# The M ne Event

AUGUST EDITION 2026

Official Newsletter of Grace Lutheran School

"THANKS BE TO GOD, WHO GIVES US THE VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST." 1 CORINTHIANS 15:57

## Bible Verse & Theme for 2026

This year's theme is Won by One! based on 1 Corinthians 15:57-58.

*"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."*

Paul's letter to the Corinthians clarifies the certainty of Jesus' resurrection and our ultimate resurrection as believers on the last day. We are all born weak and perishable, but Christ promises we will be raised glorified and eternal. Because we trust in the resurrection, our work for the Lord is never in vain.

## Back to School Night

You are invited to Back to School Night at Grace Lutheran School on Monday, August 24 from 4:30-6:30 pm. The evening will include informational booths, all-school and classroom meetings, and time for students to drop off supplies and explore their classrooms.

## FACTS Enrollment Packets

All families should have received an email indicating that online packets are ready to fill out in FACTS. If you did not receive an email and you cannot locate it in your spam folder, please reach out ASAP. You can also locate the enrollment packed in your FACTS account under Apply/Enroll, then Enrollment/Reenrollment.
In addition to enrollment packets, if you have not set up a payment plan yet, please do so right away. *MOST* families' payment plans roll over from year to year, but please double check to be sure.

## Calendar

- August 10 - K-3 Picnic 5:30
- August 13 - Work Day 6-8 pm
- August 17 - Teachers Return
- August 21 - Last Day of Camp Grace
- August 24 - Back to School Night 4:30-6:30
- August 25 - First Day of School
- September 7 - Labor Day, No School
- September 16 and 17 - Tanner Olson Events

## Lunch Menu

MON:

TUES:

WED:

THURS:

FRI:

## Connect

GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL
1025 14TH AVE S
FARGO, ND 58103
701-232-7747

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FACTS FAMILY PORTAL

VOLUNTEER HOUR REPORTING

CHRIST CHARACTER COMMUNITY

## Kids on a Mission: Emergency Food Pantry

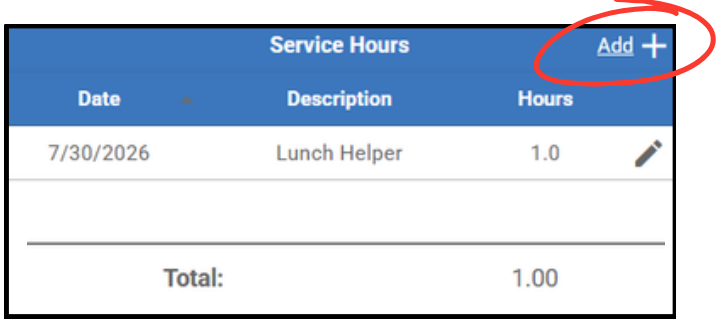
This year, our student's chapel offerings will help the Emergency Food Pantry in Fargo. Grace Lutheran School students frequently volunteer at the EFP and we are excited to support them financially as well. Watch the bulletin board near the library to track our progress.

## Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program

Once again, Grace Lutheran School has been awarded the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables grant from the USDA. This means that all students and staff will be offered a fresh fruit or vegetable at snack time every day of the school year. Students can still bring their own snack to enjoy in addition to the fruit/veggie snack provided.
Read more about the program here.

## Volunteer Hour Reporting

Volunteer hours will be reported in FACTS this year. To access the Volunteer Reporting area in FACTS, go into your Family Portal and click on Family in the lefthand column, then click Add under the Service Hours heading.




## K-3 Family Picnic

Grace Lutheran School has a long history of combining classrooms and doing it well. To facilitate strong family and student connections, we are sponsoring **a picnic and Q & A session on Monday, August 10 from 5:30-7 PM.** Bring your questions about combined classrooms.

## Work Day - Thursday, August 13

Grace Lutheran School has one more Work Day to get ready for school to start. Please join us from 6-8 pm on Thursday, August 13 to get the building ready for school.

## Aftercare Contract Hours

As a point of clarification for after school childcare hours, if you are on a:

- **one hour contract**, your latest pickup time is 4:30.
- **two hour contract**, your latest pickup time is 5:30.
- **three hour contract**, your latest pickup time is 6:15.

## Tanner Olson at Grace Lutheran School

Tanner Olson is coming to Fargo! Tanner is a speaker and poet who invites you to take a pause from your busy life and experience a message of hope and encouragement centered on God's grace and love.

Tanner's main event is on Wednesday, September 16 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. See the poster at the end of this newsletter for more information.

**Tanner will ALSO be doing a show specifically for children at Grace Lutheran School** on Thursday, September 17 at 9 am. All are invited to these events.

You can learn more about Tanner Olson and musician Matt Doering here.

