



A monthly publication of  
Grace Methodist and  
Pleasant Corners  
Evangelical Church.

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Grace Methodist  
9:00 am Worship

Pleasant Corners  
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11:00 am Worship



Pleasant Corners



## Grace Methodist and Pleasant Corners Evangelical Churches Newsletter



### “Thoughts on Passing On”

1 st Thessalonians 4:13-14 – “But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.”

It wasn't that long ago in the past where I got the call from my mother. “Jake, if you want to see your grandfather one last time, you better get down here now.” I had just entered my second year as pastor at our two churches, and I had a lot to do, but nothing was more important than making the drive to see my grandfather down in Madison. My grandpa Tom had just been moved to hospice. Six weeks earlier they had given him six months to live with an aggressive form of cancer. We knew it wasn't going to be long, so we had been down to see him only a few days prior. Such as it often is in life, we had much less time to be around my grandpa than we thought. So, with the blessing of the church elders, the church secretary, and my wonderful wife, I drove home, packed a bag, and immediately began the nearly four-hour drive to go see my grandpa. He already was so sick that he couldn't speak by the time I arrived. The man I had grown up listening to story after amazing story from, who had been a part of teaching me how to hunt, who had influenced me in loving baseball and fishing and lifting, was now quiet and small on his hospice bed. Many of my uncles and aunts were able to come and say goodbye, as were some of the grandchildren like myself.

The entire time grandma never left his side, and neither did my mother, and neither did I. It was some of the hardest hours of my life, but it was also so fulfilling. All of us who were there, including my grandfather, knew Christ. So we did what Christians do. We prayed, we shared memories, we held grandpa's hand and told him the truth that it was ok for him to go home. We told him that we loved him. The benediction that we end every service with from the book of Numbers hits differently in hours like this. (May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you, may He lift His countenance upon you, and grant you peace, may you go in peace, Amen.) The reality of these situations forces us to know that we are mortal, but it also gives us who are Christ's great hope in what is to come. The three of us were there the full evening, and when we went to go to sleep, the moment the lights went out in his room, he passed and went home to Jesus. No doubt you who are reading this have been through the agonies of death in similar fashion. Whether death comes expectedly in old age, or unexpectedly far too soon, it always hurts. But, Beloved, we have hope.

Both Rhianna and I have had the privilege to be by the side of many as they approach the end. I asked my lovely wife what observations she had made about the folks she worked with in the nursing home as they moved towards their last moments. She said some were ready, some were afraid, some were at peace, many were confused, some joked their way through it while others sat quiet and serious. Some had plans for their funerals and afterwards, having prepared ahead of time, while some were caught completely by surprise that their day actually came. Her observations mirrored my own. Everyone approaches their earthly end differently. While it is never easy, thankfully, for the Christian there is that hope to be had. Many believers, if their minds are still fully functioning near the end, find themselves in a completely different place. Many are not afraid.

The other day my father asked if I had ever in my time met someone who was unafraid, truly unafraid, when they got the news that they were going to pass. The answer, fantastically, is yes. Flo Holderness, Marlys Delzer, Don Scheller, Marlene Wordleman, and Fred Spading are just five of the many names that come to mind, where in their old age they were ready to go. They were given peace that goes beyond all human understanding, and they each spoke openly of the hope they had in what was to come on the other side. For those of you looking ahead to the future, wondering about your own death, take solace in the fact that the God who made you and died for you also doesn't leave you alone as you approach glory. He gives that peace to those who ask of it, to those who know Him. Yes, the moment is still mournful, but there is a hope that comes behind it. Those are the "easy" (if there is such a thing) deaths. We would expect those who have had a full life who have walked with Jesus to end their trek well and be at peace. We all hope to end our race like those saints listed above. But what about those who go too soon?

