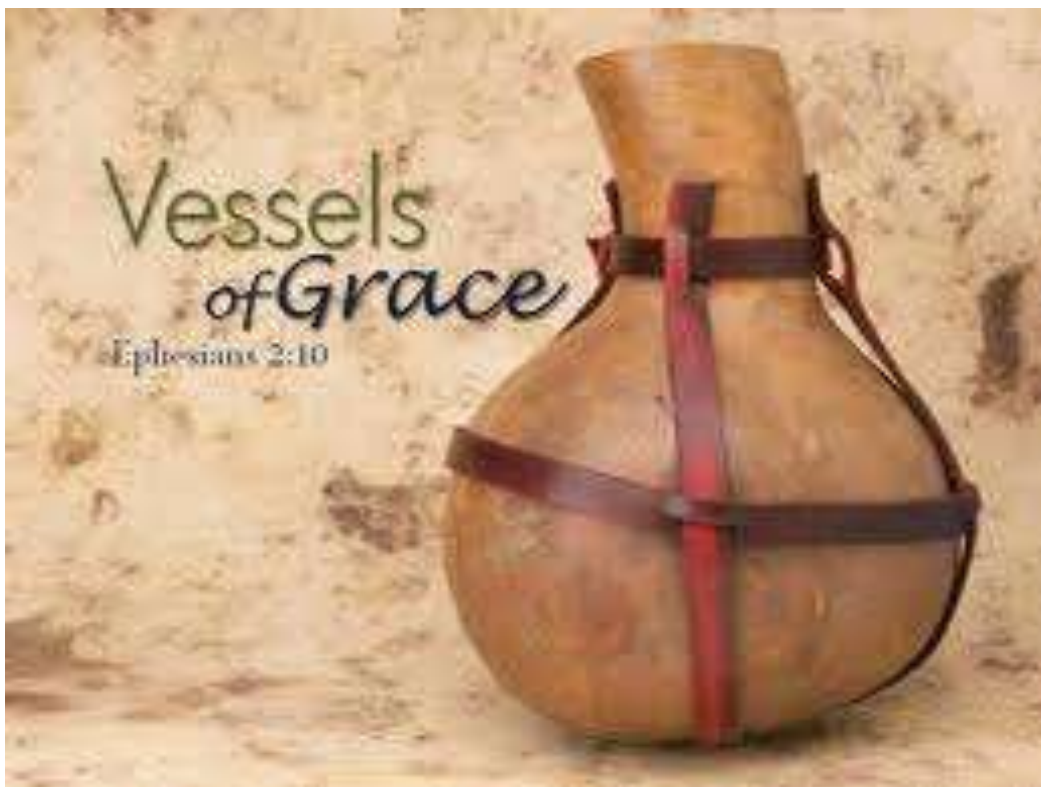




Grace Lutheran Church



Annual Report

May 2012

## January 2012 Congregational Meeting Minutes

President Van Mohlis called the January 2012 congregational meeting to order following the 8:00 am service on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> and continued the meeting following the 9:00 am and 10:20 am services.

After the meeting at the 8:00 am and 9:00 am services, a motion was made, seconded and passed to suspend the congregational meeting until the following service. After the meeting following the 10:20 service, a motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the congregational meeting.

The item of business at this meeting was to vote on approval of the 2012 Grace Lutheran budget. Ballots were counted by two or more members of the Grace Vision Board.

Ballot totals and counts were as follows:

- ✂ 197 members voted
- ✂ 180 approved the budget
- ✂ 15 did not approve
- ✂ 2 did not vote either way
- ✂ 52 non members voted

Submitted by:  
Patricia (Pat) L. Walters  
Vision Board Secretary



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## Senior Pastor's Report



My sermon on May 5/6 was about Jesus' wonderful metaphor of "I am the Vine and you are the branches". It continues to remain with me as I reflect upon this past year of ministry at Grace. The two main points of the sermon were: connections and fruitfulness. Let me sum the sermon

up quickly: the essence of our faith life is deepening our connection to Jesus (the Vine) and each other (the branches) by abiding in or "making our home" in Jesus' love. As that love nurtures and feeds us, the natural result is fruit.

