



Order of Worship: May 25th, 2025

Prelude (Casey Derksen)

Welcome/Announcements

Candle Lighting

Call to Worship

Opening Songs:
"Shall We Gather at the River"
"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

Scripture Readings:
Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
John 14:23-29

Unison Prayer

Song: *"He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!"*

Message: *"Come"*

Offering/Doxology/Offertory Prayer

Song: *"America"*

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

Song: *"Sanctuary"*

Memorial Day Prayer

Song: *"America the Beautiful"*

Blessing

Postlude (Casey Derksen)

This Week at Grace

Monday:
Office closed for Memorial
Day Holiday

Tuesday:
Bible Study
9am
Bell Practice
130pm

If you are planning to meet
at Grace UMC, you need to
call ahead or email the
office to reserve space and
to get your meeting on the
church calendar. To adjust
for heating/cooling needs,
Pastor Jen needs to know
if/when you are meeting.

Office Phone:
218-568-5755

Grace Office Hours
Monday - Wednesday
9 a.m. to noon

Worship
Online--available at
www.graceumcpequotlakes.org

In-Person Worship
Sunday--9am



Unison Prayer

Grant us, almighty God, the vision to see beyond our immediate surroundings. When darkness overwhelms, grant us the light that discernment brings, so that we might clearly see those who need our assistance, just like the man of Macedonia who appeared in Paul's vision. Lord, let us not be overwhelmed by the sheer volume of need in this world; help us to focus on what we can do within our reach. Lead us toward tangible actions that echo the love and compassion of Jesus Christ. May we walk each day with the awareness that every encounter is an opportunity to bring hope and help to those in despair. May we never underestimate the power of a kind word or a gentle hand; instill in us an unwavering commitment to Your commandment of love. We ask this in your holy name, Amen.

Call to Worship

L: May God be gracious to us and bless us.

P: May God's face shine upon us and bring us peace!

L: Let all people praise you, O Lord.

P: Let all people shout their joy to your holy name.

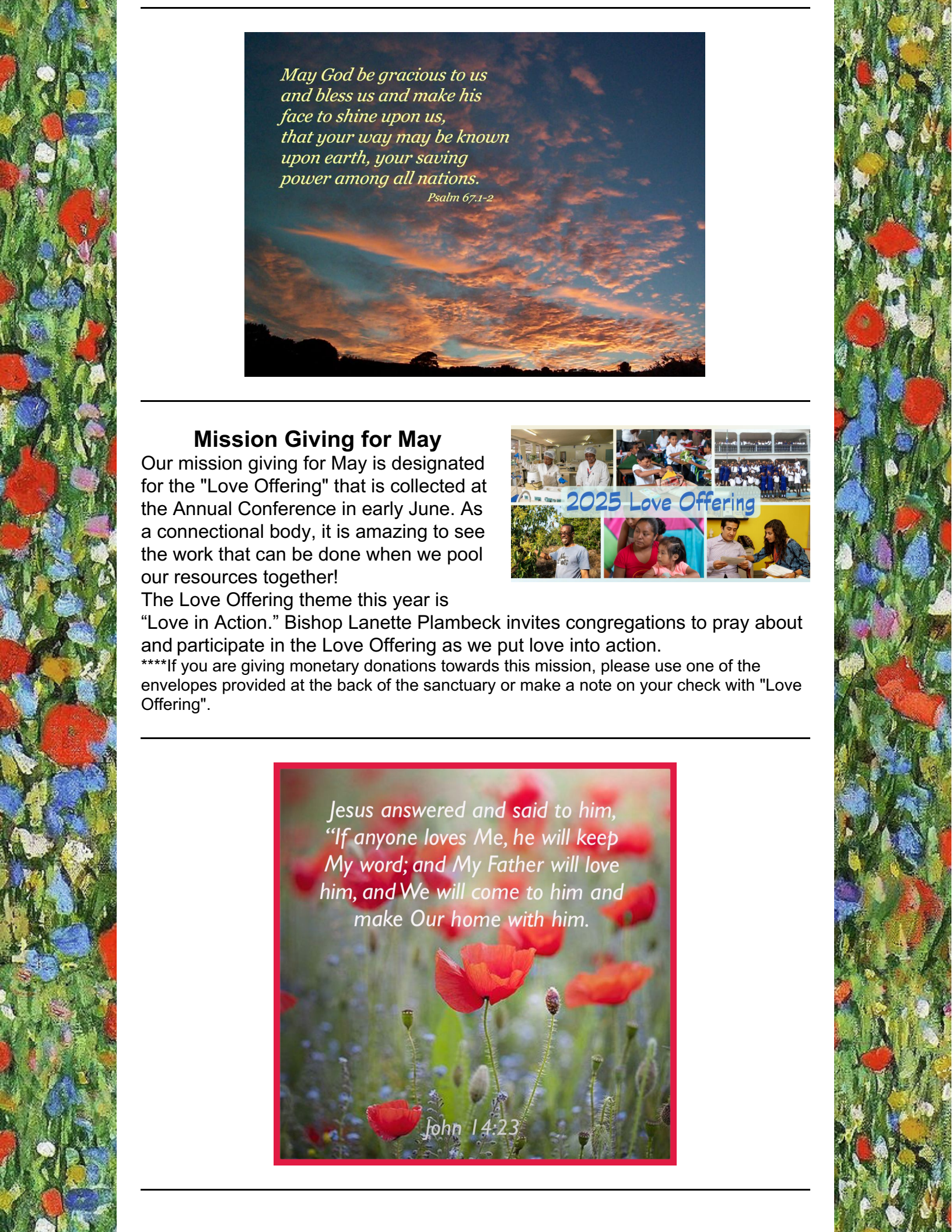
L: God blesses us continually throughout all our lives.

