



A monthly publication of
Grace Methodist and
Pleasant Corners
Evangelical Church.

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Office hours
M-F 8-12

Grace Methodist
9:00 am Worship

Pleasant Corners
Evangelical
11:00 am Worship

Pleasant Corners



Grace Methodist and Pleasant Corners Evangelical Churches Newsletter



Human Effort Accomplishes Nothing

John 6:39 “And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them to eternal life at the last day.”

John 6:63 “It is the Spirit who gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life.”

John 6:68-69 “Lord, to whom would we go? You alone have the words that give eternal life. We believe them, and we know you are the Holy One of God.”

If you read the full account from John 6, it is perhaps Christ’s lowest ministry moment before His crucifixion. Obviously as God in human flesh He knew what He was doing, but to human eyes this is the worst kind of ministry. Having just fed 5,000 with nothing but a few fish and loaves, having just walked on water in front of His disciples, the people had crowded around Him once more to hear Him teach... and maybe to get some more free food from Him. At first they desire to forcibly make Jesus king, but when He starts to teach that He is the Son of God, that He has come to give eternal life and that all those who believe in Him will be saved, the people begin to leave. They complain that His teaching is hard. They complain that He will not do more miracles for them so that they can believe. They complain that He is nothing but the son of a carpenter in Nazareth. So, the thousands leave Jesus, including most of His ardent followers. Only the twelve disciples are left, and even of them Judas is already a scoundrel and a fiend. While the crowds disperse, Jesus plainly states the truth. It isn’t human effort or success that leads to eternal life. It is a work of the Lord, and it is done through Him alone.

I must confess, the teaching given by Christ in the first scripture quoted above can be hard to understand. It is even more difficult to understand when put into congruence with the second verse quoted above. Nothing in our human and secular world works this way. The answer to most things is effort. Growing up with hard working parents as role models, the answer to most every problem in life has been a matter of more elbow grease. Grades aren’t good? Put in more effort to studying. Not doing great in sports? Well, you need to practice more. Want to retire someday, have enough money to support a family, and be well respected? Then you need to work harder than you already are, maybe harder than everyone else.

(Cont. on Pg. 2)

Effort, Beloved, is well respected and produces great results in our world. That though, is where the limits of human effort end... in this world. For Jesus to say that human effort accomplishes nothing in the kingdom, that it doesn't justify a sinner, that all the effort in the world cannot bring even one soul closer to God, is a tough pill to swallow. Ministers and church workers (including me) have been guilty of putting the pressure on all of us over the years, of treating the spiritual work of redemption that God does as we do our business practices. Beloved, it doesn't work the same way. We are to be hardworking and faithful, but being entrepreneurial is not the same as being faithful.

Rest assured, we are called to work for the Lord and to act, but we are not accountable for the results, and that is the difference. The results are up to the one who is in charge, human actions alone accomplish nothing spiritually. The word of God, His will and work done in the world, thankfully is not dependent upon us as sinful human beings getting everything right. Obviously, we should strive to serve Him well in all facets of life, but if something happens that grieves us we shouldn't assume that it is our fault or that God is being hampered by us. He is much bigger and greater than that.

Here is where the rubber meets the road Beloved, where this sort of talk from John six gets real. Right now, we are grieved because American churches are shrinking. Right now, we are in the process of leaving the United Methodist Church, which is a grief-filled process both for those leaving and for those of us staying. Right now, there are many of you who have children, grandchildren, friends and family, who have walked away from the church or who have never followed Him, and it grieves you. It is easy to get discouraged, to think that any of these circumstances are our fault, that we have failed. Beloved, we forget who is in charge if we look at it this way. While we seek to faithfully act, the results are up to the Lord. Only He can change hearts and minds to follow Him. Only He can work great wonders in someone's soul to bring them to church, to bring them home, to reunite them with Christ. Yes, we

share the truth and act faithfully and persevere, but we do our Lord no justice when we think it is all in our hands, and when we base the success of His message on us instead of Him we miss the point.

If you want an even bigger nugget to chew on with regards to this, Jesus's message from His own mouth was rejected by thousands who had previously followed Him. He would have been written off as a failed Pastor, and His church would have been nothing more than eleven people strong! Yet, we know how the story turned out, for them back then and for us today. So Beloved, don't lose heart and don't lose sight of the goal. We spread the Gospel, we persevere, we faithfully follow Him, and we leave the rest in His hands.

