



# GRACE NOTES

SEPTEMBER 2025 ISSUE 83-09

## Dear Friends,

Years ago, I asked a confirmation class to choose two words, among a list of many. They were to select the words that described how it feels or what it looks like to be a part of and witness to the kingdom of God. The top four chosen were - forgiven, invited, included, loved. Following that came the words - affirmed, embraced, given dignity, made whole. This lesson and these words remained with me. I wonder, which words would you select and why?

Feeling forgiven, invited, included and loved at first glance might seem easy and obvious. Not all that radical for the kingdom of God. But have you ever encountered someone who carries a grudge? Maybe you have held on to past hurts yourself. A world, a kingdom, without forgiveness seems like a place where everyone is stuck. I imagine it would be a world without peace or hope. We all have caused harm intended or not. We perhaps know what it is like to not be forgiven or to not forgive ourselves. In God we experience the radical nature of forgiveness. In Jesus forgiveness is modeled, an example of how we may try and find it for others. This key ingredient to the kingdom of God leaves space for one's pain to be named while providing a way forward.

Invited and Included also seem like easy things to do. With the start of school, I am reminded of how stressed kids and teenagers, even college students are. Generally, their

primary concern is not about the classes they are taking. They worry about whether they will be included and invited by others. I've heard those same concerns echoed by adults. I don't think this desire ever truly goes away.

The kingdom of God is a radical venture if we are to truly invite and include all within a community. It challenges us to stretch ourselves and see others through the loving eyes of God. I believe one of Grace's strengths is welcoming people to our community. In a few weeks we will host a Block Party for our church and our neighbors. While it is an opportunity for people to get to know us, it is also a chance for neighbors to feel connected. It's a way for us to create a place where the kingdom of God is represented in how we invite and include those in our midst.

A few weeks after the confirmation students choose these words, I attended an event hosted by United Way. On a sunny Sunday afternoon people gathered from the Somalian, Hispanic, and Anglo communities. We started by dividing up by generation. Then we were asked a series of questions including that of: Who wants to feel safe in their community? Who wants to feel as though they belong in their community? Who wants to feel a part of their community? To all these questions and more everyone raised their hand showing us that we are all beginning with the same goal and need. I heard echoes of the words that exemplify the kingdom, we all

want to feel invited, included and loved.

As we broke into small groups for discussions of how we can work together and strengthen our community we were able to create relationships across different cultural backgrounds. We began to dream about how we can work together. While we talked, folks I had only known for a few minutes offered to bring me a drink or dessert. People from different cultural backgrounds compared their foods as if trading recipes. The kids present shared their hope for a community that shows compassion to others as we celebrate and recognize our differences. Again, those words describing the kingdom of God resounded in my heart and mind.

We get glimpses of the kingdom not yet fully realized. You, dear people, have hopefully witnessed it. You have been invited, included, loved, and forgiven by God. You, church, filled with the love of Jesus, are sent to participate in God's creation of the kingdom here on earth. *"A new society, a renewed Israel open to all... a realm of God's extravagant grace, mercy, forgiveness, and compassion... a place where those labeled unworthy or impure are received unconditionally... a world of abundant manna shared by all... a reality worth dropping all other commitments to joyfully receive."*  
~Daniel Erlander

God's Peace  
Pastor Stephanie

## Block Party 2025

On September 21, we will celebrate our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Block Party! This is a time of celebrating God's gifts to our neighborhood, and is a time to intentionally welcome our neighbors and show them the hospitality and joy of Grace. Please plan to attend so you can be fed physically and spiritually AND so you can meet our neighbors and introduce them to Grace. In addition to the food and fun we've had in past years we will be adding a few new things:

- **Bingo with Prizes!**
- **Produce, Cut Flowers, & Bulbs for Sale!**

A sign-up form for donations & volunteering will be available soon.

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

# FALL BLOCK PARTY *4<sup>th</sup> Annual!*

## Sunday, September 21

**10:30am** Outdoor Worship

**11:30am-1:30pm** Food & Fun

Join us at our fourth 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.





## Grief Support

**Next Meetings: September 3 & 17**

The Grief Support Group meets the first Wednesday in June, July, and August, (first & third Wednesdays the rest of the year) 5:30pm in Pat Bell Hall. Please join us! Anyone is welcome at anytime, and please be assured our conversations are kept in confidence. **Questions?** Cindy Lee 563-370-5386.

