



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1000 West Wilson Street Banning, California 92220  
951-849-3232 office@glcbanning.org www.glcbanning.org



JULY 2020

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

I know a lot of us have been fatigued from COVID-19. Emotionally, mentally, physically, spiritually we've gone through a lot these past several months. If you're like me you haven't been able to go to the barber or salon to get a haircut for a long time, you've gained weight, and sometimes don't even know what day of the week it is! If that's not you, good for you! But regardless, I'm sure you're also looking forward to a greater level of "normalcy" returning.

Part of that return to normalcy involves in-person worship. While we've been able to reopen worship in the sanctuary to a certain level, there are still restrictions in place. For the safety of all we've limited the number of attendees, we've maintained social distancing rules, removed physical touch, required masks, etc. While we're not able to accommodate everyone and do everything we'd like for Sunday morning worship at this time, we hope you understand that we're proceeding slowly for the health and safety of our members. We're erring on the side of caution and trying not to take unnecessary risks.

For all who are not able to attend worship at church, we're recording our services which you may view by going to our church website at: [www.glcbanning.org](http://www.glcbanning.org) Services are usually uploaded for viewing by noon on Sunday morning. For those who are unable to view the service online we're still mailing out the service order, announcements page, prayer page, and sermon by postal mail

and email. If you would like these items and have not received them, please contact me immediately and I will put you on the mailing list.

In addition to services, Bible studies and meetings are being held online. If there are major items of church news/business we will make it known to you by a variety of means (phone calls, emails, postal mailings, announcements page, etc.). Like the rest of the world, our church is also adjusting to a new way of life and we're thankful that we have the means to stay connected through technology.

Unfortunately, with the reopening of the economy and activities there has been a rise in the spread of COVID-19. While this was expected, it is a reminder to proceed with caution. Please remember that just because you can do something doesn't mean you should. I urge our members to exercise caution and discernment as there is still much unknown about the virus. Continue to persevere with patient endurance, stand firm in faith, and pray for all needs to our gracious heavenly Father in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. And if there's something that I can help with, let me know and I'll try to do what I can to be of service.

Hang in there everyone and God bless!

—Pastor Jason



# God Bless America

## WORSHIP SERVICE

Must be registered to attend.  
At this time only a limited number are permitted.

### 9am Traditional Service

Watch the service online at  
[glcbanning.org](http://glcbanning.org)  
Or read by email



## 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION UPDATE

Due to the ongoing issues and concerns with the pandemic, the Anniversary Committee has decided to postpone the celebration service until next May. In 2021 we'll celebrate and give thanks to God for His blessings the past 100 years, and will also celebrate the beginning of a new hundred years to come – God willing. For everyone who has already paid for the luncheon, the church will be reimbursing you in the weeks ahead.

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Grace Lutheran Endowment Fund**  
(managed by The LCMS Foundation): \$10,099

**Mortgage Balance**  
(owed to Thrivent Financial): \$76,498


**General Fund finances for month of May**  
Giving - \$17,700 Need - \$20,500



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 11 – Jean Moore
- 11 – Milt Reed
- 11 – Dottie Ruedlinger
- 15– Terri Little
- 17– Mary Bass
- 18 – Colin Pay
- 23 – Robert Perez
- 27 – Myrna Eberhardt
- 27 – Seth Eberhardt
- 28– Arlene Dollarhide
- 29 – George Konrad

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 – Ken & Lavinia Brass
- 3 – Darryl & Estella Craft 
- 11 – Larry & Patty Middlesworth
- 18 – Dave & Judy Ehlers
- 25 – Russ & Jeannette Bailey

## JULY CALENDAR DATES

**Wednesdays** – (note day change) Zoom  
Ephesians Bible Study online- 10am

**Wednesdays** – Zoom  
Jr. Confirmation online - 2pm

### 4th – Independence Day

9 – Board of Elders at church 4pm

21 – Board of Directors  
meeting at 10am

## APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

As we were unable to hold our May Voters Assembly, and not knowing when we will be able to in the future, the Board of Directors have appointed officers recommended by the Nominating Committee to fill the vacancies on the Board of Directors, Board of Elders, Board of Trustees, Endowment Committee, and Financial Secretary. Under church by-laws 5.6 and 5.7 the Directors have this authority of appointment. These appointments will require Voters Assembly approval at the next regularly scheduled Voters Assembly which has been tentatively set for November 22, 2020. At that time we will resolve all items of business that should have been taken care of at the regular May meeting, in addition to the budget and other business items that regularly take place at the November meeting. The congregation has the right to disagree with the appointments of the Board of Directors and instead appoint other people to said positions. Until such time the following appointments have been made:

