

GOTHENBURG FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
1401 LAKE AVENUE
GOTHENBURG, NE 69138
REV. GRACE GICHURU

May 2022– Volume 35– Issue 5



CLASS OF 2022



Carsten Graves is the son of Javan and Wendy Ristine and Brian and Hope Graves. He plans to attend UNL majoring in Computer Engineering.



Arisa Ackerman is the daughter of Mike and Carmen Ackerman. In the fall she will be attending college at a place yet to be determined.



Ty Bartels is the son of Scott and Wendy Bartels. He will be attending UNL where he plans to pursue a degree in Construction Management.



Chesney Bartlett is the daughter of Marc and Taci Bartlett. She is planning on attending UNL where she will be majoring in psychology. She plans to be an elementary school guidance counselor.


2022

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and for a future.”

~Jeremiah 29:11

Not pictured is Ty Hotz. He is the son of Jim Hotz and Barb Hotz.

The Beat

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Gothenburg First United Methodist Church

Family Matters

Family Matters is on summer vacation and will start up again next fall. It was a wonderful and fun year! Over 900 meals were cooked by Jodi Hinds, Judy Jensen, Sharon Sukraw, and Joan Windrum. THANKS!!!! Over 25 classes were led by Sarah Anderson, Amanda Jensen and Kevin Hinds. THANKS!! Pastor Grace led the Confirmation Youth in over 30 hours of instruction. THANKS!! Over 55 youth attended the sessions throughout the year. Many THANKS to parents for allowing your children to attend.

In Memoriam

Ellie (Edson) Cleveland
 October 4, 1981~ April 3, 2022

Karen "Kay" Olmsted
 December 2, 1940~ April 19, 2022



#breakthestigma

INDEPENDENCE RISING

88% MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

5th

Mental Health Awareness Event

MAY 19th

Ehman park
 549 16th St
 Gothenburg, NE

Pony Express Children's Mental Health Riders @ 3pm

2:00 - 6:00 pm

Live Music, Food, Prize Drawings, Information Booths, Games and Lots of Support for Mental Health!!!!

MAY BIRTHDAY'S

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4- Jim Hotz | 24- Emma Jorgenson |
| 5- Robert Lane | 26- Dennis Kirkpatrick |
| 6- Bowe Oliver | 27- Izayah Boson, Tucket Bartlett |
| 8- Maverick Macek | 28- Amanda Jensen |
| 11- Karen Peterson, Jodi Macek | 30- Laron Peters |
| 12- Harold Vass | 31- Regi Lane, Brian Macek |
| 14- Beck Groene | |
| 15- Milan Franzen | |
| 17- Evelyn Miller | |
| 19- Taylor Burge | |
| 20- Grant Sell, David Loostrum, Nick Kirkpatrick | |
| 21- Ty Bartels, Tara Foster | |
| Kelly Phillips | |





From the Pastor's Desk

May Greetings all,

May is always packed with various celebrations - graduations, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and this year, we start May with confirmation Sunday. Congratulations to all graduates and confirmands!

Thanks to all who participated in our Lent and Easter services, and Food Drive for the Food Pantry. Your donations are much appreciated.

We also took a special offering to support Ukraine refugees and raised \$1,145. Thank you for your generosity. Please do not get tired of praying for the situation in Ukraine and Russia. Pray for the church in those countries to continue being a beacon of hope when things seem so hopeless. Pray for bishop Eduard Khegay, bishop of Russia and Ukraine, for wisdom and grace as he shepherds congregations on both sides of the conflict.

All in all, God is faithful. Like the hymn 'Great is Thy Faithfulness' that is based on Lamentations 3:22-33 "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. His Mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning, great is your faithfulness." Lamentations is a searing, sorrowful lament over the destruc-

tion of the holy city of Jerusalem, including God's holy temple. To such desolate, crushed people, teetering on the brink of despair, a word emerged about God's love unceasing, and about mercy each morning. The hymn even clarifies "Thy compassions, they fail not." We can know and trust – every morning and all day – in the endless and bounty of God's faithfulness. This can be trusted, because great is HIS faithfulness.

Bask in God's mercy and faithfulness this May!

~ Pastor Grace Gichuru ~





Retired Persons Lunch Bunch

Celebrating Mothers will be the focus of the Senior Lunch Bunch Retirement Group. We will meet on Wednesday, May 4 at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. All seniors are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please bring an item for the potluck luncheon. If you have any questions contact Carol or Dennis. Hope to see you there!!



Memorial Committee Meeting

The Memorial Committee will have their meeting on Monday May 2 at 4:30 pm in the Library.

Camp Comeca

Remember that scholarships are available for any youth attending Camp Comeca! Please use the Camp Comeca website for registration and contact Lynnette Stevens for the scholarship money.

FACTS AND FIGURES

General Giving Thru April 23
Actual: \$52,800 Budgeted: \$57,983
Percent of Budgeted: 91%
General Expenses Thru April 23
Actual \$53,070
Budgeted \$61,004
Percent of Budgeted 87%
Paid Apportionments Thru April 23
Actual: \$5,963 Budgeted: \$5,963
Percent of Budgeted: 100%
Budgeted Checking Balance \$9,661

Fellowship Time

Fellowship Coffee following the worship service has been a great success. As a result, several people have indicated that they would like to see it continue. This is strictly done as a result of people volunteering to make coffee and furnish a light refreshment. A sign up sheet will be in the narthex if you would like to be a part of this. We will continue as long as people are willing to be a part of this event. BIG thanks to all who have generously provided the wonderful refreshments. It has been a blessing to be able to fellowship together!

JOIN THE COMECA TEAM



We still have positions to fill for our summer staff!

AVAILABLE ROLES BY AGE:

Positions for full summer or half summer

14+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px;">Counselor-In-Training <li style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px;">Accommodations <li style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px;">Maintenance <li style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px;">K-Crew (Kitchen) Ages 16+
18+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px;">Counselor <li style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px;">Accommodations <li style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px;">K-Crew (Kitchen) <li style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px;">Maintenance <li style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px;">Camp Nurse <li style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px;">Media

Apply online at www.comeca.camp