

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 Guptill:

Gguptill@aol.com

218.393.9234

Leah's Church Office Email:
moragrancelutheran@gmail.com

Krista's Email:
kristagrancelutheran@gmail.com

Kelly's Email:
Kellykehr01@gmail.com

Summer Sunday Worship

May 28th – September 3rd
9:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
**Worship area subject to change

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

GLC Website:

www.gracechurchmora.com

Facebook: @moragrancelutheran

YouTube:

<https://www.gracechurchmora.com/videos?wix-vod-comp-id=comp-k9dd0c2k>

Grace Google Calendar:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/r?tab=mc>

ELCA website: www.elca.org

NE MN website:

www.nemnsynod.org



JULY

Being people of peace.

GLC

Newsletter

A Prayer for the Month:

*Almighty God, help us to walk with you in life with peace and humility so that others may see and believe that through Jesus Christ your kingdom has come.
Amen.*

Pastor's Page

Summer is a time for vacation. From vacation you find the word vacate, meaning to empty something. Letting go of everything - possessions, worries, control, burdens, stresses, anything which keeps us stuck, in life, we need vacations.


My wife Kathryn and I are on a vacation as I write. Through the help of many different people from Grace, we are exploring the world of Alaska. Kathryn keeps telling me on this trip, "that mountain over there is fake. It can't be real." Of course it is. It is her way of saying God's creation here is too much for the mind to fully comprehend. On one sea kayaking adventure, we stopped in front of a glacier and watched an entire wall of ice crash into the narrows. It was ominous and violent. We left small and humble again. We vacated in the truest sense of the word. Staring at a snow capped mountain shrinks the ego. On Sunday we worshiped at a small Lutheran church in Valdez. Here we left connected and whole again.

Whatever you do this summer, be mindful of vacating your spirit so Gods' Holy Spirit can renew. It's a trip worth taking.

See you in church,

Pastor Gary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
9am - Sanctuary Service	8am - Office Closed	Independence Day 8am - Office Closed	8am - Office Open 9:30am - Quilters 12pm - Apostle Paul Bible Study 7pm - Apostle Paul Bible Study	8am - Office Open	Office Closed	Office Closed
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9am - Sanctuary Service	8am - Office Open 10am - Staff Check In 4pm - Soup for the Soul @ Emmanuel 6pm - AI Anon	8am - Office Open	Summer Release Time Day! 8am - Office Open 9:30am - Quilters 12pm - Apostle Paul Bible Study 7pm - Apostle Paul Bible Study	8am - Office Open	Office Closed	Office Closed
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9am - Sanctuary Service 9:15am - Sunday School	8am - Office Open 10am - Staff Check In 4pm - Soup for the Soul @ Emmanuel 6pm - AI Anon	8am - Office Open	7:45am - Summer Sacrament Day Trip 8am - Office Open 9:30am - Quilters 12pm - Apostle Paul Bible Study 7pm - Apostle Paul Bible Study	8am - Office Open 12pm - Newsletter Deadline	Office Closed	Office Closed
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9am - Sanctuary Service	8am - Office Open 10am - Staff Check In 4pm - Soup for the Soul @ Emmanuel 6pm - AI Anon	8am - Office Open	8am - Office Open	8am - Office Open	Office Closed	Office Closed
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9am - Sanctuary Service	8am - Office Open 10am - Staff Check In 4pm - Soup for the Soul @ Emmanuel 6pm - AI Anon	8am - Office Open 1pm - Card Makers Day	8am - Office Open 9:30am - Quilters 12pm - Apostle Paul Bible Study 7pm - Apostle Paul Bible Study	8am - Office Open	Office Closed	Office Closed
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
9am - Sanctuary Service	8am - Office Open 10am - Staff Check In 4pm - Soup for the Soul @ Emmanuel 6pm - AI Anon					