## 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.

## Centering Prayer

**Mondays 4:30pm via Zoom  
(excluding holidays)**

In the Christian tradition, Contemplative Prayer is considered to be the pure gift of God. It is the opening of mind and heart--our whole being to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words, and emotions. With grace we open our awareness to God whom we know by faith is within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than choosing; closer than consciousness itself.

Centering Prayer is a method designed to facilitate the development of Contemplative Prayer by preparing our faculties to receive this gift.

Cheryl Kritsch is the facilitator. Periodically the group will meet in person in the Grace Church Choir Room providing the ZOOM option, as well. Please contact Cheryl 563-343-0135 with any questions and to verify the location (zoom or in person).

Click [HERE](#) to enter Zoom for Centering Prayer.  
Meeting ID: 392 407 7028  
Passcode: 2020

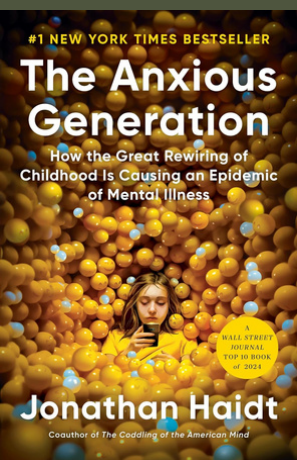


**Saturday, October 4**  
**Bend XPO Amphitheater**  
**8am Pre-walk Activities**  
**9am Opening Ceremony**  
**9:30-11:30am Walk!**

Please join friends from Grace and Saint Mark's at the NAMI Walk! We all know SOMEONE whose family has been affected by mental illness, even if we don't talk about it, and the NAMI walk raises awareness and funds for mental health education. Families need support! We also hope to continue reducing the stigma that still surrounds persons with mental health challenges.

The walk takes place at the Bend XPO Amphitheater (922 Mississippi Parkway, East Moline). To register to walk and/or donate funds go to: [namiwalks.org/teams/77681](https://namiwalks.org/teams/77681).

If you need a ride, or if you have any questions, please contact Jane Rock at [janesingerrock@gmail.com](mailto:janesingerrock@gmail.com) or call/text 563-340-8022. Blessings to each of you!



## Book Study: The Anxious Generation

**Tuesdays 7pm beginning September 9.** This fall Pr. Kirsten will lead a study on [The Anxious Generation](#) by Jonathan Haidt, and she has been eager to share in discussion about the book ever since. 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!**

We will take our time in reading through the sections and use the book as a tool in discussing this topic. Even if you're not much of a reader, please join us. Pastor Kirsten will keep the study informal and inclusive, allowing space for everyone to participate in the conversation. Please take a moment and let Pr. Kirsten know you're interested by signing up online at [bit.ly/GraceAnxGen](https://bit.ly/GraceAnxGen).



### Naomi Circle

**Next Gathering: September 16**

Naomi circle meets the third Tuesday each month, September through May, at 9:00am at church for Bible study. 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. Please join us! Contact Joyce Marinaccio at 563-343-3404 or [gsgopher50@gmail.com](mailto:gsgopher50@gmail.com).

### Service Day Quilters

meet the second Tuesday & second Wednesday 9am-Noon each month. The quilts made are donated to the community and Lutheran World Relief. In recent years we have made LWR school bags. Contact Gloria Lange 563-271-1542 or [langejg1@msn.com](mailto:langejg1@msn.com) or Kathy Miller [kathyk1679@aol.com](mailto:kathyk1679@aol.com) or 563-676-0914.



## Heretic, Sinner, Saint: The Story of Paul Bible Study

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. This year we are going to focus on Paul's story and writings. Discovering how he went from someone who persecuted Christians to being one of the most significant early church leaders. We will begin Thursday, Sept 11, at 11:00am, meeting until it is completed before Lent. There will also be a winter break. Please contact the office or Pastor Stephanie if you are interested. There is a participant book with only a few pages of reading for each session. **You can purchase the book at Grace for \$15.**



## Page Turners

**Saturday, September 20, 8:30am**

Come join the Saturday Morning Page Turner's Club! We meet at 8:30am the third Saturday each month at different locations for breakfast, book discussion, and great fellowship. (Haven't read the book? No worries, Join us anyways!) **July 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



**Donate  
Pet  
Food &  
Supplies**



**Sunday  
Sept 28**

Parish Life is  
collecting pet  
supplies for  
**Rescued** in Silvis.