Board of Directors:  
Gus Acevedo and Darryl Craft

Board of Elders:  
Roger Ballinger and Jerry Beck

Board of Trustees: Linda Anderson, George Konrad, Keith Moddelmog, and Bob Taylor

Endowment Committee: Bob Holman  
Financial Secretary: Daphne Hester

We thank the appointed officers for their willingness to serve God and our congregation in their respective positions!

## MANY THANKS!

We express our sincere appreciation to those who have served our congregation in the following capacities and have stepped down:

Board of Directors:  
Rick Berghoefer and Doug Rakow

Board of Elders:  
Carl Hester and Bill Umland

Board of Trustees:  
Ben Benninghoff and Colin & Robin Pay

Thank you for your faithful service, leadership, and the giving of your time and talents to God and His church here at Grace, Banning.

May God continue to bring forth fruit from your labor of love and bless you as you have so richly blessed us! Thank you!



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MEETING SUMMARY

JUNE 16, 2020

Voters' Assembly Meeting Delay:

Due to the Corona Virus pandemic, the May Voters Assembly Meeting was not held. During the intervening period, the Board of Directors has appointed the members recommended by the Nominating Committee to fill the vacant offices. This action is possible through our Constitution (Board of Directors 5.7) and will be validated at our proposed Assembly Meeting on November 22nd of this year. Elder John Wright will inform those chosen for the Board of Elders, and Jeannette Bailey will speak to the members recommended for the remaining Board positions.

Election of Officers within the Board of Directors: The current officers, Jeannette Bailey, Chair, Elder John Wright, Vice-Chair, and Linda Taylor, Secretary, agreed to remain in their positions until June 2021.

Church Fencing:

Pastor Jason Hong discussed the progress made in obtaining bids to construct fencing around the church perimeter. Fencing became necessary due to an increase in trespassing and the threat of theft. There were also numerous concerns expressed by neighbors regarding nighttime activities taking place on church property.

Feedback on re-opening:

The overall comments were positive and expressed appreciation for the partial re-opening. The primary concern remains the safety of our members and the following of guidelines set forth by local authorities. We will be looking to make further progress in opening with careful monitoring of the current COVID-19 conditions.

Update Tellers & Key List:

Update of Tellers is tabled until a future meeting. Any needed changes of key holders will be made as new officers assume their positions.

Note stationary paper order:

Jeannette Bailey, Chair, reported that her request for notepaper stationery is yet to be received.

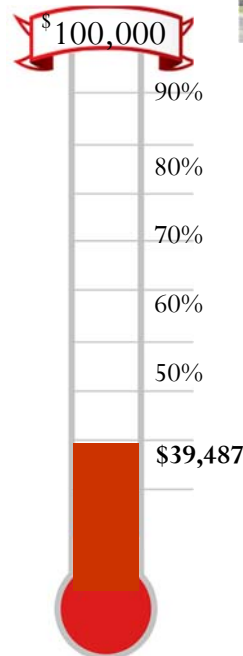
100th-year Celebration:

Pastor Jason informed the BOD that our 100th Year Celebration would be delayed until next May in 2021.

Confirm future meeting dates:

The next meeting of the BOD will be by Zoom, scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday in July (July 21st, 2020) at 10am.

*Celebrating  
100 Years of  
God's Grace*



*Praise God from  
whom all  
blessings flow,  
praise Him all  
creatures here  
below, praise  
Him above, Ye  
heavenly hosts!  
Praise Father,  
Son & Holy  
Ghost.*

*Amen*





Haragewen.kinde@missionofchrist.org

May/June 2020 Newsletter

**Praise the Lord for His endless love and guidance as we work towards building capacity of Christ centered educational institutions in Ethiopia!**

**Ministry update...** We praise The Lord for the opportunity to serve Him during these uncertain times. Though the COVID19 pandemic brought some challenges in our work we have tried to adapt to the changes and continued to serve faithfully utilizing technology as it was not possible to travel to Ethiopia. Thus, we continue the ministry work connecting with administration, faculty, students and partners via email, Zoom, Viber, Google Hangouts, and phone calls. We are serving an awesome God and He is in control. The Apostle Paul writes to the Colossians, (Colossians 3:23-24, NIV): "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters<sup>23</sup>, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving<sup>24</sup>."

