



Peace † Grue

God's Country News
An ELCA Parish



SEPTEMBER 2025

September thru December

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



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Calling all Peace Bakers and Crafters!!
We are making a WELCA change.
Our traditional Fall Bazaar will now be a
Christmas Market!!

It is taking place Sat. Dec. 6 in conjunction with Santa Days.

The Market will take place at the Ashby Senior Center with Coffee, Bake Sale, Craft Sale, Quilt Auction, and Lunch!

More on that later.....

For now we are asking Peace members to get thinking about a bigger and better than ever bake sale!

If baking isn't your thing, Christmas/Holiday Crafts are encouraged and welcome.

Any bake sale questions please reach out to Jody Dahlen or Carol Koefod. Questions about helping with lunch or overall assistance with our Christmas Market please reach out to Janet Novak or Val Fick.





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

September 2025

2

The Place I Want to Get Back To is where in the pinewoods in the moments between the darkness and first light two deer came walking down the hill and when they saw me they said to each other, okay, this one is okay, let's see who she is and why she is sitting on the ground, like that, so quiet, as if asleep, or in a dream, but, anyway, harmless; and so they come on their slender legs and gazed upon me not unlike the way I go out to the dunes and look and look and look into the faces of the flowers; and then one of them leaned forward and nuzzled my hand, and what can my life bring me that could exceed that brief moment? For twenty years I have gone every day to the same woods, not waiting, exactly, just lingering. Such gifts, bestowed, can't be repeated. If you want to talk about this come to visit. I live in the house near the corner, which I have named Gratitude.
Mary Oliver "The Place I Want to Get Back To"

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

Blessings to you and all you hold dear as summer begins winding down. As much as I enjoy summer, I also look forward to transitioning to fall. Growing up in this area, I have developed an appreciation for the changing seasons and its impact on nature, and I most certainly am grateful for the easy access to the outdoor world we enjoy living here. I decided to share this poem by Mary Oliver, because it truly reflects my own gratitude of God's creation, although I can't help but notice she avoids mentioning mosquitoes and wood ticks!

After living in a number of urban/suburban areas through the course of my adult life, I can't help but laugh at myself thinking about how much my attitude has changed from when I was graduating from high school and could not WAIT to get out of this area. Fast forward over 40 years and my feelings have definitely changed, experience and self-reflection tend to do that to a person. Has the natural world around here changed that much since I was 18 years old? No, not really. What has changed is me. In my own spiritual journey, I recognize this beautiful creation God offers us to enjoy is simply one example of God's abundant love for us all. Perhaps what makes creation so compelling and inviting is how it is constantly and brazenly offering us examples of God's transformative power. Whether it be the changing of a fawn's spots over time, the emergence of milkweed that grow, develop pods that eventually explode with seeds propagating the landscape, all while nourishing and providing habitat for caterpillars which go from cocoon/chrysalis to beautiful moths and butterflies. It's all a beautiful reminder of how we are transformed by grace through Christ's crucifixion, death and resurrection. As grateful as I am for creation, I am exponentially more grateful for Jesus coming to die for all our sakes so that we too can be transformed into better versions of ourselves, freed to live into our work of loving and serving in the kingdom of God into eternity.

I hope you all have the opportunity to take time and savor these moments of beauty and transformation that nature offers us throughout each and every season of the year as well as the seasons of our lives. Remind yourselves to give thanks to our God who loves us so much he created so much for us to enjoy, and most importantly, so loved the world that Jesus came to the world to save and transform us too!

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

Give thanks to the LORD because he is good. God's faithful love lasts forever!² Give thanks to the God of all gods— God's faithful love lasts forever.³ Give thanks to the Lord of all lords—God's faithful love lasts forever.⁴ Give thanks to the only one who makes great wonders— God's faithful love lasts forever.

⁵ Give thanks to the one who made the skies with skill—God's faithful love lasts forever.

⁶ Give thanks to the one who shaped the earth on the water—God's faithful love lasts forever.

⁷ Give thanks to the one who made the great lights—God's faithful love lasts forever.

⁸ The sun to rule the day— God's faithful love lasts forever.⁹ The moon and the stars to rule the night—
God's faithful love lasts forever!

