



Peace † Grue

God's Country News

An ELCA Parish



OCTOBER 2026



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All Saints Sunday

*at both Grue and Peace,
November 1, 2026*

*At each congregation we will
remember those from our
fellowship who have died in
the past year, and those new saints
received in baptism.*

*If there are others you would like to
remember who are not members of our
parish, please add the names to the
sign-up sheet posted in the Narthex at
both Grue and Peace.*

WE CELEBRATE... these young
people who will be confirmed in
faith on Sunday, October 25, 2026



*Liam Hanson,
AJ Olson
& Finn Thompson*

The banquet honoring these young people will be
on Oct. 18th, 5:00 p.m. photos and rehearsal with dinner
at 6:00 p.m., at PEACE Church, GRUE serving.

Those receiving invitations are strongly encouraged
to RSVP by Oct. 4th to assist the serving group in
preparing sufficient food.

Thank you!

The Rite of Confirmation on Oct. 25th is a
wonderful time for all of us to renew and affirm our
baptism promises and intentions.
Holy Communion will be celebrated.



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

October 2026

"Compassion may be defined as the capacity to be attentive to the experience of others, to wish the best for others, and to sense what will truly serve others." Joan Halifax

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

Blessings to you as we continue our autumnal journey together as brothers and sisters in Christ.

(Disclaimer: one of my absolute favorite words in the English language to say is "autumnal", likely due to my love of fall and how that word just sounds so soothing to me. So, be prepared for my overusing it in the days and weeks ahead. You have been warned.)

Among other things October is noted for, is that it is Breast Cancer awareness month, so I would also like to share a PSA regarding the importance of paying attention to your body and to get things checked out. Early detection is a powerful tool in preventing and combatting diseases of all kinds, not just breast cancer, and this requires a sense of awareness.

Awareness is a significant tool that God has given us to use in a variety of ways. Think about what you might have missed when experiencing nature if you weren't paying attention: the sound of sandhill cranes, a deer, turkeys, you name it. Not only should we be using this gift of attentiveness in regard to our surroundings, but we should also practice self-awareness, and as the quote above states so clearly, awareness of the experience and needs of others is critical to our sense of compassion. I think one of the superpowers of being members of a smaller church and community is the level of intimacy we have. (That said, sometimes that level of intimacy can be unhelpful when we lean into our busy-body tendencies in not being able to discern between what we need to know about others in our midst and what we WANT to know.) But, paying attention to one another and reaching out in care and compassion is a hallmark of what Christ's teachings. But it doesn't stop at attentiveness, when we pay attention and identify the need, we need to ask ourselves, what do we do about it? It really depends on the situation and the person. One of the things that Jesus consistently does in Scripture when helping others is to have an honest and direct conversation with that person. Sometimes, with the best of intentions, we miss that step. We try to figure out what someone needs without asking them. Very often, all people want is acknowledgement of being seen and being heard, to know that others are aware of their need. Simply knowing that someone is praying for you, or offers to help out in any way, is comforting in and of itself. Beyond that, by engaging in conversation, those in need will hopefully be comfortable in sharing other ways we can help as individuals, or as community.

Monty and I continue to pray for all of you, hoping that you are enjoying the AUTUMNAL beauty of God's creation. May our awareness be heightened to the needs of others within our local community and beyond. We pray that the Spirit gives us guidance so that we can engage with one another respectfully, and to be present with one another in supportive thoughts, words and deeds, just as we know that God is present in our own lives.

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

"Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind" 1 Peter 3:8

Readings for the Month of October

Oct. 4, 2026	Oct. 11, 2026	Oct. 18, 2026	Oct. 25, 2026
First Reading <u>Isaiah 5:1-7</u>	First Reading <u>Isaiah 25:1-9</u>	First Reading <u>Isaiah 45:1-7</u>	First Reading <u>Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18</u>
Psalm <u>Psalm 80:7-15</u>	Psalm <u>Psalm 23</u>	Psalm <u>Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]</u>	Psalm <u>Psalm 1</u>
Second Reading <u>Philippians 3:4b-14</u>	Second Reading <u>Philippians 4:1-9</u>	Second Reading <u>1 Thessalonians 1:1-10</u>	Second Reading <u>1 Thessalonians 2:1-8</u>
Gospel <u>Matthew 21:33-46</u>	Gospel <u>Matthew 22:1-14</u>	Gospel <u>Matthew 22:15-22</u>	Gospel <u>Matthew 22:34-46</u>



October 2026
9:00 am Worship

4th – TBD
11th - Coffee Cup Sunday
18th - TBD
25th - Confirmation

Confirmation News

Our first class was Wednesday, September 23rd from 5:30-6:30. As in past years there will be a meal provided.

