

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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November 2025 Newsletter

September 8, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes

Attendees Present - Pastor Matt Converse, Joe Freiburger, Maelynn Fries, Linda Grawcock, Mark Krider, Bill Owen, Sarah Pearl, Morgan Heidenreich

Absent - Branson Heidenreich, Deena Hart, Paul Marken

Meeting was called to order by President Joe Freiburger

Pastor led devotions from Deuteronomy 30:15-20. As the people were on the banks of the Jordan River looking into the promised land, God made a covenant with them. If you obey the commandments of the Lord God, walking in his ways and observing his commandments, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord will bless the land you are entering to possess. But if you turn away and bow down to other gods and serve them, you will certainly perish. God is not punishing them, but giving the people a choice and the people will be punishing themselves.

Minutes from August 11th meeting were approved with one spelling error.

Pastors Report: Pastor Matt gave a summary of his written report. Pastor will be on vacation from September 11 th thru the 16 th . We will have a video sermon on September 14th and Joe Freiburger will lead services with no communion. Pastor explained how Confirmation Class would go. There will be 24 online classes that will need to be viewed (8 to 12 minutes). Each student will have a mentor, and they can work thru the class together. The mentor can be a relative but not a parent. They will also need to complete 2 online surveys per month on the church service. There will also be a quarterly or semi annual meeting with pastor and all students. They will also attend the Synod Youth Assembly once a year. Bill made a motion that we accept and Linda seconded. This was approved by council.

Treasurers Report: Deena was absent and we will cover August and September at or next council meeting.

Old Business:

A) First Friday Recap. The weather was beautiful and we were very busy. We handed out 150 balloons and wrist bands. We had numerous parents inquiring about our preschool program. We also had a lot of discussion about our church and what it has to offer.

B) Confirmation Class. See Pastors report.

C) Pork Chop Dinner. Linda covered with Adelphi group and they will be handling the Pork Chop dinner for the 4H in the future.

New Business:

A) Credit Card for the office: Mark made a motion that we get a credit card for the office to purchase office supplies with a \$2500 limit and set up a tax free Amazon account.

Maelynn seconded and this was passed by council.

B) Joint Council meeting: Joe contacted Mike Noel from Hope about having a joint council meeting. We will be having a joint council meeting on October 13 th 7:00pm at Grace.

C) Holiday Services: It was discussed how the congregation was disappointed that we did not have 2 Christmas Eve services last year. We will have 2 services this year. Times will be announced next month.

D) Hanging of the greens: Hanging of the greens will be on November 23 Rd following the service.

Team Reports:

Property- Mark gave a summary of his written report. The property team has been busy and completed a long list of projects. Mark is in the process of installing new fire exit signs. Mark also sent a letter to Felger Hart letting them know how we are not pleased with their service and what we are being billed for. Mark feels they make multiple repairs for the same job as they are not fixed properly.

Food Pantry- Joe gave a verbal summary of what is going on. The Food Pantry continues to be very busy and things are going well. Several people have stepped up to help and Dave is very appreciative of all the help he can get.

Fellowship- Maelynn talked about the carry in on September 21st. We will be eating and making Christmas ornaments after church service. The church will provide drinks and materials to make the ornaments.

Worship and Music- We covered Paul's written report and meeting they had on Aug. 31st. Steve Dave is checking the organ to see if we need to call a tuner. Two members have shown interest in the rejoice choir.

Christian Education- Linda and Morgan. Linda had a written report. Morgan will be holding a Sunday school during the sermon for the children. She will start this on September 14 th.

Stewardship- Linda We covered Linda's report. Linda handed out last years survey of interest from last year. We need to look over the report and make sure we talk to individuals about there interest level. We will discuss in detail next month.

Permanent Endowment- We discussed the report Paul turned in and the meeting they had on August 20 th. The Endowment committee decided that they will move the money investment from Thrivent to JP Morgan Chase.

Altar Guild- There will be no communion on September 14 th as pastor Matt is on vacation. There will also be no communion on Christmas Eve services also.

Staff Support- Meeting set for November

Preschool- We discussed Kirsten's written report. We do have 2 opening for MWF all day and 7 openings for T/Th pm (12:30-3:30).

Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm with the Lord's Prayer.
Minutes prepared by Joe Freiburger 9/9/25

Prayer Request

If someone you know needs some extra prayers through a hard time or sickness, please email the office at Prayers.gracelutheran@gmail.com

Or you can call someone on the Care Team:

Jane Straub: 260-229-1118

Linda Trowbridge 260-229-1815

Linda Grawcock 260-609-5037

Ann Wolfe 260-609-5920

Sandy Whiteleather 260-503-4281

Join us for fellowship hour immediately following the service.

