



A HUGE thank you to all of our youth leaders & helpers this year! Our volunteers keep this program running smoothly & we are incredibly grateful to have you! You are making a difference in these young people’s lives so please know you are greatly appreciated. Much Love, Kari Schaefer

A BIG thank you to everyone who helped with our Wednesday meal program this year. It takes many hands to prepare, serve and clean up each week. You are feeding our young people’s bellies, and we are grateful for every one of you. We couldn’t do it without your help. Much Love, Kari Schaefer

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH THE MULCHING AROUND THE CHURCH AND IN THE PRAYER GARDEN! Bob Lindbloom, Randy Brink, Jim Freiling, Byron Fuchs, Scott and Levi Schaefer, Grady Frank, Dean Heitke, Gretchen O’Fallon, Deb Thomsen, Vicky Frank, Steph Hemmesch, Jim Freiling, Kari Schaefer and our wonderful members of Grace Youth.

ALSO, THANKS to those who came on Tuesday night and helped with the yard work – Jim Freiling, Scott Schaefer, and Dean Heitke. Mark the second Tuesday of each month on your calendars, please – 6:00 pm. “Many hands make light work!”

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE – Grace United Methodist Church will be hosting the Paynesville Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, May 22, 2025. We still need two volunteers to work in the recovery area at this event. One person from 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm and one from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. **Please sign up in the Gathering Space if you would be able to volunteer.**



BINGO AT PAYNESVILLE HEALTH CARE CENTER! Ruth Circle will be facilitating BINGO at the Paynesville Health Care Center during the month of May. BINGO is played on Thursdays at 2:00 pm in the Care Center Dining Room. Please join us for the fun! Any questions can be directed to Cindy Holmberg (612-618-3783)

SERVICE SCHEDULES WERE MAILED OUT ON TUESDAY, MAY 13. Please let the office know if you haven’t received yours by Tuesday, May 20. Thank you!



**Grace Methodist Church – Planting Seeds of Hope, Harvesting Hearts of Joy
Announcing Our 2nd Annual Sweet Corn Sale!**

Grace Methodist Church is thrilled to announce our second year of planting and selling sweet corn! This initiative has been made possible thanks to the dedication and hard work of Randy and Linda Brink.

The joy of planting, coupled with the pleasure of sharing the fruits of our labor with the community, continues to be a profound blessing. We are honored to serve as the hands and feet of our Lord in this endeavor. Join us in making 2025 a year of growth, generosity, and community spirit. Enjoy fresh, homegrown corn and stock up for the 2025 winter season. Stay tuned for more information and opportunities to sign up as we approach the harvest season.



FOR OUR MONTHLY MISSION FOR MAY, WE ARE COLLECTING A “LOVE OFFERING”. Each year, churches in the Minnesota Annual Conference take a Love Offering for missions in conjunction with our Annual Conference Session. Our Love Offering theme this year is “Love in Action.” Bishop Lanette Plambeck invites congregations to pray about and participate in the Love Offering as we put love into action. This year’s Love Offering will go to:
30% will go to Africa University for student scholarships.
30% will go to Immigration Law & Justice Network.
20% will go to OC Ministries.
20% will go to Midwest Mission.
Thank you in advance for your generosity!
~Grace Church Missions Team



Grace Methodist Church – Jan-April Finance Update
Currently tracking \$2,298.00 short of planned 2025 budget needs

Dear Grace Congregation,

We are thrilled to share the financial update for the first quarter, spanning January to April. Your generous contributions have ensured the continued success and growth of Grace United Methodist Church.

In this period, we have observed a wonderful trend of consistent and heartfelt giving. Your dedication and support have significantly impacted our ability to sustain various church programs, outreach missions, and ministry activities.

The church has a lot of activities in flight, which include the Bell Tower repairs (donation funded), LED light replacement in the sanctuary, parking lot repairs, and phase 2 of the audio-visual system (donation funded). We issued \$22,750 for pastor leadership scholarships and \$1,000 for Bibles and youth supplies for the Belize mission trip.

We did have an unplanned church building insurance increase expense after the budget was final early January. All in 2024 baseline budget increase to support the needs in 2025 is tracked at a 5.5% increase.

As we reflect on these months, we are deeply moved by the spirit of generosity and commitment shown by each member of our congregation. Your financial gifts have not only supported the operational needs of our church but have also enabled us to extend our outreach and support to those in need within our community.

We extend our warmest gratitude to every individual and family who has contributed to the church during this time. Your unwavering support and faith in our mission make all our endeavors possible. We are truly blessed to have such a committed and compassionate congregation.

Thank you for your continued generosity and faithfulness. Together, we are making a difference and spreading the love and teachings of Christ.

With heartfelt thanks,

Grace Methodist Church Finance Team
*Neil Herberg, Don Frank, Mike Nehring, Art Rittenhouse, Gene Schultz, Jim Freilingner,
Brad Person, Brittany Frank, Joel Burr and Linda Brink*