This year, we will be studying Scripture, primarily watching Bible Project videos and reading graphic novels of the four gospels among other learning methods. We will continue our practice of periodically sharing a meal with the residents at the Ashby Living Center, as well as join First Presbyterian Confirmation Students for service projects throughout the year. One change we have made this year is regarding sign up for students to acolyte and read Psalms. The Worship Committee is introducing a new approach for scheduling Worship Assistants at Peace by inviting families rather than individuals to serve a particular Sunday. (Keep in mind "family" is a broad concept that allows many interpretations: nuclear families, extended families, etc. If you're short biological family members, you can "adopt" others to serve alongside you on your assigned Sunday.) We will be adopting that same approach with Confirmation students, so if a student signs up to acolyte and read a particular Sunday, we ask that family also participates as worship assistants helping with ushering, etc.

If anyone has any questions regarding Confirmation, please contact Pastor Julie.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 1st
Christopher McPike

October 2nd
Larry Purdon

Mike Rossum

October 3rd
Kellen Dahlen

October 4th
Jennifer Rasmussen

October 5th
Cindy Ekdahl

Ben Johnsrud
Bridget Larson

October 6th
Jarrod Adams

Julie Dahlen

October 7th
Ed Odens

Deanna Martinson

Kelly Olson

October 10th
Jackson Hanson

Don Vodegel
Skyler Drever

Oliver Drever

October 11th
Mona Evavold

Kyle Fick
Payton Wagner

October 12th
Joshua Goerd

October 13th
Bradley Anderson

Brandon Anderson

Jeff Hanson

Kip Nelson

Charles Holte

October 15th

Alisha Sethre

October 16th

Cassandra Griep

October 18th

Patty Van Santen

October 21st

Maggie Beving

Andrew Maier

Rayna Mikelson

October 22nd

Lily Balgaard

Sharyn Brakken

Jonathan Fick

Jeff Evavold

October 24th

Matt Peterson

October 25th

Madison Bestul

Nolan Field

October 27

Scott Johnson

October 28th

Cassandra Jordan

October 29th

Jonathan Johnsrud

October 30th

Gerry Evavold

Wendy Merrick



Peace Women's Bible Study:

Tuesday, October 20th, 9:00 a.m.

@ Peace



GRUE Women's Bible Study:

Tuesday, October 20th,

1:30 p.m. @ Grue



If I don't have your birth date or if it is listed incorrectly, please e-mail peacegrue@outlook.com or call me - 747-2273

Melissa R

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



Peace Sunday School Schedule Oct-Dec 2026
Services 9:00 am / Sunday School 10:15 am
STARTING Oct. 4, 2026

Students please meet in the sanctuary at 10:15.



Grue Sunday School Schedule Sept - Dec 2026
Services 10:45 am / Sunday School 9:30 am

September 13th	Sunday School kick off.
September 20th	SS @ 9:30
September 27th	SS @ 9:30
October 4th	SS @ 9:30
October 11th	SS @ 9:30
October 18th	SS @ 9:30
October 25th	SS @ 9:30 Reformation Sunday
November 1st	SS @ 9:30
November 8th	SS @ 9:30
November 15th	SS @ 9:30
November 22nd	SS @ 9:30
November 29th	SS @ 9:30
December 6th	SS @ 9:30
December 13th	SS @ 9:30
December 20th	Christmas Program, Potluck - 5:00, Program - 6:00 pm

The Grue Bible Study met Sept 15th at Grue church at 1:30.

Our lesson was lesson 8, Imaging the New Heaven and the New Earth.