As I reflect, I give thanks for the ways in which we have learned to grow deeper in Christ's love through worship, adult spiritual formation, and the many connections we make throughout the week in Bible studies, ministry teams, and fellowship groups. It is obvious that we are growing deeper in his love, because we see the end result: more and more people are "serving up fresh fruit" and reaching out in ministry to others.

In the following pages of this Annual Report, you will read about the different ministries and faith formation opportunities the Lord has provided in the past 12 months. However, I must warn you; none of them can truly reflect the deep ways in which his Spirit has grown us! None of the many conversations which occurred at the tables during Sunday Evenings@GRACE, or the prayers prayed each week at WOW for women experiencing challenges, or the sharing of "Highs and Lows" in catechism small groups can be described, measured or shared in any of the following reports.

No, each one merely tries to reflect on how these ministries have helped us abide in Jesus' love. So as you read each one, begin with a short prayer: **"Lord, help me to be filled with thanksgiving for the ways in which you are working in our church!"**

### Worship

Looking back on the last year as Senior Pastor, I continue to thank God for the rich worship life we have shared together. The focus upon the "Seven Habits of Effective Discipleship" has helped focus us upon spiritual formation

throughout all the ministries of our church. I am truly amazed at how God melds the church year (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost seasons) with the lectionary (weekly prescribed scriptures already set) and our Habits. God has truly blessed us with some wonderful gifts of artists, actors, preachers, singers, and musicians! **It's been a powerful year!**

Part of the challenge for me this year was the additional responsibilities of worship and music planning. Back in June I knew that I would have to invest a lot of time and energy to rebuilding the Adult Choir, organizing the music department, and planning all the weekly worship services. **It was a lot of hard work but I truly enjoyed it...especially working with the Adult Choir.** They are an incredible group of musicians! I have been blessed by them!

I am thankful for your continued generosity and willingness to grow the financial support of our church. The rule of thumb is this: MONEY ALWAYS FOLLOWS MISSION. **When people are excited about a church's mission, money and financial support is always there.** I believe this is true at Grace. We have been blessed to see God grow mission opportunity after mission opportunity. We see more and more people stepping forward to serve or suggest new ministries. I am not surprised that God continues to meet our financial needs.

### Staff

Finally, the one area of ministry that continues to amaze me is the great gift of administrative and program staff at Grace. We have been blessed with wonderful people who serve beyond the norm and with great passion for Jesus and his church. **I am thankful for those staff we've said good bye to as they moved on to serve in other places:** Karen Erickson (Business Administrator - retirement); Scott Stivers (Director of Worship and Music); Chris DeGraff (Associate Pastor of Stewardship and Men's Ministries); and Lila Woodruff (Custodian-retirement). I am grateful for the staff who have joined us this program year: Ralph Holbrook (Church Administrator); Tyree McDowell (Administrative Assistant); Jenn Hubal (Director of Worship Band and Singers); and Karri Anderson (Interim Associate). All of them have made a big

## Senior Pastor's Report *continued*

difference at Grace! And I can hardly express enough thanks and praise for the rest of our incredible staff. I have seldom experienced a staff so team-oriented and willing to go the second and even the third mile to make things work. However, many of them continue to wear too many hats and serve beyond what is good and healthy. This will be one concern we will have to address in the upcoming year. If God has gifted us with great staff, we need to do everything we can to keep them healthy, well-balanced, and filled with joy!

### Vision Board

As you know, the May Annual Meeting is held to elect new members for our Vision Board. Honestly, we have been blessed with wonderful lay leadership at Grace. Under the superb leadership of President Van Mohlis, we have not only had a wonderful year of leading our church, but we held a joint Vision Board, Staff, and **Leadership Retreat...the first in many years!** Special efforts were made to enlist feedback from the congregation through an email survey about future ministries at Grace. In addition, members of the Vision Board regularly connected with leaders of Outreach Ministries! As we meet to elect new Vision Board members, we will miss those who have completed their commitment: Van Mohlis (and his family – Sharon, Emily, and Abby as they move to Colorado) and Becky Anderson. Van and Becky have been valuable members of the Vision Board! I am excited that we will be electing two new members to join the rest of the board: Mike Schaaf, Ed Stang, Lori Ackerson, Pat Walters, and Mary Jo Andrusko. I hope you plan to join us for the congregational meetings on May 19 & 20!

