



Grace United Methodist Church Newsletter

November 2025

RALPH'S WAR STORY

Our family's Veterans Day story that we are proud to share is not a story of war and conflict, but a story of hospitality and kindness.

My father-in-law, Ralph Watson, was drafted and then inducted into the U.S. Army on February 14, 1944. He was 26 years old. When he left for basic training, he left his wife and a son, Gordon, just 18 months old. He served heroically in France, Belgium, and Germany, earning a Bronze Star for bravery. As a runner and carrier of ammunition, he saw and experienced much. Serving through the end of the war, he was honorably discharged in November of 1945.

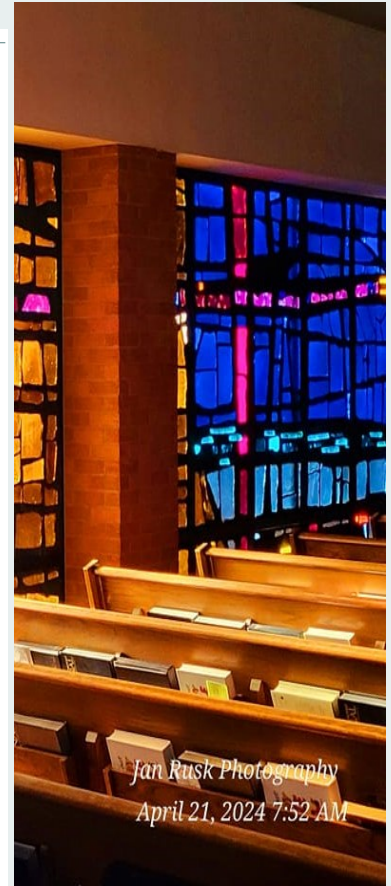
Ralph brought the usual "souvenirs" home from the war—a German helmet, a revolver, a dagger, etc. He also brought back lovely picture postcards and a pair of wooden shoes given to him by a wonderful Dutch family who befriended him.

Eventually, his family grew to include four sons. And these four boys were curious about their father's war experience. Ralph would bring out his collection of war memorabilia on Sunday afternoons for the boys to study. However, when asked for information on his experiences, he shared little.

One story he did tell repeatedly was about an incident with a German soldier. It seems toward the end of the war a small group from his platoon were gathered in a large house near some woods. A young German soldier came walking with trepidation out of the woods. He did not have a gun and was probably very worried about what was about to happen. The GIs told him to join them and took him inside. They talked for hours about war--wondering why leaders started wars, and they shared about their homes and families. They shared their names. This prisoner, Hans, gave Ralph his photo and wrote down his address. Ralph made hot chocolate for the young man. This was Ralph's story from the war: he made hot chocolate for a prisoner of war. Ralph showed kindness and hospitality.

The story is not over yet. Now is when the story gets even more interesting. Ralph's third son, Warren, is a retired teacher and a big history buff. Sometime in 2008 or 2009 he started researching his dad's time in the service. Ralph passed away at the age of 60 in 1978 and was no longer around to quiz about the war. So, Warren did research. When Warren tackles a project, he doesn't do it half-way. He created a website www.oldhickory30th.com. He spent

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MISSION STATEMENT

Everyone is invited to know and feel God's love, experience spiritual growth, encounter forgiveness, receive respect and gain hope.

RALPH'S WAR STORY CONT'D

years researching to learn more about the 30th Division during WWII. This included trips to the National Archives in College Park, Maryland, time at the Archives in St. Louis, trips to the 30th Division Museum in Florida. He gathered many documents, maps, and photos, which he shared on his website. This led to requests from families around the country asking for specific information on where their loved one had served and died. Warren helped many, many families learn about their family members' time in the war.

Back to Ralph's story: Warren included on the website the young POW's name and address from the photo that Ralph brought home. A German researcher saw this and actually found Hans after all these years. Warren wrote to him. Hans was still living and had his daughter write a letter back to Warren, thanking Warren for reaching out to find him. The daughter reported that her father was delighted to receive a letter from Warren. She said that as children they were told the story of the American soldier who "spoke to him so friendly and treated him so well." It seems in Germany there is a book about the war and what happened to the POWs in Hans' city. And Ralph is mentioned in the book, just as Hans is mentioned on Warren's website and in the book Warren wrote. The daughter went on to tell what Hans had done with his life after serving time as a POW.

