

JANUARY 2024 Monthly Newsletter



JOB DESCRIPTIONS

*Can't live with 'em.
Can't live without 'em.
Love 'em or hate 'em.*

In a church, there are both organic and organizational components. Job descriptions land on the organizational side.

Included on my own Interim Pastor Job Description is to reset staff job descriptions and establish regular review protocols. That task, along with lots of meetings with the Elders and the Vision Team,

has got me to thinking about a church's job description.

So, I've decided to launch a series of sermons on a church's job description from Ephesians 4:1-16, only one of all the passages in our New Testament written to or about the local church. (It will be great to preach from just one page in my Bible for several weeks in a row.)

We'll have lots of things to think about—things like Christ's place, the Spirit's role, ministers' duties, unity, polity, heresy, relationships, metrics of success, the finish line. I think it will take us all of January and February.

It'll be fun. Yup, I said it. It will be fun...to consider Grace, Fridley's Job Description.

Steve Schoepf, Interim Pastor

Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

Eph. 4:11-13

PASTORAL STAFF

Steve Schoepf
Interim Pastor

Scot Hintermeyer
Worship & The Arts

DIRECTORS

Noah Bock
Youth

Trisha Pull
KidsMin Lead

Mariya Wiens
KidsMin Associate

OFFICE STAFF

Debbie Speckman
Office Manager

Hannah Hedlund
Administrative Asst &
PCO Administrator

ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2024
1:00 PM

Details to follow . . .



Game Night Outreach this
Friday, January 5th,
6:00-9:00 pm
in the Fellowship Hall.

PRAYER TEAM



Contact the church office if you would like to be notified of prayer needs of the Grace family. We intercede for those with special needs or concerns. When a prayer need arises, the information will be emailed to you.



Many thanks to **Danielle Schwarz** who managed Planning Center (PCO) for the past year or so. Danielle has stepped down, and **Hannah Hedlund** will be the PCO Administrator beginning in January. Contact the office with questions.

TRANSPORTATION OPPORTUNITIES - On occasion the church office is contacted with transportation needs by those in the Grace family. We are looking to compile a list of volunteers for future needs. Contact the office if interested.

LADIES CRAFTASTIC

Friday, January 19, 12p-9p
Saturday, January 20, 9a-9p

Sign up at the Welcome Center

Contact Andrea Farley for details

STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT



*Thank you to everyone who gave
toward the staff Christmas gift. We are
humbled by the generous spirit
demonstrated by the Grace family.
Philippians 1:3-6*

KIDSMIN NEWS

The elders have identified ministry to young families as both a priority for Grace and an area that is currently under-resourced. As such, we have decided to invest more in kids' ministry and its programs through additional leadership.

Trisha Pull has agreed to serve part-time in the role of *KidsMin Lead - Sunday Morning and Outreach*. **Mariya Wiens** will continue to serve our families and children in a support role as our *KidsMin Associate - Wednesday Evening*, with focus on supporting our Awana program. These changes will be effective in January.

Trisha and Mariya have worked closely together this fall, so we anticipate that this transition will be both smooth and effective. We are excited to see what God will do at Grace as we move forward together.

Jeff Vogel & The Elders

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER,
WHEN CANCELLATIONS MAY BE NECESSARY,
PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING SOURCES:

WEDNESDAY (BY 2:00 PM):

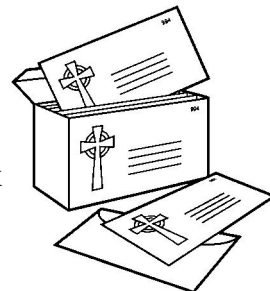
GRACE EFC WEBSITE
DIGITAL SIGN

SUNDAY (BY 6:00 AM):

GRACE EFC WEBSITE
DIGITAL SIGN
KARE 11 & WCCO CH. 4

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Boxes of 2024 offering envelopes are available at the Welcome Center. If you want to use offering envelopes, please take a box and complete the information on the sign up sheet. There are no pre-assigned boxes.



NEW OFFICE HOURS

Mondays-Thursdays
9 am - 4 pm

Fridays 9 am - 12 pm

Because of the Lord's great love we
are not consumed, for his compassions
never fail. They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:22-24

Food Distribution

JAN. 12TH, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SET UP 10:00 AM-3:00 PM
SERVING 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM
CLEAN UP 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

*To Volunteer, please contact the office at
(763-784-7199) or office@gracefree.org
by **Tuesday, January 9th***

TO RECEIVE FOOD

Registration will be:

January 12th, 10 am - 3 pm
at **Door D (back of building)**
please note this is a change of
location

and

January 12, 4:30 pm - 6:45 pm
at Door A (street side of building)

You will be given a time slip, and
will return for food between 5-7
pm.

*Please bring the time slip with you
to pick up food.*

From the desk of Student Ministries:

It's been a great year full of fun, challenges, friendships...all the stuff a youth group does in a year. I've said it before, but I'll say it again, I'm incredibly thankful for all the students and staff that make the Grace youth group our youth group. Love all you guys. I also appreciate the rest of the church that supports us and makes us Grace.

2024 promises to be another great year of ministry, fun and Challenge!

quicquid capit,
Noah



GRACEKIDS, FRIDLEY

January 2024 NEWSLETTER

FROM TRISHA PULL'S DESK

Whether you're new around here or you've been around awhile,
I'm glad you and your kids are here.