Life on the Vine has been amazing this year. As one **“branch” to another, I am astonished at the ways God continues to bless us with his love and vision, to be a ministry of Grace in the heart of Andover and beyond. He continues to grow us! Truly, we are becoming “fruit-filled” and he is doing great things among us.**

In Him,

Pastor Mark Hellmann  
Senior Pastor

I am  
the  
vine;  
you  
are  
the  
branches.  
John 15:5



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## A Message From Your Vision Board



Van Mohlis  
President

As summer approaches, it brings a time of renewal to both the environment, and also Grace. For the environment, flowers start to bloom, trees bud out and the song birds fill the air with their songs of the summer. **For the church, it's a time where we are renewed by the reminder of what Jesus did for us on the cross. He made the ultimate sacrifice for us. We are asked to walk the life of Jesus.**

Last Fall, Mark Scandrette challenged us to walk the life of **Jesus. I'd like to challenge each of you again to look at yourself and your actions. Are you walking the life of Jesus? The choice is yours.**

As 2012 continues, I pray the Grace community continues to move in the path that Jesus is guiding us.

Respectfully submitted,  
Van Mohlis  
Vision Board President

## Vision Board Members



Ed Stang  
Member



Pat Walters  
Secretary



Becky Anderson  
Member



Lori Ackerson  
Member



Mary Jo Andrusko  
Member



Mike Schaaf  
Member

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## Worship Coordinator



It truly has been a blessing for me to serve this congregation as Worship Coordinator and Organist. I want to thank all the volunteers who faithfully serve during worship each Sunday. Their spirit of ministry is appreciated by all of us.

This past winter we had our organ tuned - not that it was out of tune in pitch; but we **had the voicing's balanced. Some were underrated while others were overrated which do not create a good balance. We are pleased now with the balance that has been created.**

We are still offering an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter at our Fall & Winter, 10:20am service and our Spring & Summer, 10:00am service for the hearing impaired. We have an agreement with ASL Interpreting Services to provide us with an interpreter for these services. We will provide an interpreter by request (a week in advance) for other special services during the year.

Carroll Potter  
Worship Coordinator/Organist



## Discipleship & Stewardship



### What Difference Does it Make?

In the three months since I arrived here at Grace as your interim pastor, I have spent a large portion of time getting to know this community of faith. Getting to know names, and the faces and stories that go with them. Getting to know the essence of worship and the specifics of all the different ministries that are happening here. Getting to know the core values and the diverse ways those values are lived out, as well as some of the hopes and dreams that come with them. I have been getting to know the day to day rhythms and spirit of this place called Grace, in the heart of Andover!

Along with getting to know you and the regular tasks of ministry, I have had some meetings and done initial work in the areas of pastoral care, connections with new members, developing leadership, prayer and men's ministries.

But most of my attention has been on the area of generosity and the planning and implementation of the *What Difference Does It Make* stewardship focus. We have come to the end of four weeks where we have been exploring what difference stewardship makes to you, to the community, to the world and to God. We have been expanding our understanding of stewardship to go beyond just financial resources to include every aspect of our lives. We have been challenging ourselves to think in new ways, about all that we have, and what it means to be God's stewards in the world.

We have learned that "living a stewardship lifestyle", requires a constant awareness of what we have, and a creative willingness to discover how we can use it for God's work in the world. It calls for a commitment to

participate in ongoing prayer, conversation and education, in order to continue growing in our understanding and practice of stewardship. Over the coming weeks and months I will be working on ways to support us in this process; ways that will help us continue the move toward assimilating generosity and stewardship **into the very essence of who we are as God's people.**

I am so grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this journey of faith with all of you, and I pray that we will be able to help many others get to know the joy, the hope and the meaning that God gives us through Grace!

Submitted by:  
Pastor Karri Anderson



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## Spiritual Formation



The following statistics and reports will reflect September 2011-April 2012

### Connect

*Connect Class – 19 Attended*

We continue to have a strong team of connectors that meet individually with Connect Class attendees to help them learn more about Grace, find a logical place to take a first step into the community, and know a familiar face in the crowd.

