



CHRIST IS RISEN!

CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

When texting using all CAPS is a way of expressing ANGER. Caps can also express excitement or emphasis or exclamation.

The devil probably would use caps to express the anger of the thinking God lost humanity when the devil convinced the religious leaders and the Roman governor to kill the Son of God. The death of Jesus meant whatever God's plan was to use the Son to save humanity was thwarted with the death of the Son. Who could have guessed that the death of the Son was part of the plan. Who would sacrifice their life for stupid humans?

The women who went to the tomb of Jesus on Easter morning attended with grief and left with excitement and fear. The two disciples on the road to Emmaus returned to Jerusalem after realizing the stranger was Jesus and were EXCITED to proclaim the resurrection to the apostles and others.

The angels used caps to send a text to the devil to express the joy of knowing that God is more powerful and wise than the devil ever can be.

JESUS THE CHRIST IS RISEN!!! HAHA!!! GOD WINS! YOU LOSE! HUMANITY IS SAVED!
HAHA!

Have a HAPPY EASTER because JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN!!! INDEED!!!

Pastor Jim

HOLY WEEK

April 2 Holy (Maundy) Thursday with First Communion
at Grace Lutheran—7:00 p.m.

April 3 Good Friday at Hope Lutheran—7:00 p.m.

April 5 Resurrection of Our Lord

Grace Lutheran Worship w/Communion - 8:30 a.m.

Hope Lutheran Worship w/Communion - 10:00 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Rite of Confirmation is April 26th at the 8:30 a.m. Worship Service.

Lucas Cropp, Jude Fricke & Hayden Wellensiek will make their Affirmation of Baptism and become a confirmed member of Grace Lutheran Church.

Lenten/Easter Offering

The offering for Lent has been designated to be sent to Oaks Indian Mission.

The Easter Offering will go towards the new water line, with any additional funds to the Nebraska Synod Mission Field Nebraska.

BASKETS OF PROMISE

The Women of Grace are again sponsoring the "Baskets of Promise" project for Lutheran World Relief. This has been a successful project, and we thank everyone who participated in the past and again this year.

For 5 weeks, beginning April 12th, we will be collecting items that will be used to assemble the Personal Care Kits. We will end the collection on Mother's Day as we honor these mothers by helping them ensure health for themselves and their families by being able to use these kits that we provide for them.

Bars of Soap (4-5 oz.) Any brand in the original wrapping.

Bath Towels (lightweight, maximum size 52" x 27", dark colors are recommended).

Toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)

Sturdy Combs

Nail Clippers (Metal, attached file optional).

Mother's Day will be the last Sunday of the gathering, but items can be brought at anytime.

First Communion

Brylee Cropp, Cooper Kuhl and Dean Wellensiek received their First Communion on Maundy Thursday 4/2/26.

April Birthdays

5th – Ryan Panko

8th – Janet Dieckgrafe

9th - Lisa Cropp

13th – Robin Eggleston

15th – Mitchell Brinkman

17th – Tom Brinkman

19th – Robyn Faris

21st – Michael Carman

24th – Lori Panko

28th – Owen Weber

29th - Amber Baehr

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

14th - Joe & Ellen Brinkman

29th - Dave & Diane Smith

April 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Confirmation 6:00 pm	2 Maundy Thursday worship @ Grace 7:00 pm	3 Good Friday worship @ Hope 7:00 pm	4
5 EASTER SUNDAY Worship w/Communion - 8:30 am NO Sunday School	6	7	8 Kids for Christ 4:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm	9	10	11
12 Worship - 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am	13 Grace & Hope Bible Study 2:00 pm	14	15 Confirmation 6:00 pm Church Council 7:00 pm	16	17	18 NE Synod Road Show @ Grace 10 am - 3 pm
19 Worship w/Communion - 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am	20	21 Piecemakers Blanket Making	22 Kids for Christ 4:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm	23	24 <i>TOWER ECHOES DEADLINE</i>	25
26 Worship w/Rite of Confirmation - 8:30 am NO Sunday School	27	28	29	30		

Grace Lutheran Church Council March 17, 2026

The regular meeting of the Grace Lutheran Church Council was called to order by President Cheryl Grundman at 7:01 pm – Members present: Cheryl Grundman, Mike Carman, Ryan Panko, Jody Wellensiek, Lisa Weber, Owen Weber (Luther League Representative) and Diane Wilken (Church Treasurer). Pastor Helgren led with an opening prayer.

Minutes of the February 2026 meeting were reviewed. Mike Carman motioned to accept and Ryan Panko second. Minutes approved.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed.

It was noted we received an anonymous check for \$5,000 and an offering plate donation of \$1,000 for waterline repair. Both of these extremely generous gifts are greatly appreciated! Jody Wellensiek motioned to accept the treasurer's report and include the added information categories, Ryan Panko second, motion carried.

Correspondence: none

Pastor's report:

February visits reported on shut-ins, hospitalized.

A candle table will continue at the front of the church for use during Lent.

First Communion Classes for Cooper Kuhl, Dean Wellensiek, and Brylee Cropp at Grace will be March 17,24,31, with First Communion service during Maundy Thursday at Grace at 7:00pm on April 2.

March 22 Pastor will lead a Lay Leader training at Grace at 4:00pm.

March 23 Pastor will lead a Visitation training at Grace at 2:00pm.

"Coffee, Chaos and Church" will be held for church administrators on April 17 at Grace.

NE Synod "On the Road Again" will be held at Grace Lutheran on April 18th.

Pastor will attend a zoom workshop on April 23 "Preparing your Congregation for your Retirement Part 2".

The wedding for Erin Ebeler and Scott Herman is set for September 12.

Property - (Mike and Ryan co-chairs) Mike gave an update on the waterline. Next steps include attending a Village Board meeting to attain permissions/permits.

Worship, Evangelism & Fellowship - (Jody Chair) –Date for Rogation Sunday is May 3.

Invitations were sent out to Graduates and their families for the Senior Breakfast, also set for May 3.

Parish Ed & Young People – (all co-chairs)

VBS will be at Osage this year.

Stewardship & Memorial – (Lisa Chair) a discussion was had on possible items to purchase with memorial monies. No decision at this time.

New Business

The church Insurance Committee provided information on options. Council will review the information.

Due to the generosity of our members through the anonymous check for \$5,000 and the donation of \$1,000, we now have the funds for the water line.

Ryan Panko motioned that the Easter offering now be designated for Mission Field Nebraska, Owen Weber second. Motion carried.

Thank you to the two anonymous donors for the water line repair. Your generosity is a great example to us all, and we are extremely grateful for this blessing.

Next meeting – April 15, 2026, at 7:00 pm.
Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Weber

Church Seasons: April begins with us being in the middle of Holy Week. Not really Lent but not - not Lent. Holy Week leads us to Sunday, April 5, The Resurrection of Our Lord. The season following will be known as the time of Easter. It is a joyous time for praising God for using Jesus, the Son, to conquer sin, death, and the power of the devil for us. The church season will continue until May 24.

Church Festival Days: **Holy Week**

April 2 - Maundy Thursday/Holy Thursday

April 3 – Good Friday

April 4 – Holy Saturday

April 5—**The Resurrection of Our Lord**

April 25—Mark, Evangelist

Jewish Festival Days: April 1—Passover Begins

U.S. Holidays: April 1—April Fools Day

April 5 —Easter

April 15—Tax Day

April 22—Earth Day

Administrative Professionals Day





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