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News from LSI Luthern Services of Iowa



World Refugee Day

World Refugee Day is held annually on June 20 to honor the resilience of millions of people around the world who are forcibly displaced. Through your help, LSI provides extended support services in the Des Moines area for people of refugee status who have been resettled to Iowa. These families and individuals bring with them unique talents and dreams, including skills in a field well known to us in Iowa—agriculture! Many people of refugee status grew up in agricultural communities in their home countries and desire to become farmers once again. LSI's Global Greens program helps reconnect people with the land and empowers market farmers to sell their local, sustainably grown food. Join us at LSI's Global Greens Farmers' Market on Saturdays, May through October, at LSI's Des Moines campus (3200 University Ave). For details, visit www.LSIowa.org/globalgreens.

LSI is proud to be an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

ATTENTION:

Please remember to provide the office with any name, address, email changes, or other pertinent information, so that we have correct information in our Shepherds Staff Member file system and email system. Call the office at 263-5680 or email us at glc@machlink.com with any changes you may have. Thank

Ya Di's Dream

Ya Di has a selfless dream: he hopes that by changing his life he can change the lives of others.

He arrived in Des Moines with his parents and siblings one year ago as a refugee from Burma (Myanmar), a country where ethnic minorities have faced violence and persecution from the military government.

“When I came to the U.S., I had never been in a city,” he said. “In Burma, we lived in a village with mountains. In my mind I thought if I go to a big city, my life will be changed, or I will get more opportunities.”

Ya Di immediately wanted to go to high school when he arrived in Iowa, but he was too old. He instead began pursuing his education through other opportunities, including work readiness classes with LSI’s Refugee Community Services.

Through the five-week class at LSI, Ya Di learned about filling out job applications, interviewing and even the importance of a firm handshake. By meeting other students, he also started to feel more at home in his new community.

After graduating from LSI’s class, Ya Di received and accepted a job offer. He now works full-time, and he also takes English as a Second Language (ESL) and welding classes at Des Moines Area Community College.

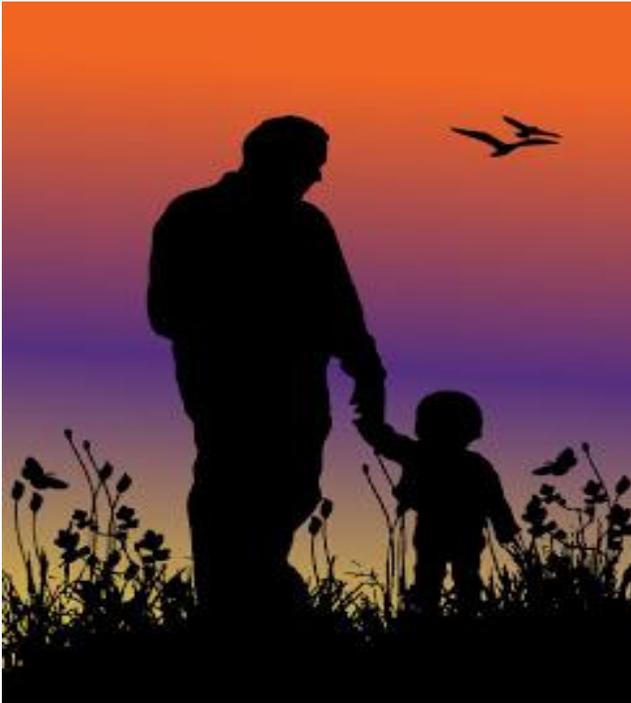
“If I get a GED, I can continue to get more education and go to college,” he said. “It’s the first happy goal for me, the first step for me.”

He said he hopes to someday share education with others in his home country.

My dream is to be a teacher. I will continue my education to get a diploma and also care for my family.”

Father’s Day is June 21st

Happy Father’s Day to all fathers, grandfathers, and all others who play an important and significant role as a father figure in someone’s life.



Thank You, Dad

Thank you for the laughter,
For the good times that we share,
Thanks for always listening,
For trying to be fair.

Thank you for your comfort,
When things are going bad,
Thank you for the shoulder,
To cry on when I'm sad.

This poem's a reminder that
All my life through,
I'll be thanking heaven
For a special dad like you.