**SLOW DOWN. BREATHE. BE REFRESHED. Take a pause from your busy life and experience a message of hope and encouragement centered on grace and God's love. Leave feeling lighter and reminded that you are not alone.**

## Coop Sports and GLS Sports

Seventh and eighth grade students wishing to play sports with our coop school, Carl Ben Eielson, may sign up through this link. Do not delay, as some practices start in mid-August.

Carl Ben Eielson offers Boys and Girls Basketball, Football, Dance, Gymnastics, Boys and Girls Track & Field, Girls Volleyball, and Boys and Girls Wrestling. More information here.

**Additionally**, Mrs. Jensen is working on forming some team sports in a parochial league. Keep watch for more info.

# Free and Reduced Lunch Applications

The free and reduced lunch program is important to our school. The more students we serve with the free/reduced lunch program, the more Title resources we receive, which is extra help for your student when they need it.

The income limits for free/reduced lunches are higher than you'd expect: families with income below **225%** of the poverty level will qualify.

Applications can be found here OR you can fill it out in the enrollment/reenrollment packet in FACTS.

Applications and eligibility status are confidential.

**We strongly encourage all who are eligible to apply.**

Click on table to make it larger.

**Department of Public Instruction, Child Nutrition and Food Distribution Programs**
**Income Eligibility Guidelines**
**July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027**

| Federal Reduced-Price Meal – 185 Percent | | | | | | State 225 - 225 Percent | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Household Size | Yearly | Monthly | 2x Month | Every 2 Weeks | Weekly | Household Size | Yearly | Monthly | 2x Month | Every 2 Weeks | Weekly |
| 1 | $29,526 | $2,461 | $1,231 | $1,136 | $568 | 1 | $35,910 | $2,993 | $1,496 | $1,381 | $691 |
| 2 | $40,034 | $3,337 | $1,669 | $1,540 | $770 | 2 | $48,690 | $4,058 | $2,029 | $1,873 | $936 |
| 3 | $50,542 | $4,212 | $2,106 | $1,944 | $972 | 3 | $61,470 | $5,123 | $2,561 | $2,364 | $1,182 |
| 4 | $61,050 | $5,088 | $2,544 | $2,349 | $1,175 | 4 | $74,250 | $6,188 | $3,094 | $2,856 | $1,428 |
| 5 | $71,558 | $5,964 | $2,982 | $2,753 | $1,377 | 5 | $87,030 | $7,253 | $3,626 | $3,347 | $1,674 |
| 6 | $82,066 | $6,839 | $3,420 | $3,157 | $1,579 | 6 | $99,810 | $8,318 | $4,159 | $3,839 | $1,919 |
| 7 | $92,574 | $7,715 | $3,858 | $3,561 | $1,781 | 7 | $112,590 | $9,383 | $4,691 | $4,330 | $2,165 |
| 8 | $103,082 | $8,591 | $4,296 | $3,965 | $1,983 | 8 | $125,370 | $10,448 | $5,224 | $4,822 | $2,411 |
| For each additional family member add | $10,508 | $876 | $438 | $405 | $233 | For each additional family member, add | $12,780 | $1,065 | $533 | $492 | $246 |

