



**GREET. GATHER.
GROW AND GO
IN GOD'S GRACE**

Peace † Grue

**God's Country News
An ELCA Parish**



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August 2025

PARISH WORSHIP-PICNIC
Peace, Grue, First Presbyterian & OSTML
First Presbyterian hosting
Sunday, August 17th at 10:45
at Ashby Thorson/Larson Park.
All are welcome to join

Bring your favorite summer dish to share...
and a chair.

**September thru
December**

**Grue 9:00 a.m.
Peace 10:45**





A Word from Pastor Julie:
Growing in Love and Service Together

August 2025

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ of Peace-Grue Parish,

Blessings to you and your families as we embark into this life of ministry together. As I write this, I have had the pleasure and honor of serving as your interim pastor for a little over a month. Thank you all for the warm welcome you have extended to Monty and I. We are thrilled to be part of the Peace and Grue communities.

But, as exciting as embarking into a new call and getting acquainted with a new minister is, it's change. And, let's face it, we humans aren't always crazy about change. Change is frequently the agent that launches us into fear of the unknown. It can provoke all sorts of emotions: anxiety, panic, etc. Our human natures simply seem to be hardwired to lean into the familiar and comfortable, particularly during times of uncertainty. I have certainly experienced these feelings.

But then, I remind myself that I am not in this alone, core to my personal theology is that we were created to be part of community: communing with God in personal relationship; within the community of believers in the Christian church universal; within our local communities, and within all God's creation. I also am reminded that through Christ, we not only are transformed, we are in a state of perpetual transformation as individuals, and as community. I like the quote from Margaret Mead, particularly if I edit it a bit and conclude the first sentence to read: “citizens can change the world *THROUGH CHRIST*.” The scripture passage from Romans gives us an assurance that through Christ, we ARE equipped to find the strength to face anything in a constantly changing, frequently chaotic world. We can believe in all certainty, that through Christ, we CAN become agents of change and transformation in our communal ministry of loving and serving our neighbors as Jesus calls us to do.

I look forward to working together with you as part of the thoughtful, committed group of citizens that is Peace-Grue parish in our ministry of positive change in the name of Christ.

God's Peace to you and all you hold dear,

Pastor Julie

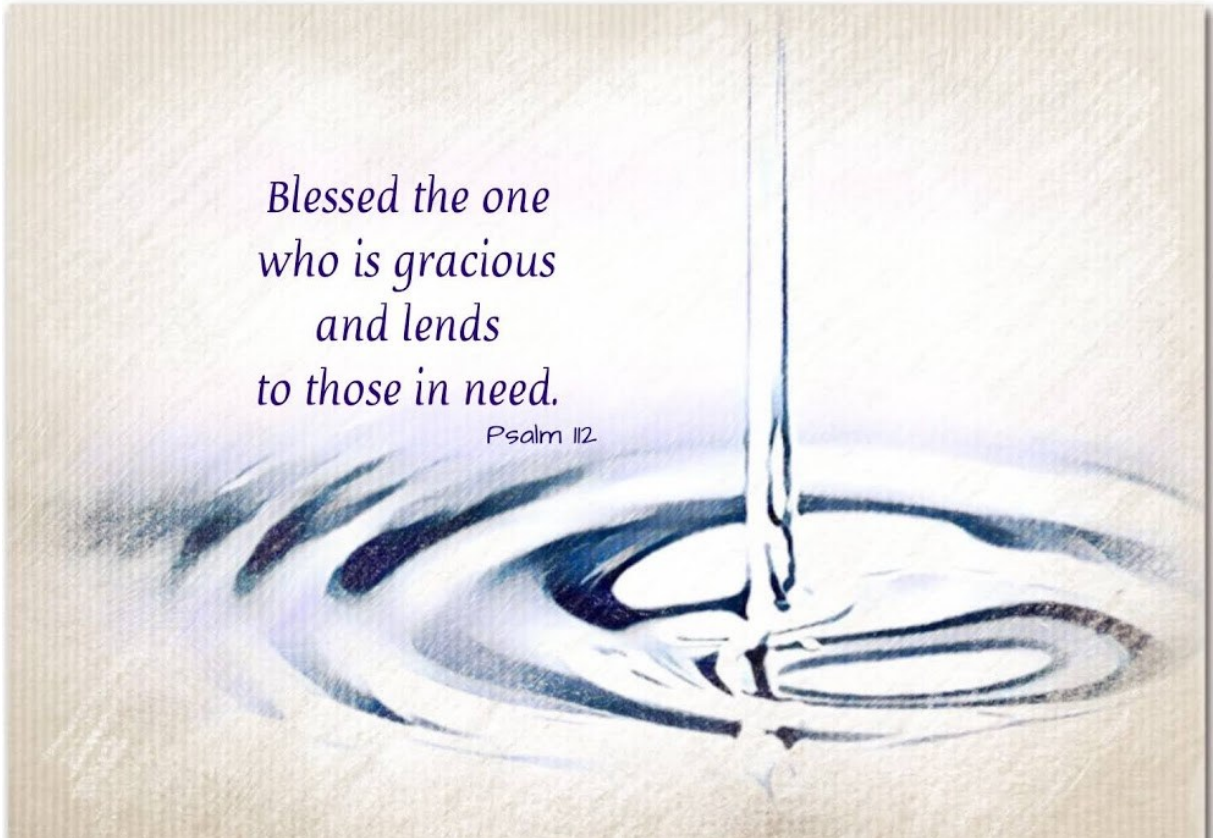
*²⁴ We were saved in hope. If we see what we hope for, that isn't hope. Who hopes for what they already see? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don't know what we should pray, but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans. ²⁷ The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks, because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God's will. ²⁸ We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ We know this because God knew them in advance, and he decided in advance that they would be conformed to the image of his Son. That way his Son would be the first of many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ Those who God decided in advance would be conformed to his Son, he also called. Those whom he called, he also made righteous. Those whom he made righteous, he also glorified. ³¹ So what are we going to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He didn't spare his own Son but gave him up for us all. Won't he also freely give us all things with him?
Romans 8:24-32 (Common English Bible)*

READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

August 3, 2025	August 10, 2025	August 17, 2025	August 24, 2025	August 31, 2025
First Reading Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 Psalm Psalm 49:1-12 Second Reading Colossians 3:1-11 Gospel Luke 12:13-21	First Reading Genesis 15:1-6 Psalm Psalm 33:12-22 Second Reading Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Gospel Luke 12:32-40	First Reading Jeremiah 23:23-29 Psalm Psalm 82 Second Reading Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Gospel Luke 12:49-56	First Reading Isaiah 58:9b-14 Psalm Psalm 103:1-8 Second Reading Hebrews 12:18-29 Gospel Luke 13:10-17	First Reading Proverbs 25:6-7a Psalm Psalm 112 Second Reading Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Gospel Luke 14:1, 7-14

*Blessed the one
who is gracious
and lends
to those in need.*

Psalm 112





August Birthdays

August 1st

Chris Roley

August 3rd

Brad Barry

August 4th

Beth (Odens) Finkelson

Andrew Aamot

Teresa Magnuson

Sharon Nelson

August 5th

Pauline Martinson

August 8th

Annah Evavold

August 9th

Dorothy Albertsen

August 10th

Jill Balgaard

Vicki Dorn

August 11th

Charlotte Woldahl

August 13th

Linda Williams

Courtney Koefod

August 14th

Nick Story

Gwen Lillemon

Jacob Rasmussen

Cory Van Santen

Justin Anderson

August 15th

Vickie Ness

August 17th

Jeannette Evavold

Klair Sorenson

August 19th

Bernice Hohbein

August 20th

Virginia Driggins

Jonathan Driggins

August 22nd

Jacob Rein

August 24th

Courtney Neterval

Savanna Melberg

Beatrice B. Runningen

August 25th

Traeton Nelson

August 26th

Erika Heibel

August 27th

Amelia Barry

Christian Miller

Greg Lillemon

Dennis Evavold

August 28th

Linda Bahnson

Mitchell Griep

Marcia Koefod

Blake Ohren

Dylan Barry

August 29th

Gene Jensen

August 30th

Sunday Johnson

Betty Rustad

=====

*If I don't have your birth date
or if I have it listed incorrectly
please e-mail peace-
grue@outlook.com
or call me -*

747-2273 /

Melissa R

**God's Country
News Articles
are DUE by the
15th of
each MONTH**



PEACE Bible Study:

NO Bible study

GRUE Bible Study:

Tuesday, August 19th @ 1:30 pm.

at Ashby Living Center

Pastor Julie will be at a Conference on the 3rd Tuesday in September, so Peace & Grue are moving their September Bible studies to the second Tuesday, September 9th.

