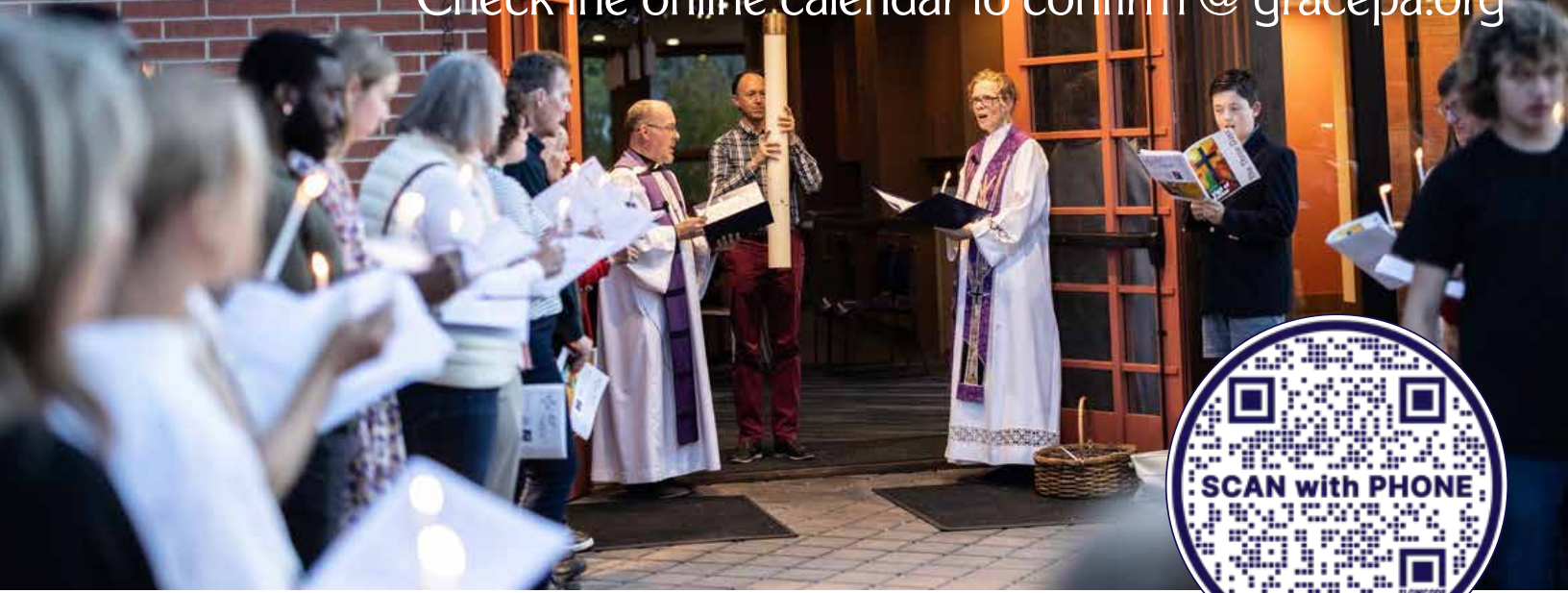


2026/27 Program Guide

Check the online calendar to confirm @ gracepa.org



Weekly

Sundays

- Worship
- Sunday School/Children's Music | Sept-May
- Adult Forum | Sept-May

Tuesdays

- Men's Breakfast | 7:00am year round

Wednesdays Sept-May (check online calendar)

- Quilters | 10am
- Life Together Dinner
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal | 7pm
- Confirmation - Online | 4:30pm & On Campus | 7pm
- High School Youth Group | 7pm

Thursdays Sept-May (check online calendar)

- Bible Study | 1pm
- Connections Cafe | 2pm 2nd/4th Thursdays
- Handbell Choir Rehearsal | 5pm

Monthly

- Women's Night Out - first Thursdays | 7pm
- Work Day | 10am-Noon - 2nd Saturdays - check calendar
- Evening Prayer in the style of Taizé - 2nd Sundays | 7pm
- Grace Outdoors (as scheduled)
- Middle School Youth Group Event
- High School Youth Group Event
- Young Adult Event

