



GRACE VINE



The Monthly Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church

April 2017

Sunday Morning Schedule

- 7:30 am** Community Pancake Breakfast
Hope Hall
- 8:30 am** Contemporary Worship
Hope Hall
- 9:45 am** Grace Time
North Room
- 11:00 am** Traditional Worship
Sanctuary
- 12:15 pm** Fellowship
Hope Hall

Five Guiding Principles of Grace Lutheran Church

1. Jesus is Lord!
2. Pray, Seek, and Follow God's Will
3. Share the Good News of Christ
4. Embrace God's challenge to Love and Serve Others
5. All are Welcome

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday

- April 9th** Worship @ 8:30 am — *Hope Hall*
Worship @ 11:00 am — *Sanctuary*

Maundy Thursday

- April 13th** Worship @ 7:00 pm — *Sanctuary*

Good Friday

- April 14th** Worship @ 12:00 pm — *Sanctuary*
Worship @ 7:00 pm — *Sanctuary*

Easter Sunday

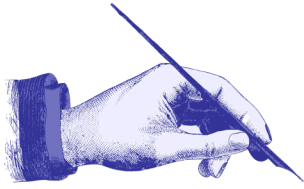
- April 16th** Worship @ 8:30 am — *Courtyard*
Easter Brunch @ 9:45 am
Easter Egg Hunt @ 10:15 am
Worship @ 11:00 am — *Sanctuary*

The 8:30 am Easter service will be a joint service with Native American Urban Ministry and will incorporate aspects of Grace worship and NAUM worship.

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By God's grace, we are in the city for good!



From the Pastor's Pen: Sabbatical, a Time to Rest

I am so grateful to God and the people of Grace for allowing me the space and time to take a sabbatical! As approved by the council and discussed at our annual meeting in January, I will be on sabbatical July 10 through September 9.

In the ELCA, pastors have been taking sabbaticals for about two decades though the prevalence of sabbaticals varies between synods. Here in the Grand Canyon Synod, sabbaticals are common. In my previous synod, the Northeastern Iowa Synod, congregations are routinely encouraged by the synod council to consider a sabbatical policy. The typical sabbatical policy for an ELCA congregation states that pastors will receive a 3-month sabbatical after 5-7 years of service in the same congregation. During that time, the congregation continues to pay their pastor at the normal rate. However, if the sabbatical activities incur expense, such as travel expenses, that is the pastor's responsibility to either pay out of pocket or find grant funding for.

The ELCA began encouraging congregations to consider offering sabbatical leave to their pastors when they found that pastors typically switch calls (move to a new congregation) once they have served in a congregation 5-7 years. The common wisdom is that, the longer a pastor can stay in a congregation, the better, especially if the pastor, congregation, and ministry continue to be vibrant. After 5-7 years in the same congregation, pastors are usually at risk of burnout, and the typical response is to move to a new congregation. Sabbaticals help lengthen pastoral calls because they provide a temporary respite from what can be a stressful schedule and challenging emotional and spiritual work.

Theologically, the sabbatical is seen as a time of Sabbath, a time of rest, and it is modeled after the practice of Sabbath described in Leviticus and Deuteronomy. In ancient days, God's people allowed a year of Sabbath rest every seven years. This Sabbath rest included allowing the land to rest and animals to rest; it included the forgiveness of debts and freedom for those enslaved. And this practice of Sabbath rest, of course, grew from the Sabbath God commanded

humanity to take every seventh day.

During my sabbatical this summer, I will be traveling to my alma mater, Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, to hole up and write a book. In the 10+ years I have served in ordained ministry, I have written many pieces of liturgy including confessions and prayers, installations and blessings, baptismal and wedding liturgy, among others. I believe that the way we talk about God in our communal worship is incredibly important as it frames how we understand not only God but the world at large. My book will include many pieces of liturgy as well as reflection on the language choices. You may be wondering: what does this liturgy sound like? If you are a regular worshiper at Grace, you are already quite familiar with the liturgy I write because I write a significant portion of what we say together in worship at Grace, whether that is a Thanksgiving for Baptism or a confession or a prayer of discernment.

At this point, I do not know how my work will be distributed when it is completed. I do hope to make it available for any congregation who would find it helpful, so I may simply self-publish it and make it available for free.

After my time away of writing, I will return to Phoenix and simply rest.

