

June 2026 Newsletter

Grace United Methodist Church

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Dear Grace United Methodist Church,

The summer is under way! School is out and the temperatures feel like mid-June. As we lean into June, we will be walking with Abram/Abraham and Sarai/Sarah and their story found in Genesis 12, 18, 21, and 22. The series is called “Forming a Family, Preparing a People.” It is a story of obedience and blessing, of promises and laughter, of heartbreak and rescue, and of testing and provision. As the father of the Hebrew faith, Abram/Abraham sets an example that can teach us much in our 21st century walk with the Lord. I hope that you will join us each Sunday (or will watch or catch up via our YouTube channel!)



On Sunday, June 14th, Kristin and I will offer a presentation of our recent trip to Scotland, England, and Ireland. We will show lots of pictures and share some stories about our time away. The “show” will be after church. We’ll provide some treats (as normal after church) and then share some of our trip experiences during Fellowship time.

Thank you for your time! Blessings to you and your family this day and every day!! – *Pastor John*

May 2026 Finance Update *(Through four Sundays)*

May Giving: \$ 12,943

Year-to-Date Giving: \$ 81,871

Year-to-Date Expenses: \$ 72,518

Overall: \$ 9,353

JUNE READING SCHEDULE

Forming a Family, Preparing a People

"To Be a Blessing"

June 1 – Matthew 9:9-10
June 2 – Genesis 12:1-9
June 3 – Romans 4:13-17
June 4 – Matthew 9:18-26
June 5 – Psalm 33:1-12
June 6 – Matthew 9:11-13
June 7 – Romans 4:18-25

"A Miracle Called Laughter"

June 8 – Genesis 18:1-8
June 9 – Gen. 18:9-15, 21:1-7
June 10 – Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
June 11 – Romans 5:1-3
June 12 – Romans 5:4-8
June 13 – Matthew 9:35-10:4
June 14 – Matthew 10:5-23

"Hearing the Voice"

June 15 – Genesis 21:8-14a
June 16 – Genesis 21:14b-21
June 17 – Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
June 18 – Romans 6:1b-5
June 19 – Matthew 10:32-39
June 20 – Romans 6:6-11
June 21 – Matthew 10:24-31

"God Will Provide"

June 22 – Genesis 22:1-8
June 23 – Genesis 22:9-14
June 24 – Psalm 13:1-2
June 25 – Psalm 13:3-6
June 26 – Romans 6:12-19
June 27 – Romans 6:20-23
June 28 – Matthew 10:40-42

Core Faith

"Delight in the Law"

June 29 – Gen. 24:34-38, 42-49
June 30 – Psalm 45:10-15
July 1 – Genesis 24:58-67
July 2 – Psalm 45:16-17
July 3 – Matt. 11:16-19, 25-26
July 4 – Matthew 11:27-30
July 5 – Romans 7:15-25a



Photo credit: Aaron Burden

Youth Group News



And that's a wrap on another wonderful year of youth group! The students — and leaders — made it through a year filled with lessons, laughter, fun, and faith. We celebrated our final night together with a Qdoba dinner and games chosen by the kids.

Thank you all so much for your support throughout the year. We truly couldn't have done it without you. We're looking forward to starting back up this fall after Labor Day with new lessons and dinner returning as part of the evening. Right now, our first meeting back is planned for September 9th at 5:30 PM.