**They will also  
take treats, cat  
litter, toys, and  
donations!  
Questions?  
Contact  
Hollie Swain at  
563-650-3213.**



**Pet Blessing  
Sunday Sept 28  
at both services**

**You are invited to bring your  
furry and scaly friends for a  
Blessing of the Animals!**

You can bring your pets to worship in the sanctuary with you. Please be mindful of their ability to play well with others. You can also bring a photo of your pet or kids may want to bring a stuffed animal. As we remember St. Francis of Assisi (patron saint of animals and the environment) we give thanks for God's creation and our furry companions.



**SAFER  
FOUNDATION™**

Thank you to the following ladies who helped with the meals for the Safer Youth on Tuesdays in July and August. They supplied either a main dish, fruit, milk, or dessert. The current group of youth also prepared thank you notes for us!

*Gloria Lange, Kathy Higgins, Karen Jewel, Ruth McAndrews, Marilyn Schreiber, and Dr. Becky Wiese.*

If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact Hollie Swain at 563-650-3213.



**Join Our Heart  
& Voice Choir**

*"Sing to the Lord a new song!"*

You are invited to join Heart and Voice, Grace's adult choir, as it returns this fall. Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, September 3, at 7pm. If you are high school-age or up, this is the group for you! We welcome all voices high or low, loud or soft, trained or untrained. Our mission is ministry in song as we worship together. Join us!



## Junior Bible Study resumes September 7th!

JBS is offered for children after the children's sermon during worship. We will return from our time together before communion begins. Once again, we will use The Story as our guide for our learning. We will learn the familiar Bible Stories through these books, felt board, games, and crafts. All we're missing is the children! Help us teach and show that each child is handpicked by God and is always a part of God's Story. We will read the stories of Abraham, Moses, and Joseph. We will learn alongside these characters to trust in God, listen to God, and practice forgiveness. We would love for your children or grandchildren to join us!



### End of Summer Party!



## PRAY & PLAY

Join us for fun when school is out!  
at Grace Lutheran Church | 1140 E High St, Davenport

For kids ages 5-10 | Cost\* \$10 per session  
8:30am-4:00pm each program day.

Lunch and snacks provided. Close supervision provided by screened and qualified staff. Space is limited.

Activities Include: Games, Playground Time, Arts & Crafts, Music, Dancing, Bible Stories, Educational Programming, and More!

### FALL 2025 DATES

September 15 November 7  
October 13 December 1

#### Registration Required

Register Online at: [bit.ly/PPFall25](http://bit.ly/PPFall25)

OR Scan the QR Code OR request a paper copy from your school counselor OR email [office@gracewelcomesyou.org](mailto:office@gracewelcomesyou.org)



## End of Summer Party!

We had a lot of fun last weekend celebrating the end of summer and back to school! We learned how we can trust God's love to protect us by reading and acting out the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. We colored or wrote prayers to God and watched the Spirit take those prayers in the smoke from the fire pit. And everyone loved the s'mores! We can't wait to have another party this fall!

## Pray & Play Helpers

Helpers are needed to help our Pray & Play program flourish! Areas to help include meals, crafts, clean-up, etc. Talk with Pr. Kirsten if you'd like to help - we'll work with your schedule!

\*Scholarships are available upon request: no child will be turned away for financial circumstances.

Questions? Please feel free to contact Pastor Kirsten Lee at 563-322-0769 or [pastorkirsten@gracewelcomesyou.org](mailto:pastorkirsten@gracewelcomesyou.org)





## Council Corner

Council met in special session on August 24, 2025, and voted not to reapply for the Homeland Security grant.

At the regular meeting on August 25, council approved the hire of Madlyn Wulgaert as Pray and Play leader.

Added to the agenda for September's meeting are the revised Child Protection Policy and the Building Use Policy. Also in September, council members will provide feedback the pastor's for annual review.

Pastor Stephanie asked us to imagine our congregation as a person. *What would Grace look like? How would Grace live? What would his, her, or their strengths and weaknesses?*



## Free Shredding Event

**Saturday, September 20**

**9am-Noon | Thrivent Office**

(884 Tanglefoot Lane, Bettendorf)

Thrivent has coordinated this shred event to assist you in safely destroying your sensitive papers. Bring your confidential documents as well as a donation of warm winter wear (coats, hats, mittens) for kids at our local schools. No registration necessary.



