

# Current



GET PLUGGED IN!



COMMUNITY  
- of GRACE -  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

[gracepeople.church](http://gracepeople.church)

*To Be and Make Disciples*

**FEBRUARY-MARCH 2025**

# HELLO

## ALL IN GOD'S TIME

by Senior Pastor Darrin Vick

Where have we been, where are we now, and where are we going? All questions that come to mind as we begin 2025.

We are 18 months into a journey that began in 2023 to listen, learn, and discern what God has for us in the next chapter of life at Community of Grace.

As we completed some surveys, conducted interviews, gathered thoughts from our Family Meeting, and leaned into prayer, several things emerged as "guideposts" of understanding.

We heard that our congregation is healthy and happy and that we desire a greater missional impact in our broader community. We learned that our people value our Christian Schools, our Lutheran heritage, and our variety of worship options but are concerned about our lack of younger families and the limitations of our facilities.

We discerned through prayer that our congregation desires to be led by the Holy Spirit in our decision-making, encouraged to interact with our neighbors in a non-judgmental way, focused on Jesus in all we say and do, and trusting in God's timing and provision for the plan he will reveal to us.

Today, we are actively engaging in conversations and actions to bring unity on our campus with our ministry partners—especially our K-8 school that will be changing its name to Community of Grace



Christian School to better reflect our shared history and our future missional partnership.

We are pursuing our mutual commitment to understand the felt needs of our neighborhood so we can position ourselves to meet those needs through our members and our facilities. We are moving forward under a banner of Grace Together because our combined energy and resources are multiplied when we Know, Trust, Imitate, and Speak Jesus and See, Love, Serve, and Teach people the way Jesus does.

I hope and trust that, by this time next year, we will have clarity around all that God is asking of our Grace Together Project, and that we will be launching ahead into a bold vision for the future of our campus and its ministries.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus, and lead us forward, Holy Spirit!

By Grace Alone (and together),

Senior Pastor Darrin Vick

## CONNECT

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The Deadline for the April/May Edition of the *Current* is March 10.

# WORSHIP

## TWO STYLES

Whoever you are, whatever your story, you are welcome here.

We invite you to slow down, breathe deeply, and open your heart to God. Contemporary Services are modern, informal, and band-led. Our Traditional Services include time-honored hymns and rich liturgical texts.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

### CONTEMPORARY SERVICES

9 & 10:30 a.m.\* | Fellowship Hall

(Communion is served on the First Sunday of each month)

### TRADITIONAL SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

9 a.m. | Sanctuary\*

\***STREAM LIVE OR LATER**

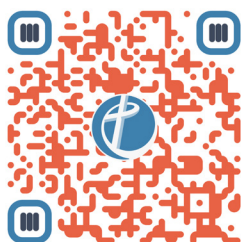
[gracepeople.live](https://gracepeople.live)

## PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP

Each Sunday, you have the opportunity to receive prayer from trained prayer ministers in the Prayer Chapel.

On the second Sunday of each month, prayer ministers will come to you. Please indicate your desire by staying seated after worship.

## EASY ONLINE GIVING!



Scan this code with your device.

Simple.  
Safe.  
Secure.

## THE SPIRIT OF GRACE SERMON SERIES

### SUNDAYS THROUGH MARCH 2

Our series continues as we follow Jesus' work through Luke.

We will hear about the savior's rejection by his hometown, the feeding of the five thousand, and Jesus talking with Old Testament prophets Moses and Elijah during his transfiguration.

## MNTC CHOIR

### SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 23

9 a.m. | Both Worship Venues

10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

Come to worship at CGLC, and hear music and testimonies of God's grace in lives changed through the power of Jesus Christ.

You won't want to miss out on this unique worship opportunity!