Blessings,

-Pastor Jake

Update on Disaffiliation

What has been accomplished:

1. Vote on future
2. Submission of resolutions, documents, and other records needed to the Conference
3. Church name change and incorporation
4. Applied for EIN/Tax Exemption
5. Bylaws completed and submitted

What is coming next?

1. Church vote to receive property from the Conference (Oct. 1st)
2. Churchwide opportunity to discuss, pray, and ponder our future (Late September/Early October)
3. Quitclaim deeds given to us, filled, and submitted
4. Payment to the Conference for unfunded pension liabilities and two years of apportionments
5. Official disaffiliation date: November 13th.

Everything must be completed before then

NOTE

Everyone requesting to use the church should go through the **secretary** and fill out the correct form (s). There is a usage fee for everyone. Please submit your payment at the time you submit the form.

Your reservation is not confirmed until the fee is paid.

Checks

Please make your check out to

Kasson Methodist Church

or

Pleasant Corners Church

TRIVIA

Who invented the cotton gin?

What verse is Jesus Wept?

What was Paul McCartney's middle name?

COMPASION INTERNATIONAL SUMMER UPDATE– YOUSELANDE CHARLES-HAITI

Approximately every three years Compassion-assisted children advance to the next level at their respective centers.

At this time someone who knows and works with Youselande completes an assessment of her growth in four areas.

These areas are:

1. Physical growth
2. Cognitive growth
3. Spiritual growth
4. Social-emotional growth

In each or the above four areas, Youselande has met the required expectations thus allowing her to advance to the next grade level.

Our sponsorship allows Youselande to receive individualized holistic care each week though Compassion International where she attends Bois-Neuf Child Development Center.

Please pray for Youselande that she may continue to succeed in all areas at her center.

Jude Kruger



SMALL GROUPS

Small groups are a great way to get to know other Christians and share our faith walk with each other. We currently have 3 Small Groups that meet. Each have a coach that helps to lead the group: Monday evenings-Marina Castner, Tuesday day-Ruth Schomburg, Wednesday evening-Chuck Coleman. If you are interested in joining one of these groups or would like to know more about them. please let Pastor Jake or one of the coaches know.



Prayer Chain

Kasson UMC offers a way to ask for prayers at any time. The prayer chain is a group of people whom will left up prayers to God when notified of a request. The prayer requests are sent out through an email or phone call. If you would like to be part of the prayer chain group, to pray for others contact Dawn Bowe at mail@bowehome.com to get on the email list or contact Ruth Schomburg to get on the phone list 507-634-7502.

To send a prayer request you can contact the church office, Dawn or Ruth.

Our You Tube Channel

Another option to view the service at a later date is our You Tube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBL-M9kRyNQgntLx-iSykDQ>

Ushers for Grace Methodist September

- 3
- 10
- 17
- 24

Yoga with Kristi



Starting the week of September 18th Kristi, a certified yoga instructor will be leading gentle yoga sessions for all levels.

The sessions are free but preregistration is required as class size is limited

Grace Methodist Church

Wednesdays and Fridays 9 to 10 am

Kasson Public Library

Thursdays 3-4 pm

For further information or to preregister please contact Kristi at nikristi@yahoo.com

Thinking of you

Pleasant Corners

Wilma Jensen
Elaine Marquardt
Vera Schuck
Mae Miller
Marie Henslin



Thinking of You

Kasson

Rodney Beckman
Cecil Brannon
Phil DuBois
Ron and Bonnie Herrick
Joyce Redfern
Gladys Rice
Karen Sprenger
Virginia Thayer
Mary Mortensen
Connie Hendrickson

Hy-Vee tapes

Save your Hy-Vee tapes (from any Hy-vee) and bring them in. The KM Elementary PTA will use the money they get back for field trips, KoMet pride activities, yearly class t-shirts, and more! There is a drop box in the Narthex.



Trivia answers

1. Eli Whitney
2. John 11:35
3. Paul, his name is actually Jane Paul McCartney

NAOMI CIRCLE

Naomi circle will meet
Sept. 7th at 9:30 am.
Remember your Salvation Army
items.

