



Looking Ahead

- **Sep 1** Office Closed for Labor Day ◀
- **Sep 7** IFF Western Picnic
- **Sep 7** JBS Begins
- **Sep 7** Pictures to Remember
- **Sep 9** Book Study: The Anxious Generation
- **Sep 11** Bible Study: The Story of Paul
- **Sep 14** LWR Bags due back to church
- **Sep 21** Outdoor Worship & Block Party
- **Sep 23** ImpactLife Blood Drive
- **Sep 28** Pet Blessing
- **Sep 28** Pet Food Collection
- **Sep 29-30** Prs at Theological Conf
- **October 4** NAMI Walk
- **October 5 & 12** Quilt Display
- **October 26** Reformation Sunday

Grace Lutheran Church | 1140 E High St | Davenport, IA

FALL ^{4th Annual!} BLOCK PARTY

Sunday, September 21
10:30am Outdoor Worship
11:30am-1:30pm Food & Fun

Join us at our 4th annual Neighborhood Block Party hosted by our Outreach & Welcome Team. Enjoy outdoor worship followed by food, games, music, & fun!

Lunch (free-will offering) will be walking tacos, we'll have a bouncy house, plenty of activities, and time to visit with our neighbors and each other.

Questions? Call 563-322-0769 or email office@gracewelcomesyou.org.



Pictures to Remember

**September 7
Between Services**

Join Joel Lorentzen and Paul Lewellan between services for coffee. Bring a picture to share. Engage in conversation about converting the pictures into stories to share with family and friends.

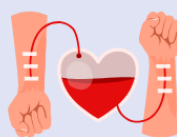
Food Pantry Sunday

Our next food pantry collection is Sept 7. Let's make this our best year yet! Suggestions and ideas are in the weekly update email and Grace Notes newsletter. Bring your non-perishable donations on Sunday and set them before the altar.

ImpactLife Blood Drive



Tuesday, September 23 | 2:00-5:30pm



Every day, patients who need blood are in crisis and you can help by volunteering to donate. Donors are eligible to give if they have not done so after July 29. Questions? Contact Mark Jepson at 563-508-9091 or majepson55@netscape.net or go to bloodcenter.org to register to donate.

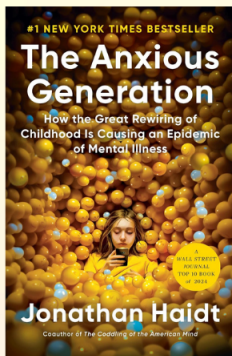
Grace Lutheran Church

1140 East High Street, Davenport IA 52803
563-322-0769 | office@gracewelcomesyou.org

- † Pastor Stephanie Wood
- † Pastor Kirsten Lee Outreach & Youth Ministry
- † Annie Nau Office Administrator
- † Jason Halkias Custodian
- † Dawn Matthews Treasurer
- † Vey Rodriguez Worship Tech & Praise Band Leader

**Scan for the
Current
Weekly
Update Email**





Book Study: the Anxious Generation

Tuesdays 7pm beginning September 9 led by Pastor Kirsten

In *The Anxious Generation*, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt lays out the facts about the epidemic of teen mental illness, and investigates the nature of childhood, including why children need play and independent exploration to mature into competent, thriving adults. Whether you are actively raising children, teaching children, or just care about the topic, you are invited. **This study is open to the community - please invite your friends and family!** Sign up online at bit.ly/GraceAnxGen or talk with Pastor Kirsten to let her know of your interest.



heretic, sinner, saint: the story of paul bible study

11am Thursdays beginning September 11 led by Pastor Stephanie

Have you ever been curious about the man who had two names? He wrote a bunch of letters and has one of the most redemptive stories in the New Testament. We will focus on discovering how Paul went from someone who persecuted Christians to being one of the most significant early church leaders. Email the church office or talk to Pr. Stephanie if you'd like to participate. **The book is available in the office for \$15.**

Sunday, August 31

9:30am Joint Worship
10:30am Coffee Hour

Monday, September 1

Labor Day - Office Closed
No Centering Prayer

Tuesday, September 2

10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH
5:00pm Property Committee Mtg

Wednesday, September 3

12:00pm Men's Lunch Group - Vanderveer
5:30pm Grief Support Group - PBH
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 4

11:00am Prayer Group

Friday, September 5

Saturday, September 6

1:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Sunday, September 7

JBS Resumes

Food Pantry Sunday

8:30am Traditional Worship & Livestream
9:30am Pictures to Remember - PBH
10:30am Contemporary Worship

Monday, September 8

10:30am Staff Meeting
4:30pm Centering Prayer

Grief Support Group

Next Meeting: Sept 3 Grief Support Group meets the first and third Wednesdays month 5:30pm in Pat Bell Hall. Anyone is welcome at anytime, and please be assured our conversations are kept in confidence. Questions? Contact: Cindy Lee 563-370-5386.

Service Day Quilters

Next Meeting Dates: September 9 & 10 | 9am-Noon

Anyone can join to help at church or at home. Questions? Contact Gloria Lange 563-271-1542 langejg1@msn.com or Kathy Miller kathyk1679@aol.com 563-676-0914. **(Also, check out the LWR Kit bags and lists in the narthex - return by September 14)**

Naomi Circle

Next Meeting: September 16, 9:00am in the narthex This year we will be studying the Parables, and in September, after our Bible Study, we will also be checking and packing up the LWR personal care kits and school bags. All are welcome to join us! Contact Joyce Marinaccio 563-343-3404 or gsgopher50@gmail.com.

