



Summer Outdoor Worship Services

Sunday, July 18 ~ 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, August 15 ~ 10:30 a.m.

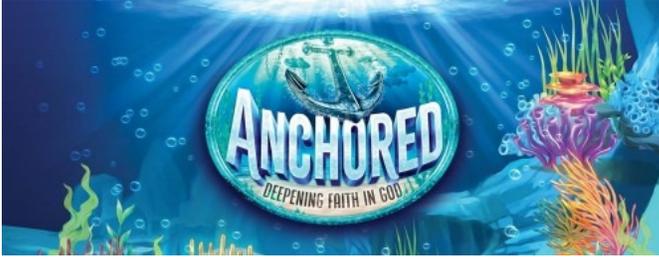
**Remember to bring your lawn chair or
blanket to sit on!**



Please join us for a Work Day at Habitat for
Humanity on Saturday, July 17.

Let Pastor Rachel know if you are able to join
in the fun of working for Habitat for
Humanity!

Sunday School News



Our Summer VBS, *Anchored*, will happen on **Sunday, August 29** immediately following worship.

Be sure to invite your friends for this time of learning and fun here at GPC.

More information will be in the August issue of Grace Press.

Mark & Tammy Engstler wish to thank the Deacons for the generous gift card.



Happy Birthday!

Jerry Lowery	July 1
Cole MacAskill	July 6
Karen Haedtke	July 11
Jason McGill	July 15
Michael McGill	July 15
Michael Hoerig	July 26
Carol Bell	July 27

Happy Anniversary!

Ron & Jane Dietrich	July 1
O.J. & Janice Jacobson	July 3

We hope you enjoy seeing who is celebrating a birthday or anniversary. This list includes the best information we have at the time. Please let us know if we missed your special day so we can update our records!

STAFF



Cheri will be working in the church office on **Monday, July 5 and Tuesday, July 6** and then have surgery on Wednesday, July 7. She will be off the rest of the week and will work from home the following week.

Please be sure to call the office before stopping by during these two weeks to see if Pastor Rachel is here.

As always, you may call her to make an appointment.

Session Summary

Session held its regular meeting in person (with social distancing) on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, and approved the following items:

- Hymnals will be placed back in the sanctuary and the words to the hymns will continue to be printed in the bulletin.
- Communion “lunchables” will continue to be used over the summer and then in September we will go back to regular communion elements.
- To have the landscaping project done professionally.
- To keep worship at 10:30 over the summer and then look at other options in the fall with input from the congregation.
- To have Jeanette Karjala serve on the Audit Committee in place of Carol Bell.
- To allow NA and AA to have their coffee in the building.

Pam Lica, Clerk

Pastor's Page

Hello Grace Church Family,

Happy 4th of July to all our readers.

If you know me, you know that I do not often celebrate “national” holidays in worship. I often mention them and pray for them. But in my mind, it is a slippery slope from pride to prejudice, and worship ought to be about God. It is not an easy task to express pride in our nation while being true to the imperfect past that we, as Christians, are to remember and repent. But we do have pride in our nation. We ought to recognize how lucky we are to live in a place where we are free to follow and proclaim the risen Lord, a place where most have access to food and clean water, a place where freedoms and rights are meant to be for all people. When such freedoms are denied, we have the right to bring such injustices to the attention of those in leadership. I believe that America is beautiful in all her imperfections. For this article I wanted to compose a poem, but I remembered another poem, “The Hill We Climb” by Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman. Gorman is the youngest Poet Laureate in history. Sometimes, when we find words difficult to capture, we only need to look to those who are young and full of hope to inspire us.

The Hill We Climb by Amanda Gorman

When day comes we ask ourselves,
'where can we find light in this never-ending shade,'
the loss we carry,
a sea we must wade?
We've braved the belly of the beast.
We've learned that quiet isn't always peace,
and the norms and notions
of what just is
isn't always justice.

And yet the dawn is ours
before we knew it,
somehow we do it.
Somehow we've weathered and witnessed
a nation that isn't broken
but simply unfinished.
We, the successors of a country and a time
where a skinny Black girl
descended from slaves and raised by a single mother
can dream of becoming president
only to find herself reciting for one.
And yes, we are far from polished,
far from pristine,
but that doesn't mean we are
striving to form a union that is perfect.

