

MAY

2021 TOWER ECHOES

From the Pastor,

Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

The resurrection is at the core of the Christian faith. If there is no resurrection than there is only death. We are still in the season of Easter. We are still celebrating Christ's victory over death. This victory is much too important to be celebrated just one day then put on the back burner. This victory is the hope that our faith is built upon. We can wake each morning knowing that God has power even over death.

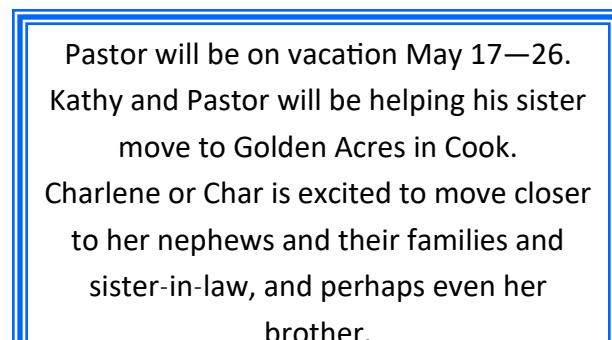
May 23 is the Day of Pentecost. The risen Lord sends God's Holy Spirit up His disciples to be the church to spread the good news of Jesus victory over death. The Sundays after Pentecost are concerned with how we are to live our lives now that we know death has no power over us.

Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

Pastor Jim



One may wear red on Pentecost Sunday (May 23) as a way of celebrating the Church being gifted the power of the Holy Spirit.



Pastor Kate Woolf from Faith Lutheran, Talmage will be available in case of pastoral emergencies. Her cell phone is 316-371-0803.

Church Seasons: The Church Season of Sundays of Easter continues until May 23. We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and the hope it gives us and the call to share this hope with others. May 23 is the day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is bestowed on the Apostles and other disciples to give them power to proclaim the good news of Jesus' resurrection. The season of Sundays after Pentecost continues until Advent. We spend six months learning how to live our faith as a Holy Spirit gifted Church and as a Holy Spirit gifted person.

Church Festival Days: May 1—Philip & James Apostles
May 13—Ascension of Our Lord
May 23—The Day of Pentecost
May 30—The Holy Trinity
May 31—Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

U.S. Holidays: May 1 – May Day
May 5—Cinco de Mayo
May 6—National Day of Prayer
May 9 – Mother's Day
May 15 - Armed Forces Day
May 31 – Memorial Day

Thank you!!

Thank you for all the cards and especially the prayers! It is a great comfort to Ann and I to know we have a terrific network of family and friends keeping us in your thought and prayers.

Jerry and Ann Dieckgrafe

Thank you to all of you that remembered me since my recent surgery. God Bless you all.

Judy Brinkman



Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go to the families of **Evelyn Effken**.

Evelyn passed away on April 7th. Her funeral was held at Grace Lutheran Church on April 20th.

May Anniversaries

5/6 - Mike & Erin Rolf
5/7 - Chuck & Kristy Ebeler
5/7 - Kyle & Ashley Wellensiek
5/24 - Steve & Jodell Bridgmon
5/27 - Dean & Jody Wellensiek
5/27 - Ryan & Amy Beethe
5/29 - Jack & Shelley Moles

BASKETS OF PROMISE

We are collecting the following items that will be used to assemble Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. We will end the collection on Mother's Day as we honor these mothers by helping them ensure health for themselves and their families with the assistance of these kits.

Bars of Soap (4-5 oz.) Any brand in the original wrapping *Toothbrushes* *Combs and Nail Clippers*
Bath Towels (lightweight, maximum size 52" x 27", dark colors are recommended)

May 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:30 am Worship w/ Communion	Graduating Senior Recognition				JCC & Syracuse Graduation	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:30 am	Matthew	Bible Study 1:30 p.m.		Church Council 7:00 p.m.		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:30 am Worship w/ Communion		Piecemakers Blanket Making		Tower Echoes Deadline		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:30 am Worship	Pentecost					
Pastor Roger Hoffman						
30	31					
8:30 am Worship		memorial DAY				
		ALTAR COMMITTEE - Diane Ekhoff				

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 4th Sharley Thompson

May 6th Travis Armknecht

Aiden Weber

Allison Brinkman

May 8th Carol Armknecht

May 9th Daymon Francois

Aleisha McDonald

May 12th Isabel Gerking

May 13th Alta Bohling

May 15th Carl Purcell

May 17th Samantha Francois

May 22nd Trevor Bailey

May 27th Steve Schulte

Mike Rolf

May 28th Eunice Weber

Carol Wiebke

May 29th Luetta Bruns

Blakely Kuhl

May 30th Bryce Cropp

Holly Kuhl

Henry Rolf

WORSHIP DUTY— May 2 & 9— Gene & Diane Ekhoff

May 16, 23 & 30— TBD

Grace Lutheran Church Council

20 April 2021

Grace Lutheran Church Council met 20 April 2021. The meeting was called to order by Paul Wilken. Pastor Jim Helgren started the meeting with a prayer. Council members present were Paul Wilken, Amber Beard, Bret Wellensiek, Erin Ebeler Rolf, Kate Dietz, and Mitchell Brinkman. Also in attendance were Pastor Jim Helgren and Diane Wilken, church secretary/treasurer.