2023 GLC July Birthdays

1. Karena Brasch, Robert Sjoberg, Paige Johnstone
2. Wendy Norling, Karl Gotfredson, Isabel Schley
3. Bob Sundberg
4. Deb Wright
5. Ethan Elvehjem, Ben Wright
6. Barb Ennis, Coleton Steffen
7. Anders Olson, Elin Olson
9. Robin Blegen, Jeremy Brasch
10. James Belt, Kinzie Nelson
11. Dolores Blaisdell, Deb Backlund, Beth Brandt
12. Greg Myers
13. Lynn Anderson, Kirby Olson, Dan Swearingen, Sara Wren, Rosalee Strom
17. Donna Callander, Tysonn Peterson, Lucas Ellingson
18. Zachary Tetnowski
19. Jacob Ellingson
20. Lucille Schultz, Jennie Ellingson
21. Peggy Voss
23. Judy Roeschlein, James Skolte
24. Caiden Stamper
25. Adelina Wren
26. Russell Callander, Darcy Qual
27. Char Mayer
28. Vitali Chromey, Grady Kerr
29. Sue Oehrlein, Addison Olen, Korbyn Nolt
30. Julie French, John Paulson, Ernie Capra
31. Dar Wicklund, Diane Bayerle

If you are missing from the birthday list, please let the office know!
We don't want to miss anyone.
Blessings 😊

Ushers, Lectors and Communion Assistants

9:00 A.M. Sanctuary Service

July 2nd

Usher: Arnie Barabash & Roger Peterson
Lector: Linda Johnson
Communion: Roger Peterson

Aug 6th

Usher: Art & Lurette Kottke
Lector: Kris Pulford
Communion: Kris Pulford

July 9th

Usher: John & JoAnne Skillicorn
Lector: John Paulson

Aug 13th

Usher: Craig & Jodi Schultz
Lector: Craig Schultz

July 16th

Usher: Greg & Jane Myers
Lector: Greg Myers
Communion: Barb Ennis

Aug 20th

Usher: Guy & Peggy Groshek
Lector: Diane Runquist
Communion: Diane Runquist

July 23rd

Usher: Nick & Kam Schroeder
Lector: Nick Schroeder

Aug 27th

Usher: Dianne Fisher & Suzie Halverson
Lector: Jan Falk

July 30th

Usher: Mark & Verona Gravich
Lector: Mark Gravich

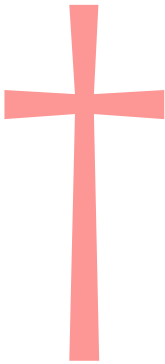
Sept 3rd

Usher: John & JoAnne Skillicorn
Lector: Harry Blegen
Communion: Harry Blegen

Grace Hospitality Ministry

July 2nd Suzie Halverson and Dianne Fisher
July 9th Verona Gravich
July 16th Mary and Gaylen Brelie
July 23rd Mary Olson
July 30th Peg and Guy Groshek

August 6th Dave and Betsy Van Burkleo
August 13th Verona Gravich
August 20th Marie and Rollie Fredrickson
August 27th Bob and Carol Kolodejchuk



*“This is my commandment,
that you love one another as I
have loved you.*

~ John 15:12

BE A PRAYER Warrior



Grace Lutheran Church PRAYER CONCERNS:

Natalie Matthewson, Phyllis Johnson, Marlys Overson, Justine Isom, Chad Pranke, Beverly Fore, Roger Teich, Gerri Teich, Dana Fluegge, Diane Blegen, David Ulstrom, Darlene Armstrong, John Armstrong, Larry Rowley, Meagan Barrett Isom, Doug Price, Jody Burton, Cliff and Marla Williams and Pearl Peterson.

Service Personnel:

Christopher Unger, Chris Garbacz and Emmie Otto, and all other active members



Pastoral Visits, changing world.....We need your help.

Pastors love to visit with people. So does church staff. Sick or not, we love to talk about God, your health, sports, music, Jesus, family concerns, the bible, justice, and love. Name the topic, most of us know something about many different things. **But one thing we do not know about is the desire for a call or visit from church members unless we are informed.**

Sometimes we hear through the grapevine 2nd, 3rd, or 4th hand information about people. But this stuff doesn't help. The office or the pastor must have your voice in this. Here is why and here is what has changed in this world.