Psalm 136:1-9 (Common English Bible)

Readings for the Month of September

September 7, 2025	September 14, 2025	September 21, 2025	September 28, 2025
First Reading <u>Deuteronomy 30:15-20</u> Psalm <u>Psalm 1</u> Second Reading <u>Philemon 1-21</u> Gospel <u>Luke 14:25-33</u>	First Reading <u>Exodus 32:7-14</u> Psalm <u>Psalm 51:1-10</u> Second Reading <u>1 Timothy 1:12-17</u> Gospel <u>Luke 15:1-10</u>	First Reading <u>Amos 8:4-7</u> Psalm <u>Psalm 113</u> Second Reading <u>1 Timothy 2:1-7</u> Gospel <u>Luke 16:1-13</u>	First Reading <u>Amos 6:1a, 4-7</u> Psalm <u>Psalm 146</u> Second Reading <u>1 Timothy 6:6-19</u> Gospel <u>Luke 16:19-31</u>



September 2025
10:45 am Worship

7 th - Gavin Balgaard & Joey Johnson
 14 th - Coffee Cup Sunday
 21 st - Noah Anderson & Isaiah Anderson
 28 th - AJ Olson & Evan Rossum

CONFIRMATION NEWS

This year's orientation meeting for the **youth**, of confirmation age, & **parents** will be held on Wednesday, September 17th at 6:00 pm at Peace church.

Pastor Julie would like to determine if there is an interest in a Mission Trip for the summer of 2026.

If you are interested or would like to learn more, please contact Pastor Julie. If there is enough interest, we will plan an informational meeting in the near future.

September Birthdays

September 1st

Richard Clemenson

September 2nd

Vikki Adams

Julie Van Santen

September 3rd

Tom Olson

September 4th

Mary Jo Beck

September 5th

Jonas Johnson

September 6th

Peggy Adams

Kristin Spangler

September 7th

Lukas Anderson

Angie Kamrath

September 8th

Jeff Driggins

September 9th

Stephan Goerd

Laurie Melberg

September 10th

Sydney Kamrath

September 11th

Derreck Hanson

September 13th

Kalista Aamot

Mikayla Dahlen

Tammy Koefod

Karen Nelson

September 14th

Cody Domek

September 15th

Hayley Domek (Barry)

Norma Clemenson

Sandy Cunningham

Everleigh Driggins

September 16th

Caitlin Drever (Dahlen)

September 17th

Leslie Anderson

September 18th

Chelsy Moe (Ness)

September 19th

Kyra Aamot

Elli Jo Hanson (Johnsrud)

Molly Sorenson

September 20th

Aaron Olson

Jamie Sorenson

Tonya Stierlen

September 21st

Troy Langlie

September 22nd

Jenna Nelson

September 23rd

Taylor Birr

Payton Glasby

September 24th

Patt Lystrom

Hudson Barry

September 25th

Randi Hockert

Jordan Lillemon

September 26th

Weston Domek

Josey Koefod (Ness)

September 27th

Lyndee Evavold

September 28th

Chase Kamrath



*If I don't have your birth date
or if I have it listed incorrectly
please call - 747-2273 / or
email - Peace@prtel.com*


Melissa R

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

 Newsletter

 Newsletter

 Newsletter

 Newsletter

Peace Bible Study:

Tuesday, September 9th,
9:30 am @ Peace.

Grue Bible Study:

Tuesday, September 9th,
1:30 pm. at Ashby Living Center



**ATTENTION SUNDAY SCHOOL
YOUTH AND PARENTS
GRUE STARTS SEPTEMBER 14TH
PEACE STARTS OCTOBER 5TH**

Peace Sunday School Schedule Oct-Dec 2025

5

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Services 10:45 am / Sunday School 10:15 am

September 14th	Blessing of backpacks in Church at 10:45.
September 21st	NO SS
September 28th	NO SS
October 5th	SS @10:15 - Rally Sunday
October 12th	SS @ 10:15
October 19th	No SS- MEA weekend
October 26th	SS @ 10:15 Reformation Sunday
November 2nd	SS @ 10:15
November 9th	SS @ 10:15
November 16th	SS @ 10:15
November 23rd	SS @ 10:15
November 30th	SS @ 10:15
December 7th	SS @ 10:15
December 14th	Christmas Program
December 21st	

Grue Sunday School Schedule Sept - Dec 2025

Services 9:00 am / Sunday School 10:15 am

September 14th	Sunday School Rally Day. Blessing of backpacks in Church at 9:00. Potluck brunch following services. Games for kids & adults of all ages.
September 21st	SS @ 10:15
September 28th	SS @ 10:15
October 5th	SS @ 10:15
October 12th	SS @ 10:15
October 19th	SS @ 10:15
October 26th	SS @ 10:15 Reformation Sunday
November 2nd	SS @ 10:15
November 9th	SS @ 10:15
November 16th	SS @ 10:15
November 23rd	SS @ 10:15
November 30th	SS @ 10:15
December 7th	SS @ 10:15
December 14th	SS @ 10:15
December 21st	Christmas Program, Potluck - 5:00, Program - 6:00 pm

August 19, 2025

The Grue Bible Study met on Aug. 19th at 1:30 pm at the Ashby Living Center with Bev joining us.

