



*Rooted In Christ - Growing in Love -
Branching out in Service*



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

104 S. Colfax St.

West Point, NE 68788

402-372-2050

gracewpn@hotmail.com

www.gracewpn.org

Missionary:

Rev. Linda Johnson Swyenkulo

Ministers: Everyone!

Pastor: Rev. Priscilla Hukki

402-841-0220

pjhukki@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:

Teala Connealy

Trinity Church UCC/UMC

900 E. Decatur St.

P.O. Box 156

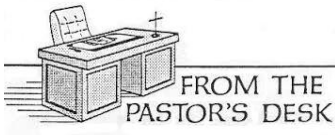
West Point, NE. 68788

402-372-2271

trinity.church.ucc.umc@gmail.com

Grace & Trinity Newsbites

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2024



As followers of Jesus, we are called to live according to God's standards. We are called to lift up those who are bowed down;

to care for the sick; to feed the hungry; to welcome the outcast; to love as we have been loved. We may be called to be martyrs for the Gospel; but we are not called to be martyred by another's bad behavior, poor judgment or prejudices.

Let us live our faith; be clothed with Christ; be bold, unafraid and not ashamed of the Gospel. Let us choose kindness, love mercy and do justice. Most of us do our best; we just don't always get it right. So, we trust in God's mercy and strength and live in the light- Christ whom no darkness can overcome.

Traveling mercies as onward we go, marching and dancing and living in the Light.

Pr. Priscilla

Tanzania church roof fund - pastor is having a yard sale at the parsonage on Friday, September 13 from 9-7 (ish). Donations of gently used items - NO CLOTHES OR SHOES - are welcome - on Thursday the 12th. Some folks are organizing a bake sale as well! Yumm. (Please mark and drop off baked items any time after 7:30 a.m.) Also welcome - folks who might like to hang out for a while during the sale. Let Pastor know if you will be donating items or would like to help. FYI - so far there is \$8152 in the fund (donated & pledged). Thank you for your support of this project.

We are gearing up for a wonderful Christian Ed program year! We are excited to be working with our fabulous group of young people. We meet most every Wednesday, from 5:30 to 6:30, generally at Trinity. This fall we will be using some of the scriptures from the upcoming weekend as the focus each week; and we will be learning and studying the Apostles' creed. Plus, a lot of other fun activities. Parents – please plan to come, and bring the whole family for supper and some activities on September 4th.

On the weekend of the 7th and 8th, parents and students are encouraged to be at one of the services for a blessing of backpacks, students and teachers and blessing of our Christian Ed teachers. Fellowship that weekend is pot-luck; bring your favorite after school snack to share.

Sometimes, especially during a presidential election year, it can be difficult to have useful, respectful conversations about big, and small, issues. The Nebraska Synod has put together some resources that could be helpful. Go to Nebraska Synod webpage. At the top, click on Ministries. Then click on Justice & Advocacy. Check some of them out. Would you like to have an adult study? You might also check out Emmaus - life long learning. There are some excellent adult education opportunities. On Great Plains UMC webpage, also click on Ministries. Then Mercy & Justice.

Nebraska Synod Youth Activities

Live and Learn Fall Kick Off Event: Grades 6-12 (Lincoln)

Sunday, September 8, 2024: 4:00-7:00 p.m.

\$15/person for in person event, no charge on-line.

What is a disciple?

Kick off your youth ministry year with the Nebraska Synod. Join us in person for food, fellowship, Bible Study and conversation. Or, gather with other youth groups near you or as your own youth group and share in a meal. Then, tune in on-line for Bible Study and conversation, to start thinking about leadership and to get a preview of upcoming events for the year.

The Nebraska Synod Journey is a week-long experience for youth who have completed grades 8-12 by the summer of 2025 and their adult leaders. The 2025 Journey to Nashville will feature service learning throughout the Nashville area, worship, fellowship and other activities throughout the city. We will use our gifts as we grow in our faith together and learn about the gifts our neighbors in Tennessee bring to the table. Travel will be by Windstar motorcoaches, and housing will be in residence halls at Vanderbilt University, with an overnight stop each way in St. Louis. Each participating congregation is asked to register one adult leader for every six youth. Adult leaders must be at least 21 years of age.

