



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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Email: office@bglutheran.com

Worship Service

Sunday 10:30 am

Sunday School & Bible Class 9am

Bible Studies & Fellowship Opportunities:

January 4—De-decoration: After 10:30am Service. Please join us as we gather to take down the Christmas decorations. Chili luncheon to follow.

Ladies' Bible Study—Monday, 1/12 at 6:30pm.

Men's Club— Thursday, 1/8 at 4:30pm.

Wednesdays at 10:00am at Karen's house—
Starting January 7.

During this past year our Grace Ladies have had an additional opportunity for Bible Study. Purposely offered during daytime hours for those who choose not to drive in the dark.

What are we all about? Using the acronym SOAP we follow :

Song/Scripture
Observation
Application
Prayer



This choice works well to keep us on track. Because we love our old hymns and don't want to lose them, it becomes a good way to profile the history. It has become so interesting to the who, what, where, why and when that we are continually amazed. To realize that we are still singing a hymn that was written in the 1600s or 1800s, and loving and being blessed by it when we focus on the words we talk about the message given and the why.

Next we look up the scriptures related to the song's message and look up each one (usually about 10 scripture passages). As they are each read aloud comes the observation and the application which we discuss what the meaning has for us and how we can apply it to our lives (giving us hope, peace, faith, love, courage and affirmation.) Drawing us closer to our Lord and Savior. Importantly, we begin with prayer to ask the Lord to open our hearts and minds to hear and learn. We close thanking Him for the opportunity to gather together and many other things.

What Might The Lord Have In Store For The New Year At Grace?

What's up in 2026? It's always dangerous when a church believes its best days were in the past. God has been good to our congregation in the past, but I still believe that He has even greater things in store. We may never be as big as this congregation once was but as we mature and grow, God will use us more and more for his purposes. As we grow, God molds us into extraordinary servants. What does that look like?

Extraordinary servants know God intimately

Everything in the Church begins and ends with the Holy One, the triune God who has revealed himself to us, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. His continuing revelation through the Word and Sacraments is the lifeblood of the Church, the people of God.

Paul prayed that the Ephesians would grow in the wisdom and knowledge of God, to know how high and wide and long and deep Christ's love for us truly is. The more we know His love and experience His grace in our daily living, the more we are transformed into extraordinary servants.

I encourage you to participate in weekly worship and Bible study with your sisters and brothers in the Christian family. I'm praying that 2026 will be a memorable year for our growth in faith and life as God continues to reveal to us the wonders of his love!

Extraordinary servants do God's work diligently

More and more of our people are discovering the joys of being the gloves on the hands of God, the chosen servants through whom God does his work in the world. The priesthood of all believers is a central teaching of the Lutheran faith. I marvel at your extraordinary servanthood every day, and I know I see only a small portion of the loving service you offer in our world.

This year I want to be a better encourager of all the extraordinary servants God has raised up among us. The more we can all pitch in together, the lighter the load on the faithful core that is always there plugging along.

Extraordinary servants invite others eagerly

What does a disciple do? A disciple does what the Master says. What did our Master tell us to do? Make disciples! How do you know when someone has been made a disciple? They do what the Master says. What did the Master tell us to do?...

I'm glad for the generation before that took disciple making seriously enough to share with me and with you the saving love of Christ. Then, the next generation depends on us.

We are surrounded by the lost. There are people on every street on which we live who don't yet know of the love of the Savior who was born, lived the life of a servant, died and rose for them.

Who invites a friend to church? Research on those who make a regular habit of eagerly inviting others shows that these extraordinary servants have three common traits. Number one, they are excited about their Savior. They are eager to have others know the love and joy they have found as a follower of Jesus. Number two, they are excited about their church. They know that their friends will be welcomed, treated with compassion, dignity and respect, and accepted as part of the family. If you are not excited about your church, let me know why. And number three, they are excited about their pastor. If you think your pastor is a bore, you're not likely to introduce a friend. (I'm always working on this one. Give me your prayers.)

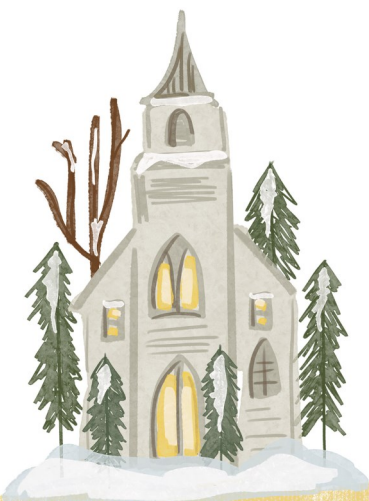
Let's work together to become the kind of church to which we'd all be proud to bring a friend! 2026 could be the year of invitations!