Same time and place.

Call Team Update

Dear Members of Peace/Grue Parish,

Due to the retirement of Pastor Dan, a Call Team was formed to help our parish find a replacement. Recently, we (the Call Team) have been working on creating a Ministry Site Profile to help our parish match with possible pastoral candidates. To create a profile that will reflect our congregation is a task that we, as a team, can not do without our combined congregations help. The more accurate the Ministry Site Profile is, the more likely it will be to help us match with a candidate that will fit the needs of our parish.

We have created a questionnaire that we are hoping each of you, and the members of your family, will fill out. This is an opportunity to not only take part in this important decision, but also to be honest about what you are looking for in a pastor and what you would like to see our parish become in the future. This questionnaire is completely anonymous. We are excited to hear what your thoughts, expectations, and needs are!

Questionnaires can be found by following the QR Code below or by filling out a physical form that can be found in the narthex of both churches and returning it to one of the collection bins.



Thank you for your participation,

The Call Team

Jeremy Anderson, Heidi Balgaard, Annah Evavold, Val Fick, Greg Lillemon, Bea Runnigen

GRUE WELCA NEWS

Women ^{of the} ELCA 

June 17, 2025

The Grue Bible Study met at Grue church at 1:30.

Our lesson was lesson 10. Character test (John 18:28-19:16). Purpose for lesson 10: to demonstrate that even though Jesus was crucified unjustly, He willingly submitted to death for our sins.

Question: Who killed Jesus? Read John 18:28-37.

In July we will meet on July 29th at 1:30 studying lesson 11.

A short meeting was held to discuss projects for the summer.

A good project for these rainy days, we could use a few more quilt tops, any type of material will do.

Praying all are well and to see you again soon.

Love one another . . . God bless
Bea Runningen, Sec.

PEACE WELCA NEWS

Women ^{of the} **ELCA** 

Thank you to everyone that has helped with summer worship and guiding Pastor Julie through "this is the way we do it". We appreciate all of you.

A reminder that the WELCA Synod Gathering is in Alex this year at First Lutheran on September 19 and 20. Registration forms are in the office. Peace has been asked to monitor the Silent Auction, funds from the auction event are used to fund scholarships to first time attendees. Thank you to Brenda Risbrudt for using her Thrivent card to purchase our donation to the Silent Auction. We are donating a toddler basket with a dinosaur quilt and coordinating books, puzzles, etc., a gift box from Minnesota Olive Oil Company with mixed oils and balsamic vinegars and a fall kitchen basket.

The winner of the patriotic lap quilt at the thrift store in June was Dawn Clemensen from Fergus Falls. Dawn and her parents are former members of Peace. The winner of the July quilt (fabric designed by Teresa Magnusson) was won by Harrison Pavillon from the metro. The Pavilion's have a home on Pelican Lake. Quilts for the next two months have a sunflower theme.

A reminder we will not be hosting our Annual Fall Bazaar that we have had for over 50 years, however, we are planning a large holiday bake sale and serving lunch on Saturday, December 6 during Santa Day.

May God Bless you all

Val Fick
WELCA Co-President

Grue Council Meeting: June 8, 2025

Attending: Bob, Dar, June, Melissa, Sonia & Gwen
Absent: Randy K.

The meeting was called to order by President Sonia Heibel.

Secretary's report was reviewed and approved. M/S/C
Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved. M/S/C

Old Business:

*Update on the stove burner-it seems to be working now!

New Business:

*Char has requested to reserve the Narthex on June 29th. Approved.

*Our organ isn't working-Sonia will have someone look into it and determine what is wrong.

*The piano upstairs is never used and should be removed. Randy H can maybe come up with ideas to repurpose it. Anyone interested in the piano, or objects to it being removed, please contact a council member.

*The outlet under the serving counter and one by the stove downstairs is not working. Greg will look into this.

