

Grace Lutheran Church April 2024 Newsletter



Grace Lutheran Church

301 Forest Ave. E.
Mora, MN 55051
320.679.1062

Office Open-
Monday - Thursday 8-4
(Main handicap doors
unlocked)
Friday Office Closed

CONTACT US:
Pastor Gary Gupstill:

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218.393.9234

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Kellykehr01@gmail.com

If we walk in the
light as he
himself is in the
light, we have
fellowship with
one another,
and the blood
of Jesus his Son
cleanses us from
all sin.

1 John 1:7

Walking in the light of Jesus together.

Grace Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship

8:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. FLC Service

10:15 a.m. NICE 95.5 F.M. KBEK

****Worship area subject to change**

GLC Website:

www.gracechurchmora.com

Facebook: @moragracelutheran

Grace Google Calendar:

[https://calendar.google.com/calenda
r/u/0/r?tab=mc](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/r?tab=mc)

ELCA website: www.elca.org

NE MN website:

www.nemnsynod.org



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 Easter Sunday 8am - Sanctuary Worship 9:30am - FLC Service	1 Easter Monday 8am - Office Closed	2 8am - Office Open 10am - Staff Check In 7pm - Property	3 8am - Office Open 8am - Release Time 9:30am - Quilters & Prayer Shawl 6pm - Choir	4 8am - Office Open	5 Office Closed	6
7 Eliasm Broke Michaela Kestive RSV Communion Sunday 8am - Sanctuary Worship 9:15am - Sunday School 9:30am - FLC Service	8 8am - Office Open 10am - Staff Check In 3:15pm - Celebration Singers 4pm - Soup for the Soul @ Emmanuel 4:30pm - Foundation 6pm - AI Anon	9 8am - Office Open	10 8am - Office Open 9:30am - Quilters & Prayer Shawl 6pm - Choir 6pm - Confirmation Meal 6:30pm - Confirmation	11 8am - Office Open 9:30am - Evo Circle	12 Office Closed	13
14 NOISY OFFERING-Emergency Camp Kits 8am - Sanctuary Worship 9:15am - Sunday School 9:30am - FLC Service 10:30am - Council	15 Easter Vigil 8am - Office Open 10am - Staff Check In 3:15pm - Celebration Singers 4pm - Soup for the Soul @ Emmanuel 6pm - AI Anon	16 8am - Office Open	17 8am - Office Open 9:30am - Quilters & Prayer Shawl 6pm - Choir 6pm - Confirmation Meal 6:30pm - Confirmation	18 8am - Office Open	19 Office Closed	20 11am - A Taste of Heaven Potluck 12pm - Newsletter Deadline
20 Pkg Communion Sunday 8am - Sanctuary Worship 8am - Little Steps 9:15am - Sunday School 9:30am - FLC Service 10:30am - Little Steps	21 8am - Office Open 10am - Staff Check In 3:15pm - Celebration Singers 4pm - Soup for the Soul @ Emmanuel 6pm - AI Anon	22 8am - Office Open	23 8am - Office Open 9:30am - Quilters & Prayer Shawl 6pm - Choir 6pm - Confirmation Meal 6:30pm - Confirmation	24 8am - Office Open	25 Office Closed	26
26 8am - Sanctuary Worship 9:15am - Sunday School 9:30am - FLC Service 2pm - St. Clara's Service	27 8am - Office Open 10am - Staff Check In 3:15pm - Celebration Singers 4pm - Soup for the Soul @ Emmanuel 6pm - AI Anon	28 8am - Office Open 1pm - Card Makers Day	29	30	31	4

PASTOR'S PAGE



April showers bring *May flowers???*

Every spring I tap maple trees and collect sap. 40 gallons of sap makes 1 gallon of syrup. After true maple syrup, the corn starch stuff from the store just doesn't cut it. Usually the first week of April marks the end of the maple sap run. The middle of March usually brings 40's during the day and 20's at night. But not this year. This year I was done tapping trees before March came to an end. The maple trees started to bring flowers and buds before April 1st even showed up. April fool's joke? Maybe. Global warming? Possibly. The mystery of life? Most definitely.