Our lesson was Lesson 12. The Son is UP! (John 20.) Purpose: to affirm the reality if the resurrection of Jesus, and to show how we can respond to people who doubt or disbelieve. (How would you react if a friend told you he had seen someone raised from the dead?)

Our next lesson to study will be Lesson 13, A Walk With A Resurrected Man (John 21) our final lesson of this book. Sept. 9th at 1:30 at the Living Center. Purpose: to demonstrate Christ's ability to use us for his glory, no matter what our past failures have been. Note the date change.

We are considering End Times for our next book of lessons.

It is time to start thinking about items & etc. if we are taking part in the sale in Dalton at the community center this year, Dalton Christmas Fest.

On Sept 19 & 20 we will be attending the WELCA SWO convention at First Lutheran in Alexandria.

Hope the summer has treated you well, enjoy each and every day even if it is raining.

Choose to love one another.

Thank you for the coffee, Living Center.

Bea Runningen, Sec.



SEPTEMBER IS A TIME OF TRANSITION FOR MANY.....

School starting, new seasons and potentially new beginnings for individuals with our congregation are all signs of this month! Is there anything you are thinking of starting or doing differently?

Thank you to Carol and Craig Koefod for organizing and leading volunteer services for August.

Val Fick and I joined many others in celebrating Luther Crest's 80th year of ministry July 26th on beautiful Lake Carlos. It is their major fundraiser of the year with all proceeds going to the camper scholarship program. We believe every interested camper should have opportunity to attend Luther Crest without worry of financial constraints so gladly participated. Ask Val about her experience introducing her two oldest grandchildren to Luther Crest. The staff is very talented, energetic and always ready to share a song and God's word. It is a very special place.

WELCA Synod Gathering is at First Lutheran in Alexandria September 19th and 20th. Four members from Grue and Val and I from Peace will be representing our two churches. Peace will be managing the silent auction this year and donating a basket as well.

Saturday, December 6th, we are planning a Christmas Market at the Senior Community Center. This is same day as Ashby's Santa Day. We will serve coffee and rolls starting early for those regulars, Holiday BAKE SALE and LUNCH! This replaces our fall bazaar and excited to try something new. Our Spring event was very successful and fun and we believe this will be too. We all know many of you have favorite baking recipes and requesting you share them that day! If crafts are your thing, please bring too. Teresa Magnuson is creating and donating a quilt to be given away that day too.

Winner of the quilt drawing at Second Chance Thrift this month is Joe Rupp from Cambridge.

If you are interested in a visit by Pastor Julie, please call the office.
Sister in Christ and WELCA Co President

Janet Novak

P.S. Please check your contact information in Annual Report and WELCA handbook for accuracy. Call church office at 218-747-2273 to provide correct information.

Grue Council Meeting August 13th, 2025

In attendance- Sonia Heibel, Darlane Miller, Bob Torgrimson, Char Woldahl, June Bjornson, & Melissa Runningen.

Council members absent: Randy Koefod and Gwen Lillemon.

Devotions were given at the Parish meeting

Secretary report: M/S/C.

Treasurers report: M/S/C

Pastor report was given at the Parish meeting.

ADDITIONS TO THE ADGENDA:

Thanksgiving service with Communion

Sunday School Rally Day

Worship time change

OLD BUSINESS:

revisited the ideas of getting rid of or repurposing the old piano. TABLED

Outlets not working in the basement-Greg will meet with Driggins and report back to council.

NEW BUSINESS:

Church fees for members and non-members. TABLED.

Parish committee was developed at the Parish meeting.

Once the new committee has met, they will bring their decisions to the Parish council.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Grue will host a Thanksgiving service, on November 25,2025 with communion, at 7 PM.

Sunday School Rally Day will be September 14, with a potluck breakfast.

Starting the first Sunday of September, churches will reverse worship times.

Grue will begin services at 9 AM, with Sunday school following the service.

Peace will have services at 10:45 AM, with Sunday school before services.

Next Grue council meeting will be on September 7, after church services.

The Lord's prayer was recited.

