Grace Lutheran Church Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2026



Released From Perfectionism

When I was a part-time hospital chaplain at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, I provided spiritual care for many people going through many trials and tribulations. Some were nearing the end of their earthly life having lived with love, care, accomplishment, and service.

I often read the Psalms to them, with Psalm 23 being a favorite. But for those struggling with fears about not doing enough in this life, another Psalm just a few chapters later was helpful: Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord. Psalm 26:1.

In this month of November, we look forward to our celebration of Thanksgiving Day. So I pray, if you are struggling with thoughts about whether you have done enough—read this Psalm. Then, when you come to church you can say with the Psalmist: Lord, I love the house where you live, the place where your glory dwells…my feet stand on level ground, in the great congregation I will praise the Lord. Psalm 26:12.

Then you will no longer need to worry about whether you are worthy of God's love, mercy and forgiveness. Then you can be released from the burden of perfectionism. You will not have to worry about trying to live a perfect life.

Perfectionism has haunted me a lot in my life. It probably has something to do with being the middle of five children. I was always trying to measure up to the accomplishments of my older brothers, and jealous of the musical abilities of my younger sisters. It made it hard for me to just let go and let God.

But this Psalm reminds me to keep growing in my relationship with God and to keep testifying to God's grace for all, including myself. Let's close with a prayer of thanksgiving: God of grace, hold me close and remind me of how Christ's love and forgiveness can help me let go of my perfectionism and can help me embrace the freedom of your love. Amen.

Love them like Jesus,

><> Pastor Kevin

Serving Grace November 2026

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE ~ 9:00 AM

Position	November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22	November 29
Greeters (1)	Char Wilson	Randy Carlson	Lynette Kvanvig & Ruth Smit		
Ushers (4)	Russell & Patsy Lisko	Al Weidenbach and Brandon Caneva	Bonnie Lange, Lynette Kvanvig and Terri Huntley	Boone & Caron Collins	
Assisting Ministers	Tim Patmore	Tim Patmore	Maddie Anderson	Garland Dobler	Tim Potts
Lesson Reader(1)	Tim Patmore				
Serving Communion	Bonnie Lange	Darlene Mullins	Terri Huntley		
Coffee Hosts (3)	Jeannie, Karen, Lyla, Sue, Deann and Sharon	Pastor Carla, “Apple” Sunday	**Thanksgiving Meal NO COFFEE HOUR**		Teresa Huston & Diana Bauer
Sunday Acolytes	Beckem Pudwill & Rye Gunderson	Christian Pankratz & Brennan Aldren	Blaisely Haugen & Cassidee McPherson	Lincoln & Layton Wilson	Corla Nikkila & Kambria Meland

Coffee Host – please bring 4 dozen cookies each, help set up, serve and clean up.
Worship helper instructions are located in the front entryway.

~WEDNESDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE~

Position	November 4	November 11	November 18
WNL Meal Hosts	GLC Quilters	GLCW	GLC Council
Wednesday Night Acolytes	Braxten & Josslyn Bahe	Bryson Potter & Jett Leonhardt	Lincoln & Layton Wilson

November Serving Grace Members

Avery, Dan and Dadra
Bauer, Diane
Berg, Randy and Connie
Brunner, Mildred
Caneva, Brandon
Haugen, Tyler and Dee
Huiner, Greg and Cherie
Kelly, Matt and Amanda
Koontz, Chris and Shawn
Lange, Clay and Cinthia
Little, Rick and Kris
Magdanz, Thomas & Kelly
McGillivray, Brandon & Maranda
Mechling, Ruth
Mechling, Shawn
Nikkila, Doug
Norwig, Richard & Teresa
Rossow, Bill
Tebben, Jameson & Stevie
Weimer, Jan
Wiedmann, Ron and Gloria

Serving Grace December 2026

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE ~ 9:00 AM

Serving Grace sign up board is located neat the entrance of the church.
If your name is listed below, please sign up for December before November 23rd.