(Ezekiel 43:1-12: 47:1-12). Purpose: to show how the ultimate Christian homeland is both heaven and earth.

Ask God to open the eyes of your heart to see the height and depth of his greatness and the love of Jesus which passes all understanding.

Our next lesson is lesson 9. Waiting with Hope. (Matthew 25:1-13, 31-46) at the church on Oct 20th at 1:30.

It was a beautiful day, warm sunshine and a little bit of fall shining thru as you looked over the countryside.

Enjoy each and every day that is given us.

We enjoyed our coffee and cookies as we were reminded of the upcoming sale in December at Dalton, get busy.

Pray all are well

God Bless

Bea Runningen, sec.

Upcoming Events

Grue is participating in the Dalton Christmas Fest Craft/vendor sale in Dalton on Dec 12th again this year. Anyone who would like to contribute with items, foods, crafts, Christmas goodies to be sold at the booth, or to help at the booth contact Bea or Melissa for details.

Start brainstorming, baking and/or crafting



PEACE WELCA MESSAGE.....October 2026

Thank you, Wayne and Brenda, for organizing our worship volunteers for September and thank you to Justin and Leslie for taking care of October.

Congratulations to Justin and Leslie for becoming first time grandparents. Yes, a wonderful and rewarding experience.

Saturday, October 24, will be our WELCA Conference 8 Gathering at Grace Church in Brandon. Pastor Julie will be doing devotions and leading communion. Any lady wanting to attend from Peace, please get in touch with Cindy Vorland and she will issue one check for those going. We have not received the theme for the day, however, it is always a fun and meaningful morning.

In September WELCA recognized all of our teachers, coaches and youth workers with cake following worship. Continuing celebration of our country's 250th birthday, the first Sunday in October we will honor all medical members and those that have or are serving on our Fire Department. November, of course, our Veterans and the final celebration will be the best, celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Wishing all of you a blessed and colorful fall.

WELCA Co-President
Val Fick

Winner of the sunflower quilt at Second Chance Thrift this month was Chris Rude. Quilt for the October drawing is a lap quilt with a cozy flannel back on a teal and burnt orange leaf motif.

GRUE Council Minutes

Grue Council Meeting September 06, 2026

Members Present: Sonia, Bob, June, Melissa, Pastor Julie & Dar

Absent: Char, Gwen & Randy K

The meeting was called to order by President Sonia Heibel.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

*There is a window screen that needs repairs. This will be checked into.

*Drip spot in church ceiling - tabled.

*Old chairs in shed will be donated to Habitat for Humanity

*Copy machine will be checked out.

NEW BUSINESS:

*Bob T. sprayed some weeds around the front of church and signs.

*Received a memorial to the building fund from Beverly Runningen.

*Air conditioning for the Narthex. - tabled until May

*Expanding the basement under the Narthex? Check into floorplans and who did the construction

*Donation Plaque- check to see where we got the extra name plates

*Matching bench for out front of building, will check into.

*Bob will contact Hal from the cemetery board to possibly spray the vines and brush around the church grounds and buildings yearly.

The next meeting will be October 11 @10:00.

M/S/C to adjourn the meeting.

Submitted by Melissa Runningen for the Council Secretary

PEACE Council Minutes

Peace Council Meeting, September 13, 2026

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Dee Holte.

Attendees: Dee Holte Pres., Tim Cunningham Treasurer, Jeremy Anderson Co-Secretary, Linda Bahnson Council, Donna Grover Council

Secretary's Report: Linda Motion/Donna Second/Council approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Donna Motion/ Linda Second/Council approved as presented.

Pastoral Report: Review. No Comments.

Education Team: No Report. See Sunday School Business below.

Worship Team: No Report.

Building Management: Building Committee will be having a meeting to discuss the following items.

- Jeremy to trim tree south of sidewalk this fall/winter.
- Jeremy to get rid of Divider Screens, Projector Screen, Dehumidifier this fall.
- Piano needs to be disassembled.
- Wheelchair lift has been inspected. 3 items need to be addressed. Waiting for quote.
- See below for update on Energy Audit & Electrical Work.