During my sabbatical, there will be opportunity for lay leadership in worship and pastoral care. If you are interested in helping lead worship over the summer or in visiting members of the congregation and community who are in the hospital or in some other form of crisis, please let me know. Worship leadership responsibilities would be similar to those Sundays when, prior to our centennial, we participated in pulpit exchanges. Those who are interested in providing pastoral care would be available on an on-call basis, working through the church office. Of course, I will provide training for those who are interested in leading and serving in these ways.

I love serving God and God's people at Grace and am grateful for the time away to be refreshed and renewed for years of ministry to come! If you have questions about my sabbatical, please do not hesitate to ask me.

With joy and gratitude,

Pastor Sarah

Update from the Faith Formation Ministry Team

Greetings people of Grace,

As the Lenten journey nears completion, have you stopped to analyze what you still need? Faith Formation Team can assist with your search. Grace Time every Sunday in the north room at 9:45. Dig in to the current Bible study, “24 Hours That Changed the World.” There are separate studies for adults and teens, and coffee, donuts and muffins continue! The Grace Time Servant Project is on Sunday, April 30. See Carol Staffieri for the specifics and watch for the sign-up chart in Hope Hall.

Lenten/Easter direction is poured out in worship. Please avail yourself of the many worship opportunities this season by coming to mid-week Lenten on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, regular weekly worship each and every Sunday at 8:30 and 11:00 am, and Thursday and Friday of Holy Week, building towards festival Easter worship. See you in church!

Save the date: May 21st, the first mentor/confirmation reunion at GLC. Were you a mentor? How about a confirmand? Watch the church facebook page and help spread the word.

The Augsburg Fortress Book Fair is coming to GLC, March 26 and April 2. Browse the displays in Hope Hall and the North room and place your order. 15% off all books and 18 free books to the church for participation. Carol Staffieri has details.

Vacation Bible School plans are coming along. Volunteers are lining up. Read about it in this newsletter and get your name on that volunteer list. The Diaper bag project continues, we will be adding toddler-sized items to the pick list. Your ongoing support of this project is a blessing to the local foster families.

Hospitality ministry needs you and April has a special opportunity. See Evalyn Ehlen to participate any Sunday, or particularly on Easter. All are welcome. Please join us at Faith Formation Team meeting, 2nd Sundays at about 12:30 in the North room.

Joyous Easter to all,

Fran Fry, Council Liaison

Grace Time

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Apr. 2 | Bible Study |
| Apr. 9 | Bible Study |
| Apr. 16 | There will be NO Grace Time on April 16th. Instead, we will have brunch and an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids. |
| Apr. 23 | Bible Study |
| Apr. 30 | May Day Basket Project |
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April Community-Building Goal

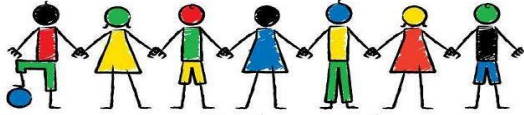
During the month of April, our community building goal is to recognize when we treat relationships as transactions in all aspects of our lives and then transform those transactions into relationships.

Example (from Pastor Sarah): A few years ago, I noticed that I was mechanically responding to the communication in which I participated with grocery store checkers. Instead of seeing the person who has a name and a story and a life beyond checking my groceries, I was treating that relationship—as simple as it was—as a transaction instead of recognizing the person in front of me. This became very obvious when I encountered people I know and love at the grocery store and realized I wasn't treating everyone as if they were a beloved child of God. Now, I try to learn people's names and genuinely share when people ask me: How are you doing? This doesn't require a deep relationship but just a recognition that everyone is human.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

On Sunday, April 2, Connor Cohen will be baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit following the traditional worship in the sanctuary. Those who would like to stay for the brief service in order to support Connor are welcome. Connor is a young adult who is fairly new to Grace and new to Christianity. We are delighted to welcome him into the Body of Christ and into the mission that we share!

Youth Update



Youth Events for Your Calendar

Team-Building

Sunday, April 9 @ 12:30 pm

Homebound Visit

Saturday, April 1 @ 11:00 am

Helping with Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 16 @ 10:15 am

Homebound Visits & Dropping off of May Day Baskets

Sunday, April 30 @ 12:30 pm

Youth Mission Team Update

We are on our way to New York City! A group of 8 youth and 3 chaperones, including Pastor Sarah, will be heading to New York July 2-8 for our annual mission trip. At a recent team-building, we discerned our mission statement for this trip which is

We will grow in community by expanding our community.

We discussed how, when we participate in service projects in the community, we not only help those who are in need; we also develop relationships with the people we meet, learn from people, and thus grow our community. We anticipate our community growing exponentially as we encounter Lutherans and non-Lutherans in the various spaces where we will serve during that week. We will be staying at Our Saviour's Atonement Lutheran Church on Manhattan and are excited to explore the city in addition to our service work.