--Anonymous

Grace Lutheran Church Council Actions and Highlights

May 21, 2015

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MISSION:

God's purpose for Grace Lutheran Church is for us to be servant leaders in mission by loving and inspiring all people to experience the transforming grace of a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Don Ager	Mike Allenbaugh
Ramona Allenbaugh	Cindy Edgmond
Jim Edgmond	JoAnne Fisher
Connor Lawhead	Pr. MacManus
John Simmons	Kim Thompson

OPENING PRAYER by Don Ager

MISSION WORK: LONG-RANGE PLANNING:

A. WORSHIP LIFE:

The Council will be updated at the June meeting as to the status of broadcasting the contemporary service on YouTube.

B. DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION from the SURVEY

TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE VARYING INTERESTS AND BACKGROUNDS OF OUR CONGREGATION TO BUILD THE GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE FUTURE

Since the May agenda had many items to address, it was decided to table this until the June meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

A. Council voted to authorize Marvin Krieger, and other volunteers, to call inactive members who have not communed or contributed from July 2014 to March 2015.

B. HAPPY TIME PRESCHOOL OF MUSCATINE re: Proposed Rent Increase

DISCUSSION: The 2015-2016 agreement was not available for Council members to review wording, dates, etc. The original proposed rental increase was \$350 or 50%. Most council members felt this was excessive for the next school term. It was suggested to give HTPM advance notice of a 10% rent increase for 2016-2017 and not raise the rent for 2015-2016.

Moved;

Seconded: To renew the HTPM Letter of Understanding and Mutual Agreement at the current rate with notice of a 10% increase for the 2016-2017 school term.

Motion carried

Grace Lutheran Church Council Actions and Highlights

May 21, 2015

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MINISTRY BOARDS' REPORTS:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Bob Romza, Youth Director, will be resigning effective June 1, 2015.

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY BOARD:

Hospitality is still in need of a chairperson. Contact Mary Hovick, Jon Moravec, Katie Green, Cindy Manriquez, Shirlee Staley, or Daneice Hage if you want to join the group in that capacity.

SOCIAL MINISTRY:

The Ministry of Literacy has posted on the hallway bulletin board comments from parents and teachers as to the improvements noted in the students since attending Grace's Literacy program.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY:

Council approved Worship & Music's recommendation that Grace participate in the 2015 God's Work. Our Hands community service day in September, focusing on MCSA as the benefactor. Other ELCA churches will be contacted inquiring if they would be interested in *joining hands* with Grace. Details will be released as they are developed.

OTHER ITEMS:

Grace has been named one of the beneficiaries of the Donald Sondrol estate. The estimated amount we are to receive is \$8,775.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters by Connie Fuller



Thank you to all the folks from Grace Lutheran Church who supported or participated with a team in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl-For-Kids Sake in March. This year the event raised nearly \$84,000 from the participating teams. These funds will go a long way in changing children's lives for the better, forever. Big Brothers Big Sisters depends on donations to ensure child safety; and provide ongoing support for children, families and volunteers to build and sustain long-lasting relationships.

Church Treasurer Seminars by Mike Allenbaugh

The Southeast Synod ELCA will be presenting three seminars for church treasurers this year and I have signed up for all of them.

These workshops are provided at no cost to the individual congregations.

Following are the general topics to be covered at the three workshops but we are invited to bring our own questions concerning our specific needs.

I would appreciate any input you may wish to provide as I prepare for these workshops.

Mike Allenbaugh

Treasurer

1. New Treasurer's Workshop (or for any finance person with questions)

Thursday, June 11, 2015 (9:00 – 11:30) Location: Synod Center for Ministry, Iowa City

§ ♣ Responsibilities of the Church Treasurer and Financial Secretary

§ ♣ Congregation resources and contacts

§ ♣ Basics – accounting, reimbursements, payroll, financial reporting, audits, mission support, health insurance, checks and balances

2. Creating your Church Budget – For Church Treasurers and Finance Committees

Saturday, Sept. 19, 2015 (9:00 – 11:30) Location: Memorial Lutheran, Nevada

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2015 (9:00 – 11:30) Location: Synod Center for Ministry, IC

§ ♣ Leadership role of the treasurer and finance committees in the budgeting process