Meeting adjourned: M/S/C

Minutes submitted by substitute secretary: Darlane Miller

Peace Council Meeting August 13th, 2025

Attendees: Duane Spielman Pres, Wayne Vorland VP, Tim Cunningham Treas, Donna Grover council, Linda Bahnson council, Dee Holte co-sec.

Absent: Brenda Johnson Co-Sec

Devotions were prior to Parish meeting
Called to order by Duane

Secretary's Report: Read 1 correction to time of next meeting. M/S/C

Treasurer's Report: M/S/C

Additional information from Tim that CDs that were due were transferred to Premier Money Market for better interest rates.

Team Reports:

Education Team:

- Served 1 meal for Vacation Bible School.
- We still need a confirmation coordinator.
- Pastor Julie will not be using the Chosen material for confirmation as in past years. Confirmation will include some service projects and cover the Commandments and Lords Prayer. She will be using a Video "Rick Steves Holy Land" on October 22nd. She has provided a Smart TV for use.
- Pastor Julie has met with Heidi about Sunday School

Worship Team:

- Met and discussed the events planned as outlined in the Parish minutes.

Old Business:

Still missing pictures of recent Pastors to put up.

Tim is still checking on a handicap button for the lift door.

New Business:

Discussion on need for Street Address and labeling of the doors. Aaron Vorland has been contacted about doing it. Main Door not to be marked and side doors to be labeled A, B and C.

Motion to adjourn S/C

PARISH Council Minutes

Parish Council Meeting August 13, 2025 @ Peace

In Attendance: Pastor Julie, Melissa, Bob, Sonia, Char, Darlane, June, Duane, Dee, Linda, Donna, Tim, Wayne and Guest Val

Absent: Gwen, Randy and Brenda

Meeting called to order by Duane Spielman

Devotions by Pastor Julie

Secretary's report: Read and approve with 1 correction to name spelling. M/S/C

Treasurer's report: Read and approved M/S/C

Pastor's report: Full report of pastoral actions will be sent to council members.

Upcoming events Pastor Julie has scheduled:

Sept 14th Blessing of the backpacks

October 26th Confirmation

Oct 31st Blessing of the Halloween costumes during Trunk or Treat

Nov 2nd Blessing of the Blaze (All Saints Sunday)

Dec 17 shared service with First Presbyterian for longest Night service. It will be held at First Presbyterian so it can be broadcast live.

Other upcoming church events brought up by council members:

Peace: Dec 6th Christmas Market

Grue: Nov 22 Harvest Meal

Old Business:

Upcoming 4 church picnic August 17th Pastor Julie to preach as Pastor Paul did Appreciation Days. Service to be followed by Potluck lunch.

Donna said it was hard to hear the service in the park on Appreciation days. We use the city speaker system, and it was turned all the way up so not sure what can be done to correct the issue.

New Business:

Funeral and Church Policy was discussed. It is getting to be more common that no funeral home is present at the service. A team will review and bring back recommendations to include a check list and fees list.

Team is Val, Donna, Melissa and June.

Val left the meeting after discussion.

Pastor Julie asked for September 21st off to attend Trinity Lutheran 150th Anniversary Celebration in Holmes city. Request approved.

Melissa reported issues with the Ring doorbell needing charging during business hours and asked if it could be hardwired so it is always available, Tim didn't think that could be done. It would also be helpful if the video was available for review. Tim to research

Motion to adjourn S/C

Next Parish meeting is November 12th at 7:00 PM meeting is at Grue

Minutes submitted by Dee Holte

Worship Committee

Worship Committee Meeting Agenda August 3, 2025 10:00am

Members Present: Brenda Risbrudt, Cindy Vorland, Pastor Julie, Carol Koefod

Members Absent: Candy Catoe, Teresa Ohren

Old Business:

Acolytes: Acolytes will be scheduled as usual with an instruction class/refresher in October depending on Candy's availability.

II. Psalm Readers: A schedule will be created for students to sign up to read the lessons at their first confirmation class. This will be given directly to Melissa in the office for monthly planning.

III. Is there a Confirmation Coordinator? Who is it? This question remains to be answered.

New Business

Confirmation will be Sunday Oct. 26. Confirmands will be encouraged to pick their favorite song for this service.

Costume Blessing in October: Pastor Julie, and anyone who cares to join, will be participating in Trunk or Treat.

"Blessing of the Blaze" Sun. Nov 2

All members are invited and encouraged to wear their blaze or camo and there will be a special blessing for those deer hunting in the upcoming season.

IV. All Saints Day review with Pastor Julie

We will continue to recognize members and family that have passed in the previous year. Candles and lighters will be updated to make sure all are in good working order.