*We have a CD that will be maturing soon. Melissa will check into current rates before renewing it.

The next meeting will be July 9th @7pm

M/S/C to adjourn.

We closed the meeting with the Lord's prayer.

Gwen Lillemon, Council Secretary

*A special text was sent out (June 25th) to all council members announcing the Parish picnic location on August 17th will be switched to the Ashby City Park.

Also, communion will be switched from the 1st Sunday July 6th to the 2nd Sunday July 13th, due to Pastor Julie being gone on the 1st Sunday.

Grue Council Meeting: July 9,2025

Attending: Bob, Melissa, Sonia, Pastor Julie & Gwen

Absent : Char, Dar, June & Randy K

The meeting was called to order by President Sonia Heibel.

Devotions were led by Pastor Julie Carlson.

Secretary's report was reviewed and approved. M/S/C

Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved. M/S/C

Old Business:

*Both decks have been power washed and painted. Gwen will get an invoice from Brandon so we can pay him.

*Sonia checked into having the organ upstairs worked on. It would be expensive to get a repair man here, as he is located in Hutchinson. It was decided to try using it a bit to determine if it has to go. Tabled.

*We discussed how to get the old piano out of the church without damaging the carpet. More discussion on how to repurpose it. Tabled.

*Greg checked the outlets that aren't working in the kitchen and would like to contact an electrician to look into the problem.

New Business:

*There was discussion on fees for non-members using the church for events. We will check local churches to get the going rate.

*Luther Crest Camp donation has been \$450 per year. It was decided to leave it at that amount. M/S/C

*Grue has a student who is taking Confirmation classes at First Lutheran Church in Battle Lake. Pastor Julie will work with Pastor Lynn on the Confirmation instruction.

*We have 2 CDs at Viking Bank maturing on July 31st. Melissa will get information on the current rates and any specials for the month.

The next meeting will be a joint meeting at Peace on August 13th @ 7:00.

M/S/C to adjourn the meeting.

We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Gwen Lillemon, Council Secretary

Peace Council Meeting June 8th, 2025

Attending: Duane Spielman Pres., Wayne Vorland Vice Pres. Tim Cunningham Treas., Dee Holte Co-Sec., Donna Grover council member.

Absent: Brenda Johnson Co-Sec., Linda Bahnson council

Treasurer's Report: accept with change to door handles which are not available: M/S/C.

Secretary's Report: Approved M/S/C

Pastor's Report: None

Education: Vacation Bible school July 28,29 and 30th. Peace will serve 1 night. Donna will ask Louise and Lynn to help Dee agreed to help also. Still waiting on what cost per child attending will be.

Property and Management: Duane was unable to get door handles that remain locked so will not be changing door handles. Tim heard back about updating the wheelchair lift, cost was \$35,000 decision to not proceed with change as it would also need structural changes. He will check into seeing if it's possible to get a handicap opener for the

Old Business

Students from Day of Caring varnished back steps, painted foundation and put fresh mulch in front

New Business:

Duane will talk to Melissa about updating the mailboxes.

June 9th representative from Synod will meet with Interim Julie Carlson and council presidents to sign contract.

Next meeting is 6:00, August 13th prior to joint council meeting at 7:00

M/S/C to adjourn meeting

Dee Holte secretary

We would like to update our congregation's addresses so that we will have them correct in our church directory and also for the newsletter, please fill out the form, and mail it to Peace/Grue Parish at PO Box 157, Ashby MN 56309 or email to peacegrue@outlook.com or put in the mail slot in the Parish Office Manager's office door.

NAME _____

PERMANENT OR SUMMER ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBERS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

*For the People who leave for the winter - please update your addresses,
when you leave and when you return.*

WINTER ADDRESS _____

DATE YOU LEAVE /RETURN _____



CHRIST HIKES - *Inspiration Point Bible Camp*

Step back 2,000 years into the days when Jesus walked the earth. Experience what it may have been like to follow Him...literally.

What You Can Expect!

Twin Oaks serves as the backdrop to this 14-setting performance as characters and guests walk from scene to scene around the Inspiration Point site. Highlights from the life and ministry of Jesus Christ are clearly portrayed, making the events that unfolded long ago become fresh and alive once again. Please join us and experience the powerful retelling of this life-changing, true story.