Periodic/Annual

- Blessing of Backpacks and Bicycles - August 9, 2026
- Rally Day! Start of fall programming - September 13, 2026
- Blessing of the Animals - October 5, 2025 | 10:45 service
- Beer & Hymns - Fridays, 7/3/26 and 10/9/26 | 5:30pm
1/15/27 and 4/16/27 | 5:30pm
- Reformationfest! - last Sunday of October, 10/25/26
- Trunk or Treat - Friday, October 30, 2026 | 6-8pm
- All Saints/Service for Surviving Families - November 1, 2026
- Advent Festival - November 30, 2025 | 11am
- Celebrate Grace! - February 7, 2027
- Men's Events (as scheduled)

Retreats

- Grace Goes to Mt Cross - annual pre-fall Congregational retreat at Mt Cross Aug 28-30, 2026
- Men's Retreat - at Mt Cross Apr 23-25, 2027
- Women's Retreats
one daylong on campus October 17, 2026
one weekend at Mt Cross Mar 5-7, 2027
- Synodical Retreats at Mt Cross
Elementary & Middle School (3rd-8th) 11/6-8/2026
High School (9th-12th) 2/26-28/2027
- ELCA National Youth Gathering, Minneapolis
Imagine More...*courage, grace, joy, love, welcome*



Youth Group: Join our Youth Group for a fun mix of activities, from engaging discussions and community service to exciting social events. It's a great way to connect with peers, grow in your faith, and be part of a supportive community. Youth Group meets weekly from 7-8:30pm on Wednesdays in the Youth Room. Contact Emily for more information!

Bible Study: Dive into our Weekly Adult Bible Study Sept-May for a deep, engaging exploration of scripture and ancient history with Pr Matt or Pr Friederike. Enhance your understanding, share insights, and strengthen your faith and get a glimpse of Sunday's sermon. Check the calendar for details. Interested? Contact Pastor Matt!

Women's Night Out: Join our fun-filled monthly gathering on the first Thursday of the month, 7-9pm. No topic is off limit: we cover everything from faith to menopause and cooking strawberry jam. Also, twice a year, we have retreats: In the Fall, a one day retreat on campus, and in Spring, a weekend up in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Connect with other women while deepening your faith and building a strong, supportive community. Would you like to learn more? Contact Pr Friederike.

Confirmation: Join our Middle School Confirmation Program and strengthen your faith through interactive activities and creative challenges. Build resilience, connect with friends, ask questions, and grow together in a vibrant, supportive community. Confirmation Classes take place on Wednesday, 4:30-5:30 on zoom, and 7-8pm in the Middle School Room. For more information contact Pastor Friederike!

Chancel Choir: Open to any singer of high school age and up. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 pm, and we sing most Sundays at the 10:45 service. All voice parts are invited, but we'd love the balance of a few more tenors and basses! No audition is required.

Men's Ministry: This is an expanding ministry at Grace that includes breakfast every Tuesday morning at a local cafe for those who can make it, and this fall will include two dinner get togethers as well. In the Spring we will continue, but put our third Men's Retreat on the calendar now as the last one was a HUGE hit. It will be April 23-25, 2027! This program is intended to build relationship within your faith community in ways that will deepen your faith, and create a social counterweight to the loneliness affecting our society today. Contact Pastor Matt with any questions!

Mentor Sunday: Our Middle Schoolers are invited to join this special program as part of their confirmation journey: Once a month, during Sunday School time, 9:45-10:30am, the confirmands will meet with their adult mentor, a member of the congregation, to talk about God, the world, their experiences, faith, doubt, and questions. This unique programming creates bonds that reach beyond the usual age-group focus and are a great experience for both, mentor and mentee. For more information, contact Pastor Friederike.

Praises Ring: Grace's handbell ensemble rehearses on Thursday afternoons from 5:00-6:00 pm. The bells usually ring in church on the first Sunday of each month, plus Christmas Eve. No prior experience with bell ringing is necessary, although some basic music-reading ability is helpful. We have a couple of spots open this year; contact Tim Getz if interested.

Young Adults: Grace Young Adults gather monthly for fellowship, connection, and fun. This is a welcoming community for those navigating the transitions of adulthood, offering support, friendship, and meaningful time together. From escape rooms and café meetups to Friendsgiving, Christmas outings, game nights, and shared meals, there's always something to enjoy. Whether you've grown up at Grace or are new to the area, you are invited to be part of this vibrant and engaging group. Contact Emily for more information.

Sunday School & Adult Forum: Experience our Sunday School Program for all ages, from infants to adults, where we foster community and support faith development through every stage of life. Join us to strengthen connections, grow spiritually, and be part of a vibrant, multi-generational community. Sunday School & Adult Forum happen weekly from 9:45-10:30am between worship services. Contact Emily for more information!