§ ♣ Purposeful, positive leadership and a non-anxious presence

§ ♣ Mission focused budgets

§ ♣ Planning for the unexpected

3. Preparing for Year-End and Thank you Luncheon – for anyone responsible for finances

in the congregation

Tuesday, November 17, 2015 (10:00 – 1:00) Location to be determined

§ ♣ W-2, W-3, 1099, 1096

§ ♣ Annual Congregation Reports

§ ♣ Mission Support Intents

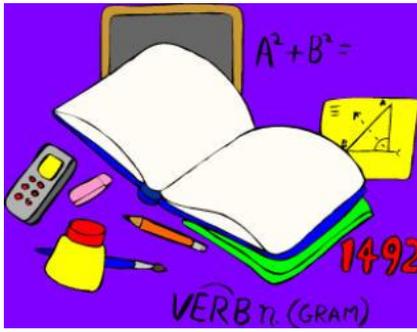
§ ♣ Portico

§ ♣ Year-End Audits

§ ♣ Financial Statements

§ ♣ Thank you luncheon

GLC Ministry of Literacy



We will be starting our summer session Tuesday, July 7th and will run through July 30th. It will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 - 5:00. Eleven children are expected to attend. We will be needing **volunteers** and **snacks**. Contact Deb Holliday (264-1128) if you would like to volunteer. Contact Karen Hessel (263-6970) or sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board if you can donate snacks. We are collecting **school supplies** to fill back packs for the children attending the summer session. Information is available in the entryway. If you wish to donate supplies, please sign up for the item/items and return them to the green tub. Judy has put a **wonderful display on the bulletin board** outside her office. Teachers and parents have sent us feedback on the program. Their comments are posted on the bulletin board. There are so many positive comments. Please stop by and visit the display!

Music Notes for June 2015 by Bob Romza

As summer nears I wanted to take a moment to thank the GLC Community for your support of our music ministry. One of my favorite verses from the Bible is when Jesus says to the disciples, "Blessed are they who believe and yet have not seen me." It thrills me to realize that Jesus was talking about US!! The music in our worship services give us the opportunity to connect vertically with God, and horizontally with other believers (in the shape of the cross).

At our traditional service we often sing hymns by composers and poets of faith who lived many generations before us, yet God continually blesses us with their poetry and music. At our contemporary service, we are connected to artists of our own generation who share their faith with us in their music. Combined, we have a rich worship tradition that draws us together as the Body of Christ singing "hymns, psalms and spiritual songs."

As we continue together in Christ, I hope you will take a few moments to reflect on the rich tradition and vibrant renewing of our worship as we gather together each Sunday.

Grace Women News *By Mary Hovick & Karen Hessel*

An Invitation – All women of Grace are invited to join us on Tuesday, June 9th at Grace. We are going to take this opportunity to clean the kitchen. We invite all women of the church to join us for some fellowship and work from 9 – 11:30. We are then going to go to the Mississippi Brew for lunch at 11:30. Please come for all or any of the morning. We rarely get time just to visit so this will be our morning to catch up on all of the news. The work goes much faster with many hands and lots of conversation, we will even put a pot of coffee on! There are some sit down jobs so all can be involved. We hope to see you there.

Coffee – Look for the “Coffee Cart” on Sunday mornings, and purchase your Equal Exchange favorite blend. Feel free to purchase coffee anytime the church office is open. You may also put your money in the envelope provided and put it under the office door or in the offering plate. **You will be helping farmers overseas earn a fair share of the income from the crops they grow.**

Box Tops for Education – Please save Box Top Coupons and/or UPC Codes found throughout your local grocery store. Visit www.boxtops4education.com for a current list of participating products. Clipped coupons can be placed in the “Box Tops for Education” folder on the bulletin board across the hall from Pastor’s office. The money earned by this project will be sent to Bethphage School in Axtell, Nebraska for children and adults with mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

NO BOARD MEETING IN JUNE

VBS piece for Grace Notes Newsletter for June

Welcome to Camp Discovery, VBS 2015! The children will learn about how God has a plan for them with a variety of fun and faith filled activities. The VBS will be held at Grace from July 12-16 from 6:00 -8:00 pm.