We are striving to forge a
union with purpose,
to compose a country
committed to all cultures,
colors, characters, and
conditions of man.
And so we lift our gazes
not to what stands between
us
but what stands before us.
We close the divide because
we know,
to put our future first,
we must first put our
differences aside.
We lay down our arms

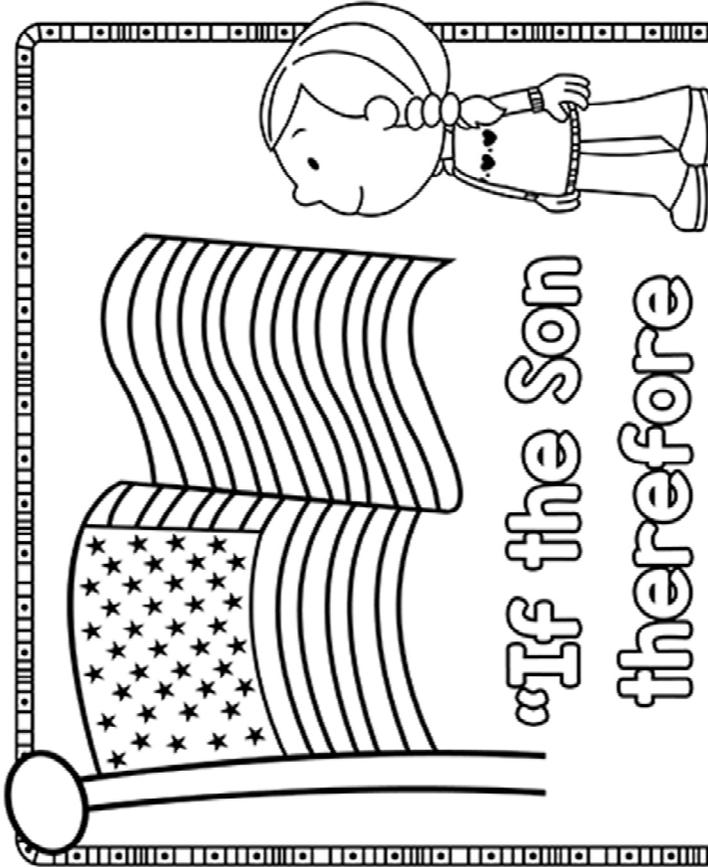
so we can reach out our arms
to one another.
We seek harm to none and harmony for all.
Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true:
That even as we grieved, we grew;
that even as we hurt, we hoped;
that even as we tired, we tried;
that we'll forever be tied together, victorious,
not because we will never again know defeat
but because we will never again sow division.
Scripture tells us to envision
that everyone shall sit
under their own vine and fig tree
and no one shall make them afraid.
If we're to live up to our own time
then victory won't lie in the blade
but in all the bridges we've made.



That is the promise to glade,
the hill we climb
if only we dare it,
because being American
is more than a pride we inherit -
it's the past we step into
and how we repair it.
We've seen a force that would
shatter our nation rather than share it
would destroy our country
if it meant delaying democracy.
And this effort very nearly succeeded.
But while democracy can be periodically delayed,
it can never be permanently defeated.
In this truth,
in this faith we trust,
for while we have our eyes on the future,
history has its eyes on us.
This is the era of just redemption
we feared at its inception.
We did not feel prepared to be the heirs
of such a terrifying hour
but within it we found the power
to author a new chapter,
to offer hope and laughter to ourselves.
So while once we asked,
'how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe,'
now we assert,
'how could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?'
We will not march back to what was
but move to what shall be:
a country that is bruised but whole,
benevolent but bold,
fierce, and free.

We will not be turned around
or interrupted by intimidation
because we know our inaction and inertia
will be the inheritance of the next generation.
Our blunders become their burdens.
But one thing is certain:
If we merge mercy with might,
and might with right,
then love becomes our legacy
and change our children's birthright.
So let us leave behind a country
better than the one we were left with.
Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,
we will raise this wounded world
into a wondrous one.
We will rise from the golden hills of the west,
we will rise from the windswept northeast
where our forefathers first realized revolution,
we will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the
midwestern states,
we will rise from the sunbaked south.
We will rebuild, reconcile, and recover
in every known nook of our nation and
every corner called our country,
our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,
battered and beautiful.
When day comes we step out of the shade,
aflame and unafraid.
The new dawn blooms as we free it.
For there is always light,
if only we're brave enough to see it,
if only we're brave enough to be it.