While navigating the challenges, second semester is anticipated to be completed by July 30, 2020. Instruction is being delivered using different means of technology as students are not on Campus. However, this method is problematic since not all faculty and students have laptops and reliable internet access. Please pray for faculty, students and administrators for wisdom, guidance, and creativity to finish off the semester as planned.

**Well Water Project ....** Since securing funds, in November 2018, to begin the well water project at the Mekane Yesus Management and Leadership College (MYMLC) Bishoftu campus, the bidding and consultation with engineers as to the suitable location begun in February of 2019. This process involved selection of an engineering firm with water, land, and environment experience to complete the hydrological and geophysical investigation for



well water drilling. Currently, we are happy to report that **well water drilling has been completed and there is well water at the MYMLC Bishoftu campus!** We praise The Lord for blessing this effort, for all partners involved in making this a reality and for the timing as water is one of

the essential needs in dealing with COVID-19. Although previously the campus depended entirely on municipal water source which had limitations, it was getting to be expensive as families and students begun residing on campus. We now have well water that will address water needs of the campus community for many years to come!

As we praise the Lord for His blessings, we would like to point out that due to the



duration and associated material/labor costs, completion of this project has exceeded the initial estimated

dollar amount. **There is still opportunity for additional partners to help us close this increased monetary gap.** For additional information and next steps in partnering with the **well water project** please feel free to email me at [Haragewen.kinde@missionofchrist.org](mailto:Haragewen.kinde@missionofchrist.org) .

**Update on COVID19 pandemic in Ethiopia ...** As of June 12, 2020, Ethiopian Ministry of Health reports that there are 2,915 confirmed cases, 451 recovered and 47 death. There is a big concern as the rainy season begins and the associated challenges

in dealing with the increased number of cases will also increase. Thus, your continued prayers are needed and appreciated.

**Building capacity partnership efforts with Concordia University Irvine (CUI) and Concordia University Ann Arbor & Wisconsin (CUAAW) leadership Team....**

Despite the unknowns ahead of us we remain hopeful and committed to work diligently beyond COVID-19. We have been actively engaged on focused discussions with both CUAAW and CUI leadership teams in strengthening our partnership efforts in building capacity of faculty, staff, and online education of relevant programs. As a team we are committed to exploring different ways of addressing the educational needs of MYMLC. We appreciate your prayers for CUI and CUAAW leadership team specifically, for these partnering institutions as they are working hard in tackling their own challenges at their campuses for the upcoming academic year.

**Please pray for:**

- >The Lord's intervention on all COVID -19 related challenges both in Ethiopia and around the world.
- > Funding needs to cover additional costs for the Well Water project.
- >Operation related financial challenges for Mekane Yesus Seminary (MYS) and MYMLC.
- >MYS and MYMLC administration, faculty, and students.
- >The Lord's blessings and guidance for this Ministry.

**To provide tax deductible gift to support this mission work, please go to**

[www.missionofchrist.org/service/kinde-haragewen](http://www.missionofchrist.org/service/kinde-haragewen)  
Or send your gift to the address below and specify the support is for:

**Haragewen Abraham Kinde Mission Partner in Ethiopia work.**

Mission of Christ Network  
P.O. Box 533  
Concordia MO 64020



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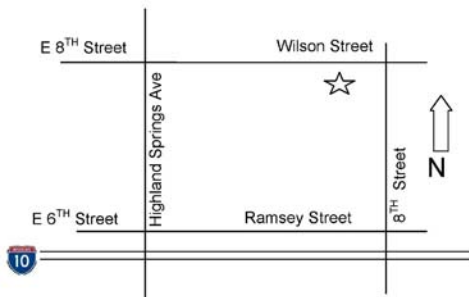
*Celebrated 100 Years of God's Grace  
On May 23, 2020*

**God Bless America**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 58  
Banning, CA

Or Current Resident

Grace Lutheran Church — 1000 West Wilson Street  
just west of 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Banning, across from Coombs School



We're on the web at [www.glcbaning.org](http://www.glcbaning.org)



**We love because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19**