

Grace Lutheran Church is currently navigating a significant season of transition, but we are doing so with vibrant energy, strong leadership, and a clear vision for the future. While the congregation faces a permanently called pastoral vacancy, we are blessed to have an interim pastor to shepherd the community through this season of change and spiritual renewal.

As we walk through this chapter together, we are holding one another close. To prepare for our next chapter, a dedicated Call Committee is working diligently behind the scenes, pouring their time and discernment into the search for our next permanently called pastor. The congregation is deeply encouraged to hold the Call Committee in continuous prayer, asking for wisdom, patience, and guidance as they seek the leader God is preparing for us.

This transition has highlighted the deep dedication woven throughout our church home. A profound thank you goes out to the Church Council, our 22 distinct committees and chairs, and every committee member for offering uplifting worship within Grace and keeping our services entirely uninterrupted. Excitingly, our committee memberships are growing, and there is always room for everyone to join a new committee and share their unique passions.

Our community is not just sustaining—we are thriving and growing as one unified congregation, blessed by a beautiful influx of both new and returning members. We are filled with immense blessings and gratefulness for every member of Grace, recognizing that each individual brings a unique light and purpose to our shared ministry. During this time, members can look out for one another by reaching out with a phone call, offering a listening ear, checking in on neighbors, and lifting each other up in daily prayer. Through these small acts of grace, we ensure no one walks this journey alone. Together, we have been deeply gifted by these relationships, celebrated holy baptisms, and faithfully held and prayed over our homebound members. Furthermore, our Sunday School and Youth Groups has seen wonderful growth in this new season, bringing fresh energy and faith formation to our youngest disciples.

To foster these growing bonds, Grace has been hosting vibrant congregational events to allow for fellowship together, building deeper connections, and providing meaningful service in our community. True to our belief that "all means all," we have also opened our doors wide this year, hosting many of our wonderful community partners within our walls.

None of this would have happened without the incredible spirit of stewardship at Grace. We extend our deepest gratitude to:

- **Our Volunteers:** Thank you to the many hands who stepped up to provide fresh ideas, strong leadership, and a helping hand at every turn.
- **Our Staff:** Thank you to our dedicated staff for sharing their immense time, energy, and talents to keep our operations running smoothly.
- **Our Congregation:** Thank you to each and every member of our congregation for generously sharing your unique spiritual and financial gifts.

With a diligent Call Committee looking ahead, a praying congregation lifting them up, and an interim pastor walking beside us, this season serves as a powerful reminder that Grace Lutheran Church is defined by its people and its collective commitment to weather seasons of change together.

In Christ,

Kerri Howley

Vice President, Church Council