Position	December 6	December 13	December 20	December 24	December 30
Greeters (1)	Tim & Deb Patmore				
Ushers (4)	Russell & Patsy Lisko	Al Weidenbach & Brandon Caneva	Bonnie Lange & David Lyons		Boone & Caron Collins
Assisting Ministers	Kim Webber	Tim Potts	Garland Dobler	Maddie Anderson	JD Williams
Lesson Reader(1)	Tim Patmore				
Serving Communion					
Coffee Hosts (3)				**NO COFFEE HOUR** Christmas Eve	
Sunday Acolytes	Braylee Blakeman & Ava Williams	Landry Wilson & Blain McGillivray	Beckem Pudwill & Rye Gunderson	Christian Pankratz & Brennan Aldren	Blaisely Haugen & Cassidee McPherson

Atyeo, Tim and Tonya
Baldwin, Pat and Robin
Collins, Dan and Caron
Dobler, Ward and Garland
Gunderson, Al and Tessa
Haivala, Bob and Debbie
Hanson, Jack & Laurie
Heikes, Rod and Shannon
Huntley, Terri
Lyons, David
Meland, Chris and Tessa
Molitor, Sandy
Morgan, Joan
Myers, Tim and Misty
Patmore, Tim and Debbie
Rasch, Deb
Stroschein, Mary Ann
Tucker, Lennie and Katina
Weidenbach, Al and Pam
Williams, Jared and Andria
Wilson, Char



PROJECTOR OPERATORS IN NOVEMBER

1st Sunday: Debbie Patmore
2nd Sunday: Deb Haivala
3rd Sunday: Debbie Patmore
4th Sunday: Bob Tesch
5th Sunday: Michelle Williams

ALTAR GUILD IN NOVEMBER

Heather Kreutz & Mikayla Wilson

Confirmation 2026



Left to Right: JoLei Avery, Pate Gunderson, Kwynnlee Meland, Torin Monahan, Willow Nikkila, Khiana Williams-Oviatt and Sawyer Shryock



Grace Lutheran
Church Women

THANKSGIVING PIE FUNDRAISER

Fundraiser for Sanctuary Roof



$20 PER PIE

Homemade pumpkin, apple, rhubarb, cherry, chocolate or blueberry

PRE-ORDER

your pies anytime between Oct 18 to Nov 18
Cindy (605) 347-1658
Lynette (605) 499-9320

PICK UP

your pre-ordered pies on Tuesday, November 24, 2026 from 10 - noon or 4 - 6 pm at Grace Lutheran Church, Sturgis

Thank you for your support!

Grace Lutheran Church
1061 Sherman St.
Sturgis, South Dakota

Made with PosterMyWall.com

2026 YEAR TO DATE

OFFERINGS
$237,109.68

EXPENSES
$224,138.47

BUDGET
$216,487.53



OCTOBER ATTENDANCE

Sundays	Wednesdays
Oct 4 -125	Oct 7 -30
Oct 11 -124	Oct 14 -31
Oct 18 -99	Oct 21 - 51
Oct 25 - 187	Oct 28 - 44



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Leroy Ruby, David Swenson, Jerry & Lorayne Schaefer, Viola Wittmuss (Marlene Kotab's mother), Ken Lehmann, Jack Bunker, Joel Anthony, Dennis Johnson, Marcia Potts and the family of Ron Monson.

On-going prayers: David Gibson, Ted Sigman, Ken Beug, Bree Mack, Boone Collins, Ruth Mechling, Danny Chapman, Dan Zeiner, Paulette Walker, Jody Wilke, Ethan Dschaak, Bud Rank, Dale Kreutz, Morgan Myers, Ally (Tedder) Opstedahl, and Larry Schemmel, our homebound members and those serving In the military.

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Deadline to submit items for the December, newsletter is *Monday*, November 23rd.

Please send your newsletter items to Keri at gracelutheran@rushmore.com.
Let us send you an email with a link to our newsletter when it's posted to our website.
If you are interested, please send your email address to the office at:
gracelutheran@rushmore.com or call Keri at 605-347-2713.

Did you know...Our website contains the weekly worship bulletins, monthly newsletter, sermon broadcast, monthly calendar, Council and Committee minutes, and much more. For a printed copy, see the info rack at the entrance of the church.

Check it out at: www.sturgisglc.org.

See special events on Facebook.

Has your address or phone number changed?
Please let Keri know at 605-347-2713 or e-mail us at gracelutheran@rushmore.com.



Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday November 15, 11:00 am

The youth group will be hosting the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for the Seniors of Grace. Anyone 60 years old or older is invited to attend.

Please RSVP by November 9, to the church office 605-347-2713.





WELCA Thankoffering Service Sunday, November 15

The generous Thankofferings by all women of the church help support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization, justice and advocacy work, and so much more. Come celebrate the work of the Grace Lutheran Church Women.



