

# GRACE NOTES MARCH 2025

A Monthly publication of Grace Free Lutheran Church Valley City, ND

## Hebrews 3:1-6 By Pastor Dennis Norby

*Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses- as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.* Hebrews 3:1-6

As I am writing this, and it doesn't seem possible, we will soon be in the season of Lent. We have been experiencing some bitterly cold days, but Spring will be coming soon. The word "Lent" simply means "spring." During this season of the Church year, we take time to consider repentance and the work of Christ for us. Historically, Christians have also connected prayer, fasting, and giving to the poor as proper activities during this time.

The instruction giving in Hebrews 3 is a fitting one to consider as we begin the season. We read there, "Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house" (v. 1-2). The author wants all who read or hear his letter, including you and me, to "consider Jesus." What he wants to encourage is that we observe, that we see, that we notice Jesus. Not consider, in the sense of weighing options. As if there is another one to whom we should look, for the whole book of Hebrews describes how there is really nothing and no one who compares to Jesus. The author of Hebrews says, "consider Jesus," look at how wonderful He is. He is faithful and true, righteous and merciful. This is the only place in the New Testament that Jesus is given the title, apostle, a sent one. He was sent from the glory of heaven by the Father to be our Redeemer. He is also described as a high priest. The characteristic that is pointed out in v. 2 is the faithfulness of Jesus. When we think of Jesus, we should think of one who was never negligent or incapable of fulfilling the task that the Heavenly Father had given Him. The Father sent Jesus, the Son, to be a priest. This is what Jesus did faith-

fully – He brought forth a sacrifice for our sins – Himself – offered on the cross of Calvary so that we might be saved. Jesus' service as a priest continues because He died and rose again. He is still faithfully serving as our high priest – always interceding for us (Hebrews 7:25).

To help see the greatness of Jesus the author brings up the Old Testament servant of God, Moses. Moses faithfully served the people of Israel and was viewed very highly by the people. But Moses' position, when considered alongside Jesus' position, was far less important. To help us understand that the author uses the imagery of a building and the builder of the house. Which one has more honor? The house or the builder? Of course, the answer is the builder. So, then Jesus – who is God in the flesh – and creator of all things should receive more honor than Moses – who is, in a sense, part of the building that God has created. None of this means that Moses was not faithful or to be respected but once again we should note – nothing and no one compares to Jesus. The author has compared Jesus to Moses not to demean Moses but to show that even a faithful servant like Moses is not worthy of the glory that Jesus deserves. The builder of all things is God – so we should keep our focus on Him – on the one who has created us and has provided for us a Savior – Jesus the faithful one. Our Heavenly Father wants to build for Himself a people – a house – and so Jesus came into the world that He might redeem lost sinners and give them eternal life.

We are so thankful for the faithful servants that God has raised up through history and those He has provided today. May He continue to do so more and more. But no matter how great the servants are and no matter how faithful they are – they cannot be worthy of more glory or honor than the One who created them – who sent them. This honor belongs to God Himself.

Moses led the people as a servant of God, but the author of Hebrews makes clear that Jesus is more than a servant in God's house. Jesus is the Son of God. In verse six the author writes, "but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope." So, during this season of Lent, may we "consider Jesus" who is our faithful High Priest sent by God to create and sustain His Church. Let us repent and rejoice in God's mercy to us! Amen.

## Grace Free Lutheran Council Meeting



Thursday, March 6, 2025  
Deacons Meet 6:30 PM  
Boards Meet 7pm  
Council Meets 8pm

*Complete Council meeting minutes and monthly financial report are available in the copy room.*

### Financial Summary

As of 2/21/2025

General Fund=\$75,906.15

Building Improvement Fund=\$38,256.83

(Sign=\$897.78; Parking Lot=\$14,859.05;

Exterior Maintenance=\$3,500.00; Roof=\$19,000.00)

Scholarship Fund=\$241.18

Seminary Fund=\$0.00

General Fund CD (1)=\$43,446.75

General Fund CD (2)=\$31,666.34

General Fund CD (3)=\$25,000.00

Parking Lot Fund CD=\$38,766.54

Roof Fund CD=\$66,685.08

Exterior Maintenance Fund CD=\$60,000

Building Fund CD=\$25,000.00

Faithfulness

springs up from the ground, and

righteousness

looks down from the sky.