• **Date: July 6-12, 2025** • **Location: Nashville, TN**

• **Cost of event:**

-**Early bird (submitted before December 1, 2024): \$630**

-**Regular registration (submitted December 1, 2024-March 1, 2025): \$680**

-**\$130 per person deposit due with online early bird registration / \$180 per person for regular registration**

-**The deposit is non-refundable and registration cost includes, transportation, meals and lodging**

• **Last date to register: March 1, 2025**

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Grace Lutheran and Trinity Churches will be hosting a community Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday, November 24th at 11am at Grace Lutheran Church. Free will offering is encouraged.

All are welcome! RSVP is required to attend.

Please RSVP no later than Nov. 11th. Call either church or email at

402-372-2050 gracewpn@hotmail.com

402-372-2271 trinity.church.ucc.umc@gmail.com

Grace and Trinity members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

Watch for more info and for opportunities to serve.

Tickets available now for
Trinity-Grace Churches' Annual Oktoberfest Dinner
Drive-Up Take-Out Only!

Dinners will be delivered to your Vehicle!

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

Serving 5:00-7:00pm

Nielsen Community Center
200 Anna Stalp Avenue - West Point, NE

*Serving: Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable,
Salad, Dinner Roll & Pumpkin Dessert*

Tickets \$10.00 available from:

Trinity Church

Grace Lutheran Church

*CharterWest Bank

*F&M Bank

Dave Wimmer

Brenda Larson

**Proceeds divided between Trinity Church building
improvements & local needs.**

*After September 1st

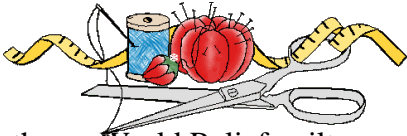
Drive – Thru Lasagna Supper

**Sponsored by the Women of Grace, WELCA with help from the
Trinity Women & Christian Ed. Kids**

We are again having a "drive-thru" Lasagna Supper. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 6. The meal will be lasagna (beef or chicken), dinner roll, salad and dessert. Serving from 5:30 - 7:30. We will be selling tickets for \$10.00. We will be limiting the number of tickets sold, so buy your tickets earlier rather than later. There will be no meal available without a ticket. You may purchase tickets beginning October 13th from a "Friendship Circle" member or call Mary Vander Pol or Teala at the church during office hours at 402-372-2050.

The proceeds from our supper will be disbursed to further the work of the church missions, local needs and projects, and help maintain church needs.

If you would be willing to help with preparing and/or serving, please let Mary Vander Pol know.



**“Comfort, comfort my people, ‘
says your God.”**

Isaiah 40:1

Lutheran World Relief quilts:

*Shield against the cold and rain

*Provide warm bedding

*In some areas, children are not only hungry, they are cold. They’re burning energy to keep warm, instead of using those calories to grow and develop.

Warm quilts require batting. A roll of batting costs around \$180, and we get 16 quilts from a roll. Roughly, we make 175 to 200 quilts a year. 175 divided by 16 = almost 11 rolls of batting. The Endowment Fund helps each year, and Thrivent Action cards help too.

If you are a Thrivent member, and have not applied for \$250 Thrivent Action cards, we’d be happy to help you through the process.

The Grace Quilters **appreciate and use** your donations of fabric, sheets, and blankets.

If you feel you can help with a monetary donation, it will be used to purchase batting,

Warm hearts and warm hands = warm quilts!! **THANK YOU.**

The Lyons St. Joseph’s Catholic Church will be having their Fall Salad Luncheon on Friday, September 20 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meal tickets are \$8 each. Walk-Ins welcome & Carry-outs Available.

Update on our Graduates:

Cooper Colson graduated with an associate degree from Iowa Central in May. This fall he will continue his education at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. He also will be wrestling at UNL. He is a HUSKER! Go Big Red!

On May 18, 2024, Dr. Bobby Jo Hansen MD graduated from William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine with Honors in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. For her 4-year Resident Programs she will be at UNMC and the Veterans Home in Omaha. She is studying Internal Medicine. Bobby Jo is the daughter of Garry & Bev Becker Hansen.

