



Faith, Grace & Hope Welcome Pastor Kate Woolf

with a Worship Service & Potluck Dinner



Sunday, September 13th

at Grace Lutheran

10:00 am Worship

with potluck to follow

***Shredded Pork and
Buns will be provided!***

Come worship with us as we welcome Pastor Kate Woolf, who will serve our three congregations as we begin this new ministry together. Following the service, please stay for fellowship and a potluck dinner as we celebrate this exciting new chapter for our church families. Bring a dish of your choice.

Everyone is welcome!

KIDS FOR CHRIST

Kids for Christ will meet the second and fourth Wednesdays after school on the days that school is in session. The after-school program will run from 4 pm to 6 pm, beginning Sept 9th. All children K thru 6th grade are welcome to attend.

We will meet the school bus and help the students cross the street. The students will participate in devotion, a Bible lesson, music, crafts, and an evening meal. We ask that the consent form accompany your child on the first day of class.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE LUTHERAN CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2026

—PASTOR KATE WOOLF—

Pastor Kate's Phone #: (316)-371-0803

Date	Day	Faith's Church Time	Grace's Church Time	Hope's Church Time
September 2026				
September 6	Sunday	8:00 AM	NICK WEBER 10:00 AM	10:00 AM
September 13	Sunday	<i>Joint Service between Faith, Grace & Hope: 10:00 AM @ Grace Followed by a Potluck to Welcome Pastor Kate Woolf</i>		
September 20	Sunday	No Pastor Led Service	10:00 AM	8:00 AM
September 27	Sunday	8:00 AM	10:00 AM	No Pastor Led Service

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

6th - Nick Weber
 9th - Cory Panko
 11th - Lindsay Badertscher
 Dean (Little) Wellensiek
 12th - Amy Cropp-Perkins
 17th - Robert Schmidt
 24th - Kate Dietz
 26th - Beth Panko
 27th - Baker Schippert
 29th - Dave Smith

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 17th Terry & Beth Panko
 Sept 21st Thomas & Ann Keigher
 Sept 30th Gene & Diane Ekhooff

NEW ADDRESS:

Jim & Kathy Helgren
 7450 Shadow Lake Plaza, Apt 216
 Papillion, NE 68046

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 ELCW Mtg. 7:00 pm	4	5
6 10:00 am - Worship Service led by Nick Weber	7	8 Grace & Hope Bible Study @ Grace 2:00 pm	9 Kids for Christ 4:00 pm	10	11	12 Ebeler/ Herman Wedding
13 10:00 am - 3 Point Joint Worship w/Communion followed by Potluck WELCOMING PASTOR KATE	14	15 Piecemakers Blanket Making - All Day Church Council - 7:00 pm	16	17	18	19
20 9:15 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/Communion Pastor Kate	21	22	23 Kids for Christ 4:00 pm	24	25	26
27 9:15 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Pastor Kate	28	29	30			

Sunday School

Sunday School will resume on September 20th before the Sunday Worship Service at 9:15 a.m. Please help us share the wonderful story of Jesus with your children.

CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

Following service on Sunday, August 9th, Council President Cheryl Grundman gave an update on the tripoints ministry and asked for congregational input on several topics. The meeting began at 10:18 am. Here is a summary of the informational meeting:

On Thursday, August 6th, a transitional agreement was signed by Hope, Grace and Faith. This agreement has now been sent to the Synod.

Pastor Kate shared with the councils that she would like to be addressed simply as Pastor Kate. A three-month schedule for worship times was shared with the congregation. Paper copies are available at the back of the church, and an online version appeared in the August Tower Echoes. It was noted that there may be changes to the schedule.

The congregation may call or text Pastor Kate.

The congregation was asked to only bring offering to services at Grace. There will not be an offering plate for Grace offerings at the other churches if you are traveling.

A discussion was had about printing church service times in the Syracuse newspaper and the Nemaha Valley newspaper. This will be difficult, because service times will be changing. Unless someone volunteers for the job of notifying the papers of service times, we will stop printing service times in these newspapers.

A discussion about having communion once or twice a month was had. By show of hands, the majority prefers communion once a month. This information will be reported to the church council.

A discussion was had about options for the no pastor led Sundays. Nick Weber and Erin Ebeler are willing to serve. By a show of hands, the majority support having Nick and Erin serve as worship leaders on those Sundays.

On the Sundays with a joint service between all three congregations, it is requested that congregations travel. Cheryl reminded us that this is a way to be team players and show our commitment to strengthening the three-point ministries.

The budget will not be amended at this time.

An estimate of our costs for Pastor Kate vs Pastor Jim indicate we should save around \$3,000 per month. This has to do with the difference in years of experience, and cost of insurance among other things.

Cheryl thanked the congregation for their continued understanding and flexibility as we join this three points ministry.

The meeting concluded at 10:26 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Weber

PARSONAGE

The parsonage will be open Sunday September 20th following the Worship service for members to tour. On Sunday October 4th there will be a special meeting following worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to decide if we retain the parsonage or sell the property and home. There will be discussion, a motion, and a ballot vote. Please see the August 18th church council meeting minutes for more details.

Grace Lutheran Church Council

August 18, 2026

The regular meeting of the Grace Lutheran Church Council was called to order by President Cheryl Grundman at 7:00 pm – Members present Cheryl Grundman, Ryan Panko, Sarah Purcell, Mike Carman, Lisa Weber, Diane Wilken (Church Treasurer). A tour of the parsonage was conducted. Many areas of concern were found in the parsonage. After returning from a tour of the parsonage, Cheryl led with an opening prayer.