Kate Dietz made a motion to accept the minutes of the 16 March 2021 meeting. Mitchell Brinkman seconded. Motion carried.

The financial report was reviewed. The account balances as of 31 March 2021 were reviewed. Bret Wellensiek made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Erin Ebeler Rolf seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor Helgren's Monthly Report:

Ridgeview is open and Pastor can make visits. Worship, beginning 3 May 2021, will be permitted on Mondays. But unfortunately, Ridgeview will be closing in 30 days. 2 May 2021 will be Grace Lutheran Church Graduating Senior's recognition during Service. Pastor was able to visit congregation members at home. 26-30 April 2021 Pastor will be in Milwaukee. Pastor will be returning to Milwaukee again in May. Pastor Roger Hoffman will cover worship 23 May 2021. Funeral was held 20 April 2021. Church was able to hold approximately 125 family and friends with most Covid rules followed. Confirmation will be 25 April 2021.

Correspondence: Nebraska Outdoor Ministry is requesting financial assistance for their Summer Ministry Team.

Committee Reports:

Property committee: Council – Bret Wellensiek:

- Sidewalks (update) – there was discussion about replacing window wells prior to adding concrete on the east side of the church. Erin Ebeler Rolf made motion to replace window wells and add \$1,600 to the current bid. Bret Wellensiek seconded. Motion carried.
- Electrical – an outlet was placed outside on the east side of the church and timers were replaced with new timers that have a battery backup and programmed for the time change. This will hopefully take care of the issues with power outages and time changes. It will be requested to have the sign fixed in the park by the electrician.

Worship, Evangelism, Music & Fellowship: Council – Erin Ebeler Rolf:

- Looking at research and data in response to COVID mandates:
<https://www.unmc.edu/healthsecurity/covid-19/PRAM.html>

Parish Ed & Young People: Council – Amber Beard:

- Lisa Weber stated the last grab and go will be 02 May 2021, and Sunday School will be reassessed in fall.
- Dawn Thompson celebrated a \$179.57 gain toward Youth Group trip collected after Easter Service. They are still trying to create a meeting time where everyone can attend.
- Vacation Bible School – there has not been a decision made about having it or not

Stewardship & Memorial: Council – Kate Dietz:

- The Memorial plaque for the past Pastors will be dropped off to be finalized.

Other Business:

Old Business:

- Replacing the window in the door – Paul Wilken will order the insert

New Business:

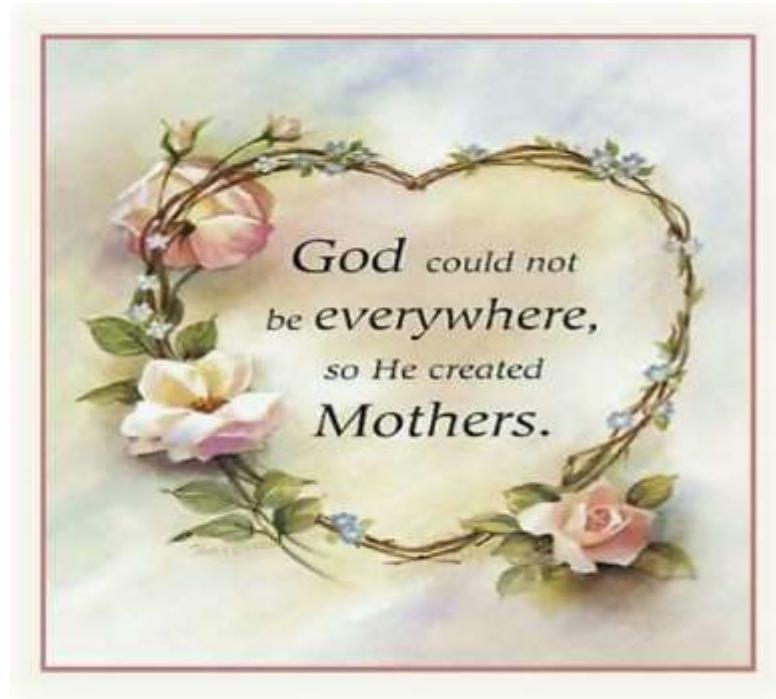
- Weddings/Services/Communion
 - ◊ Weddings – will be reviewed as they become closer
 - ◊ Services – Will be reviewed on a monthly basis. Nothing has changed so we will remain with the same protocol that we have been following.
 - ◊ Communion – several options were discussed, we will stay with the prepackaged units for the time being.
- Mission Festival – (October 17th) Table Grace Cafe has a restaurant in Omaha
 - ◊ Service will be held by Table Grace
 - ◊ Table Grace Food truck will be brought and set up outside for serving the meal
- Duty Roster
- Insurance for Church

Next Meeting will be 13 May 2021 at 7PM

Meeting was adjourned by Paul Wilken and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Amber L. Beard

If anyone is interested in doing
the Altar Committee duties for
July please sign up in the SE
office on the calendar.



Grace Lutheran Church

306 N. First St.

P.O. Box 96

Cook, NE 68329

ADDRESS

CORRECTION

REQUESTED



Church Office: 402-864-4201

Pastor Jim Helgren: 402-864-2113

Church Email: grace68329@gmail.com