Please pray for us! ☺

2017 Vacation Bible School

Are you a Super Hero or would you like be to one? The theme for Vacation Bible School this year is Hero Central. We are looking for adults and youth wanting to have fun and lead children in learning about Jesus with stories about Hero's in the Bible. VBS will be June 5th thru the 9th. from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. If you would like more information please contact the office for see or e-mail Linda Schwall at lschwall@cox.net or Margie Betz a lbetz2@cox.net. We will have a meeting April 30th at 12:30 PM. to look over the Hero Central material.

Cinema Club

Saturday, April 8

Ken and Evalyn Ehlen will be hosting Cinema Club this month. Please RSVP to Ken and Evalyn if you would like to attend!

Ministry Night

Tuesday, April 11, 6:30 pm

North Room

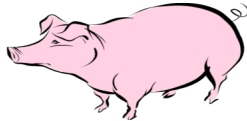
All are welcome to attend Ministry Night on Tuesday, April 11 at 6:30 pm. We need you! Ministry Night is a great way to find out about "what's going on at Grace." Reports will be given by each ministry, then sharing time and Q&A. Afterwards, each ministry breaks out for planning time, and all are welcome to attend those meetings as well. Who knows, you may find that you want to serve on a particular ministry! We look forward to seeing you there!

Yoga with Tami

Tami Link continues to provide Yoga classes for the community and membership of Grace for a suggested donation of \$5 to \$15. Please thoughtfully consider what you can offer. If you can offer more, you participate in the gift and service of those who have less. Donations go to ensuring you have consistent, quality instruction. Tami offers a Contemplative Yoga class on Tuesdays at 5:30 pm in the Sanctuary. All are welcome!

Wilbur Update

During February, we received Wilbur funds for Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest with a total of \$146.05, not including items donated. Thank you for your gifts! All funds will be going towards LSS-SW's Diaper Bag Project that will support foster families by providing them with much-needed items!



During April, our Wilbur funds will be designated to Mana House, a home for veterans experiencing homelessness.

Duet

Help Duet Win – and Enjoy an Open House

Duet is one of four finalists for the IMPACTful Non-profit Award! Please help our shared cause win so that free-of-charge health and aging services will increase. Vote by April 10th at this link: [help Duet win](#). Thank you! Also – we're invited to Duet's AZ Gives Day Open House on April 4th from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Enjoy food, fun and a chance to mingle with Kathy and Bill Tabinsky (challenge gift donors), Tom Leander (sports broadcaster), and Carmela Ramirez (musician). Duet's office is located at Church of the Beatitudes, 555 W Glendale Ave, Phoenix, 85021. All who stop by and donate will receive a Duet t-shirt and AZ Gives Day sticker.

Fast Forward... Then Look Back

Imagine yourself 10 years into the future. As your future self, imagine yourself looking back to the previous decade. You can recall happy visits with an isolated elder, or perhaps fulfilling times grocery shopping with a middle-age person who can no longer see. You realize that your service as a Duet volunteer has led to some of the most enriching times of your life. Now – come back to the present. Please make these “memories” a reality by becoming a Duet volunteer! Call 602-274-5022 or visit www.duetaz.org to RSVP for an upcoming volunteer orientation or to request help. Thank you!

Suggested Bible Readings for April

April 2 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm: Psalm 130

Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11

Gospel: John 11:1-45

April 9 (Palm Sunday)

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm: Psalm 31:9-16

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Matthew 26:14—27:66

Gospel (alternate): Matthew 27:11-54

April 13 (Maundy Thursday)

First Reading: Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 14 (Good Friday)

First Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Psalm: Psalm 22

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:16-25

Second Reading (alternate): Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Gospel: John 18:1—19:42

April 16 (Easter Sunday)

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

First Reading (alternate): Jeremiah 31:1-6

Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Second Reading (alternate): Acts 10:34-43

Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

Gospel (alternate): John 20:1-18

April 23 (Second Sunday in Easter)

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Psalm: Psalm 16

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Gospel: John 20:19-31

April 30 (Third Sunday in Easter)