TAPESTRY  
*farms*

## Congratulations Ann McGlynn, founder Tapestry Farms

Ann McGlynn, the founder and executive director of Tapestry Farms, has been awarded the World Food Prize Foundation's Robert D. Ray Iowa SHARES Humanitarian Award. The award was established in 2013 to honor the former Iowa Governor on his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday. The award recognizes an Iowan who has provided significant leadership in confronting hunger and alleviating human suffering either at home or abroad, much as Governor Ray did on behalf of Asian refugees during his time in office. Go to [tapestryfarms.org/blog/founder-wins-iowa-shares-humanitarian-award](https://tapestryfarms.org/blog/founder-wins-iowa-shares-humanitarian-award) to learn more about Ann and this incredible award.

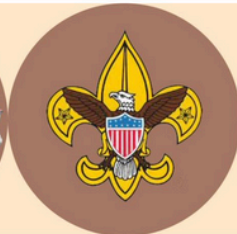
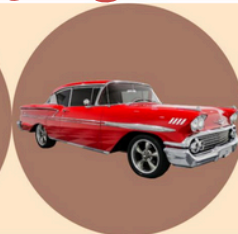
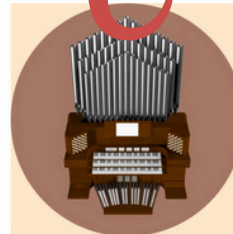
Shhhhh . . .

**You are invited to stop by the Open House and Car Show on September 20, 1-4pm at Grace,** that has been arranged for the owner of Levsen Organ Company, Rodney Levsen Sr. He is still working and is turning 90 years old on September 20! Please stop in to say hello, have a piece of cake, and enjoy the car show.

If you can't make it and would like to send a card, please address it to:  
Rodney Levsen Sr.  
804 Kirkwood Blvd  
Davenport, IA 52803

He will be so surprised!

*Let's Celebrate*



You're invited  
to an open house  
celebrating

**Rodney Levsen Sr.'s  
90th Birthday**

Please no gifts -  
your presence is  
a gift!

**Saturday,  
September 20th  
1-4 pm  
at  
Grace Lutheran  
Church  
1140 E High St  
Davenport, Iowa**

# Grace Prayer Wall

**Have you added your prayers to Grace's prayer wall?** *If you haven't, now is the time.* The prayer wall, created by members Elizabeth and Dave Linde at the request of Grace's Spiritual Growth Mission, is modeled after the famous Western Wall — commonly referred to as the Wailing Wall — in Jerusalem.

As is done at the Western Wall, everyone at Grace is invited to add their hand-written prayers on colored paper to the prayer wall in the Narthex near the south windows. It's a way to lift your prayers up to God in a unique and special way.

**Be sure to place your prayers before the September 21, service and block party.** On that day we will gather all the prayers from the wall and give them to God in a special burning ceremony. Submit your prayers now so they can be part of this spiritual communal release.



## Interfaith Creation Care Kickoff

**Sunday, September 14**

**4-7pm @ Fejervary Park**

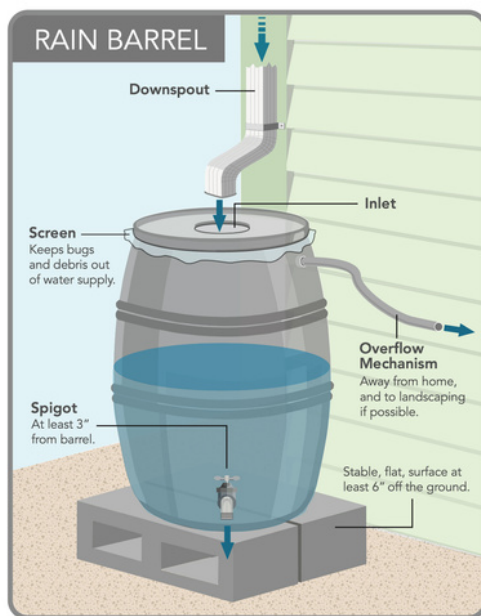
(1800 W 12<sup>th</sup> St) Shelter #1

Please bring a vegetarian dish to share and your own table service. Water in cartons will be provided.