P: Thanks be to God, for God's eternal love and blessing. AMEN.



Scriptures for next week:

Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47
Luke 24:44-53



*May God be gracious to us
and bless us and make his
face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known
upon earth, your saving
power among all nations.*

Psalm 67:1-2


Mission Giving for May

Our mission giving for May is designated for the "Love Offering" that is collected at the Annual Conference in early June. As a connectional body, it is amazing to see the work that can be done when we pool our resources together!

The Love Offering theme this year is

"Love in Action." Bishop Lanette Plambeck invites congregations to pray about and participate in the Love Offering as we put love into action.

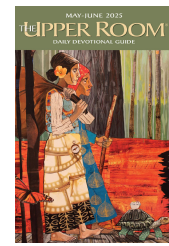
****If you are giving monetary donations towards this mission, please use one of the envelopes provided at the back of the sanctuary or make a note on your check with "Love Offering".



*Jesus answered and said to him,
"If anyone loves Me, he will keep
My word; and My Father will love
him, and We will come to him and
make Our home with him.*

John 14:23

The May/June edition of the Upper Room daily devotionals is available for pick-up in the Narthex.



Set-up June 16, 17 and 18. Presale evening of June 18, all day sale June 19 and sale morning of June 20. Tear down, donation deliveries and clean-up will take place in the afternoon of Friday, June 20th.

Volunteers and garage sale items needed! The sheets for signing up to help are up in the Narthex, please take a look and see where you can help!

Items can be dropped off during church office open hours (rooms are marked)!

Basics---sale begins June 18th(pm), all day on the 19th, and the 20th(am).



We offer prayers of peace and comfort to the family of church member Victor Kreuziger who recently passed away.

Practical Church Leadership Program prepares church leaders for modern ministry

Over the last few decades, the American church has undergone major changes, particularly in the expectations placed on pastors. Beyond preaching and pastoral care, pastors are now required to handle administrative tasks and manage the church's business affairs. Yet, many pastors find themselves underprepared for these demands due to a lack of training they received in more traditional education or lack of exposure to business affairs.

Recognizing this gap, Dakota Wesleyan University (DWU) launched the Practical Church Leadership (PCL) program in 2018 in partnership with the Dakotas and Minnesota Conferences of the United Methodist Church (and their Foundations). The PCL program is designed to equip clergy with crucial administrative leadership skills.