THANK YOU

to all the wonderful people who donated their time and yummy treats each week!!!

Food Pantry needs this month : Cereal

Also food pantry needs Plastic bags (Walmart, Kroger's, ect) and Egg cartons.

Important Email addresses

Church business and bulletin items:

Office.gracelutheran@gmail.com

Newsletter articles (due by the 21th of the month):

Newsletter.gracelutheran@gmail.com

Prayer Chain requests:

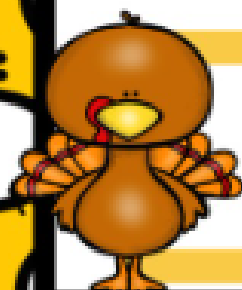
prayers.gracelutheran@gmail.com

Purpose statement: Empowered by Jesus to participate in God's work with our community.

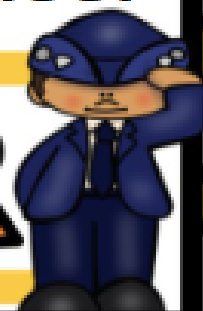
Guiding Principles:

- Always growing Relationships with God, one another, and the world
- God is at work in the world and we get to participate
- Trusting that God equips us, we understand and serve the needs of our community and world
- Music and worship are expressions of the Holy Spirit in this place.
- Each one has something to contribute
- All are on a journey, still traveling and searching
- We can walk arm in arm without seeing eye to eye

Grace Lutheran Church Preschool



NOVEMBER



Where we've been

October was a very busy month. We've spent a lot of time learning all about fire trucks and firefighters. We learned all about fire safety from Mr. Jines. Do you have a safe meeting place outside your house in case of a fire? We've been working hard on the letters Aa, Mm and Ff. The students have learned the numbers 1, 2, and 3, and the shapes circle and square. Ms. Mariah has been working with the 4-5 years olds on writing their names.

Where we're headed...

In November, we will continue learning all about pumpkins and turkeys. We will be learning the parts of a pumpkin and the life cycle of a pumpkin. We will learn about Turkeys, the letter Pp, Tt, number 3 and the shape triangle.

Important Dates

Nov. 20th & 21st- Donuts with Grownups at 7:45 am.
Nov. 26-28- No School- Teacher Conference and Thanksgiving Break
Dec 4th and 5th - Ornament Making Days
Dec. 18th & 19th- Gingerbread House Making Days
Dec. 18th & 19th- Christmas Parties
Dec. 22th - Jan. 2th- No School- Christmas Break
Jan. 5th- No School (Teacher Day ONLY)
Jan 6th- School Resumes

Church Services

All Families are welcome to join us Sunday mornings for church. Pastor Matt serves both Hope Lutheran Church off us US 30 and here at Grace Lutheran Church.

Hope Lutheran Church service begins at 8:15 am.

Grace Lutheran Church service begins at 10:00am

Grace Lutheran Church Preschool



NOVEMBER



Ornament Making and Gingerbread Houses Days

I will need a least 3-5 parents per class to volunteer to help the kids make ornaments on Dec. 4th and 5th. As well as 3-5 parents per class to help make gingerbread houses on Dec. 18th and 19th. We will have all the materials prepped and ready, you will just need to assist with gluing and assembling. Please let me know if you would like to volunteer during your child's class time.

Gingerbread Houses and Santa Visit

This year we will be making our gingerbread houses the same day Santa will visit the preschool. We will start our day with making our gingerbread houses and end with a visit from Santa. We will need parent volunteers to help the children make the gingerbread houses. Parents are welcome to come see Santa visit the preschoolers.

Weather Changing

Reminder that the weather is constantly changing here in Indiana. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately to play outside for 20 minutes everyday especially the morning classes. Students should have a coat, jacket, or sweatshirt. The playground does get some strong wind gusts when it is windy outside.

Helping your child...

Please work with your child so they are independently :

- pulling up their own pants after using the restroom
- putting on their book bag and coat
- zipping their coat by themselves

Practice cutting with scissors and holding a writing utensil correctly.



A Christmas Wish List.

This year we are sponsoring families from Mission 25. Also twin sheets & bath towels for the Mission. The Christmas tree will be up by November 23 and we would like the gifts to be under the tree by December 17.

May the love that is Christmas live in your heart this Holiday Season.

Troop 84 G, Troop 84 B, Pack 3082, Pack 3088

Troop 84 G/B have been working away on merit badges and rank advancements for each of the scouts.

Pack 3082 and 3088 Have also been working on rank advancements. 3082 also had a Holloween party as well.