The first week of the month we place name tags in the Narthex to encourage people to reach out and learn **each others' names**.

### Grow

It was a wonderful experience to walk through the **'Seven Habits of Spiritual Formation'** as an entire congregation this year. It is remarkable how the lectionary texts worked so well with each habit. We focused on Worship, Service, Prayer, Sharing My Faith, Bible Study, Giving, and Vital Relationships.

In October we held the RENEW weekend with Mark Scandrette. Mark challenged us to practice the ways of Jesus in our community. This remarkable weekend launched a six-week run of experimental groups during our Sunday Evenings @ Grace in which small group participants engaged in 7-day experiments of spiritual practices. This was a life-changing experience for many. Three small groups emerged from that experience and have continued to meet together through the Spring semester of Sunday Evenings.

This Spring we offered two courses at Sunday Evenings @ Grace: ***Growing Strong in God's Family*** and ***The Life of Jesus***. Over one hundred people gathered for eight weeks for dinner, teaching, and small group discussion. **This was a very strong semester and we saw God's Spirit at work.**



A Ministry of Grace in the Heart of Andover

**WOW (Women on Wednesdays) and the Women's Monday Night Group** continues to connect, grow, and equip women, week in and week out.

**New men's groups have formed and we are working to rebuild the men's ministry.**

The Graceful Seniors are incredibly active in Bible Study, Fellowship, and service activities throughout the week.

### Equip

We kicked off the year with a Leadership Summit to **help us "Catch the Wind" for where the Spirit of God** might want to take us this year. He has indeed taken us into some wonderful and faith-expanding waters.

**This January we formed an 'Adult Ministries Leadership Huddle' that meets once a month to equip all adult small group leaders.**

We are very excited to see an adult mission team work together over this year to plan and prepare for a trip to Haiti this summer.

### Serve

Grace continues to excel in community outreach and service through the following ministries and partnerships:

- ✪ Feed My Starving Children
- ✪ ELCA World Hunger
- ✪ **Our Savior's Shelter**
- ✪ Grace Quilters
- ✪ Family Table
- ✪ Prayer Shawls
- ✪ Habitat for Humanity
- ✪ Family Promise of Anoka County (4 times this year)
- ✪ Minnesota Food Share
- ✪ Global Health Ministries

## Vacation Bible School



Our 2011 VBS theme was “Inside Out & Upside Down on Main Street”!

More than 290 kids and 150 volunteers joined together on “Main Street” where we all participated in the excitement of Sidewalk Celebration, experienced Jesus’ parables at Parable Productions, created craft projects at Fun Factory, played great games at Firehouse Fitness, and enjoyed yummy snacks! And, **through it all, we learned that Jesus’ life and love makes a difference every day!**

Kids explored and experienced stories Jesus told about every day people in everyday situations, but we discovered that His stories were anything but ordinary! **Through Jesus’ parables we learned what the Bible says** about gratitude, compassion, forgiveness, grace, and faithfulness!



## Youth Ministries



### Catechism

This year we had nearly one hundred sixth, seventh, and eighth graders meet in nineteen small groups every Wednesday night for Worship, Teaching, and Small Group Connection. We have an amazing team of adult and high school student leaders that work tirelessly to equip our Catechism students. This year we focused on the Ten Commandments, Baptism, and Communion.

Over sixty Middle School students attended the Catechism retreat at Camp Okoboji in November. These students put in hundreds of hours in service throughout the community over the year.

### Own Your Faith

Thirty eight high school freshmen have attended the High School Youth Group meetings, met monthly on an individual basis with an adult mentor, attended

an all-day Confirmation retreat, and are gearing up for Confirmation on May 20<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to seeing these students be the hands and feet of Jesus in high school for the next three years.

### High School

Over sixty students were involved in the High school ministry this year, with an average weekly attendance of twenty six students at our Dojo meetings on Sunday afternoons. A fantastic team of eight adults and ten high school students formed the leadership team that planned and led this ministry. Our primary focus for this year was to study the Life of Jesus to see how we can be Jesus’ disciples in everyday life.

Tom Baker organized several trips for connection, growth, equipping, and serving:

- ☞ Mission Trip to Atlanta (last summer)
- ☞ Planet Wisdom
- ☞ Winter Retreat
- ☞ 30-Hour Famine.