This story is a treasure for our family, and a family in Germany. Two families share this incident. It shows that amid war, good men will show kindness, even to the "enemy." And thanks to Warren, we know this story.

Jan Watson

VETERANS DAY—NOV. 11TH

Veterans Day (originally known as Armistice Day) is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. It coincides with holidays in several countries, including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, which also occur on the anniversary of the end of World War I. Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major U.S. veteran organizations Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

Veterans Day is distinct from Memorial Day, a U.S. public holiday in May: Veterans Day commemorates the service of all U.S. veterans, while the older Memorial Day, which grew out of Civil War commemorations, specifically honors those who have died while in military service.

Grace Veterans

Jeff Huckfeldt
Steve Waller
Roger Ingledue
Brad Johnson
Rich Pentice
Tom Montgomery
Pete Paulson
Steve Palm
Wayne "Lefty" Peterson
Bob Barringer
Ivan "Lou" Reed
Gary Horning
Zach O'Clair
Nick Ensley
Dennis Van Vickie
Glenn Chenhall
Evan and Lori Small
Alan Masters
Brianna Pullen
Roger Riley





To contact Pastor Michael

Email:

ThePastor
@spencergumc.

Call:

712-262-5970



Pastor Michael's BLOG:
[The Bare Church](#)

THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR MICHAEL

I am overwhelmed with the love and encouragement I have received during October's Pastor appreciation month. The cards, words of encouragement, gifts, and offers to the ministries at Grace UMC have been tremendous. Is it redundant to say thank you to a so many thanks yous? All I can say is, it is a privilege and pleasure to serve at Grace UMC and your love for my family, and I has been and continues to be transformative. I am so thankful that I serve a congregation that welcomes my quirky sense of humor and obnoxious energy. As you've come to know I have a passion for Jesus. Particularly, for telling people about how Jesus loves you and wants to offer abundant life. This abundant life has more joy and belonging than anything the world can offer you.

So, to continue in sharing my quirky humor, here is a list random thing that can go unnoticed that I am thankful for...

Tie Bars-My ties seem to have a mind of their own. Tie bars are like tie babysitters.

Ice Cubes-They live their whole life to serve you as they melt away.

Nail Clippers-Much more versatile than their name implies.

Inside Jokes-Nothing makes you feel more connected to someone than disconnecting yourselves from everyone else.

Cool Whip-As a topping or all on its own.

Gas Stations with free air pumps- Seriously, people do not share their appreciation of these near enough.

Mints- Because chewing gum is too much work

Applebee's- Because nothing says let's try something new like going to the same place and ordering the same thing.

Being an Overthinker-As obnoxious as it is, it does make life interesting.

Any moment where someone other than you gets the giggles- We've all had them or have watched it unfold. It starts out harmless, a slight smile turns into a light laugh, a light laugh turns into a deep chuckle, and the deep chuckle slides right into uncontrollable laughter. I repeat, much more fun as a spectator.

Refrigerator lights- I think some people have had them for so long they have no idea they exist. They think all refrigerators magically light up as the door opens.

Punctuality-All you people who are consistently on time I absolutely adore At least one of your many qualities.

Gravity- You keep me grounded.

Things you remember that other people remember differently- Nothing gets you in a fight faster than telling someone how it really happened.

Hairdressers who talk to you- I don't know why I find it so awkward to sit quietly for 15 minutes while someone cuts your hair. Probably because it's sitting quietly.

Thank you Grace UMC for letting me be the unique me as I serve in great love for you all.



- We are currently collecting:
- Pancake Mix (add Water only)
- Pancake Syrup (not Sugar Free)
- Grape Jelly

Drop Off items to the Church by Sunday Nov 16th.

Bags will be packed after Wednesday coffee on November 19th.

MISSION PROJECTS

During the worship Service on November 2, we came together to celebrate Missions and the wonderful ways our church is serving others.

Mission Celebration Presentation

Brownie Small gave a wonderful presentation highlighting all the mission and service projects Grace United Methodist Church has participated in throughout the year. The room was beautifully decorated with examples of shawls, sweaters, love blankets, and sleeping mats—tangible reminders of the many ways our congregation serves others.

Our mission projects this year included:

- Feed Just One
- Serving at The Banquet in Sioux Falls
- JumpStart Meals for Head Start Families
- Heifer International
- InGathering Items
- Meals on Wheels
- Noisy Offering Projects
- Mittens and Hats for Head Start Kids
- Reading Books for All Graduating Second Graders
- Prayer Shawls
- Personal Hygiene Bags

In December/January, there will be a special newsletter featuring full details and stories from all these mission efforts. Stay tuned for this inspiring recap of the incredible work we've accomplished together!