Old Business:

- Update on Peace Energy Audit.
 - Information is assembled. Just need to finish floor plans and provide.
- Update – Electrical work outside.
 - Waiting on Driggins to complete the work.

New Business:

- Financial Records Retention
 - Required to keep 7 years of financial records.
 - Tim recommended retaining 10 years.
 - Motion to keep 10 years of financial records and to shred anything older.
 - Jeremy Motion/Linda Second/Council approved as presented.
- Security of Church.
 - Concern about recurring costs with using Lake Region.
 - Explore Eufy Cameras for all doors as this is what is currently on rear door.
- No SS the rest of the year.
 - 5 people signed up for Sunday School.
 - Need to determine who will teach.
 - More information to come.
- West Central Community Action – Heating Assistance Program
 - Received letter for donation to the program.
 - Motion to donate \$500 to WCCA – Heating Assistance Program from Mission Fund.
 - Jeremy Motion/Donna Second/Council approved as presented.
- Adjourn

Next Meeting – October 11th after church



PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCA

2026

CHRISTMAS MARKET



Sat. Dec. 5, 2026



9:00am-1:00pm



Ashby Senior/Community Center

We are once again asking members to consider
baking or crafting for our Market this year.

Many proceeds will go to our
basement updating project.

Your hostesses for this year's
Scandinavian Christmas Market are

Jody Dahlen, Jenny Holte, and Carol Koefod.

If you have any questions
please feel free to contact them.

More information will follow in
each newsletter leading up to December.

Women of Faith
Serving God and Others
in Love

JOY • PEACE • LOVE

Worship Committee

Worship Committee Minutes Aug. 2, 2026, After 10:45 Services

Members Present: Pastor Julie, Brenda R. Candy C. Cindy V. Carol K.

Members Absent: Teresa O.

Old Business:

- I. Create/Review Committee List of Yearly/Seasonal Responsibilities**
Completed and will be put on file with Melissa.
- II. Recap of Summer Services, discuss any changes for next year**
Recommendation will be made to the Parish Council to move time of 2027 summer services to 8:30am and 10:00am
- III. Remodel: WELCA has moved the dining room remodel project to April 1, 2027.**
Candy is looking into updating speakers in the fellowship room to connect with sound system. It was also recommended that we look into sound absorbing panels for future services and programs taking place in the fellowship space.

New Business:

I. Sept. Services

- A. Blessing of the Backpacks** Schedule for Aug. 30
- B. Confirmation begins Sept. 16.

II. Oct. Services

- A. Confirmation Sunday October 25** Praise Band will be asked to sing for confirmation.
- B. Possible Pet Blessing Service at Faith Haven with Eagle Lake Luth Sat. Oct 3**
Watch for more information regarding Pet Blessing from Pastor Julie.

III. Nov. Services

- A. All Saints Sunday/ Blessing of the Blaze Nov. 1**
- B. Possibly do a less formal Blessing of the Harvest Service Nov 29?**
Blessing of the Harvest Nov. 29
- C. Decorating for Christmas Nov 29 after services.** All are invited to assist.

IV. Acolytes

- a. **With smaller student numbers how should we proceed with “assigned” Sundays for acolytes?** Students and parents will be asked to sign up for readings and acolyting at the family confirmation meeting. Younger students and families will be added into the schedule after Confirmands are scheduled.

Respectfully Submitted by Carol Koefod

Next Meeting: Tuesday Nov. 3, 2026, At Gather & Give 9:00am

Morning Watch

Many of you know of and listen to “the Morning Watch” Devotions on KBRF Radio

(AM 1250) which run at 8:45-9:00 am Monday-Friday. Pastor Julie, along with several other area pastors take part in this local ministry. The show is supported by churches, organizations such as WELCA as well as individuals who sponsor segments in honor of loved ones. The cost to sponsor a segment is \$29. If you, your family or group you belong to would be interested in sponsoring a segment, please contact the coordinator, Kelly Peasley, kellyp@bethlehemff.org, phone 218-736-5614. Kelly manages the schedule so if you have a particular date you would like to honor someone, she will set that up. Checks can be made payable to Morning Watch and dropped off at Bethlehem in Fergus, or mailed to Morning Watch, 102 West Junius Ave, Fergus Falls, MN 56537.