Have a safe and blessed summer. Thank you again, and God bless!
- Kristal



Weekly Spiritual Grow Opportunities:

- Sun. – 9 AM — Worship (in person or online) - Sanctuary
- Wed. – 1 PM — Midweek Chat — Chapel
- Wed. – 6 PM – Church Garden Volunteering
- Thur. – 5:30 PM — Men's Bible Year Study — Fell. Hall
- Fri. – 6:30 AM — Ladies' Bible Study — SS Room
- Sat. – 9 AM – Church Garden Volunteering

Upcoming Monthly Events and Meetings:

- June 4-7 – Annual Conference (Bismarck)
- June 16 – 6:15/7 PM – Team/Leadership Meetings
- June 20 – Service Saturday – 9 AM – Location TBA

Birthdays for June:

June 1 – Jim Johnson
June 2 – Tristen Hennies
June 3 – Connie Eichinger
June 6 – Shane Hennies
June 10 – Eliese Baird
June 11 – Julie Marsland
June 11 – Joanne Martin
June 13 – Marj Small
June 17 – Naomi Pfister
June 21 – Alexis Brown
June 25 – Kelly Kruger

June 25 – Kathi Pukas
June 28 – Murphy Kroger
June 28 – Mary Wilson
June 30 – Elijah Pfister



Special Sunday Message!!

On Sunday, June 7th, the clergy and elected laity of the Dakotas Annual Conference will be gathered at McCabe UMC in Bismarck for worship. During the service, our resident bishop, Bishop Lanette Plambeck will offer a message entitled "In 4/4 Time." The conference has pre-recorded that message and we will watch it during our worship service on June 7.



To prepare to receive this message, please take some time to read and ponder the scripture for this special Sunday message: Philippians 4:1-9. The theme of this year's Annual Conference is

"Created to Serve Joyfully." Join us on June 7th to hear the bishop's vision for how we and our conference can live into this theme.

Paul encouraged the Philippian Christians to behave in certain ways. What were they?

Use the code to find out.

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Present: Pastor John, Tanya Taylor (Recording Secretary), Prairey Walking (Chair), Kelly Kruger (Finance & Stewardship), Matt Pfister (SPR), Jeff Kottwitz (Trustees), Mike Marsland, and Lavincia Pfister. Not present: Tom Stevens (Kitchen Committee).



Meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Prairey. Pastor John shared reflection time from "My Upmost for His Highest." This was followed by prayer.

We discussed the minutes from February 19th, 2026. Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes and Jeff 2nd motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Ministry Reports:

- ✦ Finance & Stewardship – Kelly K.
 - Giving is up and spending is down (overall and when compared to the same four-month window from 2025.)

- ✦ Kitchen Committee – N/A

- ✦ Staff Pastor Parish – Matt Pfister
 - John and SPR completed mid-year review
 - Jennifer Hall is interested in Children's Ministry Education position.
 - Discussed her running VBS as a trial for position
 - SPR will get references, do a background check, and then possibly interview

- ✦ Trustees – Jeff Kottwitz
 - Mower has been serviced and we have four volunteers who will take turns mowing and trimming

Trustees continued...

- Well is free flowing, getting est. to fix pipe/shut off
 - Service Sat. worked in garden. Moved rock and dirt piles, mulched, and added peat moss into raised beds
 - On June 9th we will allow “overflow” parking from the Fire Dept. function
 - Lauren and Marjean placed ledge around sound booth and hung AED
- ✦ Old Business:
- Leadership would still like an estimate for new flooring in the offices and on the Chancel
 - Discussed repainting “Mountains” in Sanctuary to match possible new carpet on Chancel
 - Pastor John and Kristin’s 4-week extended leave was enjoyed. They will put together a presentation to share after church sometime.
- ✦ New/Continuing Business:
- Development of 3rd Lot – Need to talk with Bob P.
 - AED training – Jeff and/or Roy K. – After church sometime, for whomever wants to learn.
 - Sunday, June 7 – Pastor John at Annual Conference. Discussed live streaming or using pre-recorded message for Sunday service on June 7.
 - John received letter from Bishop. They would like him to serve on the Board of Ordained Ministry Committee. This would be about a six-day/year commitment.
 - VBS will be held August 9th-11th.
- ✦ Jeff motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8 PM and Mike 2nd it. All were in favor and passed.

Next Teams/Leadership meeting will be June 16, 6:15/7PM

Minutes by Tanya T.

Grace United Methodist Church

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