THANKSGIVING BIBLE VERSES



Psalms 107:1: "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!"

1 Thessalonians 5:18: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"

Colossians 3:15: "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful."

Colossians 4:2: Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

Hebrews 13:15: Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Psalms 69:30: I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

1 Chronicles 16:34: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Hanging of the Greens

"Hanging of the Greens" is a Christian tradition that marks the beginning of the Advent and Christmas season by decorating a church or home with evergreens.

Symbolic meanings of the decorations

Evergreens: Symbolize eternal life and the unending nature of God, mirroring the coming of Christ and the hope of His return.

Wreaths: The circular shape of a wreath, often made of evergreens, represents God's eternal, unending love.

Colors: The traditional color for Advent is purple (signifying the sacred and spiritual fulfillment), though some traditions use blue (representing anticipation and promise).

We will be having **Hanging of the Greens** on **November 23rd**, immediately after the worship service. Everyone is invited to help decorate our church for this joyous season as we prepare our hearts and sanctuary for Advent.

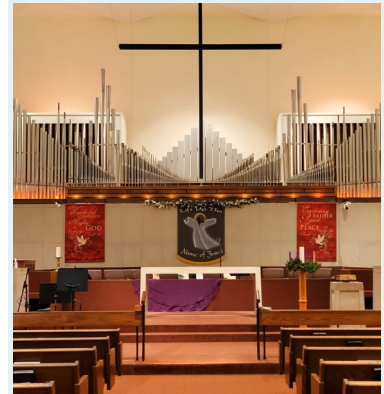
1st Sunday of advent is November 30th

Wreath Decorating

We have several new-to-us wreaths available for individuals or groups who would like to decorate them and display them in the church.

Guidelines:

1. Individuals or groups may choose a wreath to decorate.
2. Please make all decorations removable so the wreaths can be reused next year.
3. **Hang by December 7:**
 - * You may hang your decorated wreath on any door or elsewhere in the building **except the Sanctuary**.
 - * Or you may bring your wreath to the church and ask **Sheryl Larson** to hang it for you.



Christmas Eve Services

We invite you to join us for our Christmas Eve services this year at **4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.** Come celebrate the birth of Christ with candle-light, carols, and the joy of the season. All are welcome!



TRUSTEE REPORT

At this time, nothing is reported as broken!

The Trustees will be conducting the annual Parsonage walkthrough in November.

In the church basement, sheetrock has been installed and is awaiting mudding and taping. Eleven new doors have also been installed; they still need to be stained. Dan will continue working on these projects throughout the winter. Once the sheetrock work is complete, we will need painting crews. Several United Methodist churches in our district have already offered to assist with this project.

The Girl Scouts are now using the North Room. The walls and floor have been painted an off-white, and the girls are enjoying the updated space.

We are grateful to have received a **\$20,000 grant from the Iowa Conference** designated for lower-level repairs and flood relief.

If you see **Dan Harris** in the building, please give him a pat on the back and a heartfelt **thank-you** for all the



MEMORIALS

November 1 is known as All Saints Day in the Christian Church. "All Saints Day is an opportunity to give thanks for those who have gone before us in the faith. It is a time to celebrate our history, what United Methodists call the tradition of the church" (Iovino, 2015). In the United Methodist Church, the tradition of honoring all the saints who have gone before us in the past year is celebrated on the first Sunday of November. This year we will celebrate the lives of Stephen Beecher, Helen Foote, Timothy Small, Wanda Grote, Marleen Voss, Norma Dotson, Norma Whalen, Meredith Johnston, Beverly Andis, Bettie Hanson, Steve Hall, Lyle Cretsinger, and Everett Handy.

The Memorial Committee is thankful for these saints associated with our church. Memorial money has been donated to the church for these and other saints who have passed away. Some money is for specific projects and ministries while other money is available for general use. If you know of a special project or ministry of the church that needs assistance, there is money available. Please contact the Memorial Committee. The committee consists of Judi Calhoon (chair), Kevin Tlam, Anita Edwards and Marsha Larson.





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Ministry is looking for more hands to help with the children in our church family. Does being in the presence of children bring you smiles and that sense of wonder? Come help play a game, tie a shoe, read a story or help with a craft!

