



June 30, 2017

Greetings friends,

May I just say again, how impressed I am with the talents of people in our church family? Time and again I'm astounded at what people can do and choose to do for the benefit of this family.

Cases in point: the Warwick family. Nate is one of our lay servants. He prepares his pulpit messages faithfully and then he delivers and delivers well. He and Malinda (who served as Sunday school teacher these last few years) are raising a beautiful family of lovely, caring kids. We've appreciated the contributions to our worship services that Nate, Chase, Sky and Riker have brought this summer.

Jerry Spencer. He's also a lay servant and is so good in the pulpit on a Sunday morning. He too is always well-prepared and gives us an interesting perspective and something to think about as we leave our worship service.

Rhonda and Ray Hampton. These two have served this church family faithfully over the years. Ray, of course, served as our pastor years ago. Did you know he plays the organ on Sunday morning as a gift? He and Rhonda also deliver several reams of computer paper (that they buy on deep discount) to not only Grace, but also, E-Free, St. Petri and Immanuel churches each week. It's been years since we've had the expense of buying paper in the Grace office. And Rhonda, what would we do without Rhonda? Our choir loves her for her wit and patience AND the beautiful music she selects and teaches us to sing. Her piano playing at worship is always lovely and skillfully played. Plus, she's a great person to serve with on committees because of her knowledge and good common sense.

Jim and Shelley Hassebrock, Dale and Lynn Henricks - what capable, faithful servants these four are! Ask any one of them to take charge of something or to serve on a committee and they are on it. Many times over the years each of them has taken leadership roles to help further advance the missions and work of Grace Church. Dale has been especially amazing in the area finance/endowments...Lynn and Shelley with their years of service with Loaves and Fishes as well as many other committees...and Jim, who particularly shines as a very conscientious and reliable trustee...we are grateful for each of them and the leadership they provide.

Mark Hermanson. Mark isn't one to serve on committees, but his behind-the-scenes efforts are very much appreciated. He provides Internet access for the church and maintains all of our electronic equipment at Grace. He runs sound on Sunday mornings at least 46 weeks of the year. You won't find him at meetings very often, but he will respond quickly if electronic troubles arise.

Loretta Parker. Loretta is in her second year of serving as Church Council Chair and she does such a wonderful job. She is always prepared and ready to conduct meetings in a timely and efficient manner. She faithfully takes pictures of special moments at our worship services, is a faithful committee member, and can always be relied upon to lend a hand.

Lorijo Lounsberry. Lorijo has served as Financial Secretary for many years, gratis. She capably handles all of the incoming funds, faithfully seeing that each penny goes to the proper, intended accounts. She keeps excellent records, faithfully prepares and delivers quarterly statements and is unfailingly cheerful and trustworthy in the important role with which she is entrusted

These are but a few of the many amazing folks we are blessed to have as a part of the Grace Church family. From time to time, I'll remind you of others who also share their abundant gifts and abilities for the benefit of all of us at Grace.

This week at Grace – He’s ba-aack. Pastor Fred has returned from his various conference attending and vacationing and is ready to roll. His message this week: “He Cares for You” is inspired by Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26. Milianna Carlson will be in the house to share special music and Terry Gustason will serve as liturgist. Caleb Michel and Cheryl Semler will greet on Sunday morning and Gini Michel and Stephanie Fournier will be our ushers. As always, worship begins at 9:15. We invite you to join us!

We do want to keep the need for Sunday school and youth fellowship leaders in front of you this summer. Classes begin September 10th and we need about 6 people to fill the positions. You’ve seen, you know what wonderful children we’ve been blessed with here at Grace. Please consider being a part of their Christian education experience for this coming school year.

The Story City Carousel is open for the season and the Story City Chamber is searching for volunteers to help keep it running. They were wondering if we have any groups, youth groups, or committees who might be interested in volunteering some time? They only do a 2 hour shift split up throughout operating hours to help keep it a small commitment. Do we have any groups within our church family who would be interested? Please call the Chamber at 515-733-4214, or email them at info@storycitygcc.com.

Immanuel Church is hosting a ***Life with the Luthers Dinner Theatre*** on **Saturday, July 1 at 5:00 p.m.** Johan and Sonja Hinderlie will portray Martin and Katy Luther in full costume, sharing the testimony of these amazing people with the flavor of the Reformation time in Germany. Lasagna, garlic bread, and salad will be served. The event is open to the entire community, but space is limited! A freewill offering will be received toward our new roof project, in honor of the 100th anniversary of the dedication of our sanctuary. Come experience *Life with the Luthers!*

St. Petri’s Ice Cream Social will be Sunday July 9th from 2:30-4:30pm in the Social Hall. The Senior Band will play at 3:00pm We will be serving homemade ice cream, bars, coffee, and lemonade. Freewill donations will go to the band.

As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer:; Chuck Jewell; Denny Michel; Marjorie Gookin; Julie Jacobson; Barbara Wheeler; Barry Janvrin; Kim Wright; Leota Berg; Vivian Whitmore; Jeanne Hohneke; Ray Hults; George Sellers; Lois Johnson; Al Rau; Jordan Gertsen; Rich Iverson (friend of Kurt Carlson); Cooper Leeman

News You Can Use

Sunday, July 2

9:15 AM Worship

Monday and Tuesday, July 3 and 4

OFFICE CLOSED

Sunday, July 9

9:15 AM Worship

**Faithfully,
Cathy**