The harder funerals, the harder deaths, were for those who passed without warning and far before their eightieth birthdays. What does God provide for His people there? The three hardest funerals (amongst many difficult ones) I have ever performed were for Shelly Germundson, when she unexpectedly passed in late 2021, for Blaine Delzer, when he unexpectedly passed in early 2021, and for my own grandfather Allan after his short bout with cancer in 2018. There is no greater honor than being asked to perform funerals like this for a loved one, but boy oh boy are they hard. There is nothing worse in this life than for a parent to bury their own child, and no child should have to bury their parent when they are in their twenties. Nobody should have to watch their loved ones wither quickly, and see their loved ones' hopes for the future dashed in an instant. What does God provide for His people in those tragedies? What hope is there? First and foremost, it is important to recognize that it is ok to mourn at any loss, but especially losses like those. The passing of loved ones creates a wound that we never really get over in this life, but we make space for over time. When those loved ones are objectively followers of Christ like we are, there is much solace to be had in knowing where they go. Jesus speaks in Revelation very clearly that in heaven there is no crying, mourning, pain, tears or death, the former things have passed away. So, what is the hardest of days for us here, is the greatest of days for them as they enter God's presence in heaven. There is further hope to be had in the reading listed above from Thessalonians, where the Apostle Paul reminds the church that we will see those who have died in Christ once again. As I have preached at many funerals, it is good to mourn for a time over our loss... but the one who has passed and is in heaven would not wish us to mourn forever. Rather, they would have us remember them fondly and rejoice together, continuing to live as God has called us to live. They unequivocally would also tell us to put our faith in Christ, so that we too may receive that wonderful reward of eternal salvation.

Beloved, there is so much more to say on death (and life) as a Christian, but for the sake of brevity I'll conclude this newsletter article with a call for prayers just as we have been commanded. Prayers for peace, prayers for encouragement and hope, prayers for a quiet and easy move from this life to the next, prayers for perseverance and hope when our time comes, all of these are good. God answers all prayer, (although maybe not always exactly how we wish) and He most definitely answers these prayers by giving us what we need. Beloved, death is a part of life in our world. Until Christ comes back or until we are released from this mortal coil, we experience the joys of life and the sorrows of death. Death is not the end, but is the beginning for those of us who follow Christ. We have that which the world cannot understand... peace in death, for we know that eternal life has been granted to us.

I hope and pray that this little article of ramblings on the ending of life encourages you Beloved. If you find yourself wishing to talk about this further, know that my door is always open and my phone is always on. Many prayers for you, take courage and hope, and fear not. As Jesus proclaims in John 16:33 "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

Blessings,

-Pastor Jacob Hanson

H A P P Y  
*Father's Day*  


# Thank You!

I just wanted to say what an absolute pleasure it has been to serve you all as the secretary these past few months. Thank you for the guidance and the encouragement along the way. I certainly have enjoyed my time in the office and look forward to the fellowship to come in the future. Sometimes words don't seem like enough, but, again, thank you all for everything.

-Emmalea Jensen-Germundson

Join us at the North Park after combined worship at Grace for some fun and fellowship!

We will be grilling hotdogs and brats. If you would like to bring a dish to pass, the more the merrier!

We plan on playing a game of softball for the adults and older youth and a game of kickball for the younger ones and anyone who doesn't wish to play softball. We will also have a couple of cornhole boards for those who do not wish to participate in softball or kick ball.

Plans are still in the works incase of rain.

Bring your families and friends!



## Christian Puns

Where is the first baseball game in the Bible?

Why did the hawk sit on the church steeple?

How do pastors like their orange juice?



In the big inning. Eve stole first, Adam stole second. Cain struck out Abel. The Angels and the Giants were rained out.  
Because it was a bird of pray.  
With pulpit.

SPRC will meet June 4th at  
6:30pm

Naomi Circle will meet June 6th  
at

Hidden Pines at 11:30am

Grace Methodist Women will  
meet June 9th after Worship

## Did You Know?

*The church has an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) located to the right of the glass History case on the wall.*

*This is a piece of medical equipment that is used in emergency situations for suspected cardiac arrest before First Responders arrive.*

*This equipment may be used by anyone WITHOUT medical training. We encourage you to take a look at this. Open the case, turn it on and you will hear verbal directions on what to do.*

*This is something you should be familiar with if you are in a group that meets or holds a public fundraiser at the church, or if you are just curious to learn about it. You can ask Louise Anderson or anyone with medical training for help with this device.*