Classes for young people have begun. They meet each **Wednesday 6:00-7:00 P.M.** and will follow the Spencer School calendar. Lead teachers will conduct the planning and lessons, but will be needing assistance for the classes to run smoothly. Please consider volunteering on a Wednesday evening for this ministry.

Children would love your help and sometimes just a kind heart to listen. A big THANK YOU to those that have assisted!!

We are needing two adults in the Children's Nursery each Sunday. This would be during worship, with the service streamed on the nursery tv. Please consider volunteering a Sunday.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Grace UMC offers several opportunities for singers and musicians of all ages and skill levels:

Grace Band – We're always looking for new singers and musicians! Practices are Thursday afternoons and Sunday mornings before worship. Interested? See Pastor Michael to sign up.

Chancel Choir – Rehearsals are **Wednesday** evenings from **6:00 to 7:00 PM**. Join us as we lift our voices in praise and worship.

Bell Choir – Practices are **Wednesday** evenings from **7:00 to 8:00 PM**, following choir rehearsal. No need to be a professional musician—you just need to be able to count from 1 to 4 (sometimes 3!).



UNITED METHODIST MEN

Please join us for the UMM Breakfast on **Saturday, Nov. 8th**. Breakfast will be served at **8:00 AM**, followed by a special program led by Megan Hanges of the Clay County Long-Term Relief Committee.

Committee Mission Statement:

"Our mission is to empower Clay County residents to rebuild, restore, and strengthen resiliency for a brighter future."

Following the historic flooding that swamped Spencer, Iowa, in June 2024, many organizations and non-profits stepped forward to offer assistance. Nearly seven months later, these groups have come together to form the Clay County Long Term Recovery Group, working toward the ambitious goal of restoring the community to its pre-flood condition.

This gathering is **open to everyone**. Hope to see you there.



<https://uwfaith.org/>

2025 Officers

Cyndi O'Hara
(712)363-3185

Lisa Elliott
(712)240-0929

Shurmaine McAlpine
(712)592-1636

Jane Ingledue
(605)413-7034

UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

SOUPS, PIES & SILENT AUCTION FALL FESTIVAL

Sponsored by UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH @ 11:30 AM in FELLOWSHIP HALL

We will be serving a variety of soups and pies as well as items for silent auction. Please put this on your calendar. This will be our fundraiser for the year to reach our \$1,500.00 annual pledge and be able to contribute to other projects and agencies benefiting women, children and youth.

Come share food and fellowship while helping our United Women in Faith meet our mission goals!.

During the event they will have Growing in Grace reusable shopping bags available for purchase for \$5.



UWF Meeting Dates-

Thursday Dec.4 @ 1:30 pm

Esther Circle

Tuesday, Nov.18th @ 5 PM (not 25th because of Thanksgiving)

Ruth Circle 3rd

Thursday Nov 20th@ 1:30 pm

NOVEMBER BOOK REVIEWS

UWFaith Book Selections

The social action book selected for this month is The New American, a novel written by Micheline Aharonian Marcom and inspired by interviews with Central American refugees. This is the story of a Guatemalan American college student who learns he is undocumented when he is deported and then his journey to return to California, the only home he has ever known.

The spiritual growth selection is Abuelita Faith: What Women on the Margins Teach Us about Wisdom, Persistence, and Strength. The author, Kat Armas, is a second-generation Cuban American who grew up on the outskirts of Miami's Little Havana neighborhood. Her earliest theological formation came from her grandmother, her abuelita, who fled Cuba during the height of political unrest and raised three children alone. Armas shows us how voices on the margins have more to teach us about following God than we realize. (*Christianity Today* 2022 Book Award finalist)

The final pick was a *New York Times* bestseller, Before We Were Yours, by Lisa Wingate, under the nurturing for community category. The lives of three children living on a riverboat are forever changed when taken by strangers and thrown into an orphanage on a night when their mother is rushed to a hospital. This novel is based on real-life history of baby farms, orphanages, adoption practices, Georgia Tann, and the scandal surrounding the Tennessee Children's Home Society in Memphis, TN, and set in 1939.