Minutes of the July 2026 meeting were reviewed. Ryan Panko motioned to accept and Sarah Purcell second. Minutes approved.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. It was noted that each congregation gave \$500 as a retirement gift to Pastor. Vacation Bible School costs were split with Hope, with our share as \$198.86. A bill of \$875 for confirmation camp from this last summer was received. The \$32.69 for the backpack tags will be paid for by Kids for Christ. Sarah Purcell motioned to accept the treasurer's report, Ryan Panko second, motion carried.

Correspondence: none

Property - (Mike and Ryan co-chairs) Toured the Parsonage.

Worship, Evangelism & Fellowship - (Sarah Chair) –Sarah used the pictures in the church basement to create a digital picture directory for Pastor Kate. Sarah would like to update pictures soon, as many of the children have grown since pictures were last taken. The church sign out front is being updated with Pastor Kate's name, and service times.

Parish Ed & Young People – (all co-chairs) – Kids for Christ will begin on September 9th.

Stewardship & Memorial – (Lisa Chair) none

Old Business:

A church credit card was set up. We will have a one-year trial to determine the benefits of having the card. Sarah Purcell will be looking into options for reporting church service times to the Syracuse paper and Nemaha Valley Reporter paper. There was a discussion about signage in front of the church to announce church times.

Nick Weber will lead lay service at 10:00am on September 6.

New Business

Permission was given to use the parking lot for Army Reserve Unit gathering at Brian Mannschreck Summer Kitchen on August 22.

Permission was given for Trevor Brinkman and Makenna Comstock's wedding on August 21, 2027. The parsonage will be mowed by Nick Martinez at a cost of \$40 per mowing, with mowing weekly, unless we have a volunteer for September.

Tables will be set up on Sept 10 at 5:30pm by the council. The joint service to welcome Pastor Kate will be September 13. A potluck will follow. The council would greatly appreciate assistance taking down tables after the luncheon.

The termite inspection by ARE Pest Control (Russel Daro) was conducted. No active termites were found, so we were not charged. New cartridges for the termite traps will be installed after the next inspection.

Sarah Purcell motioned to use memorial funds to purchase three new ceiling fans for the church basement. Mike Carman second, motion approved.

Concerning the Parsonage

It was decided that an open house to view the parsonage will be held on Sunday, September 20 after the church service. On Sunday, October 4 there will be special meeting with a vote after worship about the parsonage. If you are unable to attend the open house and would still like to view the parsonage, please contact Cheryl to set up a time.

On Sunday October 4 the congregation will be asked to vote for one of the following options:

Option 1: Sell the parsonage as is.

Option 2: Keep the property. If it is decided to keep the parsonage, we will need a committee of volunteers to maintain the property.

Thank you

Thank you to Brian Mannschreck for the mulch around the trees and pulling and spraying weeds in the church yard.

Thank you to Gene Ekhoft for mowing the parsonage.

Thank you to Dave Smith for the excellent lawn care.

Thank you to Robin Eggleston for the work on the northeast door, southeast basement door, and installing new batteries in the upstairs thermostats.

Thank you to Bret, Hayden, Dean and Charlotte Wellensiek, Delwin Antholz, and Larry Grundman for loading and hauling assistance in the Helgren's move to Papillion.

Next meeting – September 15th, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 after the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Weber

GRACE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

September 6	10:00 AM	Service led by Nick Weber
September 13	10:00 AM	3 Point Joint Service/Holy Communion Welcoming Pastor Kate Potluck to follow
September 20	10:00 AM	Pastor Kate - Holy Communion
September 27	10:00 AM	Pastor Kate
October 4	10:00 AM	Nick/Erin
October 11	10:00 AM	Pastor Kate
October 18	10:00 AM	Pastor Kate - Holy Communion
October 25	10:00 AM	Mission Festival – Hope & Grace
November 1	10:00 AM	Nick/Erin
November 8	10:00 AM	Pastor Kate
November 15	10:00 AM	Pastor Kate - Holy Communion
November 22	10:00 AM	Nick/Erin
November 25	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Eve Service @ Osage
November 29	10:00 AM	3 Point Joint Service @ Hope Lutheran
December 6	10:00 AM	Nick/Erin
December 13	10:00 AM	Pastor Kate
December 20	8:00 AM	Pastor Kate - Holy Communion
December 24	6:00 PM	Pastor Kate - CHRISTMAS EVE w/Holy Communion
December 27	10:00 AM	Nick/Erin

On Sundays when services are not held here, please feel free to join us at one of our partner congregations

<u>DATE</u>	<u>8:00 AM Service</u>	<u>10:00 AM Service</u>
October 4	Faith	Hope
November 1	Faith	Hope
November 22	Faith	Hope
November 26	8:30 AM Thanksgiving Service @ Talmage Community Building	
December 6	Faith	Hope
CHRISTMAS EVE	4:00 PM Hope	8:00 PM Faith
December 27	Faith	Hope



God grant us the strength of eagle's wings, the faith and courage to soar to new heights, and the wisdom to trust You to carry us there.

Grace Lutheran
Church

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Cook, NE 68329



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Church Email: grace68329@gmail.com