Quilting: Our quilters meet Wednesdays from 10:30am-12pm in Brown Hall to work on the quilts for Grace's High School Seniors and the wider community. If you are interested in quilting or learning to quilt, this group welcomes you. First meeting is on 9/2. Contact Pr Friederike for questions.

THINGS TO DO AT GRACE

Life Together Dinner: Join us for Life Together Dinners every Wednesday (Sept-May (with some exceptions . . . check the calendar!)), where everyone is welcome to enjoy a meal and build community - and then head off to our Bible Study, choir, youth group, or Confirmation class. Questions? Email Pastor Matt

Connections Café: Connections Café happens bi-weekly, on the second and fourth Thursday, at 2 pm in the Emmaus Room. This group for the more senior members of our church gathers over coffee/tea and treats to connect with each other and learn a little something new from a wide range of topics and speakers and each other. Connections Café is a space where relationships grow and community deepens. Want to know more? Contact Pr Friederike

Communion Delivery: At Grace, we believe that no one should feel disconnected from the heart of our community—especially those who are unable to attend worship in person. That's why, on the first Sunday of each month, we extend the table through our Communion Delivery Ministry, bringing the sacrament to those who are homebound. We are always looking for drivers who can help deliver communion once a month, and for a coordinator who can call recipients ahead of time to confirm their availability and help organize the schedule. To learn more, receive communion at home, or get involved, contact Pastor Friederike.

Grace Outdoors: Calling all outdoor enthusiasts! Join our monthly hike to explore beautiful trails, connect with fellow church members, and enjoy the great outdoors together, followed by a relaxing pub stop for food and fellowship. As scheduled. Interested? Email Pr Matt!

Work Day: With a number of exceptions (check the calendar!) we will be meeting from 10am to noon on the second Saturday of the month with tasks to accomplish on campus. This is a great opportunity to provide support to the Grace community, help us as a congregation focus our limited maintenance resources on tasks that truly need a professional, and build relationships while working together. This is your church . . . let's dig in! Contact Pastor Matt



PROGRAM STAFF:

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2026/2027 Key Dates for Your Calendar

2026

July

3 Beer and Hymns 5:30pm (Emmaus Room)

August

9 Outdoor Worship (10:45):
Blessing of Bikes and Backpacks
Stakeholder BBQ: WSYG Trip Report

16 Annual Report Forum

23 Annual Meeting

28-30 Grace Goes to Mt. Cross
day and weekend options for the whole
congregation

September

12 9am Volunteer Training; 10am-12pm Campus Work
Day

13 Rally Day Sunday - start of fall programming
Worship/Sunday School/BBQ

16 First Life Together

27 75th Anniversary Celebration

October

4 Outdoor Service (10:45): Blessing of the Animals

9 Beer and Hymns 5:30pm (Emmaus Room)

17 Women's Retreat

25 Reformation Sunday
Reformationfest Brats & Beer!

30 Trunk or Treat

November

1 All Saints Sunday
Service for Surviving Families 7pm

6-8 Elementary & Middle School Synod Retreat at Mt
Cross

10-11 Veterans Day Youth/Confirmation/Congregation

9 GraceMakers Craft Fair (Brown Hall) 12 – 6 pm

29 Advent: Single 10am Service
Advent Festival 11am (Brown Hall)

December

Sunday Worship During December (Advent/Christmas):
Single 10am Service

12 Advent Music Program

13 Christmas Play during Worship 10am

16 Christmas Life Together

19 Finnish Christmas

24 Christmas Eve Worship 4 & 6pm

25 Christmas Day Worship at 10am

2027

January

3 8:30/10:45 worship times resume

23 Beer and Hymns 5:30pm (Emmaus Room)

February

7 Celebrate Grace

10 Ash Wednesday

26-28 High School Synod Retreat at Mt Cross

March

5-7 Women's Retreat at Mt Cross

21 Palm Sunday

25 Maundy Thursday
Maundy Thursday Dinner

26 Good Friday

27 Easter Vigil

28 Easter
Easter Brunch - Youth Fundraiser

April

16 Beer and Hymns 5:30pm (Emmaus Room)

23-25 Men's Retreat at Mt Cross

May

2 Confirmation

16 Pentecost

31 Quilt Sunday

June

6/28-7/2 ELCA National Youth Gathering, Minneapolis

August

27-29 Grace Goes to Mt. Cross
day and weekend options for the whole
congregation