North to Alaska in 2028.....Just Maybe!!!!

Parish Council has given Pastor Julie their blessing to explore the possibility of coordinating a multi-generational mission trip to Alaska for summer of 2028. While the planning is very much in its infancy, Pastor Julie has been in contact with a few of her seminary friends who are serving in the Alaska Synod and they are very excited about the possibility of partnering with us! Obviously, this is a pretty ambitious undertaking and will require some significant fundraising, which is why we feel 2028 is a great target date. Pastor Julie is in the process of creating a small task force to begin planning and coordinating, if you are interested in being part of the task force, please call or text Pastor Julie at 320-491-2304. Stay tuned, more details will be provided as things come together.

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.
(only fill out if you have any recent changes)

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 _____

Also if you would no longer like to receive the newsletter please
let us know.

God's People in Service
OCTOBER 2026
Peace † Grue Lutheran Parish

GRUE 10:45 a.m. Worship	October 4 Green Holy Communion	October 11 Green	October 18 Green	October 25 Red REFORMATION SUNDAY Holy Communion
Janitors/Ushers	Blaine & Missy Barry / Randy & Tammy Koefod / Gerry Evavold			
Reader	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers
Music	Denise Juven	Cindy Vorland	Contemporary	Denise Juven
PEACE 9:00 a.m. Worship	October 4 Green Holy Communion	October 11 Green Coffee Cup Sunday	October 18 Green	October 25 Red REFORMATION SUNDAY CONFIRMATION SUNDAY Holy Communion
Music	Brenda Risbrudt	Brenda Risbrudt	Contemporary?	Brenda Risbrudt
Ushers	George & Sharon Nelson		Troy & Teresa Langlie	Terry Ohren
Readers	Sharon Nelson	Dee Holte	Justin Anderson	Confirmation Students
Psalm Reader				
Acolytes				
Communion Helper (set up, serve, clean)	Leslie Anderson			Teresa Ohren Brenda Johnson
Cookie Servers	Leslie Anderson	Leslie Anderson Dee Holte	Leslie Anderson	Teresa Ohren Brenda Johnson

Serving Team Peace Lutheran Month of October 2026
Chairpersons: Justin & Leslie Anderson

*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 - OCTOBER 2026

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

Pastor Julie Carlson, 320-491-2304 Email: pastorjuliecarlson@gmail.com

Grue 9:00 am, Peace 10:45 am

Office hours M-TH 9-2, closed on Fridays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WORSHIP TIMES: PEACE service 9 am, SS 10:15 GRUE service 10:45 am, SS 9:30 am				1 PQ	2 Pastor's Sabbath	3 Pet blessing 1 pm at Ashby Thorson Park
4 PEACE service 9 am, SS 10:15 am GRUE service 10:45 am, SS 9:30 am	5	6	7 Confirmation 5:30 pm -6:30 pm	8	9 Pastor's Sabbath	10
11 PEACE service 9 am, SS 10:15 am Peace council meeting after service GRUE service 10:45 am, SS 9:30 am Grue council meeting 10:00 @ Grue	12	13	14 AL Bible study 2:00 <u>No</u> Confirmation MEA	15 PQ	16 Pastor's Sabbath	17
18 PEACE service 9 am, SS 10:15 am GRUE service 10:45 am, SS 9:30 am ** Confirmation Banquet pictures & rehearsal 5pm w/Dinner at 6 pm-at PEACE – Grue hosting.	19	20 Peace Bible study 9:00 am. Grue Bible study 1:30 pm.	21 AL Bible study 2:00 Confirmation 5:30 pm -6:30 pm	22	23 Pastor's Sabbath	24
25 PEACE service 9 am, SS 10:15 am GRUE service 10:45 am, SS 9:30 am Confirmation at PEACE during service.	26	27	28 Confirmation 5:30 pm -6:30 pm	29	30 Pastor's Sabbath	31 Trunk or treat

PQ-Peace Quilting, 1st and 3rd Thursday

AL Bible Study, 2:00. 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays at the
Ashby Assisted Living