He is currently in the final preparations for two trips and Luther Dell Camp this summer.

Submitted by:  
Steve Thomason



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## SONday School & Kid's Bible Club



### First Communion

In the Fall and Spring, children and their parents met with Pastor Mark and Monica to explore the Sacrament of Holy Communion through conversation and Bible study. Children



made a First Communion Banner creatively sharing their experience of the morning that was hung in the Worship Center. Children received their First Communion during the weekend services.

### SONday School

We strongly believe that faith starts in the home and is best grown and nurtured within the family. We used the **"Spark" curriculum from Augsburg Fortress that helped our kids explore their faith through interactive activities and games, colorful lesson leaflets, creative art projects and engaging music. Kids were opening the Bible and engaging with God's Word each and every week.** SONday School is the work of a team. We are truly blessed to have our teachers, helpers, actors, writers, greeters, and all the many hands who help behind scenes. They are the heart of SONday School.

Our projects in SONday School this year included, Birthday offerings for Feed My Starving Children, which as of April 30, totaled 191 meals. During Lent, our offerings went to God's Global Barnyard for the purchase of three goats. We learned how the gift of a goat can change lives. We did two service projects with a **Valentine's Day theme. We made baskets with paper flowers that we delivered to The Farmstead and we assembled Valentine Kits for the University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital, so the children who were patients could make their own Valentines to share.**



### Nursery

The nursery is staffed by a great team of volunteer adults **and youth who care for Grace's "little ones" each week.** They greet families with enthusiastic smiling faces and guide children through a morning of play, using stories, coloring, and songs.

### Rockin' Kids Bible Club

**Rockin' Kids Bible Club is for kids age 3-Grade 5 on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8 p.m.** It is a night that begins with a worship experience, has high energy music and our evening Bible story. Children then go to their small groups to explore the themes from the Bible story. We rotate each week through choir and one of four activities which could be games, crafts, Bible Discovery, or the favorite, Malt Night. Our BIG accomplishment was learning the books of the Old Testament! We shared many songs in worship with the congregation. Thank you to our families and volunteers for your support and enthusiasm

### Sunday Evenings @ Grace – Faith Explorers

Sunday evenings are busy nights at Grace for kids. During Sundays@Grace, children have the opportunity to be Faith Explorers. Faith Explorers is an opportunity for kids to explore faith. Some themes this year were weather, spiders, bugs, and creation. We explore our topics through many different ways including, games, crafts, science, and play.

Submitted by:

Monica Allen

Director of Infant Toddler/Rockin Kids Bible Club

Interim SONday School

## Visitation Pastors



Pastor Carol Moller



Pastor Gene Heglund

“Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed;  
Save me, and I shall be saved;  
**For you are my praise.”**

During the past year, Pastor Gene and I have had the opportunity to visit many who have been ill or are unable to attend church due to circumstances out of their control.

Grace’s Pastoral Care team, which I facilitate, meets once a month to study scripture and learn more about praying and caring for others. Presently the group is studying the book “Ritual & Pastor Care” by Elaine Ramshaw, Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling at Luther Seminary. Members of the Pastoral Care Team offer prayer, Holy Communion, and friendship to those who are homebound.

Pastor Gene meets the third Tuesday of the month with the Seniors from Grace for breakfast at the Farmstead. Currently this group is studying world religions.

Grace’s Prayer Shawl ministry has made and given prayer shawls to Hospice, North Memorial Hospital, county Senior groups, as well as members of Grace who are ill or recovering from illness.

Submitted by:  
Carol Moler

## Visitation Team



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## Outreach & Women's Ministry



### Women's Ministries

During this past year, over 50 women have **been involved in one of the women's Bible studies** offered at Grace - Ruth Circle, Monday **night women's group** and W.O.W. (Women on Wednesday). In these small groups, we love and encourage one another in the seven habits of discipleship – Bible study, prayer, serving, giving, sharing our faith, worship and nurturing vital relationships.

