



May 18, 2017

Greetings friends,

Grace Church is certainly busy at this time of year. With end-of-the-school-year stuff happening and our Scandinavian Days Pie and Ice Cream Social/Pork Sandwich Line and Bake Sale on our collective horizon; we have lots of comings and goings at the church. Please note: I have included the bake sale price list at the end of this missive (page 3).

As we get closer to our summer months, I encourage you to make church attendance a part of your weekly summer plans. I know the temptation is great to go on summer hiatus along with Sunday school and our choirs, but I hope you won't disappear completely. God doesn't take the summer off, and neither should we in our corporate praise and worship of Him. Pastor Fred, Nate Warwick and Jerry Spencer are working on inspiring messages for us this summer and I know hearing them will be beneficial. Also, Claudia Pauk and I are very excited about the summer music we have lined up and we want you to come listen to our special guest artists! We are so grateful to all who said, "Yes" when asked and it would be nice to give each of them a good-sized, appreciative audience. Each of these special musicians will be making special efforts to prepare music for us, please show your encouragement and support to our pastor, worship leaders and musicians by making regular worship attendance a priority this summer. We miss you when you're gone!

This week at Grace – this week we are honoring our graduates. We have 5 young people graduating from high school this weekend: Charlie Fournier, Colton Gregori, Brayden Lester, Natalie Tryon and Kylie Spencer. We also have listed in our bulletin several of our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren who are graduating from college and out-of-state high schools. Congratulations to all! *This week we are proud to introduce 2nd grader, Riker Warwick, who has prepared and will deliver the children's message on Sunday.* We really are not kidding or being cute when we say our Grace kids ROCK! I hope you can come listen to this young man. Pastor Fred will speak with inspiration from John 14:15-21 in his message, "The God Who Is With Us". Chancel Choir with flutist, Claudia Pauk, will sing, *You Are Mine*. This is the last we will see of our happy choir until September; thanks to each of the members, director Rhonda Hampton and accompanist, Milianna Carlson for their commitment to this special ministry. Terry Gustason will serve as liturgist. As always, worship begins at 9:15. We invite you to join us for worship and for a cake reception in honor of our graduates immediately following the service.

Our formally organized and hosted after-worship coffee fellowship time will gather on the third Sundays of June (18th), July (16th) and August (20th). If you would like to gather in Fellowship Hall on the other Sundays you are most welcome. We just won't have coffee and snacks prepared for you.

The Congregational Development Team (CDT) is completing their work. In the next few days you will be receiving a link to the Congregational Study that they have prepared. Please read through carefully. Members of the CDT will also be available in person following our worship service on May 28th to answer any questions you may have as they conclude their work. If you are unable to attend the meeting but you have comments, please send your comments to office@grace-umc.com. If you are unable to access the link, please contact the office.

Do you have kids who would be interested in attending Bible Camp this summer? Brochures are available on the north Narthex hall table. The Church Council recently voted to pay 50% of camp tuition for local Grace students going to a UMC camp. 25% will be paid if attending another church camp.

Youth Group Leaders Needed

We are looking for two dynamic youth group leaders for the 2017-2018 school year. We have had eleven youth participating this year and expect a few more to join in next year. It's pretty cool that some youth have been coming to Youth Group that we aren't seeing at other times. Youth Group can certainly evolve from what we

started this year. Bring your vision and energy to this very important ministry! Youth Group is led by a Youth Council, so there will be a few organizational meetings for that group. Currently, Youth Group meets one Wednesday each month and one leader would serve on the Christian Education committee as well.

We need two-deep leadership for all youth activities at Grace United Methodist Church. If you have a passion to work with our youth, then recruit your spouse or a friend and make it a time of fun and fellowship! Contact Shelley Hart (515-291-8332) with questions or to volunteer.

Sunday school teachers for 2017-18 - Please prayerfully consider teaching one of our Sunday school classes next school year. We are looking to fill positions in the following sections:

Early Childhood – 1st Grade

2nd – 4th Grade

5th-7th Grades

High School

Please contact Education Chair Gini Michel by phone (733-4123), by email (gem47@mediacombb.net), or catch her personally after our worship service if you'd like to take a turn teaching our young ones.

Are you interested in attending Vacation Bible School this summer? St. Petri has invited Grace Church to participate in a Cross-Generational VBS weekend. CG VBS is for ALL ages – children, parents, grandparents, neighbors and friends. It's one large family with bible study, music, games and crafts. It will be held at St. Petri on:

Friday evening, June 23 from 6-8:30 with supper

Saturday morning, June 24 from 9-11 a.m. with a snack

Sunday, June 25 – share your experiences during church

To register let Gini Michel (gem47@mediacombb.net 733-4123) or the church office know. **Registration deadline is June 2.**

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.

An invitation from Bethany Life Communities - Please be our guest for a Twin Home Open House at 702 Timberland Drive, Story City, IA on Thursday, May 25th from 5 – 7 p.m. Grilled hot dogs will be provided – everyone is welcome!

As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer:; Chuck Jewell; Jeanne Hohneke; Ray Hults; George Sellers; Lois Johnson; Al Rau; Jordan Gertsen; Rich Iverson (friend of Kurt Carlson); Patty Geer; Carolyn Bostwick; Cooper Leeman

News You Can Use

Sunday, May 21 – Baccalaureate

8:15 AM Missions

9:15 AM Worship

10:15 AM Cake reception in honor of graduates

Monday, May 22

5:30 PM Finance

7:00 PM Church Council

Sunday, May 28 – Memorial Sunday

8:15 AM Missions

9:15 AM Worship

You are welcome to gather in Fellowship Hall after worship during the summer, but beginning on May 28th, our organized Coffee-Fellowship team is taking a break. There will be Coffee Fellowship on the third Sundays of June, July and August when our serving Care Groups host.

**Faithfully,
Cathy**

SCANDINAVIAN DAYS BAKE SALE 2017

Scandi Days Bake Sale will be held Friday, June 2 from 11-2 (or sooner if we sell out) We want this year's bake sale to be "bigger, better and beyond" so we need your help. Please bring your wrapped and priced homemade bake goods to the church any time after 7:00 AM Friday. Bake sale is held in Chapel. Price lists for items were included in the May and June newsletter. It goes without saying we can't have a bake sale without homemade items to sell. You have come through for us each year and we are counting on you again. Thank you!!

Angel Food Cake\$6.00 (full sized)
Berliner Kranse	\$3.00/doz. or 25c each
Specialty Bread	\$4.00 (regular size loaf)
Bars	\$5.00/doz. or 50c each
Cookies	\$4.00/doz.
Cupcakes	75c each \$4.00/half doz.
Dinner Rolls	\$4.00/doz.
Fattimand	\$3.00/doz. or 25c each
Fruit Soup	\$7.50/pint
Haglatta.....	\$1.75/pint
Jam/Jelly	\$3.00/1/2 pint
Kavring.....	\$1.50/doz.
Kringla.....	\$4.00/doz.
Krumkaka.....	\$3.00/doz. or 25c each
Lefsa	\$2.00 each
Muffins	\$3.50/half doz.
Potato Cakes	\$4.00/half doz.
Rosettes.....	\$3.00/doz.
Sandbakkles	\$3.00/doz.
Spritz.....	\$3.00/doz. small; \$4.00/doz. large
Sweet Bread	\$3.00/large; \$2.00/medium
Sweet Bread	\$1.50/small; with nuts, add 25c
Sweet Rolls	\$1.00 each for large
Tea Ring	\$9.00 to \$11.00 depending on size

Please remember we'll be calling for pies and volunteers for the Pie and Ice Cream Social, too!