Service Group Leaders – call 2-3 people from the whole list below to help serve coffee and/or provide a fruit, cheese/crackers, or bars.

Rhonda Larsen – August 2023
 Robin Germundson/Barb Walsh – September 2023
 Renee Jensen – October 2023
 Chris Schroeder – November 2023
 Church Committees – December 2023
 Rhonda Larsen – January 2024

Member	Phone Number
BERGHUIS, Larry & Lana	507-635-2411
GOCHNAUER, Doug & Sandy	507-527-2888
SCHRAFEL, Ron & Sharon	507-635-5487
BURCH, Jim & Pam	507-261-7180 507-261-7073 (Jim cell)
WILLIAMSON, Sarah	507-696-3224
SCHROEDER, Dale & Chris	507-635-5755
JENSEN, Marv & Renee	507-634-4167
ROOT, Dan & Lori	507-635-5058
GILLIES, Jim & Grace	507-634-6463
TOMPKINS, Darlene	507-634-7543
ALEXANDER, Curt & Melissa	507-358-5070 (Curt cell) 507-398-8799 (Malissa cell)
HENSLIN, Steve & Libby	507-374-6422
DENISEN, Darrell	507-603-1220
SCHROEDER, Amanda	507-250-0194
HANSON, Jacob & Rhianna	608-343-3213
ANDERSON, Mark & Louise	507-634-7882
LARSEN, Mark & Rhonda	507-259-7898
SCHOMBURG, Ruth	507-634-7502
COLEMAN, Chuck & Sally	507-634-4602 507-273-9244 (Sally Cell)
DUBOIS, Steve & Sandi	507-272-5258 (Sandi Cell) 507-272-7235 (Steve Cell)

Continued on next page

KRUGER, Jay & Jude	507-251-7609 (Jude Cell)
FLYNN, Geoff & Jennifer	507-635-3765
DUBOIS, Becky	507-271-0077
GERMUNDSON, Robin	507-254-8335
WALSH, Barb	507-261-7421
BERGHUIS, Ryan & Brenda	507-993-0804
CASTNER, Lawren & Marina	507-251-9141
GIESE, Jerry & Virginia	507-634-6708
BOWE, Mike & Dawn	507-634-4863
WILBUR, Randy & Pat	507-634-4383
PURVIS, Phyllis	507-634-7493
HUGHES, Michael & Laura	507-634-7785
MALISHESKE, Karl & Connie	507-634-4627
TOMPKINS, Deanna	507-634-4170
HOFFMAN, Todd & LeeAnn	507-251-4373
LERMON, Dan & Theresa	507-438-4488
Gabe Roetman	507-686-0325
Kirsten Denisen	507-250-4778
GERMUNDSON, Brad (Chloe & Olivia)	507-384-7300
Jeff & Carrie Neil	507-993-5062 (Jeff Cell) 701-639-8534 (Carrie Cell)

Copies will be available at church as well.