Does this say it all about what extraordinary servants are and do? No, more could be said, but we will leave that for another time. Thank you very much for your gifts of time, talent and treasure offered to my family and me and to this congregation of God's. I pray that your 2026 is one that you can be proud of and excited about. If I can play a role in that or if you can play a role in adding to that process for our congregation, please let me know.

God's peace be with you.

Love, Pastor

Great news the Epiphany event is scheduled for Sunday, January 4th, right after church. Undecorate first, eating afterwards. There will probably be coffee for those not planning to help with the decoration take-down. But I don't think there will be any treats.



Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him
with joyful songs.
Psalm 100:2, NIV

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Thomas Dorsey, a jazz musician from Atlanta, made a bold decision in 1926 to leave behind secular music and devote his talent to writing songs for the Lord. But following that call wasn't easy. During the Great Depression, many church leaders criticized his soulful gospel style, calling it "the devil's music." Dorsey later joked, "I got kicked out of some of the best churches in the land."

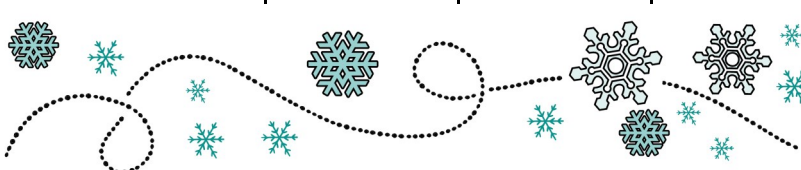
Then, in 1932, tragedy struck. While in St. Louis for a revival, he received a telegram that his wife had died suddenly during childbirth. His faith was shaken to the core, and grief nearly silenced him. Yet in his deepest sorrow, Dorsey turned back to what he knew best — music. Out of that heartbreak came one of the most beloved hymns of all time:

*"Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand.
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn..."*

Dorsey's song reminds us that even in our valleys, God is near — guiding us, strengthening us, and using our pain to comfort others who walk the same road.

Servants	January 4	January 11	January 18	January 25
ACOLYTE	Caeden	Caeden	Caeden	Caeden
ALTAR COMMITTEE	Rika & Colleen	Rika & Colleen	Rika & Colleen	Rika & Colleen
SCRIPTURE READERS	Sandie Miller	Lenore Onyon	Joan Gregory	Caeden
COMMUNION ASST.	Dave Magelssen		Sandie Miller	
PIANIST	Janet Mehus	Janet Mehus	Janet Mehus	Janet Mehus
ORGANIST	Brent Johnson	Brent Johnson	Brent Johnson	Brent Johnson
USHERS	Jon Huffman Dick Johnson	Dan Persse	Bruce Shelton Jay Pukaluk	Jim Higby

JANUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2	3
4 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Sunday School w. Communion De-decorate Party	5	6	7 Bible Study at Karen's 10am	8 Men's Bible Study 4:30	9	10
11 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Sunday School 4:30 Contemporary	12 Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm	13	14 Bible Study at Karen's 10am	15	16	17
18 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Sunday School w. Communion 4:30 Contemporary Family Dinner	19 MLK Jr. Day Office Closed	20	21 Bible Study at Karen's 10am	22 Men's Bible Study 4:30	23	24
25 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Sunday School 4:30 Contemporary	26 Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm	27	28 Bible Study at Karen's 10am	29	30	31
Pastor Vacation						

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kristi Galbraith
- 3 Athena Johnson
Kara Hinchey
Eadward Johnson
- 5 Todd Pomerening
- 8 Laura Nelson
Beckum Bleazard
- 10 Delray Carleton
Cynthia Thompson

- 11 Ruth Chiko
- 15 Jay Pukaluk
Margarette Dittmann
- 18 Charlene Liebert
- 19 Shane Thompson
- 21 Hunter Liebert
Adeline Tucker
- 22 Carol Delong
- 23 George Holmes

- 24 Kelsy Berg
- 25 Kelley Zuch
Jeremiah Tevelde
- 28 Richard Johnson
Rick Thompson
- 31 Cheryl Perse

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Jason & Niki Wildermuth