## SMALL GROUPS

Small groups are a great way to get to know other Christians and share our faith walk with each other. We currently have 3 Small Groups that meet. Each have a coach that helps to lead the group: Monday evenings-Marina Castner, Tuesday day-Ruth Schomburg, Wednesday evening-Chuck Coleman. If you are interested in joining one of these groups or would like to know more about them, please let Pastor Jake or one of the coaches know:

Pastor Jake: [pastorhanson@kmtel.com](mailto:pastorhanson@kmtel.com)

Marina Castner: [lmcfarms@gmail.com](mailto:lmcfarms@gmail.com)

Ruth Schomburg: [tvrlscho@outlook.com](mailto:tvrlscho@outlook.com)

Chuck Coleman: [cscolemn@kmtel.com](mailto:cscolemn@kmtel.com)

## Prayer Chain

Grace Methodist offers a way to ask for prayers at any time. The prayer chain is a group of people who will lift up prayers to God when notified of a request. The prayer requests are sent out through an email or phone call. If you would like to be part of the prayer chain group, contact Dawn Bowe at [mail@bowehome.com](mailto:mail@bowehome.com) to get on the email list or contact Ruth Schomburg at 507-634-7502 to get on the phone list. To send a prayer request you can contact the church office, Dawn, or Ruth.

## Thank You!

We had a successful Pillow Cleaning Event on April 29th. Mike cleans feather, foam and polyester pillows while he is here. We had 17 people bring in 44 pillows. Although we bring in some profit, our main emphasis is on providing a community service.

We'll plan to have Carlson Pillows return again next year. We'll send out that information when we have it. Thanks to all who supported and assisted with our event!

# SAVE THE DATE

Pleasant Corners Evangelical Church is planning their 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. The plan includes inviting former pastors to come to our celebration and have a part in the service. "Save the date" invitations are being sent to 6 former pastors. You are encouraged to mark your calendars and plan to come for the big day. The noon meal will include corn on the cob.



The Ice Cream Social will be held Monday, July 29th from 6:30pm-8:00pm! Remember to bring your lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of music and fun! Ice cream & toppings are free to all! Invite your family, friends and neighbors!



## June Ushers for Grace Methodist

- 2 Larry & Lana Berghuis
- 9 Todd & LeeAnn Hoffman
- 16 Lawren & Marina Castner
- 23 Brad, Chloe & Olivia Germundson
- 30 Jerry & Virginia Giese

## Thank You!

Thank you for everyone's help that was involved in some way, shape or form with Baccalaureate Service! We received some great feedback from parents, students and faculty. Great job!

# Thinking of you

## Grace Methodist

Rodney Beckman

Cecil Brannon

Phil DuBois

Connie Hendrickson

Ron and Bonnie Herrick

Mary Mortensen

Joyce Redfern

Gladys Rice

Ron Schrafel

Karen Sprenger

Virginia Thayer

## Pleasant Corners

Marie Henslin

Wilma Jensen

Elaine Marquardt

Mae Miller

Vera Schuck

### Hy-Vee tapes

Save your Hy-Vee tapes (from any Hy-Vee) and bring them in. The KM Elementary PTA will use the money they get back for field trips, KoMet pride activities, yearly class t-shirts, and more! There is a drop box in the Narthex.

### Did you know?

There are prayer shawls available at no cost!

These shawls are located in the Friendship Hall to the left of the glass History case.

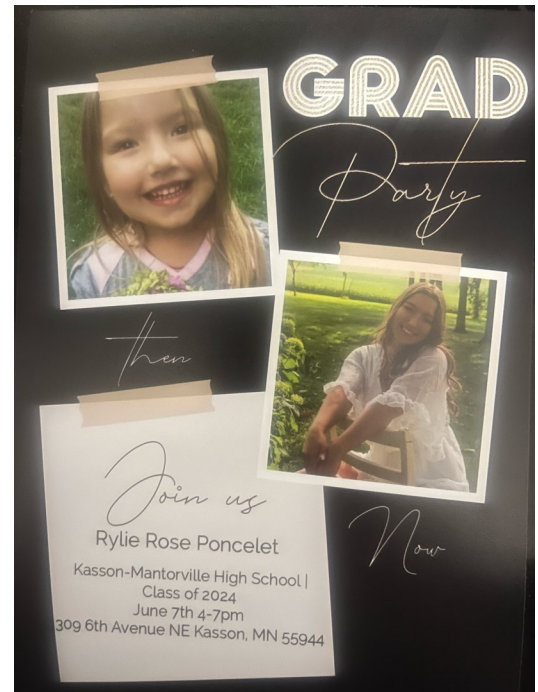
The shawls are made by our congregation members, who pray over them as the shawl is made. They are meant to provide a visible reminder to the one wearing it that God surrounds you with care, with love and is there in a time of need.