"Our aim with design and delivery of PCL has always been to help pastors help the congregations they are leading to thrive," said Alisha Vincent, program designer and director. "We know that equipping them to confidently lead in areas of administration will enable this to happen."

The year-long, 21-credit certificate program is tailored for working ministry professionals. Using a hybrid model, it blends online coursework with three weekend retreat sessions. Distinct features include real-time application of learning, individual coaching, and a year-long capstone project. Participants may also transfer credits toward an MBA if they choose.

The core strategy of the PCL program—developing strong administrative skills to empower effective leadership—has enabled clergy to lead with resilience and adaptability amid a rapidly changing church landscape. As the denomination looks to the future, programs like PCL offer valuable lessons on how to prepare ministry leaders to thrive in both spiritual and organizational leadership.

"The PCL is a natural step in the growth and development of our pastoral and ministry leaders across the Area," said Diane Owen, Dakotas-Minnesota director of clergy well-being, who has been involved with the program since its inception. "It has had an incredible impact on the 45 Minnesota and 36 Dakotas leaders who have completed it, and I look forward to seeing its continued success and growth."

For more information about the PCL program or the evaluation study, visit www.dwu.edu/pcl.



On behalf of our Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC), we want to offer our congratulations to Pastor Jen who was just accepted into the Dakotas-Minnesota Area Practical Church Leadership Certificate Program. It is an honor for both Pastor Jen and our Church that she has been selected; we are truly pleased for her. The program originates at Dakota Wesleyan University and is both in-person and on-line. Coverage of the cost will be via scholarships from the Conference and Pastor Jen's education allotment in our SPR budget. Well done, Pastor Jen!



Our Confirmation students help to serve at the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen in Brainerd on Monday night. Ask then about the experience if you get a chance!

Pictured--back row (adults not students)- Abby Jacobs and Olivia Lundgren
front row--Stella Jacobs, Bowan Jacobs, and Lucas Knutson
photographer Pastor Jen ;)

The church office is open Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 9am until noon. Ring the doorbell and we will come to open the south door!

--Church office phone : 218-568-5755



-- Church office (for all general inquiries and administrative/clerical duties)
graceumcpequotlakes@gmail.com

-- Pastor Jen Matthees – **jenmatt20@gmail.com**

-- Ann Hutchings-Congregational Care Assistant-**graceumccare@gmail.com**

Communication Reminder.....

The church office email (**graceumcpequotlakes@gmail.com**) should be used to inform the office about ALL events, meetings, or use of the building you would like to schedule so they can be added to the master calendar. This enables us to avoid scheduling conflicts and make sure the areas of the building are cooled/heated as needed. The official church calendar is maintained by volunteers.

Additionally, did you know the church calendar is available on our website (**graceumcpequotlakes.org**)? There is a tab near the top, right side you can click to see the calendar!

Our Congregational Care Assistant, **Ann Hutchings**, is in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from **9:00-noon**. Her role is to follow-up with our church family, through telephone calls, notes and email, as well as greet and welcome those who visit our church and assist with any needs. Ann's email (**graceumccare@gmail.com**) should be used for "congregational care" needs only.

If you have something that should be added to this newsletter from your group or mission, please speak with Pastor Jen or email the details to her at **jenmatt20@gmail.com**. The E-Grace is generally completed by noon on Thursdays, so articles need to be received by Thursday 10am.

If you wish to connect with me directly and it is not an emergency, please know that I will respond as needed during pretty regular office hours. I am generally in the church on Tuesday (830-1030) and Thursday (10-3) call the office to be sure, as my weeks vary. You may find me here at other times too! I check my emails frequently throughout the day, and this is the best way to contact me. **Friday is my day off** as needs allow,
Pastor Jen.



Important note

If you are mailing something to the church, ***you must use our P.O. Box for the address.*** We do not receive mail at the church, and if you use the physical church address it will get returned and could delay your notices to us or offerings.

**P.O. Box 276
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472**

[Visit our website](#)

On our website you can find links to past services, a spot to watch this week's service, an online link to giving, and much more!
www.graceumcpequotlakes.org

Contact Information

Grace United Methodist Church

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