In Our Prayers this Week:

**To see an updated list
please contact the office.**

Trinity News

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

**To see an updated list
please contact the office.**

Trinity – July Financial Report – General Fund

**To see the latest report
please contact the office.**

Grace will be having the final 150th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, October 20. This is also a combined service (no service at Trinity on the 19th). There will be a brunch after the service and Trinity members are asked to provide the kitchen/serving/clean-up crew so that Grace members can just enjoy the meal. Food is being catered and will be delivered on Saturday. Please let Steve Blocher or Pr. Priscilla know if you can help.

Grace News

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

**To see an updated list
please contact the office.**

Grace Lutheran Church - Financial Report

General Fund – July 2024

**To see the latest report
please contact the office.**

Since we don't use the charcoal grills (2) on the east side of the building, the council has decided to sell them for scrap. However, if you would like to have one, please contact the office. If more than two people are interested we will draw names. If you get one, a donation is appreciated.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 6. It's a work party day! Wear work clothes to church; we will have barbecue pork sandwiches for lunch and then get to work. We will be doing inside and outside chores - tidying, small repairs and light maintenance. It's been over a year since we've done one of these days, so there will be chores for all!



The quilts donated by Grace Lutheran Quilters raised \$1490.00 at the CCJH Quilt Auction. In total, over \$104,000.00 was raised to support campers!

Make a donation to the Tanzania Roof Fund and put your name in for a chance to win your choice of 3 quilts. Quilts will be on display in the Grace Fellowship Hall.

Name will be drawn on October 20th at the 150th GLC Celebration!

Please drop off your donations at either church office, with Pastor or give to Vicki or one of the Grace Quilters.

Thank you for your donation.

The women of your church are invited to our Women of the ELCA Guest Night at Christ Lutheran Church in Wisner on Monday evening of September 16th. The meal will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a program to follow. Guest speaker for the evening will be Roxann Fox, Director of Women's Ministries at the Norfolk Rescue Mission. She will present information on the work of rescue based on scripture Psalm 40: 1-4, attributed to King David. We will be collecting food pantry items and basic cleaning supplies to be donated to the shelter.

Please R.S.V.P. if you can attend by September 9th to LaRayne. Please contact Vicki Furchert if you plan to go .

Application for Endowment Grants

*Applications are due in the church office by **October 11th**.*

Dear friend,

Please use the Grant Request form on this page to submit Endowment requests. Provide a concise summary of need, and the anticipated benefit provided to recipients. You may attach additional information to this form as necessary.

The Endowment Committee will meet in late October or November to consider your request. You will be contacted in early January as to whether your request was granted. (Investment returns were low this past year, so applicants be mindful that you may not receive as much this year.)

Thank you for your submission. We pray that God will bless your ministry with every success!

Yours in Christ, The Endowment Committee of Grace Lutheran

The Endowment Fund was established by the congregation in the early 1900s. It is a vital component of the ministry of Grace and provides a way for members and friends of Grace to make special gifts to carry on the ministry of the church. A gift to the Endowment Fund is a gift that keeps on giving. The funds are used to support projects that the general fund can't support.

Grant Request Form

Grace Lutheran Church Endowment

Today's Date: _____

Group or person requesting grant:

Contact Information (including phone & email):

Request & expected benefit for those served (provide a concise summary; attach additional information only as necessary):

Amount Requested: \$ _____

Date by which Grant Monies are needed: _____

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*Committee Use Only*

- Category: \_\_\_A. Capital Improvements & Internal Ministries  
\_\_\_B. Scholarships – Camp, College, Seminary  
\_\_\_C. Outreach – Local, ELCA, Other  
\_\_\_D. Intern (Vicar) & Missions

Date Acted Upon: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion By: \_\_\_\_\_

Second By: \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: Yea \_\_\_ / Nay \_\_\_

Request # \_\_\_\_\_; Amount Awarded: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Chair's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Address Service Requested*

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church  
104 South Colfax Street  
West Point, NE 68788-1811