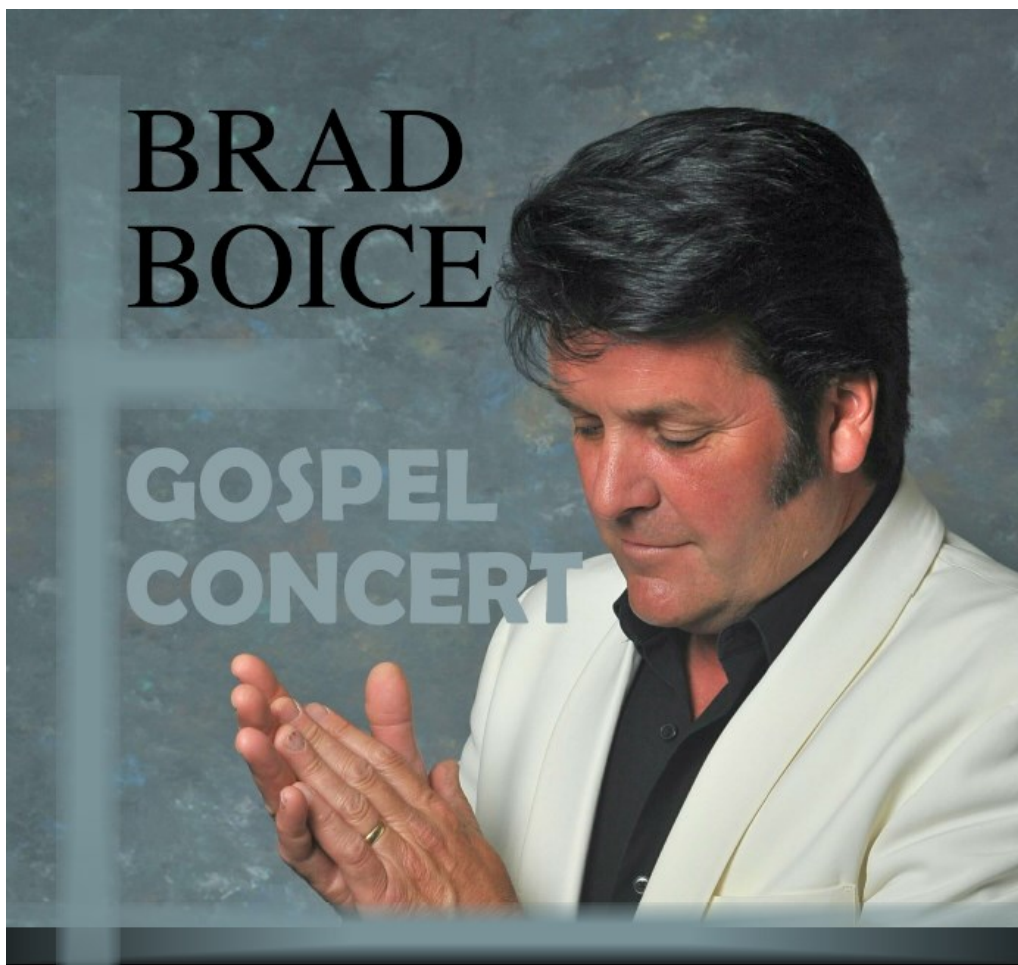
NEWS FROM THE WOMENS GROUP

We have chosen a new name! " Grace Methodist Women"

We will change our September meeting to September 24th and our November meeting to November 12th.

We would like to thank everyone who donated their time, who donated ice cream toppings and who came out to support our Ice Cream Social. We also need to Thank the Boy Scout Band for providing an evening of excellent music. We had a good turnout, enjoyed the visiting and of course the ice cream.

We continue to be amazed that people are surprised to get something free and that we are here to enjoy some fun together!!



(Kasson UMC) Grace Methodist invites you to a Gospel Music
concert on

Sept. 17th at 2:00 pm

Brad Boice (aka Elvis) will be at (KUMC) Grace Methodist to
present a Gospel Concert.

A free will offering will be taken, bars, cookies and coffee will
be served afterwards.

The Public is invited.

September



- 2 Kenzie & Amber Krowiorz
- 12 Emerson Alberts
- 14 Steve & Libby Henslin
- 15 Geoff & Jennifer Flynn
- 17 Jeff & Carrie Neil
- 18 LeRoy & Amanda Newell
- 23 Mike & Dawn Bowe
- 27 Gerald & Marjorie Saxton
- 29 Chris & Kayla VanKirk

UMC Member Options

There are a couple of options that are available for those that wish to stay with the United Methodist Church. Your current District Superintendent Michelle Hargrave will work with you in that process. You may contact her at michelle.hargrave@minnesotaumc.org

NOTE: The church window drawings on page 1 were drawn by Randy Wilbur.

September Birthdays

- Dan Root 7
- Polly Lewis 8
- Greg Bartel 11
- Doug Gochnauer 11
- Emerson Alberts 12
- Marina Castner 12
- Kay Nelson 13
- Daniel Alberts 13
- Donna Iverson 15
- Mike Hughes 17
- Phyllis Purvis 17
- Phil DuBois 18
- Marv Jensen 18
- Kirstin Denisen 21
- Renee` Jensen 21
- Bob Kramer 21
- Marie Henslin 26
- Matt Nelson 28

Youth Group: Open to all students in grades 6-12, Youth Group is all about leading our kids to know Christ better. We always begin with a game or two, have a snack, and then dive into God's word together. This is one of the most important ministries in our church, and we take great pride in training up the next generation in Christ Jesus. We meet from 6:00-7:30 on Wednesday nights. Our first Youth Group of the new school year will be combined with our Journey with Jesus kids/families on September 13th.

