

Current

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COMMUNITY
- of GRACE -
LUTHERAN CHURCH

gracepeople.church

To Be and Make Disciples

APRIL-MAY 2025

HELLO

ALL IN GOD'S TIME

by Senior Pastor Darrin Vick

Last fall, I introduced you to a new set of formational and missional values for our congregation. As a preaching team, we took time to reveal these values and speak about them as an important foundation for the future ministry of Community of Grace and our ministry partners. Our teaching about these new values has brought up some very common questions. "Was something wrong with our old values?" "Have we changed what we believe as a congregation?" I want to answer these because I appreciate them!

First, there was nothing wrong with our old values. On the contrary, they have been very helpful in articulating our beliefs and clarifying our theology over the past ten years. That also helps answer the second question. No, we are not changing our beliefs or our theology. But here's the thing: our beliefs and theology are different from what we value. For example, I believe that speeding is dangerous and against the law. But sometimes, I still exceed the speed limit. Why? Because it is very easy for human beings to disconnect belief from behavior. While what we say we believe is important, our behavior reveals what we actually value.

Let me be specific. We believe that "Jesus makes us family." This is beautiful and true. But how does this family behave toward one another and the community around us? That's where our values come into play. 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. Jesus has invited us to be a part of this kind of family. These values help us know when we are living like Jesus' family and when we are missing the mark.

So how do these values become a greater and more significant part of how we do family life together? By following Jesus together. As we follow him, we will begin to know Jesus, trust Jesus, imitate Jesus, and speak Jesus. This is the definition of being a disciple of Jesus. It is a process of spiritual formation where we become a community of disciples on a mission of grace.

Our previous value statements will remain on our website because they are a wonderful explanation of what we believe as a congregation. Expect to see our new value statements (along with our missional narrative) displayed creatively around our building in the months ahead.

By Grace Alone and Together,

Senior Pastor Darrin Vick

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The Deadline for the June/July Edition of the Current is May 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)

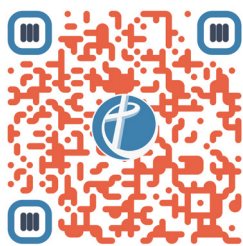
TRADITIONAL SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

9 a.m. | Sanctuary*

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LENTEN SERIES: LIKE JESUS TEACHES

SUNDAYS THROUGH APRIL 13

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

THROUGH 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

6 p.m. | Catalyst: The Values Sanctuary (Child Care 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.

SPRING SERIES: THE SPIRIT OF GRACE

SUNDAYS | APRIL 27-JUNE 8

We continue to focus on the Spirit of Grace as we look ahead to Pentecost Sunday.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

PALM SUNDAY | APRIL 13

9 a.m. Contemporary & Traditional Worship*
(Nursery Available)

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship*

Join us as we honor Jesus' triumphant journey into Jerusalem to begin this Holy Week. Services begin with a Palm Party led by our Grace Kids and Refuge students.

MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 17

11:30 a.m. | Traditional Worship

6:30 p.m. | "At the Table" Experiential Worship Service
(Nursery Available)

First Communicants will receive Holy Communion at this service.

GOOD FRIDAY | APRIL 18

11:30 a.m. | Traditional Worship*
(Nursery Available)

6:30 p.m. | Tenebrae Worship*

This somber service honors the Savior's crucifixion and death.

EASTER SUNDAY: THE POWER OF NEW LIFE

SUNDAY | APRIL 20

7:30 a.m. | Sunrise Worship

9 a.m. Contemporary & Traditional Worship*
(Nursery Available)

10:30 a.m. Contemporary* & Traditional Worship
(Nursery Available)

* These services are streamed online at gracepeople.live.

SENIOR SERVICES AROUND TOWN

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

FOURTH THURSDAYS:

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

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

GRACE KIDS SUNDAYS BEGIN IN WORSHIP

SUNDAY | APRIL 13 & 27
SUNDAY | MAY 11 & MAY 18

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. **May 18 is the end of Grace Kids Sunday School for the summer.**

KIDS IN WORSHIP

SUNDAY | APRIL 6 & 20
SUNDAY | MAY 4 & 25

9 & 10:30 a.m. | Sundays


On Grace Kids in Worship Sundays, service elements focus on families worshipping together in both venues. Find activity bags at worship venue entryways. A family room is available near the skylight in the Commons.