## SENIOR SERVICES

### FIRST WEDNESDAYS:

10 a.m. White Pine  
Ecumenical Service of the Word

### THIRD WEDNESDAYS:

2 p.m. Boulders  
Communion Service

### FOURTH THURSDAYS:

10 a.m. Waters of White Bear Lake  
Ecumenical Service of the Word

1:30 p.m. Cerenity  
Ecumenical Service of the Word

### TWO SUNDAYS PER QUARTER:

4 p.m. Waverly Gardens  
Ecumenical Service of the Word

Contact: Pastor Mary Ellen  
[maryellen@gracepeople.church](mailto:maryellen@gracepeople.church)

## ASH WEDNESDAY WEDNESDAY | MARCH 5

11:30 a.m. | Traditional Worship  
6:30 p.m. | Family-style Worship\*  
(Nursery is Available)

We observe the first day of the season of Lent with the mark of ashes. It is a season of intentional focus on Christ's time of fasting, temptation, and ultimately, his sacrifice.

## LENTEN SERIES: LIKE JESUS TEACHES

### SUNDAYS | MARCH 9-APRIL 6

Each week of Lent, we learn how Jesus teaches the heart of God through parables, current events of his time, and by his own actions.

## LENTEN WEDNESDAYS

### MARCH 12-APRIL 9

4:30 p.m. | Traditional Worship\*  
Holden Evening Prayer Format  
(Nursery is Available)

5-6 p.m. | Dinner in the Commons  
Cost: \$5; \$20 Family Cap

## CATALYST: THE VALUES

### MARCH 19-APRIL 9

6 p.m. | Sanctuary  
(Nursery is Available)

These Catalyst sessions are for anyone wanting a deeper dive into CGLC's formational and missional values. Time will be set aside for those considering membership.

Contact: Hannah Collins  
[hannah@gracepeople.church](mailto:hannah@gracepeople.church)

\* These services are streamed online at [gracepeople.live](https://gracepeople.live).

# KIDS

## GRACE KIDS

Grace Kids is the umbrella for our Children's Ministry where children will grow in faith and learn the heart of God.

Grace Kids serves infants through fifth grade. **Grace Kids Sundays** are the main event and drop-ins are always welcome.

**Contact: Britta Maly**  
[britta@gracepeople.church](mailto:britta@gracepeople.church)

## GRACE KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS IN WORSHIP

**SUNDAYS | FEBRUARY 9, 16, 23**  
**SUNDAYS | MARCH 9, 16, 23, & 30**

9 a.m. | North end of Commons

Children grades one through five will join us for the first part of worship before they are released to their Grace Kids Sunday School teachers. Children in preschool and kindergarten go directly to their classrooms.

**Contact: Britta Maly**  
[britta@gracepeople.church](mailto:britta@gracepeople.church)

## GRACE KIDS NURSERY

Nursery is available for infants through three year olds every Sunday during the 9 a.m. Worship hour, and at both 9 & 10:30 a.m. when there is no Grace Kids Sunday School.

**Contact: Victoria Mathisen**  
[victoria@gracepeople.church](mailto:victoria@gracepeople.church)



## EGG FILLING & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**SUNDAY | MARCH 9**

9 a.m. | Commons

Bags of eggs to fill for our *Easter Eggspereience* will be available in the Commons under the skylight.

Our target is 5,000 filled eggs! Remember, we are a peanut and nut free facility. **Our volunteer signup also opens online. Scan the registration code below.**

## GRACE KIDS LENTEN DINNER

**WEDNESDAY | MARCH 19**

5 p.m. | CGLC Commons

Grace Kids families are putting on this Dinner in the Commons. All proceeds go toward Vacation Bible School. Scan the code for the volunteer sign-up.

## EASY ONLINE SIGNUPS!

Scan this code with your device to sign up for ministry opportunities



## GRACE KIDS IN WORSHIP

**SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 2**  
**SUNDAY | MARCH 2**  
**SUNDAY | APRIL 6**

9 & 10:30 a.m.

On Grace Kids in Worship Sundays, service elements focus on families worshipping together in both venues.

Find activity bags at worship venue entryways.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR EASTER EGGSPEERIENCE

**SATURDAY | APRIL 12**

9 a.m.-Noon | Inside CGLC

Join us for a unique Easter Eggspereience. We will have fun games, face painting, and an indoor egg hunt.

Plus, we tell the Resurrection Story with live actors. Bring friends!