Psalm 85:11 ESV



Daylight Saving Time  
begins Sunday, March 9.  
Remember to set your  
clocks ahead one hour!

## Zion's Schedule

### Sundays

9am Divine Worship

10am Fellowship

## LENTEN Schedule

Wednesday, March 5

Ash Wednesday Service 7:00pm

Wednesdays, March 12, 19, 26

Soup Supper 6:15pm

Lenten Service 7:00pm

**He's Alive rehearsals begin  
Wednesday, March 26. Please  
pick up a practice schedule at  
the kiosk.**



**AFLC Ministry  
Focus for March  
Association Retreat Center**

The ARC is a Bible Camp and Retreat Center located in the beautiful St. Croix River Valley, just 45 minutes from the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan area.

Theme: "Come Away and Rest Awhile"  
Mark 6:31

Mission: The ARC exists to glorify Jesus Christ by providing a place where people can be equipped to make a positive difference in their lives, homes, churches, and communities.

Vision: Through updated facilities and gracious hospitality, the ARC will show Christ's love in helping build loving relationships and a firm foundation through team-building, leadership training, and physical and spiritual renewal for all ages.

Upcoming events at the ARC  
April 25-27– Women's Retreat  
May 23-25– Family Work Weekend  
June 11-14– AFLC Annual Conference  
June 22-26– Jr High Bible Camp  
July 27-August 2– Family Camp  
November 1– Holiday Shop at the ARC

For more information about any of these events, or to donate to the work of the ARC visit [www.arc-aflc.org](http://www.arc-aflc.org)

**Dear Grace  
Congregation,**

The first semester of my second year at the Free Lutheran Bible College has been yet another one of much growth in many ways. One of my favorite parts about being at the Bible college has been seeing all that I've learned flowing together into all parts of my life without me even realizing it! Classes, school community activities, and interactions with my peers and professors have benefitted me greatly and pushed me towards living a life more and more honoring to God. Through the class Means of Grace and Eschatology, I further learned the purpose of the Sacraments; baptism promises salvation, new life, and the Holy Spirit, and gives us assurance of salvation in Christ. The Lord's Supper is also a great gift for unity within the church and the assurance of forgiveness through Christ. I have learned that even though we don't know the exact time of Christ's second coming, the study of the end times should bring us comfort and not fear! The Lord has given the great promise of eternal life with Him to all who believe! Through the Gospel of John I saw the servant heart of Jesus displayed clearly and the unconditional love He has for His people. Jesus' example in John's gospel account gives me a deeper desire to see and love people the way that He does. John's purpose of writing the book is "...that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." (John 20:31) It is my prayer that others see Jesus through my life and are brought into His kingdom to receive everlasting life with Him. Relationships at FLBC reflect the love of God. I know that many of these friendships that are being built now are ones that will last a lifetime here on earth and an eternity with Jesus. I'm so thankful for everyone on this campus because each person has a part in making the classes, activities, and conversations impactful. This school is special because of the foundation it has on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He is the reason for all life, love, joy, and hope. Grace congregation, thank you for making this possible for me. Thank you for providing a way for me to be deeper immersed in Scripture to establish an unshakable faith in the Lord our God, the creator and sustainer of all life. Your support through finances, prayer, and intentional discipleship is making an eternal impact on me. Praise the Lord for His steadfast love and faithfulness throughout all generations!

**Gracia Rolf**

thank you

**Dear Grace Free Church,**

Thank you so much for being so willing to let us use your beautiful facility for so many of our Right to Life events. And we would like to say thank you for your generous gift for VC Right to Life! Your continuous support is so wonderful. Thanks again– May God bless.