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

Calendar April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<p>1- 9:00 am LSS-SW Foster Care Class- Basement Classrooms 9:00 am Shot in the Dark- Basement Classrooms 11:00 Sisters of the Valley- Hope Hall 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space NCAA Event-Margaret Hance Park Parking Lot Shared with Phoenix Center for the Arts</p>
<p>2- 7:30 am Community Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Grace Time- Hope Hall 11:00 am Traditional Worship- Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space Lester on Vacation NCAA Event-Margaret Hance Park Phoenix PD and FD West Parking Lot Use</p>	<p>3- 9:00 am Grace Room 11:00 am Urban Treckers Book Club-North Room 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space Parking Lot Shared with Phoenix Center for the Arts Pastor Sarah's Sabbath</p>	<p>4- 10:00 am Prayer Group 12:00 pm Daily Lenten Prayer-Sanctuary 5:15 pm Phoenix Children's Choir- Hope Hall 5:30 pm Yoga Class with Tami- Sanctuary</p>	<p>5- 9:15 am Staff Meeting 12:00 pm Daily Lenten Prayer-Sanctuary 5:15 pm Lenten Dinner -Hope Hall 6:30 pm Lenten Worship-Sanctuary 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space</p>	<p>6- 9:30 am WELCA Meeting- North Room 12:00 pm Daily Lenten Prayer-Sanctuary 5:30 pm Bells of Grace- Sanctuary 5:45 pm Trevor's Vision Community Meal- Hope Hall 6:30 pm Chancel Choir- Choir Room 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space</p>	<p>7- 3:30 pm Fire & Water Church Meal and Service- Hope Hall 6:00 pm First Friday- Sanctuary and Hope Hall 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event-Sanctuary and Trunk Space Lester's Sabbath Office Closed</p>	<p>8- 9:00 am- LSS-SW Foster Care Class- Basement Classrooms 11:00 am NAUM Worship- Hope Hall 11:00 am Improv Class- Trunk Space 5:00 pm-Cinema Club 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space Grace Parking Lot Fundraiser</p>
<p>9- 7:30 am Community Pancake Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Grace Time- Hope Hall 11:00 am Traditional Worship- Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:30 pm Faith Formation Ministry Team Meeting- North Room 12:30 pm Faith Formation Ministry Team Meeting-North Room 12:45 pm New Life in Christ- Sanctuary 2:30 pm Sisters of the Valley-Hope Hall Parking Lot Fundraiser</p>	<p>10- 9:00 am Grace Room 9:00 am Healthcare for the Homeless-North Room 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal Pastor Sarah's Sabbath</p>	<p>11- 10:00 am Prayer Group 12:00 pm Daily Lenten Prayer-Sanctuary 5:15 pm Phoenix Children's Choir- Hope Hall 5:30 pm Yoga Class with Tami- Sanctuary 6:30 pm- Ministry Night</p>	<p>12- 9:15 am Staff Meeting 10:00 am Knitwits-North Room 12:00 pm Daily Lenten Prayer-Sanctuary 7:00 pm Evans Church Meeting 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space NO GLOW Dinner</p>	<p>13- 12:00 pm Daily Lenten Prayer-Sanctuary 5:30 pm Bells of Grace- Sanctuary 5:45 pm Trevor's Vision Community Meal- Hope Hall 6:30 pm Chancel Choir- Choir Room 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship-Sanctuary 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space</p>	<p>14- 12:00 pm Good Friday Worship-Sanctuary 3:30 pm Fire & Water Church Meal and Service-Hope Hall 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship-Sanctuary 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space Lester's Sabbath Office Closed</p>	<p>15- 9:00 am LSS-SW Foster Care Class- Basement Classrooms 9:00 am Easter Egg Decoration-Hope Hall 10:00 am Oasis Church Meal- Courtyard 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space</p>
<p>16- 7:30 am Community Pancake Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Morning Easter Worship with NAUM-Courtyard 9:45 am Grace Time- Hope Hall 11:00 am Easter Worship-Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:45 pm New Life in Christ- Sanctuary</p>	<p>17- 9:00 am Grace Room 11:00 am Urban Treckers Book Club-North Room 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal Pastor Sarah's Sabbath</p>	<p>18- 10:00 am Prayer Group 5:15 pm Phoenix Children's Choir- Hope Hall 5:30 pm Yoga Class with Tami- Sanctuary</p>	<p>19- 9:15 am Staff Meeting 5:15 pm GLOW-Hope Hall 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space</p>	<p>20- 9:30 am Biblical Equipping-North Room 2:00 pm St. Joseph the Worker Mobile Success Unit-Burton Barr Library (1221 N Central Ave) 5:30 pm Bells of Grace-Sanctuary 5:45 pm Trevor's Vision Community Meal- Hope Hall 6:30 pm Chancel Choir- Choir Room 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space</p>	<p>21- 3:30 pm Fire & Water Church Meal and Service-Hope Hall 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space Lester's Sabbath Office Closed</p>	<p>22- 8:30 am Phoenix Children's Choir-Sanctuary and Hope Hall 11:00 am- NAUM Worship- Hope Hall 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space Parking Lot Fundraiser</p>
<p>23- 7:30 am Community Pancake Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Grace Time- Hope Hall 11:00 am Traditional Worship-Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:45 pm New Life in Christ- Sanctuary</p>	<p>24- 9:00 am Grace Room 9:00 am Healthcare for the Homeless-North Room 6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space Pastor Sarah's Sabbath</p>	<p>25- 10:00 am Prayer Group 5:15 pm Phoenix Children's Choir- Hope Hall 5:30 pm Yoga Class with Tami- Sanctuary 6:30 pm- Council Meeting</p>	<p>26- 9:15 am Staff Meeting 5:15 pm GLOW-Hope Hall 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space</p>	<p>27- 5:30 pm Bells of Grace-Sanctuary 5:45 pm Trevor's Vision Community Meal-Hope Hall 6:30 pm Chancel Choir- Choir Room 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space</p>	<p>28- 7:00 am Dia de Los Niños 3:30 pm Fire & Water Church Meal and Service-Hope Hall 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space Lester's Sabbath Office Closed</p>	<p>29- 11:00 am Improv Class- Trunk Space 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space</p>
<p>30- 7:30 am Community Pancake Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Grace Time- Hope Hall 11:00 am Traditional Worship-Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:30 pm Homebound Visits 12:45 pm New Life in Christ- Sanctuary 7:00 pm Trunk Space Event- Trunk Space</p>						