November 1
Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

Scripture OF THE MONTH

November 22
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 95:1-7a
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

November 8
Amos 5:18-24
Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

November 15
Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90:1-8[9-11]12
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

November 29
Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

9 AM SUNDAY WORSHIP RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS

The radio broadcast calendar for 2026 is posted on the bulletin board in the entryway of the church. You are invited to place your name on the date you wish to sponsor. You may also call the office 347-2713 to reserve a date. The cost per broadcast is $65. Partial sponsorship's are invited and encouraged.

Nov 1 -Ken & Jean Beug, to wish their daughter Christine and great-granddaughter Eekiah Beug well, on their move to Colorado.
Nov 8 -To honor and thank the Altar Guild for their dedication and service.
Nov 15 -The Boy Family, in memory of Merle Boy.
Nov 22 - In Honor of Rick & Kris Little's anniversary and in memory of their parents Chris (Bob) & Ruth Mechling's anniversary
Nov 29 -Doris Workentine, in loving memory of her husband Don Workentine.

Offering Information

Send your offering to PO Box 577,
Sturgis, SD 57785,
or drop off at the church office
Mon-Fri 8 am – 12 pm / 1 pm – 5 pm

To Use Venmo:

1. Scan the QR code with your smartphone.
2. Login or setup your account (first time only).
3. Make your gift.

venmo

The Red Bucket Ministry For the 4th Quarter

Pine Ridge Ministry Center

Leave a donation in the Red Bucket located in the back of the church and your donation will help their Day Center provide a safe warm place with food,



STARS, STRIPES, AND SPOTLIGHTS

VARIETY SHOW



SUNDAY, NOV. 22

2:00 P.M. MATINÉE

STURGIS COMMUNITY CENTER THEATER

ADMISSION IS FREE

DONATIONS WILL GO TO THE THEATER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



Grace Lutheran Council Meeting
October 1, 2026

Present: Diana Bauer, Jeff Dekraai, Terri Huntley, Heather Kreutz, Kelly Magdanz, Casey Raftevold, Bob Tesch, Pastor Kevin Jensen, Pastor Carla Nelson.

Absent: Robin Baldwin, Jarred Curry, Paul Haedt, Chris Pankratz, Debbie Patmore, Jeremy Vliem.

Meeting called to order by Pres. Bob Tesch at 6:00 p.m.

Opening devotions were given by Diana for Debbie Patmore.

Additions to the agenda.
Motion by Jeff to check into cleaning the Mural behind the sacristy. Confirmation to present faith statements and discuss street sign, 2nd by Kelly. MP

Approve Secretary's minutes: Motion to approve by Pastor Kevin, 2nd by Kelly. MP

Treasure 's Report was reviewed.

Old Business:

- Kent Kreutz explained more details about roof bids. Motion by Pastor Kevin to remove RainTite Roofing & Construction from the bids on the roof. 2nd by Casey. MP

New Business:

- Confirmation students' Willow Nikkila, Kwynnlee Meland, and Torin Monahan gave us a preview of their faith statements. Confirmation will be October 25,2026 when they will be accepted into GLC as members.
- Money Counters:
  Nov. 4 - Casey
  Nov. 8 -Terri and Kelly
  Nov. 11 - Bob
  Nov. 15 – Kelly and Bob
  Nov. 18 - Casey
  Nov. 22 – Diana and Bob
  Nov. 29 – Terri and Bob
  Dec. 6 – Diana and Casey

The appointed nominating committee for new council members are Jeff, Kelly, and Debbie.
Meeting close with prayer. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.
Secretary, Diana Bauer



GLCW Minutes – Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2026

The October 13th GLCW meeting was called to order in Jesus' name at 1:30 p.m. with 10 in attendance. The minutes were approved as read.

The treasurer's report showed $23,905.59 in the Mission Investment Fund. The GLCW fund showed $28,072.28. Budgeted contributions will be sent before the end of year which will total approximately $13,000.

Courtesy chairman, Lynette Kvanvig, sent 9 cards. She read a card received from Carolyn Ruff's sister, Charlotte Pauley.