# 2026-2027 Faculty and Staff

***Mrs. Susan Jahnke***
*Principal*
*principal@glsfargo.org*

***Ms. Jessica Stephens***
*Kindergarten and First Grade*
*jessica.stephens@glsfargo.org*

***Mrs. Katie Jensen***
*Phs. Ed.*
*katie.jensen@glsfargo.org*

***Ms. Jayne Johnson***
*Secretary*
*secretary@glsfargo.org*

***Mrs. Lorinda Semanko***
*Second and Third Grade*
*lorinda.semanko@glsfargo.org*

***Mrs. Cambria Wood***
*Music*
*cambria.wood@glsfargo.org*

***Mrs. Amy Hirsch***
*Marketing and Enrollment*
*amy.hirsch@glsfargo.org*

***Miss Larissa Brelje***
*Fourth Grade*
*larissa.brelje@glsfargo.org*

***Mrs. Cari Weidner***
*Librarian*
*cariweidner@yahoo.com*

***Mrs. Stacy Knudson***
*Pre-Kindergarten*
*stacy.knudson@glsfargo.org*

***Ms. Clare Johnson***
*Fifth and Sixth Grade*
*clare.johnson@glsfargo.org*

***Shirley Westall***
*Cook*
*shirley.westall@glsfargo.org*

***Mrs. Alexandra Tungquist***
*Pre-Kindergarten Aide*
*(Contact Mrs. Knudson)*

***Mrs. Sara Palmer***
*Seventh and Eighth Grade*
*sara.palmer@glsfargo.org*

***Matthew Totey***
*Custodian*
*(contact Mrs. Jahnke)*

**GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

**2026 - 2027 CALENDAR**

| Date | | Event | Time |
|---|---|---|---|
| **AUGUST** | | | |
| Mon. | Aug. 17 | Teachers on duty | |
| Fri. | Aug. 21 | Camp Grace ends | |
| Mon. | Aug. 24 | Back to School Night (see schedule) | 4:30 - 6:30 pm |
| Tues. | Aug. 25 | 1st Day of school - chapel 8:45am | |
| **SEPTEMBER** | | | |
| Mon. | Sept. 7 | Labor Day - No School | |
| Tues. | Sept. 29 | Fall Picture Day | |
| Wed. | Sept. 30 | VIP Day | 7:30am |
| **OCTOBER** | | | |
| Thurs/Fri. | Oct. 15 & 16 | Professional Development - No School | |
| Thurs. | Oct. 22 | band concert | 6:30pm |
| Fri. | Oct. 23 | end of first quarter - 41 days | |
| Thurs. | Oct. 29 | Parent-Teacher Conferences | 4:00 - 8:00pm |
| **NOVEMBER** | | | |
| Mon. | Nov. 2 | Parent-Teacher Conferences | 4:00 - 8:00pm |
| Fri. | Nov. 13 | early dismissal | 1:30pm |
| Fri. | Nov. 13 | Celebration of Grace | 5:30pm |
| | TBA | Fall Picture Retake Day | 8:45am |
| Wed. | Nov. 25 | early dismissal | 1:30pm |
| Th/Fri. | Nov. 26 & 27 | Thanksgiving Break - No School | |
| **DECEMBER** | | | |
| Thurs. | Dec. 17 | all school Christmas Musical (alt. date 12/18) | 1:30 and 6:30 |
| | Dec. 21 - Jan. 4 | Christmas Break - No School | |
| **JANUARY** | | | |
| Tues. | Jan. 5 | School Resumes | 8:30am |
| Fri. | Jan. 15 | End of 2nd qtr. (46 days) | |
| Sun/Sat. | Jan. 24 - 29 | National Lutheran Schools Week | |
| **FEBRUARY** | | | |
| Tues./Thurs. | Feb. 9 & 11 | Parent-Teacher Conferences | 4:00pm - 8:00pm |
| Thurs. | Feb. 11 | Giving Hearts Day | |
| Fri./Mon. | Feb. 12 & 15 | President's Day Weekend - NO SCHOOL | |
| Thurs. | Feb. 25 | concert | 6:30pm |
| **MARCH** | | | |
| Tues. | Mar. 9 | Science Fair | 6:30pm |
| Wed. | Mar. 24 | end of 3rd qrt. (46 days) | |
| TBA | | Spring Picture Day | 8:45am |
| Thurs./Mon. | Mar. 25 - 29 | Easter break - NO SCHOOL | |
| **APRIL** | | | |
| Wed. | Apr. 14 | Donuts for Dads | 7:30am |
| Sat. | Apr. 24 | Spaghetti Dinner | 12:00 - 6:00pm |
| Fri. | Apr. 30 | NO SCHOOL | |
| **MAY** | | | |
| Wed. | May. 5 | Muffins for Moms | 7:30am |
| Tues. | May. 18 | spring concert | 6:30pm |
| Thurs. | May. 27 | Last Day of School - early dismissal (42 days) | 1:30pm |
| Thurs. | May. 27 | K & 8 Graduation | 4:00pm |
| Tues. | Jun. 1 | Camp Grace starts | 7:30am |

Grace Lutheran School
CHRIST • CHARACTER • COMMUNITY

**1025 14TH AVE. S., FARGO, ND 58103**
**SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST FOR 2026-2027**

## PRE-KINDERGARTEN

- Spillproof water bottle - labeled
- 8 glue sticks
- 1 pack of crayons – **8 classic colors only-no jumbo**
- 3 packs washable markers – classic colors
- 1 basic set of watercolors with brush
- 1 child-sized scissors
- 1 plastic 2 pocket folder with prongs
- 1 plastic see-thru pencil box (no zippers/designs)
- 4 pack of playdough (4 oz tubs)
- 2 large boxes of Kleenex tissues
- 1 plastic rest time mat
- Large backpack to fit a full-sized folder/library book
- 1 package baby wipes
- Extra set of clothes in a labeled Ziploc