While I'm not new to GraceKids, I am new to this position and I'm looking forward to partnering with you in 2024 as we shepherd kids toward knowing and loving Jesus.

As we get rolling in a new year, I want to share a few immediate and practical goals for KidsMin in 2024:

1. Regular communication with families.
2. Transform a space in the worship center to aid in engaging kids and whole families in worship.
3. Fully staff all Sunday morning volunteer positions (still needed: SSchool hall monitor, 4th Sunday worship hour nursery)
4. Host a vibrant, life-giving season of Upward Basketball.
5. Create a Prayer Wall in the Nursery.

Will you join us in:

*praying for God to direct our efforts?

*helping in one of our areas of stated need above

PRAYER POINTS

Pray for growth in families:
in 2024 - both in numbers,
but especially in maturity
and love for Jesus

Pray for transformation:
our worship center will
physically transform in
2024 to encourage kid &
whole family worship

BIRTHDAYS

Maria Wellman
January 20

KIDSMIN NEEDS

HALL MONITOR
We need 4 volunteers
a month (1/week) to
serve from 9:40-10:15
on 2nd floor.
No experience or
special skill required.
We'll train you!

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

January 3, 2024

- Awana Resumes

January 7, 2024

- Sunday School Resumes

UPWARD UPDATE

Upward Basketball Registration is
open. Registration and
information can be found [HERE](#)



Food Distribution Update

DECEMBER

This time of year, it is especially difficult for those who are hurting, those who don't have enough food or money, those who have recently lost loved ones, those who feel lost themselves. We had many guests with these needs come through the food distribution in December. We firmly believe that no one comes through by accident; they are here because God wants them here. We don't know why, but we are here to help as we can. We are here to encourage, pray, and provide food.

We also are here to hug, and cry, with some. Betsy had that very opportunity this month. One of our guests, Karen, in November had asked that we pray that her dad would go home to Heaven, he was ready. When Karen came through the line in December, she saw Betsy and got out of her car and went over to her. She asked if Betsy remembered her request from November and Betsy told her she did remember. Karen shared that her dad passed away, peacefully, on Thanksgiving morning; she was with him as he went to Heaven. Betsy and Karen stood in the parking lot, hugging and crying together. There wasn't much of a line of cars at that moment. Betsy shared it was no accident; God opened that line, at that moment, so that Karen could share an answer to her prayer.

We had a gentleman, Mark, who had gone through the line, shared his request with Betsy and moved on to get his food. He later came back and talked with Gary, Betsy and Tim. He was very emotional, saying that this (food distribution) is an impressive operation, and he likes the idea that we spend time appreciating and caring for other people. Then...he asked how he could pray for us.

We had the privilege of serving 277 families and received several pages of prayer requests, praises and thanks. This ministry is not about us or the food we give. It is about the opportunity to help people, care for people, and most importantly, to share Jesus with them. That is an awesome responsibility that we do not take lightly. Please pray for each and every person we come in contact with....and for this ministry, that we might show them Jesus!!

The Food Distribution Team

Grace Calendar

Sundays:

9:15 am Bible Hour for All Ages, Nursery (0-3 yrs)
 10:30 am Worship Service, Nursery (0-3 yrs) and Kids Church (Age 3-2nd Grade)
 4:00 pm Quizzing Practice
 5:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study & Dinner

Tuesdays:

6:30 am Fe² Men's Group
 11:15 am Staff Meeting
 7:00 pm Adult Volleyball

Wednesdays:

1:00 pm Hilltoppers Small Group (1st Wed. of ea. month)
 5:15 pm Kids' Choir Rehearsal
 5:30 pm Fellowship Dinner
 6:30 pm Awana, Youth & Adult Bible Studies
 8:00 pm Orchestra Rehearsal

Thursdays:

6:00 am Ladies' Bible Study
 5:30 pm Worship Team Rehearsal
 6:30 pm Chorale Rehearsal

Fridays:

8:15 am Bread Ministry

Saturdays:

7:00 am Open Basketball
 8:00 am Band of Bros. Men's Bible Study (1st & 3rd)

January 1

New Year's Day - Office Closed

January 2

New Year's Holiday - Office Closed

January 3

*Office Open
 All Wednesday Ministries Resume
 NEW Office Hours Begin (9a-4p)*

January 4

Annual Reports Due

January 5

6:00 pm Game Night Outreach

January 6

8:00 am Band of Bros. Men's Bible Study

January 7

*Communion Sunday
 Term 2 Begins*
 5:30 pm Youth Hangout at Bocks

January 9

6:30 pm Elders Meeting

January 12

5:00 pm Second Harvest Food Distribution

January 13

9:30 am Youth Quiz Practice

January 14

2:00 pm Quiz Meet at Grace

January 18

6:30 pm Missions Meeting

January 19

12:00 pm Ladies Craftastic

January 20

7:30 am Band of Bros. Men's Bible Study
 9:00 am Ladies Craftastic

January 21

6:00 pm Taste & See Prayer Gathering

January 23

6:30 pm Elders Meeting

January 30

6:00 pm Upward Evaluations



*Come and encourage our youth as they learn
 and memorize the Word of God*

January 14 (Sunday) Ephesians 4-6
February 11 (Sunday) Philippians 1-4
March 3 (Sunday) Colossians 1-3
April 14 (Sunday) Everything