Christmas Tea

Hosted by the United Women of Faith

Thursday, December 4th- 1:30pm

Join us for a special Christmas Tea filled with fellowship, warmth, and the spirit of the season. All are invited to come and enjoy this festive time together





SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

Starts Dec1st

Hospitality Development Team- This group will be using the book *Shift: Helping Congregations Back Into the Game of Effective Ministry* to discuss our hospitality culture. We will look at how we can use our building, our people, and our talents to be an intentionally welcoming place in our community. This group will meet **Sunday evenings from 7-8pm starting October 12th-November 16th.**

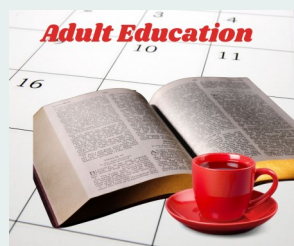
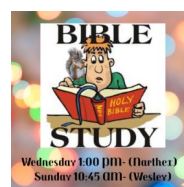
Developing Discipleship Practices- This group will be using excerpts from several books to discuss ways to interject scripture and spiritual practices in our daily lives. If you are seeking ways for your belief to be reflected in your life this will be a great group for you. This group will meet **Tuesday mornings from 10-11:30am starting October 7th-November 18th.**

John the Baptist- During Advent our worship and sermons will revolve around the character of John the Baptist. As we welcome the Christ child, we will discuss how this cousin of Jesus held great significance to his development and ministry. This group will have two meeting times: **Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm starting on December 1st-December 22nd** and **Tuesday mornings from 10-11am starting December 2nd-December 23rd.**

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 1:00-12:00 PM

Narthex



Adult Education

Sundays at 10:45 AM

Wesley Room

Our Adult Education group gathers each Sunday morning following worship. Together, we take time to revisit the scripture passages and sermon from the service, sharing insights, questions, and personal reflections. This welcoming discussion group offers a chance to grow in faith, deepen understanding, and build meaningful connections with others in our church family.

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



November 5th & 19th



Coffee @ Grace

1st & 3rd Wednesdays | 9:30–11:00 AM

Fellowship Hall

Come enjoy good coffee, delicious food, and warm fellowship! It's a great place to catch up with old friends—or make new ones.

Everyone is welcome—we'd love to see you there!

Fitness Classes at GUMC: Essentrics & Chair Yoga

We're excited to offer **two fitness classes** at GUMC.

Mondays & Wednesdays

9:30–10:00 AM – Essentrics

10:00–10:30 AM – Chair Yoga

Held at the church, Wesley Room

Essentrics is a strength training method that uses slow, controlled muscle-lengthening movements (eccentric contractions) to help build strength, improve balance and flexibility, and reduce injury risk.

Chair Yoga offers gentle stretching and movement using a chair for support—ideal for all fitness levels, especially those looking for a low-impact option.

No matter your experience, these 30-minute sessions are a great way to care for your body in a supportive environment. Come give them a try! Bring a friend!

Thanksgiving Service

Ministerial Association Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 23rd at 6:00 PM

Southpark Mall

Join us for a community-wide Thanksgiving Service hosted by the Ministerial Association. Together we will share prayers, lessons, and Scripture as we give thanks and celebrate God's blessings.

Everyone is welcome—come worship with us!



UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

- 11/05 Grace Cares - Spaghetti & Garlic Bread
- 11/12 UM Men - Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup
- 11/19 UMW - Baked Potato Bar
- 11/26 Thanksgiving - No Meal

COOKIE WALK

Saturday, December 13 • 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

We are looking for cookies—not just any cookies, but *your favorite Christmas cookies*! We are planning to gather 200 dozen of our finest cookies to sell. Patrons will be able to choose from all the different varieties to make up the dozen cookies they want to purchase.

We have containers we would like you to use when returning your cookies to the church. If you'd like to bake early, these containers work well for freezing your cookies. Containers will be available during the week in the church office and in the Narthex on Sundays.

People are also needed to assist on the day of the sale.

*** Sign-up sheets are available in the Narthex. ***

We think this will be a fun event to raise money for church and mission projects. More information about this fundraiser is available on the table in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact **Alison Herman, Kristin Schwenneker, or Linda O'Clair.**

MESSIAH

CONCERT
Sunday, Dec. 7 at 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Spencer, Iowa

CONDUCTOR
Tim Schumacher

REHEARSALS
Sunday evenings
starting on Oct. 19
from 6:00 p.m.
to 7:30 p.m. at
Sacred Heart
Catholic Church

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER REQUESTS

For Those With Health Concerns

Please keep in your prayers all those in our church family and community who are facing illness, recovering from surgery, undergoing treatment, or experiencing ongoing health challenges. May they feel God's healing presence and sustaining grace.