Old Business:

- Shirley Halverson reported on the upcoming pie sale. Helpers will make the pies on Monday, Nov. 23, with pickup on Tuesday, Nov. 24. Pies will sell for $20. Pastor Carla will make fliers to deliver to the Sturgis churches. Shirley will give a temple talk about the pie fundraiser. Funds raised will go to the roof replacement. Some of the cost of the ingredients will be paid from a $250 Thrivent Event Grant, but anyone who could donate apples, cherries, etc. for the pies should contact Cindy Gehringer, Lynette Kvanvig, or Shirley Halverson.
- Officers were elected for 2027. Marlene Kotab moved to cast a unanimous ballot for this slate of candidates: President – Shirley Halverson, Vice-President and Treasurer – Deb Patmore, and Secretary – Marlene Kotab. Motion carried.
- Darleen Mullins and Cindy Gehringer were applauded for their artwork on the new aprons. The old blue aprons are available at the church for anyone who would like one.
- GLCW serves the WNL meal on Oct. 14. Workers will be Deb Haivala, Joann Keeton, Cindy Gehringer, Shirley Halverson, and Marlene Kotab. The next time GLCW serves the meal is Nov. 11. All women of Grace are invited to help with this fun meal. Please volunteer.

New Business:

- The Thankoffering Sunday is November 15. Volunteer women for the service are: Greeters – Lynette Kvanvig and Ruth Smit, Ushers – Bonnie Lange, Terri Huntley, and Lynette Kvanvig, Communion Server – Terri Huntley, Preaching – Pastor Carla Nelson, and we will ask one of the female assistant ministers to serve. Deb will order envelopes for the offering.
- The Elder Thanksgiving Meal has been moved up to Nov. 15 at 11:00 a.m.
- Lynette and Terri will serve as hostesses at the next meeting on Nov. 10.

Following the meeting and Bible Study led by Pastor Carla, 20 school kits were assembled for Lutheran World Relief. Pastor Carla was the hostess.
Marlene Kotab, Secretary



November
BIRTHDAYS

1 Lorayne Schaefer
Levi Sjomeling

2 Brennen Aldren
Marilyn Bates

3 Allan Weidenbach
Sadie Fields

4 Tessa Gunderson

5 Tim Atyeo

6 Arvid Meland
Rosalie Wolf

7 Allen Hemmah
Brandy Nikkila

8 Michael Erion
Teddy Sigman

9 Deb Haivala

10 Zachary Bergman
Morgan Myers

11 Clay Lange

12 Darla DeKraai

13 Jack Hanson

14 Dale Kreutz

15 Garland Dobler

16 Lynelle Chapman

17 Jan Weimer

19 Cole Hemmah
Heather Kreutz
Tenlee Koontz
Kaylynn Goergen

20 Grant Rush

23 Brittany Battista-Battles

24 Todd Collins

27 Cathrine Selting

28 Josslyn Bahe

29 Pete Wilson



November
ANNIVERSARIES

21 Rick & Kris Little

23 Pete & Mikayla Wilson

Grace Lutheran News and Events
November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 All Saints Day 9 am Worship (HC) 10 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Choir	2 Pastor's Day Off	3 	4 8:30 am Quilting 5 pm Kids Alive/ Confirmation 5 pm Adult Bible Study 5:30 pm WNL Meal 6:30 pm WNL Service 7 pm HS Youth Group	5 9:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Council Meeting	6	7 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
8 New Member & Military Appreciation 9 am Worship (HC) 10 am Coffee Hour 10 am Altar Guild Refresher Course 10:30 am Choir	9 Pastor's Day Off	10 1:30 pm GLCW Meeting	11 8:30 am Quilting 5 pm Kids Alive/ Confirmation 5 pm Adult Bible Study 5:30 pm WNL Meal 6:30 pm WNL Service 7 pm HS Youth Group	12 9:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Stewardship Mtg.	13 	14 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
15 Women's Thankoffering 9 am Worship (HC) 10:30 am Choir 11 am Thanksgiving Dinner	16 Pastor's Day Off 	17 5:30 pm Worship Meeting	18 8:30 am Quilting 5 pm Kids Alive/ Confirmation 5 pm Adult Bible Study 5:30 pm WNL Meal 6:30 pm WNL Service 7 pm HS Youth Group	19 9:30 am Bible Study 6 pm Evangelism Mtg.	20	21 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
22 9 am Worship (HC) 10 am Semi-Annual Congregational Mtg. 10:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Choir 4 pm Christmas Decorating	23 Pastor's Day Off Newsletter Deadline	24	25 8:30 am Quilting **NO WNL**	26 **OFFICE CLOSED** 	27 **OFFICE CLOSED**	28 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
29 9 am Worship (HC) 10 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Choir	30 Pastor's Day Off					