COMMUNION CLASS

SUNDAY | APRIL 6

11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. | Lg Choir Rm

Our Table Talk communion class is for kids, students, and adults seeking to take communion for the first time, or anyone curious to learn more about CGLC's communion theology. Register on Church Center so we can get a headcount for lunch. 

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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

MONDAY-THURSDAY | JUNE 23-26

9 a.m.-Noon | CGLC Campus

VBS is a week of faith and fun for kids who are entering kindergarten through 5th grade (Fall 2025). It's a journey back to ancient Egypt as we explore how God worked in the life of Joseph and how he still works in our lives today! Space is limited, so don't wait to register on Church Center. 



EGGSPERIENCE

SATURDAY | APRIL 12

9 a.m.-Noon | Inside CGLC

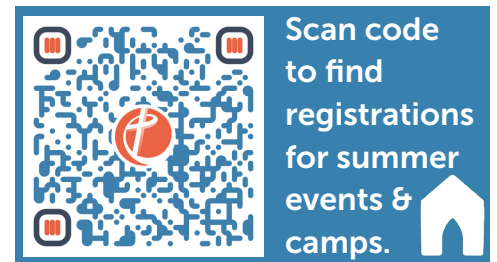
Join us for a unique Easter Eggspertence. We tell the Resurrection Story with live actors and have games, face painting, and an indoor egg hunt. **Bring your friends to this free event!**

PALM PARTY

SUNDAY | APRIL 13

9 & 10:30 Services

Join us in the Commons before services to celebrate Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem. **Kids will go directly to Sunday School following the 9 a.m. Palm Party.**




Scan code to find registrations for summer events & camps. 

ALL CREATURES ART CAMP 2025

MON-THURS | JULY 28-31

2 Sessions | CGLC Campus

We will explore textiles, pressed flowers, paper, and paint as we celebrate our stewardship of the natural world. 

STUDENTS

REFUGE

**WEDNESDAYS
THROUGH MAY 14**

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 Director Melinda Kern at melinda@gracepeople.church to inquire about Refuge.

TACO BAR FUNDRAISER

WEDNESDAY | APRIL 2

5 p.m. | CGLC Kitchen

To keep summer ministry opportunities affordable, we are looking for parents and students to help with our *Dinner in the Commons* Taco Bar. Then, support Student Ministries by eating tacos.



HIGH SCHOOL LATE LATE NIGHTER

FRIDAY | MAY 16

9:15–11:15 p.m. | CGLC Campus

Invite your friends and join us for a night of non-stop fun! You'll stay up late, eat, play games, and more! If you want to make it even more fun, volunteer for the Middle School event earlier that evening.

For 9th–12th grade students. Please sign up online.



LATE NIGHTER

FRIDAY | MAY 16

7–9 p.m. | CGLC Campus

Students! Join us for a late-night event just for you! We'll be playing games that combine tag, hide and seek, scavenger hunts, and glow in the dark. The evening includes prizes, food, and a few surprises! Please sign up online. **The cost is \$5 per person. For 6th–8th grade students and friends.**



SUMMER ON MISSION

MON-THURS | AUGUST 4-7

Various Points in the Metro

Let's join students from churches in the BRNC network for a mission trip right here in the Twin Cities! Each day we will experience worship, powerful messages, recreation activities, and all-day service projects in our HOOD. All while experiencing the heart of Jesus.

For students who have completed 9th–12th grades by August. Please sign up now!



H. S. SUMMER CAMP

SUNDAY-FRIDAY | JUNE 22-27

Faith Haven (Near Battle Lake, MN)

We will join friends at Redeemer Lutheran for this fun week of camp together. Each day we will experience worship, powerful messages, recreation activities, Bible study in groups, lake activities, campfires and more! **This event is for 8th–12th grade students and their friends.**

Registration ends June 16.