The **“Great Escape” Women's Fellowship Event in April** was a night filled with uplifting music, refreshing laughter and tasty treats. And, the 75 ladies in attendance are still **chatting about the joy of relaxing on the ‘front porch’ together!**

The newly formed **Women's Ministry Team** continues to **discuss and discern God's leading for future women's ministries** at Grace.

### Outreach Ministries

During the past year, over 50 adults attended one of the four CONNECT classes where the pastors welcomed them **and helped them to become ‘more connected’ to the people and ministries of Grace.**

We thank God for all the faithful ministry team leaders and **countless volunteers who put “God's love into action”** through the following Outreach Ministries:

Adult Mission Trip –Lori & Greg Ackerson will lead 16 adults on a mission trip to Haiti July 20-27 to construct a school playground and many garden plots.

Family Promise – Grace volunteers provide caring hospitality to local families without homes. Grace hosted Family Promise four different weeks during the year, using the time and talents of over 250 volunteers.

Family Table Meal – Volunteers continue cooking & serving a complimentary meal on the third Sunday of each month, feeding 700 people in our local community. Michelle Healy, Jeff Burrell and Mary Fitz lead this faithful and fun-loving ministry team.

Feed My Starving Children – Grace volunteers continue to pack meals at FMSC often. At the November weekend packing event, 633 volunteers packed nearly 185,000 meals which will feed 507 children a daily life-saving meal for an entire year. The FMSC marketplace was brought to the Grace Bazaar, and by selling baskets and bracelets, \$1,000 was raised for this ministry. Also, we coordinated and combined efforts with local ELCA churches, hosting two weekend packing events and introducing many area churches to Feed My Starving Children.

Grace Quilters – **Jan Galvin (let's call her the ‘energizer bunny’ who never quits serving)** continues to lead these faithful women, as they graciously make and donate over 300 quilts each year.

Grace4Tanzania - This ministry team worked diligently to send a huge container full of clothing, bikes and supplies to Tanzania. Praise God the container has **arrived safely into Paulo's hands. Thanks to Carolyn Anderson and Orinne Jones for leading, praying and persevering!**

Habitat for Humanity – Ten volunteers from Grace served at a Habitat work site in Brooklyn Park last August, thanks to the leadership of Greg Donaldson.

May All Be Fed food shelf – Volunteers donated an abundance of non-perishable food items, and we gave away over 400 bags of groceries this past year. Chris Pace continues to lead and coordinate faithful servants in this ministry. During Minnesota Food Share month of March, Grace collected and donated an extra 750 pounds of food to ACBC food shelf.

Operation Christmas Child – **With Dawn Perra's** leadership, Grace collected 374 shoe boxes which were delivered around the world. And ten volunteers served at the OCC Distribution Warehouse in November.

**Our Savior's Shelter** – Grace volunteers continue to serve a monthly meal at this transitional housing shelter in Minneapolis, ministering to so many. Praise God for faithful volunteers and for the leadership of Anne & Pete Weikle.

## Golden Rule Child Care



There are a lot of exciting things happening at Golden Rule this year. For starters, we are proud to be celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> year of caring for children in our community.

We currently provide care for 52 children:

- ☞ 7 toddlers
- ☞ 37 preschoolers
- ☞ 8 school agers

**We have an amazing team of teacher's that work hard every day to make a difference in the lives of the children they have the privilege of teaching.**

On June 7<sup>th</sup> we will be having our Spring Program and Graduation Ceremony. This year we will also be having a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction to raise funds for a new outside nature inspired play and learning space. As a Christian child care center we feel it is important that the **children get to go outside and explore God's wonderful world.** In anticipation for the new vegetable garden that will be added, the children have already planted seeds and watched them sprout into tiny plants. Our new outside space will also include a nature art area, a music and movement area, a climbing area, and butterfly gardens.

This summer we have a lot of exciting adventures planned. In July, the preschoolers will be going to Adventure Park while the School Agers bounce around at

Pump It Up. In August, we will be going to Bunker Park Stables for a hayride and picnic in the park. During Safety Week in June, the North Star Search and Rescue Team will be doing a demonstration with their rescue dogs. In July we will have a petting zoo and pony rides for the children to enjoy. Mad Science will be here during Mix It Up Week to do **"Mad Mixtures" with the preschoolers and "Kitchen Chemistry" with the school-agers.** **"Mike the Baker"** will be joining us during the week of Fabulous Food Fun.

On Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, we have our Open House **scheduled. We will be having a Noah's Ark Bounce House** and an Inflatable Obstacle Course. If you would like to find out more about Golden Rule we would love to have you stop in to see our classrooms and meet our staff.

**Through God's grace, we will continue to enhance the lives of children in our care through our child-centered curriculum, caring staff and nurturing Christian environment.**

Submitted by Tami Mielke  
Director of Golden Rule Child Care



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## Outreach & Women's Ministry - Cont'd from page 11

- ✪ Prayer Shawl Ministry – Volunteers weave prayers into their knitting and crocheting, with encouragement from the leadership team of Jean Griffin and Betty Jacobsen. Then 40 shawls and lap blankets were delivered to those who were ill or home bound.

During this past year, God provided these unique outreach opportunities for us to share His love:

The people of Grace generously donated \$3,000 to construct a water containment tank in Rakai, Uganda. What joy to see the video of the school children, with **arms wrapped around the water tank, shouting "Thank you Grace Lutheran!"**

Stacy Lysne pioneered the tennis shoe drive as we teamed up with GreenSneakers to recycle used tennis shoes and help raise funds for hungry children around the world.

Nine volunteers ventured to ACBC Food Shelf in Anoka last March to sort clothing, welcome guests and learn more about this ministry in our local community.

And here are some future paths that God is opening up as our Grace community continues to serve:

- ✪ Faith & Community Partnership - partnering with Sand Creek Elementary School to help meet needs of students in our local community.
- ✪ Global Health Ministries – Sorting and sending medical supplies to those in need overseas
- ✪ Habitat for Humanity – Helping on construction site in Fridley, MN on Monday, Aug. 27

Submitted by:  
Jeannie Hellmann

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## Property Report



This past year we have done many upgrades and repairs to keep our building and grounds in shape. The property Team, Mowing Team and Garden Team are the people who work hard to make sure our property is one we can be proud of.

Some of the things we have done recently include:

- ✪ Installed new power outlets for the Grace servers
- ✪ Installed track lighting in the Worship Center
- ✪ Changed parking lot lights
- ✪ Held a painting day to prepare for Holy Week
- ✪ Replaced screws and fixed the white tables in the Fellowship Hall
- ✪ Picked up and fixed approximately 175 donated chairs from Weight Watchers

We do what we can to complete work in-house, but will utilize professional services when risk management issues arise. If you are interested in joining the Project Team, please give me a call. We can always use more help taking care of this beautiful facility God has provided.