There is an old saying, "if you want to make God laugh create a plan." Humans are hardwired for the routines of life. Throw us off, we must adjust. I don't know why February was the warmest in recorded history. I liked it. I didn't expect it. But it was a gift. This is all to say, the day after Easter, which is April Fool's day reminds us God is mystery. So is life, death and resurrection. When it happens. Why it happens. Think something is dead, it may come alive when you least expect it. So on Easter we proclaim Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed. How? Why? Doesn't matter. Trust in the mystery of God's never failing love. It is quite the ride.

See you in Church,

Pastor Gary



Grace Lutheran Church



Pray Continually

Prayer Concerns: Skeeter Lane, Sylvia Nelson, Jaxson McGrath, Judy Bergstadt, Tim Roberts, Nancy Nygaard, Marlow Geyer, Justine Isom, Chad Pranke, Beverly Fore, Gerri Teich, David Ulstrom, Meagan Barrett Isom and Jody Burton.

Service Personnel: Adam Herwig, Noah Wicklund, Christopher Unger, Chris Garbacz, Emmie Otto and all other active members

Pastoral Acts

Grace Lutheran Church ~March 2024

Deaths IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

† Our Sympathy and Prayers are extended to the Family of **Pearl Peterson**. Pearl's service will be at Grace on Tuesday, March 26th at 11:00 A.M. with visitation at 10 A.M. †



† Our Sympathy and Prayers are extended to the Family of **Muriel Gorham**. Mur passed away on March 19th. Muriel's service will be at Grace on Wednesday, March 27th at 11:00 A.M. with visitation at 10 A.M. †

Worship Schedule April and May 2024

8:00 Service

April 7th:

Ushers: Greg & Jane Myers
Lector: Greg Myers
Communion: Jill Kent

April 14th:

Ushers: John & Lynn Paulson
Lector: Laura Strand

April 21st:

Ushers: Arnie Barabash & Dale Hawkins
Lector: Jan Falk
Communion: Jan Falk

April 28th:

Ushers: John & Sarah Berry
Lector: Sarah Berry

May 5th:

Ushers: Nick & Kam Schroeder
Lector: Nick Schroeder
Communion: Andrea Hams

May 12th:

Ushers: Bryan & Dianne Wachsmuth
Lector: Dianne Wachsmuth

May 19th:

Ushers: Guy & Peggy Groshek
Lector: Peggy Groshek
Communion: Barb Ennis

9:00 Service

May 26th:

Ushers: Gene & Eunice Weckwerth
Lector: Gene Weckwerth

9:30 Service

April 7th:

Ushers: Suzy Halverson and Dianne Fisher
Lector: Judy Roeschlein
Communion: Harry Blegen

April 14th:

Ushers: Don and Mary Olson
Lector: Sue Oehrlein

April 21st:

Ushers: Brent & Amy Nelson
Lector: Brent Nelson
Communion: Harry Blegen

April 28th:

Ushers: Ray & Diane Knutson
Lector: Mary Olson

May 5th:

Ushers: Craig & Jodi Schultz
Lector: Craig Schultz
Communion: Jeremy Schultz

May 12th:

Ushers: Mark & Verona Gravich
Lector: Mark Gravich

May 19th:

Ushers: Harry & Robin Blegen
Lector: Harry Blegen
Communion: Diane Runquist

Altar

Jill Kent And Dianne Wachsmuth

Hospitality

April 7 th	8 a.m. Paul & Jill Kent	9:30 a.m. Suzie Halverson
April 14 th	8 a.m. Guy & Peggy Groshek	9:30 a.m. Dave & Betsy VanBurkleo
April 21 st	8 a.m. Galen & Mary Brelie	9:30 a.m. Bob & Carol Kolodejchuk
April 28 th	8 a.m. Rollie & Marie Fredrickson	9:30 a.m. Andy & Renee Crisman