1. Landlines are nearly extinct. Without a way to contact through cell phones, we are at a loss.
2. Laws prevent hospitals from contacting the church anymore with information on patients.
3. It is a growing reality, that drop-in visits by a pastor to somebody is discouraged. The church office or the pastor has no way of knowing whether a person actually wants a visit. Assuming is dangerous business.

Several solutions are in place. Here are some.

1. Pastor Gary's personal cell phone number is everywhere. In the Grace on Line. In the newsletter. Over the radio. Outside the church doors. Call anytime.
2. Pastor Gary loves to talk any subject anytime at church. Coffee is always free.
3. The office staff is intentionally trained for confidentiality and availability. Call the church office Monday – Thursday with any and all requests. They are good and handle concerns well.
4. We have a wonderful ministry called Touch of Grace where members of Grace do regular visits to church members. Communion, conversation and compassion are the 3 C's of this ministry.

We realize it can be difficult for anyone wishing for a visit to take the first step. If a hospital and sickness issue is part of the story, it is even more complicated. In short, let us know. It is the first step in healing.

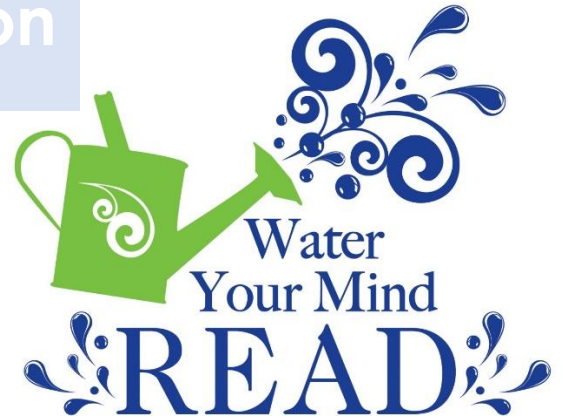


Living *Grace* Library Mission

July 2023

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.



Kid's Books

3:16, The Numbers of Hope, A John 3:16 Book for Teens by Max Lucado. A quote from the back of the book – "If you know nothing about the Bible, start here. If you know everything in the Bible, return here. John 3:16...it's more than a sign at football games, more than a Bible verse. It's the answer." The book contains Max Lucado's messages with honest responses from teens.

Non-Fiction

Sermons on the Parables by Howard Thurman edited with an introduction by David B. Gowler & Kipton E. Jensen. Howard Thurman lived from 1899-1981 and was a mentor to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The introduction to this book states "one cannot understand King's theology and philosophy without first understanding Thurman's." The sermons on the parables of Jesus presented in this book were first preached in the 1950's. Each sermon is introduced by the editor followed by the sermon itself.

Adult Fiction

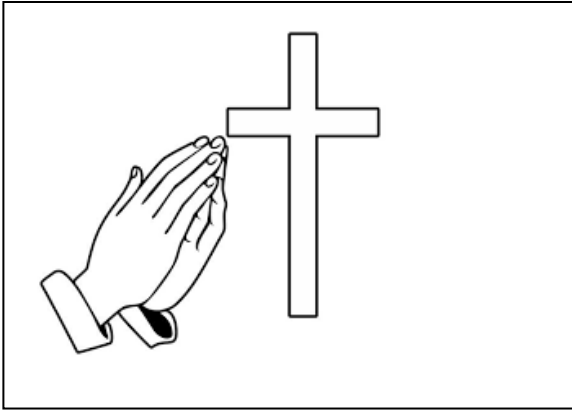
The Pilgrim by Davis Bunn. In this historical epic story, Empress Helena abandoned by her husband and in constant danger because of her faith with a will to do what God has called her to do takes a perilous journey from Caesarea to Judea. Helena's son, Constantine had a vision to place a new symbol made from the cross overlaid by the name of Jesus upon a standard and won a great victory over a great army. Now his mother, Helena, has a vision of her own and embarks on a dangerous journey and the discovery of the True Cross

The Fragment by Davis Bunn. This story is set in the 1920's in Paris. American photographer, Muriel Ross, is documenting antiques for U.S. Senator Tom Bryan including a piece of the True Cross found at the Cathedral of Notre Dame. There are rumors that another fragment has been discovered and a covert international attempt to authenticate it and to protect it from those who wish to steal it and discredit it.