Parents are encouraged to pre-register their children either with a paper registration form in the hallway (put slips in the Christian Ed. Box in the workroom) or go online to: <http://bit.ly/1HHv3am>. Also, please ask your children to invite their friends, neighbors and relatives. Pre-registration is open May 15th to June 28th. This ensures enough materials for each activity.

Volunteer herders are needed to lead the children throughout each evening. Master lists of needed items will be posted in the hallway. The snacks this time are primarily fresh fruits and vegetables. We are asking for gift cards from the various grocery stores to help with that part.

****The Mission Project this summer is to support the Summer Lunch Program. Offerings will be donated for this mission.****

There are many opportunities to help out ahead of time as well as during the week. Please contact John and Alice Simmons if you can help with some of the various tasks. simjas10@machlink.com and/or bunnie200@machlink.com.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

Please save the next page to use for your prayer list. Pray for each person on their birthday and anniversary. By the end of the year, you would have prayed for everyone in the congregation. **If we have missed a birthday or anniversary or if corrections need to be made, please call the church office at 263-5680. Thank you.**



June Anniversaries

Stephanie & Michael Nowysz-Ward	6-1	Cindy & Michael Manriquez	6-18
Karen & Tony Woods	6-1	Erin & Joseph Lange-Vandello	6-20
Mary & Michael Morgan	6-3	Jean & Herman Theobald Jr.	6-20
Tina & Matt Skipton	6-3	Anna & Robert Gaunt	6-21
Sara & Alex Steimel	6-5	Christy & Achmed Johnson III	6-21
Carrie & Chad Froelich	6-6	Kim & Lester Arnold	6-22
Frances & John Meyer	6-7	Theresa & Terry Hogenson	6-22
Rosalie & Ray Dietrich	6-8	Dora & Mark Rathbun	6-22
Janet & Randy Graham	6-8	Virginia & LaVern Lippelgoes	6-23
Nichelle & Jeremy Drake	6-9	Tracy & Timothy Christensen	6-24
Mary & Phillip Chalupa	6-10	Willa & Rick Drake	6-26
Doris & Richard Holliday	6-12	Jeanie & Kevin Cromer	6-28
Pamela & Todd Cantrell	6-13		
JoAnne & Ken Fisher	6-14		
Cathy & Anuraj Goonetilleke	6-16		
Janet & Louis Fry	6-18		



June Birthdays

6-1	Jessica Franklin	6-9	Cole Miller	6-19	Stephanie Edwards
6-2	James Edgmond		Andrew Olswold		Erin Kelly
	Easton Leenerts	6-10	Alyssa Cabrera		Evan Kelly
6-3	Adam Batchelor		Levi Gaunt	6-21	Brandt Johnson
	Vicki Cook	6-11	Kaitlin Edwards		Chale Lewis III
	Justin Smith		Abbie Olderog		Elsie Lewis
6-4	Steven Alexander		Eric Walsh	6-23	Douglas Leach
6-5	Carrie Anderson	6-12	Louis Fry	6-24	Virginia Lippelgoes
	David Busch	6-13	Ethan Cantrell		Sarah Logel
	Justin Collins		Ruthann Hoffman	6-25	Michael Dahnke
	Brandon Mathis		Verna Paulsen		Mara Froelich
6-6	Molly Gardner	6-14	William Mask		Terry Hogenson
	Chad Hessel		Kurt Sanger		Evelyn Petersen
	Sarah Janzen	6-15	William Edgmond	6-26	Ben Houseman
	Devin Staack		Ashlyn McGinnis	6-27	David Olson
6-7	Janet Duncan		Matthew Naber	6-28	Brooklyn McGinnis
	Sarah Lande	6-17	Izzy Fourneau		Sarah Olswold
	Slade Opfer		Benjamin Rice	6-29	Gary Stodden
	Joanna Wilts		Jayson Schmelzer	6-30	Varinia Bruns
6-8	Carol Karg	6-18	Julie Kissell		Jodi Jones
6-9	Jennifer Bermel		Christopher Lawhead		
	Lisa Harter	6-19	Ramona Allenbaugh		
	Becky Metcalf		Laura Carlson		

Updates for the Church Calendar can be found at gracemuscatine.com. Thank you.