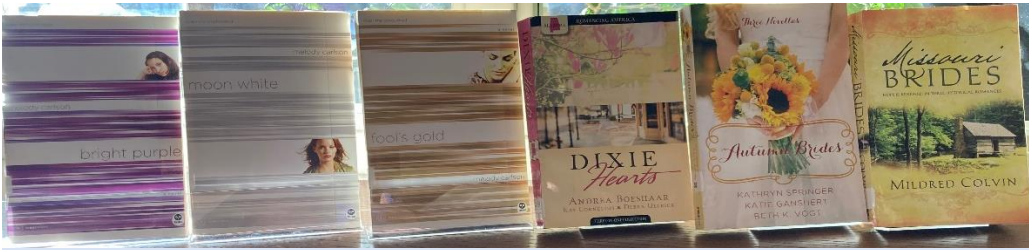


GLC 2024

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1. Don Olson, Shari Salmonson, Stacey Peterson, Jason Hawkins, Amanda Felger
2. Kim Saulsbury
3. Barb O'Donovan, Sandra Oxberry, Layla Berry
4. Abby Kerr, Anna Crisman
5. Marlis Tipp, Keaton Brandt
6. Kathryn Tiede
7. Verona Gravich
8. Randy Qual, Leah Kehr
10. Mary Lykins
12. Alan Smith
13. Nick Schroeder, Cayce Nikodym
14. Gordon Lobdell, Rita Lobdell
17. Deanna Felger
19. Carson Linder
22. Ryan Christianson
23. Curt Radeke
25. Greg Ennis
26. Maverick Stamper
27. Ricke Mattison
29. Marlys Overson, Ben Mulford, Maggie Berry
30. Jacki Peterson, Pam Isom, Zoey Norling, Krosby Nolt

If your birthday is not listed, please contact the church office at 320.679.1062 or email Leah at moragrancelutheran@gmail.com with your correct information. We don't want to forget anyone!



Mission Statement:

The Grace Lutheran Library Mission will support all the members of Grace using the library resources to help them interpret what they read, see, and experience within the context of the Christian Gospel.

Living Grace Library Mission

April 2024



Non-Fiction

A Window into the Attic by Paul Kilmore. We have put this book into Section 9 (Social Issues) in the library. It is also part autobiography and part history. The author moved with his family to Mora, Minnesota when he was 11 years old and graduated from Mora High School in 1976. He is now a lawyer in Duluth and is also a writer. In the *A Window into the Attic*, the author weaves his own experiences of his formative years in Mora with the historical accounts of early settlers of Mora and Kanabec County. This is an interesting book for both long-time Mora residents and those who came later to learn a little history of the area.

Fiction

Our library has quite a few novels with an Amish theme. The series of books by Cindy Woodsmall known as the Ada House Novels are some of those. In *The Hope of Refuge*, a young widow & her daughter leave New York for an Amish community in Pennsylvania looking for answers to the mystery of her past and for a fresh start. An Amish man, Ephraim Mast, befriends her which is threatening his way of life. Ephraim's sister, Deborah's fiancé Mahon Stoltzfus begins acting strangely. What secrets lie beneath the surface in this Amish community? In *The Bridge of Peace*, a young teacher, Old Order Amish woman, Lena Kauffman, is challenged by a rebellious student and is dealing with crises at the school which threatens other students. Some of Lena's ideas do not follow Old World ways which causes the School Board to blame her for the problems including an old friend of Lena's, School Board member, Grey Graber who has his own secrets. In *The Harvest of Grace*, Sylvia Fisher has been forced to move far from her home to escape a dangerous connection with an old beau. She begins to work at reviving the debt-ridden farm of Dora and Michael Blanks who treated her like a daughter. Then Dora & Michael's son Aaron returns home after spending time in rehab. Aaron had planned to move his parents from the farm to start a new life, but having Sylvia there ruined his plans. Can Aaron and Sylvia find common ground?