V. "Longest Night" Service Wed. before Christmas

Possible community service Dec 17 at Presbyterian Church. More info to follow on this service.

VI. Discuss sound system and mic for Pastor Julie

Mic worked better today. Volume is good but there is still an echo. We will continue to work on this so all members can comfortably hear. * Please note it is easier for the pastor and the sound system to work when people sit closer together toward the middle of the sanctuary.

VII. Next Meeting will be held Nov. 2 after 10:45 service to plan for Winter Services

If you have any questions for the Worship Committee please feel free to reach out to any of our members. Teresa Ohren, Candy Catoe, Cindy Vorland, Brenda Risbrudt, Carol Koefod and of course Pastor Julie.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Koefod
Worship Committee

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 address form below, 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.

If you have already sent in you don't need to send in again , only if something has changed.

Thank you, Melissa R.

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 _____



SEPTEMBER

*September
national days
word search
printable
from Always
the Holidays*

S G U A C Y A D T O I R T A P
T E R Y A D R E N N I D V T I
Y A H A D E Y A D Y L I M A F
A K I D T Y A D T C E P S E R
D Y N S W I D C H A I D A Y Y
R A O R B A T M A N D A Y A A
E D D E E F U U K H E V Y D D
P U A M T F N S D G A F A L E
A K Y I H T A O A E F W D A E
R O M E A C E B S F D D O S F
C D I H N K P E H E A A R O F
S U D Z S M A R P R Y Y Y P O
Y S A L A M I D A Y L T G O C
K O Y A D E C A E P N E E R G
S C A R F D A Y K U R F I P Y

**PATRIOT DAY
PROPOSAL DAY
GRATITUDE DAY
DEAF DAY
BATMAN DAY
SOBER DAY
ALZHEIMERS DAY**

**PEANUT DAY
GYRO DAY
CHAI DAY
SALAMI DAY
FAMILY DAY
GREENPEACE DAY
SCARF DAY**

**VFW DAY
RHINO DAY
RESPECT DAY
SKYSCRAPER DAY
TV DINNER DAY
SUDOKU DAY
COFFEE DAY**

**God's People in Service
September 2025
Peace † Grue Lutheran Parish**

GRUE 9:00 a.m. Worship	September 7 Green Holy Communion	September 14 Green	September 21 Green	September 28 Green
Janitors/ Ushers	Ed & Sandy Odens and Patty Van Santen & Cory Van Santen			
Reader	ushers	ushers	ushers	ushers
Servers				
Music	Denise Juven	Cindy Vorland	Contemporary	Denise Juven
PEACE 10:45 a.m. Worship	September 7 Green Holy Communion	September 14 Green Coffee Cup Sunday	September 21 Green	September 28 Green
Music	Brenda Risbrudt	Brenda Risbrudt	Contemporary	Brenda Risbrudt
Ushers	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt	Fick family	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt
Readers	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt	Fick family	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt
Acolytes	Gavin Balgaard Joey Johnson	Noah Anderson Isaiah Anderson	AJ Olson Evan Rossum
Communion Helper (set up, serve, clean)	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt
Cookie Servers	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt	Brenda & Wayne Risbrudt

Serving Team Peace Lutheran Month of September 2025

Chairpersons: Wayne & Brenda Risbrudt

***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 - SEPTEMBER 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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
TRUST in the Lord with all thine heart. – <i>Proverbs 3:5</i>	1 Labor Day -church of- fice closed	2	3	4	5	6
7 Grue service 9am, SS 10:15am Grue council meeting after church Peace service 10:45 am	8	9 Peace Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Grue Bible Study 1:30 p.m.	10	11	12	13
14 Backpack blessings Grue SS Rally Day Grue service 9am, SS 10:15am Peace service 10:45 am Peace council meeting before church	15 Pastor Julie out of office	16 Pastor Julie out of office	17 Confirmation Orientation 6pm @ Peace for all returning and new confirmation students and parents	18	19 NWMN SWO con- vention at First Luther- an Alex	20 NWMN SWO convention at First Lutheran Alex
21 Grue service 9am, SS 10:15am Peace service 10:45 am	22	23	24 Confirmation 5:30pm-6:30pm	25	26	27
28 Grue service 9am, SS 10:15am Peace service 10:45 am	29	30	WORSHIP TIMES CHANGE: GRUE SERVICE 9AM – Sept. 14 SS at 10:15am PEACE SERVICE 10:45AM			

RETURN SERVICE REQUEST



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306 Larson Ave
PO Box 157
Ashby MN 56309



**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