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) 2025

**MONDAY-THURSDAY | JUNE 23-26**

9-Noon | CGLC Campus

Save the dates for this year's VBS! It's fun for all ages.

# STUDENTS

## REFUGE & CONFIRMATION

**WEDNESDAYS  
THROUGH MAY**

6:30–8 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Refuge is the umbrella for activities for students in grades 6–12. It is a safe place for teens to connect and learn how to apply biblical principles to their lives.

**Confirmation-Faith Formation** is a pathway within Refuge. When you choose to be confirmed, you demonstrate you are a follower of Christ!

Contact Student Ministries Associate Andrew Kelly at [andrew@gracepeople.church](mailto:andrew@gracepeople.church) to inquire about Refuge and Confirmation.



## REFUGE RISE & SHINE

**SUNDAYS | 10 AM**

10 a.m. | Large Choir Room

This is an awesome Student Ministry gathering on Sunday mornings.

Each week we will have breakfast treats (like donuts, a cereal station, bagels, etc.) and time for a short activity.

## SNOW TUBING

**WEDNESDAY | FEBRUARY 12**

We're going snow tubing at Green Acres in Lake Elmo for the Big Night in February! This event is for students in 6-12th grade.

**The cost is \$18 per person, and the sign up is online. Registration deadline extended to February 5.**



## BRNC SERVE DAY

**MONDAY | FEBRUARY 17**

10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Redeemer Lutheran in Fridley

School is off for President's Day, so we have an incredible day planned for all 6-12th grade students!

There will be brunch, worship and a variety of fun and impactful, offsite service projects. Service activities include: Global Health Ministries, serving a meal at Union Gospel Mission, sorting donations for a homeless outreach ministry, working at a food shelf, and various other opportunities.

Sign up online to participate.

## EASY ONLINE SIGNUPS!

Scan this code with your device to sign up for ministry opportunities



## SPRING BREAK EVENT

**WEDNESDAY | MARCH 12**

We are planning a fun night out for middle and high school students during spring break! Friends are welcome!

Be sure to check the student page on the website for more information and to **register by end of the day March 6.**

## TACO BAR FUNDRAISER

**WEDNESDAY | APRIL 2**

5 p.m. | CGLC Commons

Calling all Refuge students and parents to volunteer for the Taco Bar dinner.



Sign up to help out by **March 26**, then support Student Ministries by eating tacos!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SUMMER FUN

- **June 11: BRNC Fun Day**
- **June 22-27: High School Camp at Faith Haven**
- **June 21-26: Refuge Summer Blast**
- **July 23: Wild Mountain**
- **August 3-8: High School Twin Cities Mission Trip**



# ADULTS

## J.U.L.I.E.T.

### MONDAY | FEBRUARY 3

11:30 a.m. | Red Lobster,  
Maplewood

### MONDAY | MARCH 3

11:30 a.m. | Acapulco Restaurant,  
Maplewood

Just Us Ladies Informally Eating Together gathers the first Monday of the month. **Please sign up at the Information Desk.**

Contact: Pastor Angie Way  
[angie@gracepeople.church](mailto:angie@gracepeople.church)

## R.O.M.E.O.

### THURSDAYS

### FEBRUARY 6 & MARCH 6

9 a.m. | Perkins on County Rd E

Retired Old Men Eating Out meets every first Thursday.

Contact: Curt Schneider  
[curtisschneider@comcast.net](mailto:curtisschneider@comcast.net)

## FARE FOR ALL (FFA)

### FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 14

### FRIDAY | MARCH 14

1-3 p.m. | CGLC Commons

Stretch your grocery dollars right here on the CGLC campus. FFA is able to offer groceries at a 30 to 40 percent discount. **This program has no income restrictions.**

## WOMEN OF GRACE LEADER STUDY

### THURSDAYS | FEBRUARY 20 & MARCH 20

3 p.m. | Community Room

"Waiting for God." Questions? Ask Pastor Angie.