Come check some out.



Living Grace Library is open whenever the church is open.

Come in anytime. Please remember to return your finished books. The book you may have forgotten to return may be just the book someone else is patiently waiting to read. Thank you.

A Taste of Heaven

Seasoned with Love

Please Join Us for a Potluck Luncheon:

Saturday, April 20th at 11:00 A.M.

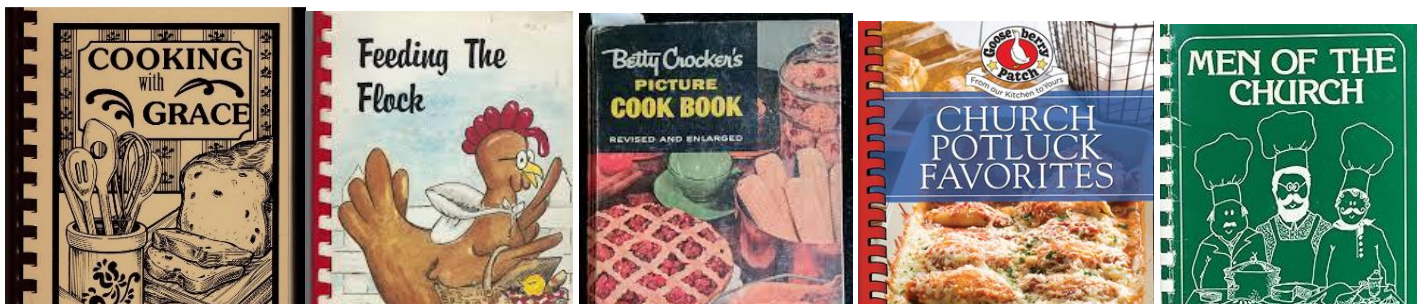
Grace Lutheran Church ~ Family Life Center

Bring your favorite dish to share and the recipe.

If you are not into cooking or baking, come and eat.

Please sign-up in the GLC Office -so we have an estimate for attendance 😊

There is a sign-up sheet in front of the office window 😊



*Go, eat your food with gladness, and drink your wine with a joyful heart.
Ecclesiastes 9:7*

Recipes collected will be used to make a GLC Cookbook, in Honor and Loving Memory of Melissa Ann Clough. Mel often talked about putting together a church cookbook—now is the time!

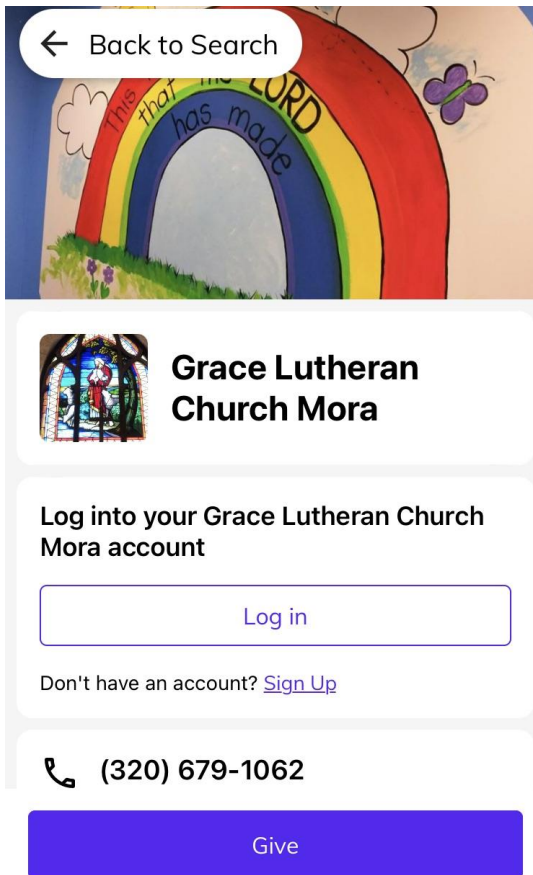
WAYS TO GIVE AT GRACE

VANCO MOBILE FAITH ENGAGEMENT APP OPTION:

If you would like to have the app right on your phone for easy use please follow these steps under your app store on your phone:

1. Search Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement
2. Download app onto phone
3. Open the app.
4. Set up an account or sign in if you already have an account
5. The first time you use it, you'll need to **search Grace Lutheran Church Mora**. It should show our Icon (stained glass window) and address. Choose as your church. You should only need to do this once.
6. Click GIVE
7. Click the down arrow to see the options
8. Choose whatever you would like to give to.
9. Enter amount, select frequency, type in the designation (what it's for) and click Give now
10. Review the summary and submit
11. You will receive an email receipt of your payment

**Thank you for your continued support of Grace Lutheran Church and our ministries!
We are the church together; and together we are strong and faithful!**



APP ICON for:
Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement



When you search **Grace Lutheran Church Mora**, this is what you should see on the Vanco Mobile Faith App.



Offering envelopes are available to use as well, at both usher

SCAN to DONATE VANCO ONLINE GIVING



You may also put offering
in offering plate or mail to:

301 Forest Ave. E.
Mora, MN 55051

29-February-24 General Checkbook:

General Checkbook:

Beginning balance	(1,890.38)
Deposits*	38,421.64
Checks written *	(37,552.15)
Ending balance	(1,020.89)

* includes amount to and **FROM** savings



Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card. Our electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. You can set up your donations on our website, www.gracechurchmora.com or scan the QR code above with a downloadable free QRC Scanner app on your electronic device and follow the onscreen instructions.

To set up your electronic donation on our website:

- 1) Go to www.gracechurchmora.com
- 2) Click on the More tab, then click the Give tab, then scroll down to click on Give online, once you click Give online, it brings you to Vanco a Secure Site.
- 3) Follow the onscreen instructions to schedule your one time or recurring contribution.

Thank you, kindly, for all the ways you give to Grace.

Grace Lutheran Church

2024 Council Minutes

2024 COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Sarah Hanson

Vice President: Ethan Elvehjem

Secretary: Lacey Danelski

Treasurer: Kristin Nelson

Andrea Hams, Linda Johnson,
Shaun Joy, John Paulson, Mary Olson
and Craig Schultz

Thank you, for serving on council.

Grace Lutheran Council Meeting 3/17/24 Minutes

Call to order at 10:48 AM by Ethan.

Opening

- Council sharing
- Devotions done by Mary
- Members Present- Pastor Gary, Ethan, Andrea, Linda, Shaun, Mary, John, Lacey
- Members Absent- Sarah, Craig

Agenda Approval- Mary/Shawn

Approval of Meeting Minutes- Mary/Andrea

Treasurer's Report

- Summarized by Ethan

Ministry Reports

- Pastor's report
- Worship and music

Unfinished Business

- Shaun presented a drawing of sound booth
- Next step- materials list

New Business

- Discussed the possibility of a game feed as a fundraiser

Next meeting Sunday, April 14th at 10:30 AM.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Worship and Music Minutes 03.04.2024

Members Present: Linda Johnson, Jacki Peterson, Todd Sjoberg, Krista Elvehjem, Pastor Gary, Richard Schultz, Kelly Kehr and Leah Smith **Absent:** Judy Radeke, Dianne Wachsmuth.

Devotions by Linda ~ Trust Me with all of your heart.

Youth

- First Communion Class March 24th following the second service.
 - First Holy Communion will take place on Maundy Thursday, March 28th at 6:30 P.M. – or Sunday April 7th at the 9:30 service.
- Sunday, May 5th Celebration Singers Musical

Choir

- Will meet at 5:15 P.M. on Wednesday's during lent.
- Sing Palm Sunday, March 24th, with the Celebration Singers.
- Ecumenical (Grace, Calvary and Mora United Methodist) Choir for Good Friday, March 29th.