Several speakers will share information on how we can be better stewards of creation, plus we will have time to learn from each other and get to know one another. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

## 25 NAHANT MARSH EDUCATION CENTER

Nahant Marsh is looking for volunteers for several upcoming events, including the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Monarch Release Party (September 6), and Fejervary Park Harvest Fest (September 13). For information or to sign up, contact Liv Humphrey at [liv@nahantmarsh.org](mailto:liv@nahantmarsh.org).



## Why Use Rain Barrels?

When rain hits concrete—roads, buildings, parking lots—it runs off, often causing flash floods and flooded basements. Rain barrels are one way to prevent some of the run-off from ending up in your basement.

According to River Action, using a rain barrel is one of the simplest actions you can take to reduce runoff by collecting the rain that runs off your home. Collected rainwater can be used to irrigate lawns, water landscape beds or wash cars. Rain barrels also reduce storm water runoff lessening the impact on storm sewers, local streams, and rivers.

**River Action** in Davenport sells rain barrels as do several hardware stores in the area. Many rain barrels are made from recycled materials, thus not only preserving the rain but also reusing materials that would end up in a landfill. Rain barrels are a win-win for everyone.



# CALENDAR **SEPTEMBER**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b> <b>Labor Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>2</b> 10am Pastor's Text Study 5:00pm Property Mtg	<b>3</b> 12pm Men's Lunch Group 5:30pm Grief Support Grp	<b>4</b> 11am Prayer Group	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 1pm Praise Band Practice
<b>7</b> <b>Food Pantry Sunday</b> <b>JBS Resumes!</b> 8:30am Traditional Worship <b>9:30am Pictures to Remember</b> 10:30am Contemp. Worship <b>12:30pm IFF Picnic</b>	<b>8</b> 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Centering Prayer	<b>9</b> 9am Quilters 10am Pastor's Text Study 1:30pm Social Ministry Mtg 2:30pm Personnel Mtg 2:30pm Outreach Mtg 6pm CYF Mtg 7pm Worship Mtg 7pm The Anxious Gen	<b>10</b> 9am Quilters 12pm Men's Lunch Group	<b>11</b> 11am Paul Bible Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 1pm Praise Band Practice
<b>14</b> 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Contemp. Worship	<b>15</b> 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Centering Prayer 5pm Sweet Arts Club	<b>16</b> 9am Naomi Circle 10am Pastor's Text Study 7pm The Anxious Gen	<b>17</b> 12pm Men's Lunch Group 5:30pm Grief Support Grp	<b>18</b> 11am Paul Bible Study	<b>19</b> <b>11am Council Reports Due</b>	<b>20</b> 8:30am Page Turners 1pm Praise Band Practice <b>Block Party Set Up</b>
<b>21</b> <b>10:30am Outdoor Worship</b> <b>11:30am Block Party!</b> 	<b>22</b> 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Centering Prayer 7pm Council Meeting	<b>23</b> 10am Pastor's Text Study <b>2pm ImpactLife Blood Drive</b> 7pm The Anxious Gen	<b>24</b> 12pm Men's Lunch Group	<b>25</b> 11am Paul Bible Study	<b>26</b> <b>Sudlow Evacuation Drill</b>	<b>27</b> 1pm Praise Band Practice
<b>28</b> <b>Pet Blessing</b> <b>Pet Food Collection</b> 8:30am Healing Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Contemp. Worship	<b>29</b> 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Centering Prayer <b>Pastors at Fall Theological Conference</b> →	<b>30</b> 10am Pastor's Text Study 7pm The Anxious Gen		<div> <b>Office Hours</b>  Mon-Thur 8:30am-3pm  Fridays 8:30am-Noon </div>		

in  
loving  
memory

Dearest Grace Family & Friends,

Funeral services for Adam Wood, son of Claudia & Tom Wood, will be 11:00am on Saturday, September 6, at St. John Vianney Catholic Church (4097 ~ 18th St., Bettendorf). Family will greet friends before the services

9:00-11:00am, with the funeral at 11:00am followed by military rites, then lunch. Online condolences may be shared at [mcginnis-chambers.com/obituaries/adam-wood](http://mcginnis-chambers.com/obituaries/adam-wood). Memorials may be directed to [Kings Harvest Pet Rescue No Kill Shelter](#), in Davenport, IA. If you would like to send a card or note, Claudia has given permission to share her new address:

Claudia & Tom Wood  
628 W Wrightwood Ave #5E  
Chicago, IL 60614

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>1</b> Cindy Lee         | <b>18</b> Colleen Levsen   |
| Kevin Miller               | <b>19</b> Bud Johnson      |
| <b>3</b> Lori Haugen       | Fidel Martinez             |
| Mark Janssen               | <b>20</b> Rod Levsen Sr    |
| <b>4</b> Cam Dougherty     | <b>22</b> Shirley Wellnitz |
| Caitlin McCullough         | <b>23</b> Sally Haugen     |
| Marilyn Schreiber          | <b>25</b> Ken Krumwiede    |
| <b>5</b> Gail McRill       | <b>26</b> Mark Jepson      |
| <b>6</b> Luanne Taylor     | <b>27</b> Sally Meier      |
| <b>10</b> Patti Dominacki  | <b>28</b> Sheila Jones     |
| <b>13</b> Jordan Bayles    | <b>29</b> Dennis Link      |
| Jake Bayles                |                            |
| Cheryl Kritsch             |                            |
| <b>15</b> Rhonda Gillespie |                            |
| <b>16</b> Kathy Eberlein   |                            |



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

## ADMIN STAFF

**Pastor Stephanie Wood**  
pastorstephanie@gracewelcomesyou.org

**Pastor Kirsten Lee**  
**Director of Outreach & Youth Ministries**  
pastorkirsten@gracewelcomesyou.org

**Annie Nau, Office Administrator**  
office@gracewelcomesyou.org

**Jason Halkias, Custodian**  
custodian@gracewelcomesyou.org

**Dawn Matthews, Treasurer**  
treasurer@gracewelcomesyou.org

**Vey Rodriguez, Worship Tech**  
worshiptech@gracewelcomesyou.org

## MUSIC STAFF

**Sally Meier** - Adult Choir Director  
**Kathi Parrish** - Accompanist  
**Susan Senn** - Organist  
**Vey Rodriguez** - Praise Band Leader

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Paul Lewellan** President  
**Deb Gustafson** Vice-President  
**Janice Gibbs** Secretary  
**Dawn Matthews** Treasurer  
**Jackie Cain**  
**Lori Haugen**  
**Laura Toland**  
**Gail Walton**

Grace Notes is published monthly by Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, IA 52803 A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

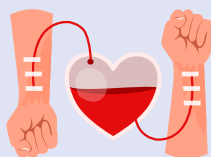


Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

## 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](http://bloodcenter.org) to register to donate.



## Lutheran World Relief Kits

Once again the members of Grace are invited to contribute to the LWR Project of School Kits, Fabric Kits, and Personal Care Kits. In the narthex there are empty school bags with a supply list inside and lists of items needed to complete Personal Care Kits and Fabric Kits. **Return the filled school bags and other kits to the church by Sept 14.**

## Men's Lunch & Conversation



Men's "Lunch & Conversation" meets every Wednesday at Noon at Vanderveer Park. You can bring a lunch from home or pick something up from a local restaurant. Questions? Contact Dennis Boehme at boehmed@aol.com or 563-320-2661.

## Food Pantry Weekend

**Our next Food Pantry Collection is Sunday, September 7**

Bring your non-perishable food donations in a bag, and leave at the altar before the service. **Let's make this our best year yet!**

**Ethnic and Multicultural Cooking Supplies:**

Go to [imu.uiowa.edu/food/food-pantry/donate/multicultural-food-item-donations-requested](http://imu.uiowa.edu/food/food-pantry/donate/multicultural-food-item-donations-requested) for a detailed list of commonly requested items.

**Donations Needed:** nonperishables - especially canned fruits and vegetables, canned & dry beans, canned meats, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, breakfast items (cereal, oatmeal, etc.)

**Always Appreciated:** peanut butter, jelly/jam, canned chili, boxed potatoes, protein bars, whole grain bread, fresh fruits & vegetables (donated directly to the pantry), items for baking (flour, sugar, baking soda, baking powder, etc.)

**Consider:** simple spices (salt, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, etc.), neutral cooking oils, vinegars, powdered milk, powdered eggs, wooden spoon sets, hand-held can openers, aluminum foil pans (various sizes), cake mixes/frosting for special occasions