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.



***“Speak, Lord,
for your servant is listening”***

1 Samuel 3:9

Help Wanted!! Look familiar?

Grace Lutheran’s Altar Guild is looking for willing hands to help prepare our Worship spaces for each

Sunday. This vital ministry is a “behind the scenes” group of people who:

- tend the candles on the Altar
- set up Holy Communion and clean up after
- change the Altar paraments (cloths) for each season of the church year.

Currently we have need of a couple people (or families) to fill in openings in our calendar. Training in these responsibilities will be provided and you always serve along with another person, so support is readily available!

Please contact Dianne Wachsmuth if you feel you can help with this.

Phone: 320/515-0177 Thank You!

Our current ministry members are:

January	Andrea Hams	Peg Groshek
February	_ Kim & Bryan Brown _____	
March	_ Kristin & Kinzie Nelson _	
April	Jill Kent	_____
May	_____	_____
June	_ Barb O’Donovan _	_____
July	_ Barb O’Donovan _	_ Lurette Kottke _____
August	_ Dianne Fisher _____	_ Lurette Kottke _____
September	_ Kristin & Kinzie Nelson _	
October	Jill Kent	_ Jackie Thompson _____
November	Peg Groshek	_ Dianne Fisher _____
December	Andrea Hams	_____

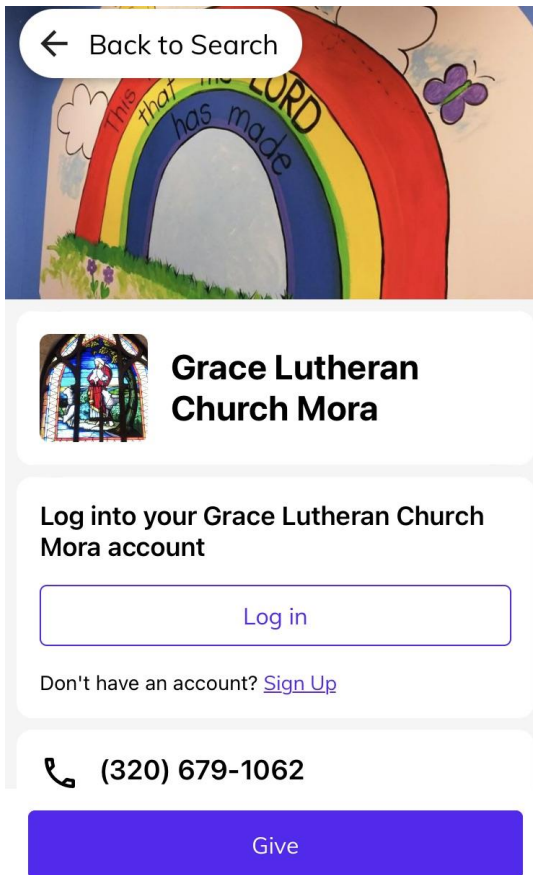
WAYS TO GIVE AT GRACE

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 podiums.

SCAN to DONATE VANCO ONLINE GIVING



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

301 Forest Ave. E. Mora,
MN 55051

31-May-23 General Checkbook:

General Checkbook:

Beginning balance	(5,131.14)
Deposits *	34,654.39
Checks written *	(35,130.57)
Ending balance	(5,607.32)

* 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 2023

Council Minutes

2023 COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Sarah Hanson
Vice President: Ethan Elvehjem
Secretary: Robin Blegen
Treasurer:

Lacey Danelski, Andrea Hams,
Linda Johnson, John Paulson,
Mary Olson and Craig Schultz

Thank you, for serving on council.

Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting 06-11-2023 Minutes
Council Meeting called to order 10:17 A.M. by: Sarah Hanson
Opening/Roll Call

- Members present: Pr. Gary, Robin, Linda, Sarah, Mary, Andrea, John & Craig
- Members absent: Ethan
- Devotions by: Robin Aug. / Linda

Open Forum

o Approval of Lacey Danelski joining council. June 2023 to Jan. 2024. Motion by Andrea: Lacey as new church council member. 2nd Mary m/s/c

Agenda- Approval—Mary / Craig m/s/c

Staff Reports

• **Senior Pastor Report:**

- o Grace Luth., Calvary Luth., Methodist church finished a weeklong Vacation Bible School. With 75 children, youth, and adult leaders. All three churches used their facilities, and much joy and fellowship were had by all.
- o We recognized about 20 seniors at worship service for their accomplishments.
- o Chat and Chow finished this school year successfully, a great final gathering. Fall 2023 Chat N Chow still in planning with new Mora High School move.
- o New Wednesday bible study series.
- o Several funerals took place over the month of May. The funeral ministry food prep team remains strong and meaningful ministry of Grace Luth.
- o Summer Sunday service 9 am.
- o Pastor gone two Sundays in June with Pastor Julie Beck of Braham presiding and leading worship.

Approval of Last Month's Meeting Minutes

- Approval of last regular meeting minutes. By: Robin / Linda m/s/c

Treasurer's Report

- May. 31, 2023 (5,607.32)

Ministry Reports

• **Worship and Music:**

- o Pastor shared some experiences from Synod Assembly.
- o Thank you to Linda Johnson, John Paulson and Mark Gravich for leading the worship service while Pastor Gary was gone.

Unfinished Business

- Memorial Gifts Brochure / Grace Lutheran Church
- Carpet color sample to vote on. The winner: Carpet w/no red
- Church Constitution: Find committee / Craig & Ethan
- Vasaloppet Committee has found a place to use.
- New church sign

New Business

- A new plan for the garden deck costs 5,500.

Next meeting, Sunday, August 6th, 2023, 10:10 A.M. following the service * Date subject to change.

Motion to adjourn Andrea/Linda m/s/c Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Robin Blegen, Council Secretary

Worship and Music June 12th, 2023

Todd S., Dianne W., Linda J., Krista E., Kelly K., Richard S., Judy R., Pastor Gary and Leah S.

Judy opened with devotions. Standing up for what is right.

Anything from last months minutes to discuss?

- Thank you to Kathryn for preaching on June 11th. Many members were in tears.

VBS

- Music team was 3 youth from Calvary and 1 youth from Grace. (Grace Johnson 😊)
 - Homegrown leadership at its best!
 - Bible Camps are having a hard time with sending out music teams to churches, not enough employees.

Information to share

- Todd is going to order a new cord for Pastor- the small cords in the headsets are so delicate.
- Pastor Gary will be gone the next two Sundays, June 18th and 25th. Pastor Julie Beck from Braham will be helping us out.
 - We are all ready for Pastor Beck
 - First week-Blended Service w/ Holy Communion. There will be Sunday School on this day, no children's sermonette, kids will come back before Holy Communion.
 - Second week- Non-Communion Sunday.
- Dianne thanked Jacki P. for "jamming" on the organ, with the beautiful music.
- Blended Music Team is working on special music.
 - Brass thinking about special music.
 - Sarah Hanson is thinking about special music.

Altar Guild

- Dianne Wachsmuth brought to our attention that the Altar Ladies would like to put away the beeswax candles from the Everlasting candle in the Sanctuary. The pully cord is hard to handle and it's time for an upgrade. Dianne has spent some time looking into finding a hanging LED operated Everlasting Candle.
 - No real electric outlet around the area, Todd said it is not a problem we have members who are journeymen.