Lent

- Ash Wednesday
 - Ushers are needed for next year.
- Soup Suppers 5:30 P.M.- 6:15 P.M. in the FLC- Going well.
- Lenten Services Wednesday's @ 6:30 P.M. in the Sanctuary (through March 20th)
 - Lessons from Mayberry- Services are going very well.
- Maundy Thursday
 - March 28th, 2024, 6:30 P.M. Sanctuary
 - First Holy Communion
 - Stripping of the Altar – 4 or 5 Choir Members
- Good Friday- Ecumenical Service @ 7:00 P.M. at Grace in the Family Life Center.
- Palm Sunday
 - No lectors.
 - 800 – Members will be asked to wait in the West Narthex – all will walk in the Sanctuary together waving palm leaves. – if members need to sit, they may go in and sit.
 - 930 – Members will be asked to wait in the Main Narthex- all will walk in the FLC together waving palm leaves. - if members need to sit, they may go in and sit.

Easter

- 8:00 A.M. Sanctuary Service and 9:30 A.M. Family Life Center Service

Altar

- Altar will take care of Easter Memorial Garden

Nursing Home Services

- April 28th, 2024 2:00 P.M.~ St. Clares

All closed with Come Lord Jesus.

NEXT MEETING will be on Monday, April 8th at 11:00 A.M.

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

Check out CYF Ministry on FACEBOOK! Grace Lutheran Children Youth and Family (private group)
or on-line: www.gracechurchmora.com



It's time to start making **SUMMER** plans! Get signed up for camp and **SAVE the DATE** for Vacation Bible School June 3rd- 7th!!

SOMETHING NEW for parents of infants and toddlers (ages birth-3)

LITTLE STEPS!!

Little Steps will continue as a monthly gathering for parents and birth to 3 children! Come on April 21st between services (9-9:30) or after the 9:30 service (10:30-11). We will meet down in the corner playroom in the basement. Take the main stairs down, turn left 2 times and you'll see the "Little Steps" room at the end of the hallway.

****We will not meet in May but watch for summer dates!**

Saturday April 20th 11 am – Please join us for a potluck luncheon! You can find more information about "A Taste of Heaven" in this Newsletter. This is a wonderful intergenerational event for all ages!

Celebration Singers - Mondays after school 3:15-4:15 with pick up until 5. No Practice on April 1st due to no school.

Mark your calendar for May 5th!

You won't want to miss "A Not so Terrible Parable!"



The next Religious Release Time is April 3rd!

Once a month on a Wednesday, we welcome the 1st -6th graders to come for a morning of fun and learning. You **MUST** complete and turn in the registration form indicating Release Time participation so that the school can be informed. Drop off from 7am-8am. Activities start at 8, kids are bussed back to school at 10:45. Kids can join us any time as long as they have a registration form with Release Time checked on it.

Confirmation: Regular Wednesday night confirmation will resume on April 10th and go till May 15th.

The Synod Journey to the ELCA National Youth Gathering is in NEW ORLEANS July 14th-21st 2024!!

We are teaming up with Calvary and Immanuel Brunswick for an awesome group of 25 youth and adults. **Our group from Grace is: Adult Leaders: Kelly Kehr and Cristy Thomas. Youth: Kendall Brandt, Abby Donaghue, Isaac Holland, Caden Johnson, Grace Johnson, Ledgyn Nelson.**



We are very close to meeting our goal for fundraising!! Thank you for all the support!!

Our final fundraisers will be Kettle River Pizzas and Birthday Card packs! The Grace Card Makers have generously donated kits for the youth to make birthday cards. We will be selling them in April along with Kettle River Pizzas.



Sunday School at Grace

Sunday School starts at 9:15 on Sundays. This gives parents a chance to get their kids downstairs and get themselves settled for worship, which starts at 9:30 in the Family Life Center.