Contact: Pastor Angie Way  
[angie@gracepeople.church](mailto:angie@gracepeople.church)



## VALENTINE'S BANQUET

### THURSDAY | FEBRUARY 13

11 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

Come celebrate God's gift of love with your faith family! Salad, Ritz Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, and Cherry Berry on a Cloud dessert! Musical entertainment will be "Arthur's Eclectic Ensemble."

Sign up at the Information Desk.  
Cost: \$8 per person at the door

## BIBLE STUDY W/ANGIE

### WEDNESDAYS | FEBRUARY 5, 12, 19 & 26

4 p.m. | Prayer Chapel

We will meet all Wednesdays in February, but in March we will be off until after Easter, so all can attend the 4:30 p.m. Lenten service. We reconvene on April 30.

## LADIES' NIGHT OUT

### TUESDAY | JANUARY 28

6 p.m. | Washington Square

### WEDNESDAY | FEBRUARY 26

5:30 p.m. | Oliver's in Shoreview

### FRIDAY | MARCH 28

6:30 p.m. | Rudy's

Join the cool cats at church for a casual dinner.

Contact: Joy Erickson  
[erickjo06@gmail.com](mailto:erickjo06@gmail.com)

Contact: Edna Rafferty  
[golfer956@hotmail.com](mailto:golfer956@hotmail.com)



## SPIRIT NIGHT

### TUESDAY | MARCH 4

6-8 p.m. | Zero Gravity (Mounds View)  
Unlimited Jumping for \$9.99 is sure to shake off the winter doldrums. This Grace Together event supports our K-8 School. Watch for registration details in the Commons

## LENTEN WEDNESDAYS

### MARCH 12 - APRIL 9

4:30 p.m. | Traditional Service  
(Nursery is Available)

5-6 p.m. | Dinner in the Commons

## CATALYST: THE VALUES

### MARCH 19-APRIL 9

6 p.m. | Sanctuary  
(Nursery is Available)

These Catalyst sessions are for anyone wanting a deeper dive into our formational and missional values.

Contact: Hannah Collins  
[hannah@gracepeople.church](mailto:hannah@gracepeople.church)

## LENTEN MENUS

Let's imitate Jesus' approach to connection and intimacy by sharing Dinner in the Commons.

### WEDNESDAY | MARCH 12

Chicken Pot Pie Soup & Vegetable Beef soup

### WEDNESDAY | MARCH 19

Grace Kids Fundraiser - Pasta Bar

### WEDNESDAY | MARCH 26

Magnuson Fundraiser - Chicken Noodle Soup & Cheeseburger Soup

# ADULTS



## MINISTRY FUNDING UPDATE

Results as of 12/31/2024

**YTD RECEIPTS: \$1,601,509**

Receipts are lower than our plan by \$79,191.

**YTD EXPENSES: \$1,656,426**

Expenses are \$23,434 below plan.

### NUMBERS THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024

Congratulations to all! Our Ministry Funding Plan (MFP) included \$100,000 to be added to our reserve. Although we missed fully funding our MFP, we did in fact finish the year with \$45,083 available to be placed in our reserve.

Contact: Mike Mathisen [mike@gracepeople.church](mailto:mike@gracepeople.church)

## BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED

**SATURDAY | APRIL 5**

**5:30 p.m. | Inwood Oaks Event Ctr**

Plan to support our partner school at this year's gala. As they prepare for the event, they are looking for sponsors, auction donations, and prayer. Learn more at: [onecau.se/giftsforgrowth25](http://onecau.se/giftsforgrowth25).

## GREET & EAT!

**SUNDAYS | FEBRUARY 16 OR MARCH 16**

**Noon | Joe & Lisa Ehrman Home**

Would you like to learn more about Community of Grace and meet some people who call this church home? Plan to attend one of our casual gatherings. Get answers to your questions, and make new friends. Children are welcome to join us.