Page Turners Book Group

Next Meeting: September 20 We meet at 8:30am the third Saturday each month at different locations for breakfast, book discussion, and great fellowship (reading the book is not required). **September Book:** *A World Without America (What would your life be like if the American Revolution had failed?)* by Ted Stewart **Host:** Luanne Taylor 563-370-1747 **Location:** TBD

Centering Prayer

Mondays 4:30pm via Zoom In the Christian tradition, Contemplative Prayer is considered to be the pure gift of God - an the opening of mind and heart. Cheryl Kritsch 563-343-0135 facilitates the group which meets via Zoom every Monday (except holidays) at 4:30pm (link emailed in the Weekly Update).

Men's Lunch

The Men's Lunch meets at noon every Wednesday at Vanderveer Park. Bring a lunch from home or pick something up from a restaurant. Contact Dennis Boehme at boehmed@aol.com or 563-320-2661 to be added to the email list.

Following Jesus' teachings, Grace seeks to educate, lead, and partner with all people through discipleship to worship, service, and faith celebration.

12th Sunday After Pentecost

August 31, 2025 9:30am

Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa

Pastor Stephanie Wood † Pastor Kirsten Lee

Welcome! We are so happy you have joined us!

Congregational response in bold.

Prelude

The God of Abraham Praise setting by Kevin Hildebrand

Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. (*Silence is kept for reflection.*)

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of † Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

God is Here..... ELW 526

- 1 God is here! As we your people
 meet to offer praise and prayer,
 may we find in fuller measure
 what it is in Christ we share.
 Here, as in the world around us,
 all our varied skills and arts
 wait the coming of the Spirit
 into open minds and hearts.

- 2 Here are symbols to remind us
 of our lifelong need of grace;
 here are table, font, and pulpit;
 here the cross has central place.
 Here in honesty of preaching,
 here in silence, as in speech,
 here, in newness and renewal,
 God the Spirit comes to each.

- 3 Here our children find a welcome
 in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
 here as bread and wine are taken,
 Christ sustains us as of old.
 Here the servants of the Servant
 seek in worship to explore
 what it means in daily living
 to believe and to adore.

- 4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
 in an age of change and doubt,
 keep us faithful to the gospel;
 help us work your purpose out.
 Here, in this day's dedication,
 all we have to give, receive;
 we, who cannot live without you,
 we adore you! We believe!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000; Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God,

you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble.

Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

First Reading | Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So, we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!

**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

**Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness
stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their
teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

Gospel Reading | Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song*

Act Justly, Love Mercy

Farewell Blessings

Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servants, who have enriched this community and brought gladness to friends and family. Now bless and preserve them at this time of transition. Day by day, guide them and give them what is needed, friends to cheer their way, and a clear vision of that to which you are now calling them. By your Holy Spirit be present in their pilgrimage, that they may travel with the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Ruth, Elizabeth, and Dave . . . you have been a blessing to Grace. We now bless you as you enter a new phase of life. Go with love. Go with joy. Go with peace.
The Spirit of God goes with you. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Let us pray. Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Call to Offering

May we honor and worship the Provider of all good and perfect gifts through our acts of generosity, our sharing of resources, and our trust in the abundance of God's creation.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. God of grace,
you have blessed us with our bodies, our minds, our hearts, our communities, and the resources of this earth. Lead us and guide us to use these gifts in accordance with your will, for the sake of the one who is with us to the end, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit † bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

Closing Song

All the People Say Amen

Sending

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

Interested in Joining Grace? Please contact the church office office@gracewelcomesyou.org, for information about joining Grace Lutheran Church. All are welcome and we would be overjoyed to have you engaged in the worship, ministries, and congregational life at Grace.

Do You Receive the Weekly Update Email? Every Thursday we email out the Weekly Update with current announcements, links, birthdays, anniversaries, Synod/ELCA updates, and more. If you would like to be added to our email list, please contact Annie in the church office.

Online Giving Supporting Grace is easy with e-giving. Go to bit.ly/GraceGivingOnline or scan this QR Code to donate one time or to set up recurring gifts. We appreciate and thank you for your generosity!



Serving in Worship

Presiding & Preaching	Pastor Stephanie Wood
Director of Outreach & Youth Minister	Pastor Kirsten Lee
Assisting Minister	Derry Spotten
Acolyte	Kathy Shriver
Greeters	Mark & Ann Jepson
Ushers	Deb & Mike Kirby
Sound System	Russ Finkler
Prayers	Connie Lannan
Altar Guild	Nancy Boehme
Heart & Voice Choir Director	Sally Meier
Organist	Susan Senn
Pianist	Kathi Parrish
Worship Tech & Praise Band Leader	Vey Rodriguez
Coffee/Cookies/Snacks	Jim & Gloria Lange, Sally Haugen

Grace Lutheran Church

1140 East High Street, Davenport, IA 52803
563-322-0769 | office@gracewelcomesyou.org

YouTube: Grace Lutheran Davenport

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/GraceWelcomesYou

Service Text & Music: "Now the Feast & Celebration" Marty Haugen; 1990 GIA Publications; All rights reserved, used by permission From sundaysandseasons.com all rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23188. NRSV, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under OneLicense copyright A-711016. All rights reserved. CCLI Copyright license 359372. CCLI Streaming license 20503478.