Submitted by:  
Ralph Holbrook  
Church Administrator



## Ministry Budget

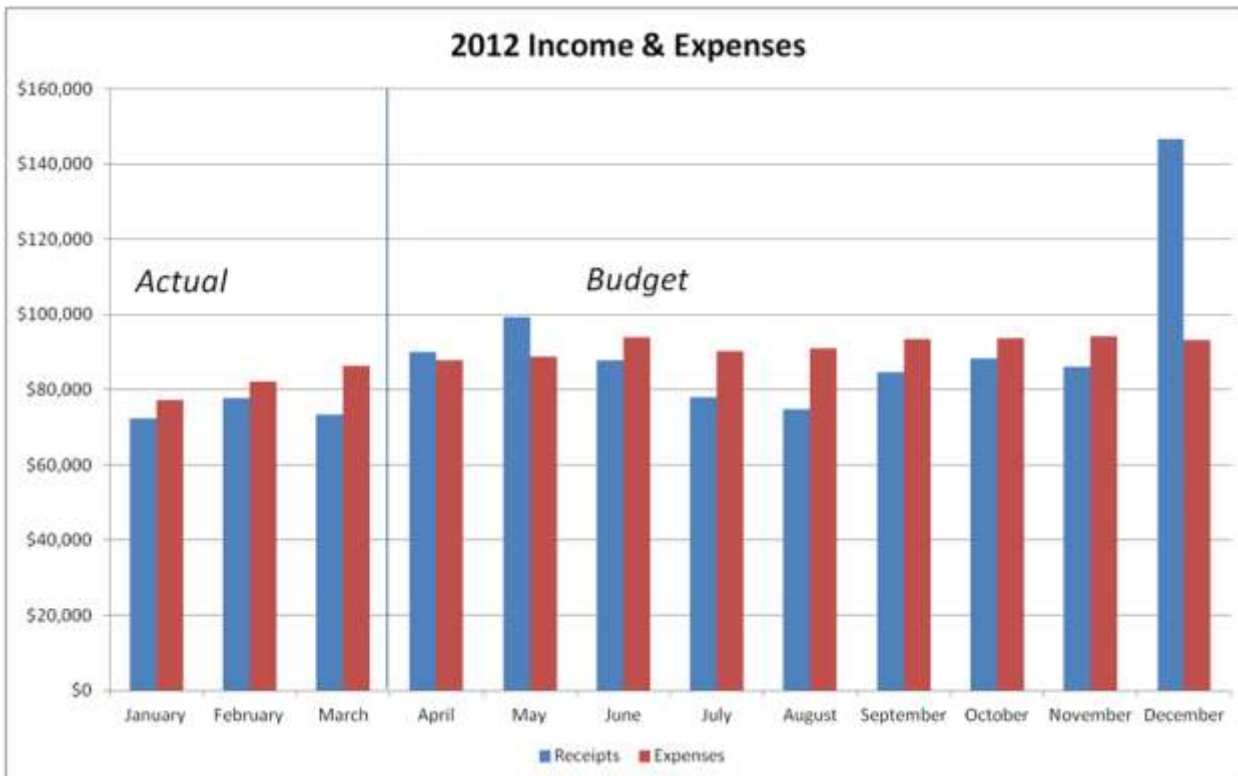
How are we doing financially?

Through the first quarter for 2012, our expenses are down \$6,000 and our receipts are down slightly from 2011. However, during the 2012 Lent/Easter season, we have seen a tremendous response from our congregation. We are hopeful that we will be able to meet similar contribution levels from previous years. Thank you for being faithful stewards at Grace!

Some highlights!

- ✂ Completed our Annual Financial Audit
- ✂ Signed a new lease for a Ricoh copier, resulting in a monthly savings.
- ✂ Renegotiated garbage disposal services for a monthly savings.
- ✂ Renegotiated rug services for a monthly savings.
- ✂ Public WiFi and internet connectivity was upgraded.
- ✂ A flat screen TV monitor was placed in the Narthex to help with overflow for Easter services. (We were able to accommodate 2660+ people from Palm Sunday to Easter!)
- ✂ Publicized a QR code which is now available for mobile devices as another way of giving in this electronic age.
- ✂ Signed a contract with NAC to provide Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC) maintenance.

2012 Income and Expenses (Actual thru March 31)



Five Year Ministry Income Comparison (through March 31st)



What is the Financial Security Fund?

These two Money Market Savings accounts were required by Thrivent before they would secure a loan for us to do our building renovations. They are emergency funds to cover expenses when our income isn't adequate to meet our needs.

Financial Security Fund

Thrivent Account	\$33,270.84
2nd Thrivent Account	\$33,270.70
Total	\$66,541.54

Capital Investment Fund

This fund is used to pay our monthly mortgage payment, pay down the principal, cover capital improvements to our building and grounds, and fund future campaigns. The reimbursement is from our General operating fund for money borrowed two years ago.

We will use some money from this fund to repair some shingles and a section of EPDM (rubber, flat roof) roofing. We discovered that a portion of the EPDM roof has been rotting due to holes in the rubber. We hope that this fix will allow us to get several more years before requiring replacement.

Capital Investment Balance

Beginning Balance	\$37,662.24
2012 Income	22,857.00
2012 Interest	15.40
Reimbursement	2,500.00
Other Expense	(00.00)
Mortgage payments	(30,198.00)
First Quarter Balance	\$32,836.64



# Our Mission

*We Join God as God seeks to...*

*Welcome us into God's family*

*Encourage us to grow deeper in our relationship with God and others*

*Equip us to find and fulfill our unique calling and mission*

*Send us into the world with mission*



Grace Lutheran Church

13655 Round Lake Blvd. NW, Andover, MN 55304

763-421-6520—[www.graceandover.org](http://www.graceandover.org)