*To make the Christ Hike free of distraction for everyone, photography & video are prohibited. If attending with a group of 8 or more, please let us know in advance.

*Wednesday, August 6
Meet at Descu at 6pm to carpool*

2025 CHRIST HIKE JUNE PERFORMANCES (7:30 PM SEATING)

June 11th, 17th, 20th, 24th,
27th

JULY PERFORMANCES (7:15 PM SEATING)

July 1st, 4th, 9th, 15th, 18th,
22nd, 25th, 29th

AUGUST PERFORMANCES (7:00 PM SEATING)

August 1st, 6th, 12th

All performances are FREE and open to the public.



God's People in Service
August 2025
Peace † Grue Lutheran

Grue 10:45 a.m. Worship	August 3 Green Holy Communion	August 10 Green	August 17 Green JOINT PARISH WORSHIP AND PICNIC Ashby Thorson/Larson Park @ 10:45 a.m. First Presbyterian Hosting	August 24 Green	August 31 Green
Ushers	Char Woldahl, Amanda & Mike Restad and June Bjornson				
Reader	ushers	ushers	ushers	ushers	ushers
Music	Denise Juven	Cindy Vorland	Peace Contemporary	Denise Juven	Denise Juven
Peace 9:00 a.m. Worship	August 3 Green Holy Communion	August 10 Green Coffee Cup Sunday	August 17 Green PARISH JOINT WORSHIP & PICNIC First Presbyterian Hosting	August 24 Green	August 31 Green
Music	Brenda Risbrudt	Brenda Risbrudt	First Presbyterian, OSTML, Peace & Grue	Brenda Risbrudt	Brenda Risbrudt
Ushers	Craig Koefod	Craig & Carol Koefod	.....	Craig Koefod Dwight Walvatne	Craig & Carol Koefod
Readers	Carol Koefod	Carol Koefod	.....	Christian Koefod	Carol Koefod
Communion Helper (set up, serve, clean)	Carol Koefod Donna Grover	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cookie Servers	Carol Koefod Donna Grover	Craig & Carol Koefod	Parish Picnic-Potluck	Christian & Josie Koefod	Carol Koefod Donna Grover

Serving Team Peace Lutheran Month of August 2025

Chairpersons: Craig & Carol Koefod

***Ushers are reminded to pick up bulletins and trash and replace hymnals in racks prior to leaving the sanctuary.**

**MAKE SURE THE LIGHTS ARE TURNED OFF AND ALL
DOORS ARE LOCKED!**

Peace † Grue Lutheran Parish – AUGUST 2025

PARISH OFFICE 218-747-2273, Cell# 218-770-8457 Email peacegrue@outlook.com
 306 Larson Avenue, Box 157, Ashby, MN 56309 Church website: www.peacegrue.org
 Interim Pastor Julie Carlson - 320-491-2304

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WORSHIP TIMES: PEACE service 9am GRUE service 10:45am					1	2
Peace Quilting 1st & 3rd Wednesday						
3 PEACE service 9am GRUE service 10:45am	4	5	6 PQ	7	8	9
10 PEACE service 9am GRUE service 10:45am	11	12	13 Parish council meeting, 7:00pm @ PEACE. Individual council meetings after Parish	14	15	16
17 JOINT PARISH WORSHIP AND PICNIC Ashby Thorson/ Larson Park @ 10:45 a.m. First Presbyterian Hosting Pastor Julie Carlson preaching	18	19 NO Peace Bible Study Grue Bible Study @ Ashby Assisted Living Center -1:30pm	20 PQ	21	22	23
24 PEACE service 9am GRUE service 10:45am	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 PEACE service 9am GRUE service 10:45am						



RETURN SERVICE REQUEST



God's Country News
Peace-Grue Lutheran Parish
306 Larson Ave
PO Box 157
Ashby MN 56309

AUGUST



PEACE  GRUE LUTHERAN PARISH
OF THE ELCA

Office 218-747-2273, Office Hours M-Th 9-2

E-mail peacegrue@outlook.com, website www.peacegrue.org

Interim Pastor Julie Carlson 320-491-2304

Email: pastorjuliecarlson@gmail.com

Pastor in office M-Th 9-11:30 or by appointment