lutheran Church and Saint James Church to host a weeklong Day Camp

Register Online: at

bit.ly/GraceVBS2025
or scan the QR code

- \$40/ child:
before April 14
- \$50/ child:
after April 14
- **Registration ends June 1**



Questions?

Grace Lutheran Church
563-322-0769
pastorkirsten@gracewelcomesyou.org

Ewalu Camp
563-933-4700
camp@ewalu.org/day-camps

Join us for fun in the sun at our summer day camp! June 23rd -27th 8 am-4 pm. We will gather at Grace and then take a school bus to Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasant Valley. Camp EWALU will lead us in a week of learning about God, building relationships with one another, and growing in confidence. I would love for your children to join! Register by April 14, to save \$10. **See Pastor Kirsten with any questions.**

Grace Lutheran Church | Davenport, IA

Holy Humor Sunday!

April 27, 2025

9:30am Joint Worship

Join us for a joint Holy Humor
Sunday worship followed by a
Feast of Fools Potluck Brunch!

Let's be **SILLY** ... wear **FUNNY**
clothes ... **LAUGH** with friends ...
and lift our voices in **JOYFUL** song!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 10am Pastor's Text Study 1:30pm Personnel Meeting 5pm Property Meeting 7pm Worship & Music Mtg	2 11am THE STORY Bible Stu 12pm Men's Lunch Group 5:30pm Grief Support Grp 6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Lenten Worship	3 6:30 pm Praise Band Practice 7pm THE STORY Bible Study	4	5
6 Food Pantry Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:30am Adult Education 10:30am Contemp. Worship	7 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Centering Prayer 6pm CYF Meeting	8 9am Quilters 10am Pastor's Text Study 1:30pm Social Ministry 2:30pm Outreach & Welcome	9 9am Quilters 11am THE STORY Bible Stu 12pm Men's Lunch Group 6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Lenten Worship	10 10am Prayer Group 4pm Pray & Play Meeting 6:30 pm Praise Band Practice	11	12
13 Palm Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:30am Adult Education 10:30am Contemp. Worship 1pm Orchestra Rehearsal	14 Pray & Play 8:30am-4pm 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Centering Prayer	15 9am Naomi Circle 10am Pastor's Text Study	16 12pm Men's Lunch Group 5:30pm Grief Support Grp 7pm Orchestra Rehearsal	17 6pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Praise Band Practice 7pm Maundy Thursday Worship	18 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Good Friday Worship	19 8:30am Page Turners 9am Orchestra Rehearsal
20 Easter Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Contemp. Worship	21 Office Closed 4:30pm Centering Prayer 5:00pm Sweet Arts Club	22 10am Pastor's Text Study	23 12pm Men's Lunch Group 7pm Choir Rehearsal	24 11am Safer Sack Lunch PBH 6:30pm Praise Band Practice	25 11am Council Reports Due	26
27 Holy Humor Sunday 9:30am Holy Humor Worship 10:30am Holy Humor Brunch	28 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Council Meeting Pastor Stephanie Vacation	29 10am Pastor's Text Study	30 12pm Men's Lunch Group	Office Hours 8:30am-3:00pm Monday-Thursday 8:30am-Noon Friday		

Dear Grace Family & Friends,
 Our family wishes to thank the congregation for the many acts of kindness extended to us as Mike's health declined and then at the time of his death. We appreciate the cards, condolences, and prayers. ~Vicki Liebe & Family

thank you

M.A.D. Camp @ St. Mark!
June 16-20 | 9am-3pm each day
St. Mark Lutheran Church (2363 W 3rd St, Davenport)
Cost: \$25 per student
 MAD Camp (Music, Art, & Drama) is back! The closing performance will be that Saturday at the 5:00pm service. Mark your calendars and watch for more info to come on how to register!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Alex Colton
- 3 Rylan Cahalan
Kathi Parrish
- 4 Dave Linde
Lisa Morris
Pat Taylor
- 5 Colleen Willman
- 7 Jordan Colton
- 8 Elizabeth Bibby
Allison Dague
- 9 Peg McCullough
Alex McVay
- 22 Nancy Toland
- 27 Anna McVay
- 30 Krisan Koble

ADMIN STAFF

Pastor Stephanie Wood

pastorstephanie@gracewelcomesyou.org

Pastor Kirsten Lee

Director of Outreach & Youth Ministries

pastorkirsten@gracewelcomesyou.org

Annie Nau, Office Administrator

office@gracewelcomesyou.org

Jason Halkias, Custodian

custodian@gracewelcomesyou.org

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

Paul Lewellan President

Deb Gustafson Vice-President

Janice Gibbs Secretary

Claudia Wood Treasurer

Jackie Cain

Lori Haugen

Laura Toland

Gail Walton

Grace Notes is published monthly by Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, IA 52803 A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America



Council Corner

1) Guest Ruth McAndrews from the Personnel committee presented three candidates for Church Treasurer. Council authorized offering the position in order of preference. 2) Council approved a joint service for the Sunday after Easter, April 27. 3) Pastor Kirsten proposed that Grace participate in Birdies for Charities as part of the John Deere Classic. The money raised would again go to Pray and Play. Approved. 4) The next Pray and Play will be April 14.

Lutheran Day on the Hill

On March 11, 400 Lutherans gathered at the capitol in Des Moines! We celebrated 160 years of LSI and advocated for the support and funding that enables them to do their essential work. Chat with Pastor Stephanie or Pastor Kirsten to learn more!



(Pastor Stephanie - continued from first page)

the recipe later, building a life rooted in Christ. The Spirit works through our stories, illustrating where God shows up. The power of a faith community gathered around the table, being told they are loved and being commanded to love others. The Good Fridays in our lives where we've experienced loss, pain, and despair but discovered God with us through it all, can provide hope. The joy we experience from God bringing new life where we expected death might inspire and encourage others.

If I'm being honest, I don't think I asked my grandma to show me how to make those dishes because I wanted the recipe. In fact, I don't really love potato salad all that much. Instead, it was an opportunity to spend time together. The lessons the disciples learned were important, but it was also the time spent together that impacted them so greatly. Experiencing and witnessing Jesus' trust in God and compassion for all those he met.

Though the story may be familiar, you are not the same person you were the last time you heard of Jesus' death and resurrection. This Holy Week, spend some time at Jesus' feet. Embrace the story being shared with you. Listen for what God might be teaching you.

God's Peace Pastor Stephanie