Journey with Jesus: Brand new for this year, "Journey with Jesus" is our elementary school aged Youth Group, taking place on Wednesday nights from 6:00-7:30. The basic structure is to play some games and learn about a Bible story or two. If you have children or grandchildren who would like to participate, feel free to bring them! Parents are always welcome to sit in and observe as well. Our first Journey with Jesus meeting will be combined with our Youth Group students/families on September 13th.

Sunday School: Sunday School is open for all children ages three and up, and takes place throughout the school year. We study various topics within scripture, engage in various crafts, and generally have a wonderful time learning about Jesus after church. Our first Sunday School day in the fall will be September 17th, following service at Grace Methodist.

Confirmation: Confirmation is the "confirming" of one's baptism, where youths learn about their faith in depth and affirm that it is theirs. Our confirmation class is open for students who are in 7th grade or beyond. Confirmation classes meet once per week for one hour throughout the school year, are two years in length, and culminate in the official confirmation of our students in front of the entire church. Our informational meeting for the class will take place on September 17th following service at Pleasant Corners, where we will determine the exact meeting days and time. Contact Pastor Jake for more information or with any questions.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: New to this year, for any who can make it, we will be having a Wednesday morning Bible Study. The goal is to go more in depth with the sermon topic/scriptures from the previous Sunday. Plans are in place to record this Bible Study for those who cannot attend to be able to view later, and further plans are in place to eventually have a similar Bible Study take place on Sunday mornings after service at Grace. Initial start date is tentatively planned for September 13th, at 8:30 am for one hour, pending the birth of Pastor Jake's second child. Contact Pastor Jake with any questions.

Need a Ride? Do you or someone you need a ride to church on Sunday mornings? Please contact the office, and we can help arrange transportation for you if necessary. The same is also true for those wishing to be involved in any of the other ministries/outreaches/programs of the church. We want you here, and we will do what we can to facilitate! Contact the church office for more information.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Can you help distribute flyers for Brad Boice (aka Elvis) in mail boxes, give to your friends and neighbors, hang them up in businesses or your work? They are available on the table in the Fellowship Hall or contact Janet for a digital one to print out at home.

We would like to have a large crowd to support Brad in his gospel music and it's also a great way for people to see our church and possibly come back for Sunday worship.

Here are more suggestions:

How are your flyers getting to your intended audience? You have a few choices.

The most popular methods are:

Hanging the flyers in public/community areas.

Handing the flyers to people directly.

Keeping a stack of flyers in a high-traffic area.

Delivering the flyers door-to-door (or car-to-car).

September 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Service Grp. Robin and Barb	Just for Kix Scouts Sun.	Mon. Tues. Thurs. eves			1	2
3 Communion	4 	5 Support Grp meets 6:30 SPRC meets 6:30	6 Youth Grp and Journey with Jesus 6-7:30	7	8	9
10	11 Ad Council 6:30 Zoom Disaffiliation mtg 7:00	12 ← Meals on wheels →	13 Youth Grp and Journey with Jesus 6-7:30	14 Quilters 9:30-11:30	15	16
17 UMW Sunday S. School begins Brad Boice Gospel 2:00	18 	19 SPRC meets 6:30 pm	20 Yoga 8-10:30 Youth Grp and Journey with Jesus 6-7:30	21	22 Yoga 8-10:30	23 
24	25	26	27 Yoga 8-10:30 Youth Grp and Journey with Jesus 6-7:30	28	29 Yoga 8-10:30	30

Kasson UMC
801 5th Ave NW
Kasson, MN 55944

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



We're on the web!
www.kassonumc.org

**Submissions for the newsletter are due
September 18**

Pleasant Corners Evangelical Mission Statement

Our church has an open door for all to enter, and they shall find within, a congregation with this mission (taken from the fourth chapter of Ephesians). "The work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ; till we all come in the unity of the faith, and the knowledge of the Son of God.....speaking the truth in love."

Grace Methodist Mission Statement

Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.