There is no need to tell someone you have taken one and they can be used for yourself or anyone you know who needs this ministry. Please use them.

# Congratulations Graduates!



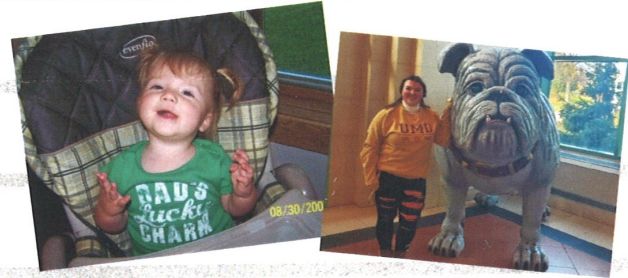
*Jayden Horgdal*



*Rylie Poncelet*



*Emma Jensen*



Join us in celebrating Paige at Grace Methodist Church,  
801 5th Ave NW, Kasson, MN 55944  
June 1, 2024 from 1pm to 5pm for a light lunch and refreshments.

Paige will be attending the  
University of Minnesota Duluth this Fall.  
She plans to pursue a degree in Elementary Special Education  
with an emphasis in Deaf Studies.

We would like to thank everyone for being a  
part of this chapter in Paige's life.

*Paige Alexander*



- 1 Steve Henslin
- 3 Ean O'Neill
- 5 Mark Anderson
- 5 Bonnie Herrick
- 5 Meghan Malisheske
- 6 Darrell Denisen
- 6 Connie Malisheske
- 6 Charles Ryan III
- 8 Brittany Madery
- 11 Sheila Burton
- 12 Lloyd Henslin III
- 15 Dustin Looman
- 18 Ryan Bartel
- 22 Aurora Flynn
- 22 Leila Flynn
- 22 LeRoy Newell
- 22 Myles Henslin
- 23 Lori Root
- 25 Jesse Newell
- 26 William Neil
- 27 Linda Zomok

- 2 Curtis & Malissa Alexander
- 2 Gerald & Virginia Giese
- 10 Pat & Randy Wilbur
- 14 Dan & Lori Root
- 16 Mitch & Amy Fischer
- 17 Pastor Jake & Rhianna Hanson
- 20 Bernie & Debbie Bock
- 23 Jim & Grace Gillies
- 26 Greg & Julie Bartel
- 30 Dan & Theresa Lermon

The Operation Christmas Child team will be making plans for crafts we can complete for the shoe boxes. The craft projects are meant for skills of all levels so join us for fun and fellowship. Our next craft night will be on June 11th at 6:30pm. If you're interested in doing some crafts to support the mission, let Marina, Pat or Sally know.



If there are birth-  
days or anniversaries missing  
for any month, please email the secre-  
tary so we can make sure you are recognized!

# June 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Coffee Hour– Rhonda Scouts– Sun Eve.	Yoga– Fri.					<i>1</i> Paige Alexander Grad Party 1pm- 5pm
<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> SPRC 6:30pm	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> Naomi Circle 11:30am @ Hidden Pines	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i> Grace Women Meet after Worship	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> occ Craft Night 6:30pm	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i> Happy Father's Day!	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> Newsletter Deadline	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i> Combined Service @ Grace Softball Game after Worship						



Grace Methodist Church  
801 5<sup>th</sup> Ave NW  
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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**



**Submissions for the July newsletter are due  
June 24th.**

### **Pleasant Corners Evangelical Mission Statement**

Our church has an open door for all to enter, and they shall find within, a congregation with this mission (taken from the fourth chapter of Ephesians). “The work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ; till we all come in the unity of the faith, and the knowledge of the Son of God.....speaking the truth in love.”

### **Grace Methodist Mission Statement**

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.