**In Life, ND Right to Life Valley City Chapter**

**Grace Free Lutheran Church,**

Quyana! (Thank you in Yupik!) Thank you so much for the quilts and all the support you have given us throughout the years! We are truly grateful for the impact you have up here for generations fo come! Thanks again for all you do! **Love,**

**Heather Ann, Alaska AFLC Mission**

**Grace Congregation,**

Thank you for letting us come and share with the congregation. It helped us get one step closer to being on the missions field. Thank you for your prayers and support.

**God Bless, Zach & Katy Kupser**

# Children’s Ministry News

AFK will not meet during Lent.

Save the Dates!

VBS June 1-5



**Youth Group meets  
Wednesday nights at  
7pm in the youth room.**

- 1 Lukas Kietzman (Joshua)
- 2 Suzette Trendera
- 3 Devyn Glasman (Devin)  
Brandon Stensland
- 5 Kaydence Kietzman  
(Joshua)
- 7 Benjamin Melvin  
(Randy)  
Tori Perleberg
- 9 Jonah Norby (Dennis)
- 16 Naomi Hanson (Troy)
- 17 Bonita Roswick
- 18 Toby Larson
- 21 Barry Borg  
Justin Roswick (Cody)
- 22 Scott Roehrich
- 26 Daryl Stensland
- 30 Devin Glasman
- 31 Jack Schroeder (Josh)



**Missionaries**

- 11 Jonathan Abel
- 16 Eliana Olson  
(Andrew)
- 18 Selah Olson  
(Andrew)

## WMF Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, March 15, 9:30am

## Quilting

Thursday, March 13, 1pm

## WMF Bible Study

Monday, March 17, 7pm

## Faith Circle

Tuesday, March 25, 9am

## Women’s Bible Study

Thursdays at 10am

## Men’s Prayer

Saturdays at 7am



2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Men's Prayer 7am
2 Sunday School 9am  Fellowship 10am  Divine Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am	3	4	5 Confirmation 6pm  Ash Wednesday Service 7pm  	6 Women's Bible Study 10am  Deacons Meet 6:30pm  Boards Meet 7pm  Council Meets 8pm	7	8 Men's Prayer 7am
9  Sunday School 9am  Fellowship 10am  Divine Worship 10:30am	10	11	12 Confirmation 6pm  Soup Supper 6:15pm Lenten Service 7pm	13 Women's Bible Study 10am  Quilting 1pm	14	15 Men's Prayer 7am  WMF Quarterly Meeting 9:30am
16 Sunday School 9am  Fellowship 10am  Divine Worship 10:30am Potluck following service Valentine's Party	17 WMF Bible Study 7pm	18	19 Confirmation 6pm  Soup Supper 6:15pm Lenten Service 7pm	20 Women's Bible Study 10am  	21	22 Men's Prayer 7am
23 Sunday School 9am Fellowship 10am Divine Worship 10:30am	24	25 Faith Circle 9:30am	26 Confirmation 6pm  Soup Supper 6:15pm Lenten Service 7pm	27 Women's Bible Study 10am	28	29 Men's Prayer 7am
30 Sunday School 9am Fellowship 10am Divine Worship 10:30am	31					



**GRACE FREE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
2351 WEST MAIN ST.  
VALLEY CITY ND 58072



**GRACE & ZION FREE LUTHERAN CHURCHES**

«AddressBlock»

**Sundays at Grace**

Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Divine Worship 10:30 AM

**Sundays at Zion**

Divine Worship 9:00 AM  
Fellowship 10:00 AM

**Sundays:** Lift High the Cross KOVC (1490) 10 AM KSJB(600) 8 AM  
**Watch Live!** Sunday Mornings at 10:30 AM at [www.gracefree.com/watch-online](http://www.gracefree.com/watch-online)

**Church office hours are 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Mon-Fri**

**Phone: (701) 845-2753**

**E-mail: [gracefree@msn.com](mailto:gracefree@msn.com)**

**Website: [www.gracefree.com](http://www.gracefree.com)**

**Senior Pastor Dennis Norby** [thenorbys@msn.com](mailto:thenorbys@msn.com)  
**Administrative Assistant~ Sarah Meester** [gracefree@msn.com](mailto:gracefree@msn.com)  
**Children's Ministry Leader~ Erin Dahl**