Contact: Lisa Ehrman  
Text: 651.230.4350 or email: [leehrman@yahoo.com](mailto:leehrman@yahoo.com)

## 2025 CGLC COUNCIL W/DESIGNATED MINISTRY AREAS

Mike Hamernick, President  
Andy Hennig, Vice President  
Stephanie Battista, Secretary  
Dennis Engman, Treasurer  
Senior Pastor Darrin Vick  
Carl Albing, Groups  
Wendy Fitzsimmons,  
Children's Ministry  
Joe Ehrman,  
Service & Missions  
Carol Carlson, Senior Adults  
Tim Meier, Student Ministries  
Craig Pearson, Welcome  
Sam Hunter, Worship

*Associate Pastor Angie Way and Executive Director of Administration Mike Mathisen serve the Executive Team in an advisory capacity.*

## RAISING HOPE

**BEGINS SUNDAY | MARCH 5**

Donate online or in person

Our goal is to raise \$35,000 to pack 100,000 meals for our brothers and sisters in Haiti. Campaign runs through the Lenten season.



Contact: Hannah Collins  
[hannah@gracepeople.church](mailto:hannah@gracepeople.church)

## EGGSPERIENCE PREP

**BEGINS SUNDAY | MARCH 9**

Empty Eggs in the Commons

We tell the Resurrection Story with live actors and need your help pulling it together. Plus, you will want to help fill eggs with peanut and nut-free treats. **Signup is online.**

Contact: Britta Maly  
[britta@gracepeople.church](mailto:britta@gracepeople.church)

## PICKUP CHOIR

Please join us for these low commitment choir opportunities.

**SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 9  
9 A.M. | SANCTUARY**

Rehearsal is at 9 a.m., Saturday, February 8.

**SUNDAY | MARCH 9  
9 A.M. | SANCTUARY**

Rehearsal is at 9 a.m., Saturday March 8.

**SUNDAY | MARCH 23  
9 A.M. | SANCTUARY**

Rehearsal is at 9 a.m., Saturday March 22.

**SUNDAY | MARCH 30  
9 A.M. | SANCTUARY**

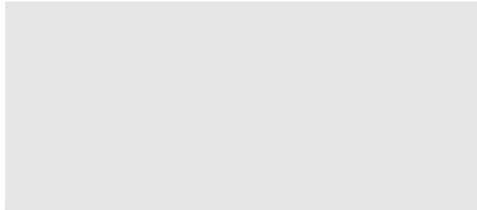
Rehearsal is at 9 a.m., Saturday March 29.

4000 Linden Street  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110  
(651) 429-5349

gracepeople.church  
hello@gracepeople.church  
livestream at: gracepeople.live



Pick up your copy  
of the 2024 Annual  
Report.



**TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS**

## VALUES FOR MINISTRY & MISSION

CGLC leadership introduced our congregation to our new values for ministry and mission last fall when we kicked off our Spirit of Grace sermon series. The discernment of values resulted in what we now call our Missional Narrative:

Community of Grace Ministries embraces the undeniable truth that God loves and values all people—no exceptions. This truth is manifested clearly in the person of Jesus, who modeled unconditional, boundless love. There are no outsiders to Jesus' love, no us versus them, only people God seeks to invite into his family. This is Grace!

Convicted by this Holy Purpose and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are aligned to four core value statements that drive our actions and decisions:

*We will see people the way  
Jesus sees people*

*We will love people the way  
Jesus loves people*

*We will serve people the way  
Jesus serves people*

*We will teach people the way  
Jesus teaches people*

*This is our Holy Calling: to  
follow Jesus as a community  
of his Grace, and to help others  
know Jesus through us.*

In order to act effectively on this narrative, we need to become more like Jesus. The building blocks for our personal transformation are what we call our **Formational Values:**

*Know Jesus, Trust Jesus, Imitate Jesus, and Speak Jesus.*

JOIN MAGNUSON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FOR A GRACE TOGETHER EVENT!

I LOVE TO READ KICKOFF

TUESDAY  
04 FEB  
5 p.m.

PIZZA - GAMES  
BOOK EXCHANGE

**I LOVE TO READ**  
**TUESDAY | FEBRUARY 4**  
5 p.m | Commons & Fellowship Hall

Our partner school is throwing a Grace Together event. Bring books to exchange for K-8 readers. We'll have pizza, first, then play games and exchange books. All pizza must be preordered if you plan to join us for the event.

Scan Code to RSVP & preorder pizza!