April Worship Assistants

DATE	April 2	April 9 (Palm Sunday)	April 13 (Maundy Thursday—7:00 pm)	April 14 (Good Friday—12:00 pm)	April 14 (Good Friday—7:00 pm)
Preacher	Pastor Sarah	Pastor Sarah	Pastor Sarah	Pastor Sarah	Pastor Sarah
Crucifer	Daniel Ramirez	Lori Cecil			
Greeters	Brian Flatgard Clark Olson	Joey Lay Nancy Tickle	Marjie Bell Gene Bell	Bev Zannos Nancy Tickle	Brian Flatgard Brenda Baird
Reader	Marjie Bell			Marlene Haller	Donna Martin
Ushers	Dorothy Ziehl Gene Bell	Dorothy Ziehl John Erickson	Larry Schilling Alice Schilling	Marty Dusenberry TBD	John Erickson TBD
Sound Board	Tim Gallen	Joey Lay	Joey Lay	TBD	TBD
Bread Baker	Marjie Bell	Evalyn Ehlen	Solveig Muus		
8:30 Reader	Margie Betz	Roger Ark			

DATE	April 16 (Easter Sunday—8:30 am)	April 16 (Easter Sunday—11:00 am)	April 23	April 30
Preacher	Pastor Sarah	Pastor Sarah	Pastor Sarah	Pastor Sarah
Crucifer			Solveig Muus	Lori Cecil
Greeters			Kathy Spitler Jim Spitler	Bev Zannos Alice Schilling
Reader	Frankie Ark	Solveig Muus	Fran Fry	Joe Dani
Ushers			Dorothy Ziehl Marjie Bell	Dorothy Ziehl Larry Schilling
Sound Board			Joey Lay	Joey Lay
Bread Baker	Marjie Bell	Marjie Bell	Stephanie Rodin	Nicole Gallen
8:30 Reader	Frankie Ark			Joey Lay



Happy Birthday!



April 1 *Kenneth Jones*
April 3 *Seth Morey*
April 6 *Shelley Boshens*
April 7 *Lance Schilling*
April 9 *Sherwood Glover*
April 10 *Scott Knutson*
April 12 *Carol Staffieri*

April 14 *Dennis Morey*
April 16 *Judith Baker*
April 18 *Sara Rodriguez*
April 19 *Bonnie Anthony*
April 28 *Roger Ark*
April 28 *Renee Waterstradt*
April 29 *Debra Hewitt*

Grace Lutheran Staff

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Praise Band Leader: Chad Hernandez-Cole
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Social Worker: Jeff Jirak
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Grace Lutheran Church Council Members

President Renee Waterstradt
Vice President Tim Gallen
Secretary Roger Ark
Treasurer Ruth Bowman
Director Fran Fry
Director Brian Flatgard
Director Marty Dusenberry
Director Amy Poling
Director Haley Meier



Grace Lutheran Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9 am - 12 pm