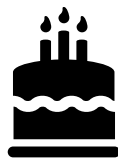
1st Sunday-Sunday School

1st Sunday -BP checks

2nd Sunday- Confirmation

3rd Sunday- Sunday school

4th Sunday- Adult Sunday school



November Birthdays



KRIDER, Mark	11/03
KNAFEL, Ted	11/05
KRIDER, Felicity	11/05
OELSCHLAGER, Holly	11/05
WILKINSON, Sawyer	11/06
BAATZ, Judy	11/07
SMITH, Scott	11/11
VOIROL, Becky	11/11
MORSCHES, Janice	11/12
SMITH, Janelle	11/12
JOHNSTON, L. Joan	11/13
TRIER, Thomas	11/14
STRAUB, Jane	11/16
BOWER, Joy	11/18
HOCKERMAN, David	11/19
WINELAND, Eileen	11/20
PEARCE, Marta	11/21
WHITELEATHER, Rickey	11/21
NELSON, Kim	11/22
KRIDER, Mariah	11/23
HEARLD, Gregg	11/24
ROTHGEB, Karen	11/24
MARKEN, Holly	11/30

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 8:15am - Worship Service 10am - Worship Service 11:15am - Fellowship	27 12:30pm - Helping Hands 6:30pm - Scouts America 6:30pm - Scouts America 7:30pm - AA	28 9am - T.O.P.S. 4pm - Whitley County 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082	29 Pre-k no school p/t conf 8am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - Food Pantry	30 Pre-k no school p/t conf 7:30pm - AA 7:30pm - Al-anon	31 Halloween Pastor's Day Off 12pm - Food pantry	1 All Saints' Day
2 All Souls' Day Daylight Saving Time 8:15am - Worship Service 10am - Worship Service 11:15am - Blood Pressure	3 12:30pm - Helping Hands 6:30pm - Property Team 6:30pm - Scouts America 6:30pm - Scouts America 7:30pm - AA	4 Election Day 9am - T.O.P.S. 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082	5 8am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - Food Pantry 4pm - Voucher	6 7:30pm - AA 7:30pm - Al-anon	7 Pastor's Day Off 12pm - Food pantry	8
9 8:15am - Worship Service 10am - Worship Service 11:15am - Fellowship 1pm - Worship @Oakes	10 12:30pm - Helping Hands 5:30pm - Financial Team 6:30pm - Church Council 6:30pm - Scouts America 6:30pm - Scouts America	11 Veterans Day 9am - T.O.P.S. 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082 6:30pm - Sigma Eta	12 8am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - Food Pantry 4pm - Voucher	13 7:30pm - AA 7:30pm - Al-anon	14 Pastor's Day Off 12pm - Food pantry	15
16 8:15am - Worship Service 10am - Worship Service 11:15am - Fellowship 11:15am - Sunday School 2pm - girl scouts	17 12:30pm - Helping Hands 6:30pm - Scouts America 6:30pm - Scouts America 7:30pm - AA	18 9am - T.O.P.S. 10:30am - Care Team 11:30am - Adelphai Group 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082	19 8am - Men's Breakfast 10:20am - Pre-k chapel 11am - Pre-k chapel 12pm - Food Pantry 12:40pm - Pre-k chapel	20 7:45am - Donuts with 7:30pm - AA 7:30pm - Al-anon	21 Pastor's Day Off 7:45am - Donuts with 12pm - Food pantry	22
23 8:15am - Worship Service 10am - Worship Service 11:15am - Fellowship	24 12:30pm - Helping Hands 6:30pm - Scouts America 6:30pm - Scouts America 7:30pm - AA	25 9am - T.O.P.S. 4pm - Whitley County 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082	26 Wccs thanksgiving Break 8am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - Food Pantry 4pm - Voucher	27	28	29
30 First Sunday of Advent 8:15am - Worship Service 10am - Worship Service 11:15am - Fellowship 2pm - girl scouts	1 12:30pm - Helping Hands 6:30pm - Property Team 6:30pm - Scouts America 6:30pm - Scouts America 7:30pm - AA	2 9am - T.O.P.S. 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082	3 8am - Men's Breakfast 10:20am - Pre-k chapel 11am - Pre-k chapel 12pm - Food Pantry 12:40pm - Pre-k chapel	4 Thanksgiving 9am - Thanksgiving 7:30pm - AA 7:30pm - Al-anon	5 Black Friday Pastor's Day Off 12pm - Food pantry	6

Worship At Hope Sundays at 8:15am
Worship with Holy Communion at Grace
Sundays at 10am

LIVE on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/gracelutherancolumbiacity

Upcoming Important dates...

Thanksgiving service Nov 27 @ Hope @ 9 am
Christmas Eve Services Dec 24 @ Grace @ 7pm
Christmas Eve Services Dec 24 @ Hope @ 9 pm
Christmas Eve Services Dec 24 @ Grace @ 11 pm