SUMMER BLAST

MONDAY-THURSDAY | JUNE 23-26

This fun filled week includes service projects, outings, and fun activities—all while growing in faith and community with one another! Each day we serve at VBS then enjoy lunch and an offsite activity like Grand Slam, Bunker Beach, and FMSC. **For students who have completed 5th–10th grades by June. Sign up by June 13.**



ADULTS

CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIANS

TUESDAYS | APRIL 1-APRIL 29

7-8:30 p.m. | Fireside Room

These workshops provide an easy-to-use approach to developing an effective evangelism style for today. **Learn to share the Gospel** in a natural and powerful way while being authentic.

Contact: Andy Collins
abbacollins@aol.com



FAITH MENTORING WORKSHOP & LUNCH

SATURDAY | MAY 3

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Commons

Join us for "Unlocking the Bible with a Faith Partner." We will help you grow in your faith and you will have the opportunity to pair up for a summer study. Hot turkey sandwiches are on the menu. Please sign up on Church Ctr.

Contact: Debbie Schulz
gdschulz7@gmail.com



EXAMINING THE RESURRECTION

SUNDAYS | MAY 4, 11, 18, & 25

10:30-11:30 a.m. | Fireside Room

This four-week journey led by CGLC member John Bryant looks at biblical and extra-biblical sources regarding the Christian claim of Jesus' resurrection using N. T. Wright's "The Resurrection of the Son of God" video series. Drop-ins are welcome!

Contact: Dan Lugo
dan@gracepeople.church



JULIET

MONDAY | APRIL 7

11:30 a.m. | Manitou Bar & Kitchen

MONDAY | MAY 5 (CINCO DE MAYO)

11:30 a.m. | Chili's (Maplewood)

Join us the first Monday of each month at a different restaurant.

Please sign up on Church Center or at the Information Desk.

Contact: Angie Way
angie@gracepeople.church



ROMEO

THURSDAYS | APRIL 3 & MAY 1

9 a.m. | Perkins on County Rd E

Retired Old Men Eating Out meets every first Thursday of the month.

Contact: Curt Schneider
curtisschneider@comcast.net

BEYOND BIRDS & BEES

TUESDAY | APRIL 29

5:30-7:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

This MomCo event is designed to teach parents how to communicate with their children about physical intimacy.

It offers age-appropriate topics and tangible ways to tackle the conversations. **Cost is \$30.**

Scan code to register.

Contact: cglcmomco@gmail.com



BIBLE STUDY W/ANGIE

WEDNESDAYS | APRIL 30

WEDNESDAYS | MAY 7, 14, 21, & 28

4 p.m. | Prayer Chapel

Our Bible study reconvenes after Easter. All are welcome to join us.

Contact: Angie Way
angie@gracepeople.church

FARE FOR ALL (FFA)

FRIDAY | APRIL 11

FRIDAY | MAY 9

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.

PRAYER & PRAISE NIGHT

TUESDAY | MAY 6

6:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

We are gathering to share scripture, favorite hymns and songs, and hear from each other what the Lord is showing us.

Contact: Angie Way
angie@gracepeople.church

SPIRITUAL RETREAT

SATURDAY | MAY 10

9 a.m.-Noon | CGLC Commons

Join us for "Gratitude: A Doorstep into Eternity" and recharge your spirit! Through prayers, meditation, talks, and sharing, we will explore how gratitude can be a way to enter God's kingdom. Snacks are provided. Sign up on Church Ctr.

Contact: Chris Lepoutre
lepoutre.chris@gmail.com



LADIES' NIGHT OUT

THURSDAY | APRIL 24

6-7:30 p.m. | Northern Taphouse (Woodbury)

SUNDAY | MAY 18

5-6:30 p.m. | Cabin 61 (WBL)

Sign up on Church Center.



ADULTS



MINISTRY FUNDING UPDATE

Results as of 2/28/2025

YTD RECEIPTS: \$219,079

Receipts are below plan by \$71,821.

YTD EXPENSES: \$269,484

Expenses are \$21,250 below plan.

NUMBERS THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2025

We are \$50,405 short of covering our actual expenses. We continue to manage our expenses as closely as possible, but fully expect them to move closer to our Ministry Funding Plan (MFP) as the year progresses.