## KINDERGARTEN & GRADE 1

- 1 box of 24 Crayola crayons
- 1 box Crayola washable markers-**8 classic colors**
- 1 set Crayola watercolors – **8 classic colors**
- 1 child-sized scissors
- 1 pink block eraser
- 12 Elmer's school glue sticks
- 12 sharpened #2 pencils
- 1 sturdy plastic folder **with prongs**
- 2 large boxes of tissues
- 2 dry-erase markers, fine point
- 1 plastic pencil box
- Last name A-L: 1 box of quart size Ziploc bags
- Last name A-L: 1 package white index cards
- Last Name M-Z: 1 box snack size Ziploc bags
- Last Name M-Z: 1 package colored index cards

## GRADE 2

- 24 sharpened #2 pencils
- 2 pink block erasers
- 2 wide-ruled spiral notebooks
- 2 composition notebooks
- 2 folders
- 2 dry erase markers
- 6 Elmer's glue sticks
- 1 pack markers
- 1 set watercolors
- Scissors – labeled
- 2 large pencil pouches (not a box)
- Earbuds or headphones (wired)
- 1 box of 24 colored pencils
- 1 box of 24 Crayola crayons
- 1 large box of tissues
- Last Name A-C: 1 box snack bags
- Last Name D-Z: 1 box gallon bags
- Black 1-inch binder w/ front & back pockets (music)

## GRADE 3

- English Standard Version (ESV) Bible
- 1 box of colored pencils (24)
- 1 box of markers
- 1 scissors - labeled
- 6 Elmer's glue sticks
- 1 set watercolors
- Ruler with inches and centimeters
- 2 large pencil pouches (not a box)
- 1 pencil sharpener with shavings holder
- Earbuds or headphones (wired)
- 24 sharpened #2 pencils
- 3 three-ring binders (1/2 inch)
- 2 notebooks (wide-ruled)
- 2 composition notebooks
- 2 folders
- 1 box tissues
- Last Name A-K: 1 box quart bags
- Last Name D-Z: 1 package baby wipes
- Black 1-inch binder w/ front & back pockets (music)

**PLEASE SEE ADDITIONAL GRADES AND GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE BACK SIDE**

## GRADE 4

- English Standard Version (ESV) Bible
- 1 box of colored pencils (24)
- 1 box markers
- 1 Scissors
- 6 Elmer's glue sticks
- 1 bottle white school glue
- 6 pack of larger erasers
- 3 highlighters (3 different colors)
- Ruler with inches and centimeters
- 1 pencil bag (not a box)
- 1 pencil sharpener with shavings holder
- No. 2 pencils (community pencils)
- 1 three-ring binder (½ inch)
- 2 composition notebooks
- 2 packs wide rule loose leaf paper
- 3 folders
- 2 boxes of tissues
- 1 container antibacterialwipes
  Black1-inch binderw/ front & back pockets (music)
-

## GRADE 5 & 6

- English Standard Version (ESV) Bible
- 1accordion folder, 13 pockets (NO trapper keepers)
- 3wide-ruled notebooks
- 3packages index cards (lined)
- 3packages wide-ruled loose-leaf notebook paper
- 4Elmer'sJUMBO glue sticks
- 1Setofwired earbuds or headphones
- 24-#2pencils sharpened (no mechanical)
- 1pencilsharpener (handheld) with shavings holder
- 6three-hole punched two-pocket folders
- 3spiralnotebooks
- 4largeerasers
- 2black,blue, or red pens
- 1large,zippered pencil pouch
- 1packofcolored pencils (12 plus)
- 1packofmarkers (classic colors – 8 plus)
- 3largeboxes of tissues
- 4largeand 1 medium book covers (school has a
- supplyofused book covers)
  Black1-inch binder w/ front & back pockets (music)
-

→ planner and calculator will be provided

## GRADE 7 & 8

- English Standard Version (ESV) Bible
- 1 accordion folder, 13 pockets (NO trapper keepers)
- 3 wide-ruled notebooks
- 2 packages wide-ruled loose-leaf notebook paper
- Minimum of 6 colorful pens
- 4 large erasers
- 24 sharpened #2 pencils
- 4 Elmer'sJUMBO glue sticks
- 1 - 8 count+ markers (classic colors preferred)
- 1 packofcolored pencils (12 plus)
- 2 packsindex cards (lined)
- 1 largepencil case/box
- 1 set ofwired headphones or ear buds
- 3 largeboxes of Kleenex
- 1 container Clorox Antibacterial wipes (75 count or more)
- Black1-inch binder w/ front & back pockets (music)

→ planner and calculator will be provided

## GRADES 5-8:

- Changeofclothes/deodorant required for gym
- DO NOTlabel folders or notebooks

**Note: Grade 3-8recorders ordered through school**

## ALL STUDENTS - PLEASENOTE:

- NO backpacks with wheels
- Spillproof water bottles for all grades, **labeled**
- Tennis shoes required for gym class ALLstudents
- ESVBiblesavailableforpurchase - $10