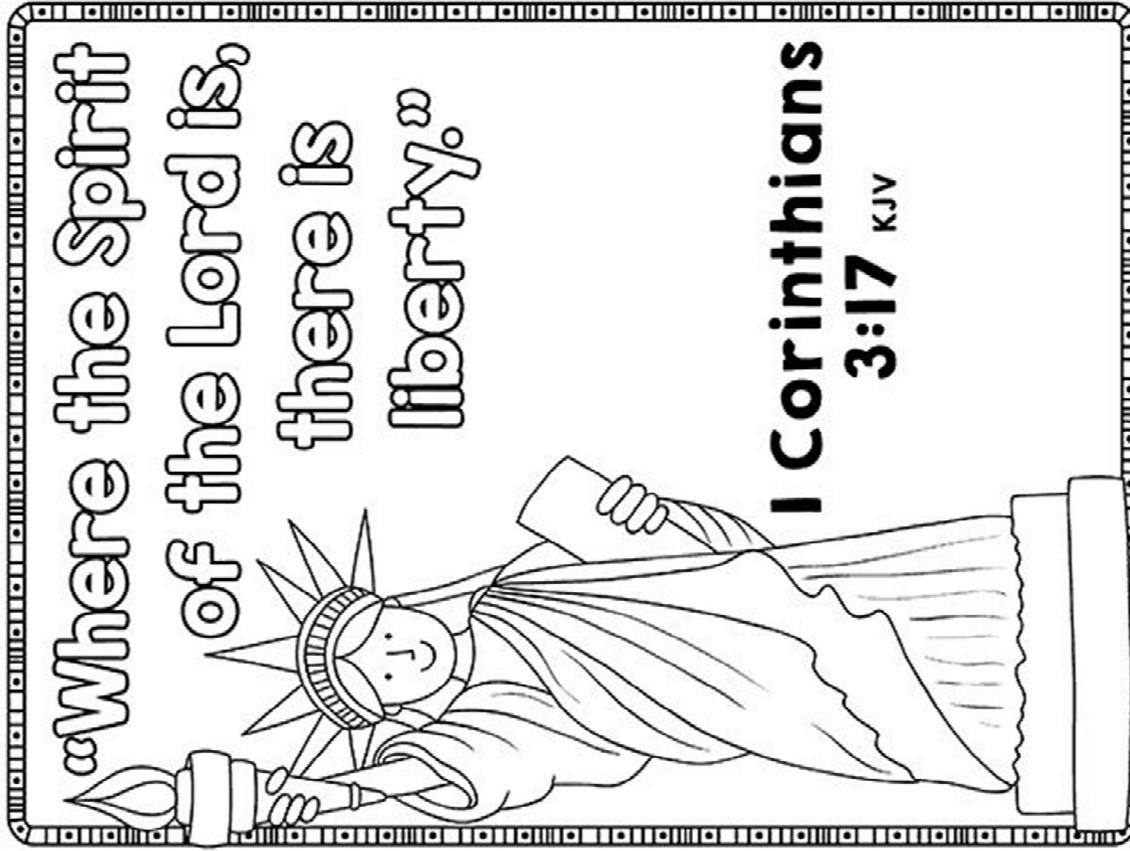




“If the Son
therefore
shall make you
free, ye shall be
free indeed.”

John 8:36 KJV

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“Where the Spirit
of the Lord is,
there is
liberty.”

**1 Corinthians
3:17** KJV

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Because we are
unconditionally loved by
God, we are called to do the
same in thought, word, and
deed with our family,
community, and world.

Mission

Thank God!

GRACE
HAPPENS
+

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Office Hours

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Tuesday - Friday

Sunday Morning

Sunday School

9:00 am

Sunday Worship

10:30 am

Fellowship Time

11:30 am

Minister

Rev. Rachel Rosendahl

Office Administrator

Cheri Looman

Accompanist

Myranda Orlovsky

Treasurer

Jennifer MacAskill

Church School Director

Kathy Rosendahl

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Session Elders

Kjersti Anderson

Ron Dietrich

Rena Dornfeld

Nancy Dornfeld

Pam Lica

Jennifer MacAskill

Chris Schantzen

Board of Deacons

2021: Ann Lubinski, Kathy Rosendahl

2022: Candi Kohner, David Rosendahl

2023: O. J. Jacobson, Jeanette Karjala