Contact: Mike Mathisen mike@gracepeople.church

CELEBRATION OF LIFE: DR. JOHN MAWK

SATURDAY | APRIL 26

1-3 p.m. | O'Halloran & Murphy
Funeral Home, Woodbury

All are welcome at this service to remember Magnuson Christian School middle school science teacher Dr. John Mawk.

MOH SUNDAY

SUNDAY | MAY 18

Mission of Hope VP Otis Garrison joins us at all worship services to give us the latest on happenings from the island of Hispaniola.

Contact: Hannah Collins
hannah@gracepeople.church

RETREAT WITH ANGIE

MONDAY-FRIDAY | AUGUST 11-15

Mt. Carmel in Alexandria, MN

Join Pastor Angie Way on a five day getaway. Biblical theologian **Dr. Dan Lioy is teaching on the book of Revelation**, while Angie is preaching for the week.

mountcarmelministries.com

STAMP OUT HUNGER

SATURDAY | MAY 10

Noon | Commons

Be sure to leave non-perishable food items out for your postal worker to collect. We are also the drop site for this drive. Contact us if you want to volunteer for this event.

Contact: Hannah Collins
hannah@gracepeople.church

GREET & EAT!

**SUNDAYS | JUNE 22, JULY 20,
& AUGUST 31**

Noon | Joe & Lisa Ehrman Home

Would you like to learn more about CGLC, but the next membership discussion group is too far away?

Plan to attend one of these gatherings. Get answers to your questions and make new friends. Children are welcome. Please RSVP as space is limited.

Contact: Lisa Ehrman
lehrman@yahoo.com or
Text: 651.230.4350

RAISING HOPE

ENDS PALM SUNDAY | APRIL 13

Donate in person or online

Our fundraising goal is to raise \$35,000 so we are able to pack 100,000 meals for our brothers and sisters in Haiti this fall.



Contact: Hannah Collins
hannah@gracepeople.church

SEWERS NEEDED

ANYTIME

Thank you to all who have helped sew bags for the Ronald McDonald House (RMH) and Lutheran World Relief (LWR). The need continues. The LWR school bags are used for our fall school supply collection. Pick up precut kits at the Information Desk.

Contact: Burnette Foss
(651) 429-1065

PICKUP CHOIR

SUNDAY | APRIL 20 (EASTER)

7:30, 9, & 10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary
"Hallelujah Chorus"
Rehearsal: Sat., April 19, 9 a.m.

SUNDAY | MAY 11

9 a.m. | Sanctuary
"And Can it Be?"
Rehearsal: Wed., May 7, 6:30 p.m.

Please join us for these low commitment choir opportunities. Let's end the choir season on a "high note!"

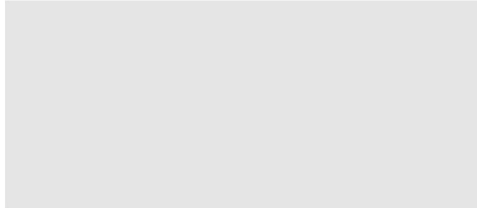
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(651) 429-5349

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



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A COMMUNITY OF *Disciples*
ON A MISSION OF *Grace*

EXCITING EVENTS ON THE HORIZON



EASTER EGGSPERIENCE

SATURDAY | APRIL 12

9 a.m.-Noon | Inside CGLC

Join us for a unique Easter Eggspereience. We tell the Resurrection Story with live actors and have games, face painting, and an indoor egg hunt. **Pick up invitations for your friends at the Orange Wall.**



MOVIE NIGHT: CABRINI

FRIDAY | APRIL 25

6-9 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

All are invited to this Grace Together event. The film depicts the life of Catholic missionary Francesca Cabrini, as she encounters resistance to her charity in late 19th century NYC.

The film is presented free of charge by Women of Grace. Light refreshments are provided.

Please sign up on Church Ctr or at the Information Desk.



LET'S CELEBRATE YOU!

WEDNESDAY | MAY 28

6:30-8 p.m. | CGLC.

Let's get together to celebrate our ministry year and all who help to make it happen.

Whether you send birthday cards to our homebound members, usher for Contemporary Worship, man the dishwasher after funeral receptions, or are part of the Pickup Choir, we want to celebrate you. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Who knows, you may become part of the program.

**Fun and fine desserts for everyone!
Whoop-de-do!**