Future

- The Worship team will not meet in the month of July.

We all closed in prayer, together.

Our next Worship meeting will be Monday, August 7th, 11:00a.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

Join us for **Summer Sunday School** every third Sunday this Summer! July 16th, August 20th.

There is a new children's worship bag area in the Sanctuary! During the summer the back pew will have worship friendly activities for kids to build their own busy bag. Choose a few materials and take them to wherever your family wants to sit. Please return everything to the back pew at the end of the service.



WE STILL NEED SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS FOR NEXT YEAR! This does not require an every Sunday commitment! If we can have a team of 4-5 adults/youth then it would be 1-2 Sundays a month. Please contact Kelly if you feel the call to serve in this way. Grace has a growing Sunday School that needs adult leaders so please prayerfully consider it!



The Mora Area Ecumenical VBS was June 5th-9th! Over 80 kids and 40 volunteers participated in the fun week of games, crafts, bible lessons and more at Grace, Calvary and Mora United Methodist. Thank you to all the youth and adults who volunteered!

“Religious Release” in JULY! 1st – 6th graders are invited to come for Summer Release Time! All the fun of Release Time but in July.

July 12th 8am -11am

Check with Kelly for early drop off and later pick up if needed.

Sign up with Kelly via text, Email, or at church on the sign up sheet



Just Added!! For 3rd -6th graders.

August 2nd - FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN and BUNKER BEACH WATER PARK!

Adult drivers/leaders are needed for every 3 youth per the FMSC guidelines. Sign up at church or contact Kelly by July 16th!

(info continued on next page)

(August 2nd Continued)

Meet at Grace at 7:45am. Travel to FMSC.

Packing from 9-10:45.

Picnic Lunch/travel/arrive at Bunker Beach by 12pm.

Enjoy the water park till 3pm

Depart by 3:15 and home by 4:15.

\$19 for Bunker Beach admission plus money for snacks (optional)

Suggested donation for FMSC - \$10

Pack a picnic lunch!



7th -12th grade! Join us for a Summer Servant Day Trip to Feed My Starving Children and VALLEYFAIR!! Wednesday July 19th

Adult chaperones/drivers will be needed for every 4 kids

Meet at Grace Lutheran at 7:45.

Travel to FMSC Coon Rapids

9-10:45 packing at FMSC

10:45-11:45 picnic lunch and travel

11:45 -7 Valley Fair

7-8:30 travel back to Mora

Cost: \$25 plus BYO lunch and food/drink at the park.

Sign up with Kelly via text, Email or at church by June 30th

The Synod Journey to the ELCA National Youth Gathering is in NEW ORLEANS July 14th-21st 2024!! We will be going as a group with Calvary. Contact Kelly for all the info! We will need a verbal commitment by JUNE 30th!



CYF July/August Calendar At- a- Glance

July 12th – Summer Release Time

July 16th – Summer Sunday School

July 19th – FMSC and Valley Fair (7th-12th)

August 2nd – FMSC and Bunker Beach Water Park (3rd-6th)

August 9th – SAVE THE DATE!! Annual Pie and Ice Cream Social Fundraiser for Camperships! 4:30-6:30

August 20th – SAVE THE DATE! Confirmation Kick off Pool Party at Brandts!

Watch for more info in the GRACE ON LINE weekly GOL and in the August Newsletter!



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



Thank you, to all the VBS helpers! YOU ROCK!



Grace Lutheran's

Annual Pie and Ice Cream Social Fundraiser for Camperships!

Wednesday, August 9th

4:30-6:30

Pies and other donations will be needed!
Watch for sign-up sheets in JULY!

Camperships are used to help cover cost of faith formation experiences for children, youth and adults throughout the year!

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY



**WE WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, JULY 3RD &
TUESDAY, JULY 4TH**



*Enjoy Your Holiday Weekend
& God Bless America!*

Grace Lutheran Church
301 Forest Ave. East
Mora, MN 55051

320.679.1062
moragracelutheran@gmail.com

Return Service Requested