After the sermon, the kids all come up front for the “Sunday School Sit Down” where the adults get to hear what we’ve been up to and maybe learn a little something too! Families stay in worship together for the remainder of the service.

We invite families who prefer to have their children with them for the whole service to attend our 8am Worship Service in the Sanctuary and then come for Sunday School after.

Our last day of Sunday School for the year will be May 12th!

Grace Lutheran’s Children Youth and Family Ministry is a Christ centered program with the purpose of building disciples for Jesus by supporting and partnering with parents in fulfilling their baptismal promises. By God’s Grace we seek to provide meaningful faith formation experiences for all ages. For more information regarding Children, Youth and Family Ministry please contact Kelly Kehr (320-336-8028) or kellykehr01@gmail.com



Monthly Activities



Sewing Grace Quilters

SEWING GRACE QUILTERS AND PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Quilters and Prayer Shawl meet every Wednesday from 9:30 A.M to Noon in the West Narthex.

All are welcome, we come together each week with open hearts and willing hands to serve our Lord.



GLC Choir

GLC CHOIR

Wednesdays @ 6:00 P.M.

GLC Choir Room

All are welcome!

Fun, Fellowship, Friends

NEWSLETTER

GLC newsletter deadline is the 20th of every month.

May newsletter information is due April 20th @ noon.

Newsletter Deadline



EVE Circle

EVE CIRCLE

Eve Circle meets the 2nd Thursday at 9:30 A.M. in the West Narthex.

We would love to have you join us!

PROPERTY

Property meets the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. Main Narthex



Card Makers

CARD MAKERS

Card makers meet the last Tuesday of the month at 1:00 P.M. in the West Narthex.

Card Makers will resume April 30th, 2024.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Worship and Music meets the first Monday of the month at 11:00 A.M.

*Date subject to change.





It is always such a nice touch to the service when there are flowers on the Altar.

If you would like to sign up for Flowers on the Altar, please sign-up in the main Narthex. Please bring your flowers to church on Sunday Morning by 7:45 for the first service at 8:00 A.M. or you may bring your flowers to church on Thursday afternoon, by 3:00 P.M. Please let us know if you will be providing flower on the Altar! Many Thanks!!



Would you like to sponsor a NICE 95.5 F.M. KBEK Church Service Radio Broadcast on Sunday Morning @ 10:15 A.M.? If so, please send a check for \$150.00 to GLC 301 Forest Ave. E. Mora, MN 55051 or drop one in the offering plate- and sign-up in the Main Narthex for the Sunday you would like to sponsor!

Please include any special occasion you would like to celebrate (birthday, graduation, wedding or anniversary) or a special someone you would like to honor.

Or stop in the office and talk with Leah. 😊 Many Thanks!!



APRIL Noisy Offering is going to the *Emergency Care Kits*

The second week of each month, coins and loose offering are collected to donate to a different local ministry, specifically addressing needs in Mora and Kanabec County. For a full list of where your donations go please check out our website @ <https://www.gracechurchmora.com/social-justice>



If you are interested in helping serve at Grace, please stop by the office and we will be happy to help guide you in the right direction. Thank you, to all of our Ushers, Lectors, Psalmists, Communion Assistants, Sound Techs, the behind-the-scenes folks and anyone that I am missing!

Thank you, kindly 😊



COMMISSIONING OF
NEW MEMBERS



An invitation to all who would like to
become new members of GLC.

All who wish to join Grace Lutheran Church
will be received as new members of GLC in
the month of JUNE on ANY Sunday that
you are available. Please contact Leah in the
office @ 320.679.1062 or
moragrancelutheran@gmail.com and let her
know what Sunday looks best for you!

All services in June are at 9:00 A.M. 😊

Thank you, kindly!

Grace Lutheran Church

301 Forest Ave. East

Mora, MN 55051

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moragracelutheran@gmail.com

Return Service Requested