"He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak." — Isaiah 40:29

- **Gordon Watson**
- **Judith Olson**
- **Bill Prentice**
- **Russ Hitchcock**
- **Delores Barringer**
- **Tom Montgomery**

For Those With Recently Lost Loved Ones

May God surround these families with comfort, peace, and strength in the days ahead.

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." — Psalm 34:18

- **Larry Russell Knudsen**
- **Miriam Elaine Fonley**
- **Marjorie Loretta Mann**

For the World

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." — Psalm 46:1

- For all who are experiencing **persecution** in **Nigeria**, and across **the rest of the world**, May God's protection, justice, and peace surround them.
- For those recovering **after the tremendous hurricane**, that they may receive comfort, resources, and hope as they rebuild.
 - For individuals and families in the **United States facing food shortages**, that their needs may be met and that communities and agencies would be moved to respond with generosity and care.



[Click Here](#)

REFLECTIONS

Ad Fontes Media Bias Chart

<https://adfontesmedia.com/>

by Dorothy DeGroot

In our adult Sunday School Class, we sometimes talk about current news events. There are many sources for news. How do we become “good consumers” of the news and the information it contains?

Is a story written using verified fact or is it just the author’s opinion? How can we know? Look at the Ad Fontes Media Bias Chart using the internet address listed. It is interactive which means you can change the size or zoom in on certain areas.

The news sources shown at the TOP of the chart are written using thorough fact reporting and/or dense fact analysis. This means the writings are based on solid and verifiable work and research.

Is a news story written to represent a certain point of view?

I want to know if a story’s point of view (bias) is: middle-of-the-road? left-skewed? right-skewed?

On the chart, locate the news sources according to their location from right to left. If the source is near the middle, that represents a story that is “middle-of-the-road” or neutral on bias.

The same indicators apply to sources listed on the left or right side of the screen. Their bias is skewed either to the left or to the right.

Here are some examples:

Associated Press (AP) apnews.com primarily fact with neutral bias

PBS News Hour <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/> slight “left” bias in opinion

NewsNation Network <https://www.newsnationnow.com> --- slight “right” bias in opinion

The Joe Friday Version

By Dorothy DeGroot

For those of you who want your news as “just the facts, ma’am”, see the three resources below. Sign up for their newsletters.

Pew Research <https://www.pewresearch.org/>

Ballotpedia https://ballotpedia.org/Main_Page

Encyclopedia of American Politics – past, present, and future

Ballotpedia is a 501(c)3 charitable nonprofit organization and is not affiliated with any campaigns or candidates for office. All [gifts](#) to Ballotpedia are tax deductible to the extent of the law and help to provide voters with information about their ballots. Ballotpedia currently has 631,296 encyclopedic articles and offers daily, weekly, and monthly email newsletters.

1440 <https://join1440.com/?share=true>

In 1440, the printing press sparked a knowledge revolution.

The email digest from the “new” 1440 is compiled by a team of editors who curate content from over 100 sources and condense it into a concise, factual, five-minute read. This approach is designed for busy, curious readers who want to stay informed without being overwhelmed by opinion-based or emotionally charged content.

Reflection **by Jamie Horning**

I have been reflecting about Grace the past few weeks. It has been a year since we got full power in the west end of the church. To celebrate we had a potluck on a Saturday night. After the meal, Pastor Michael talked about the light. How some people are so close to light that they cannot see the world around them or what God is doing. While others are so far away they cannot see the light nor see the world around them because of darkness. And then there are the ones who are at the right distance. They not only see God but they see the world around them and can see what God is doing in the world. He challenged us to search our hearts and see where we are with the light.

I did and these are my thoughts...

God knew Satan's plan of using the disaffiliation to destroy the church. God made the first vote fail. While waiting for the second vote, God started working on Pastor Berrie's heart. He knew Pastor Berrie had the wisdom and leadership to help us after the split. While Pastor Berrie was helping us with our mourning, and helping us find our identity as a new church, Satan started working on his plan to use a flood to destroy the church. So God worked on Pastor Berrie's heart again, and he said he would stay an extra 4 months. Then God started working on Pastor Michael's heart [even though he didn't know us at this point]. God knew we would need someone youthful, talented and can think outside the box. About a month and a half after Pastor Michael came, Satan sent the flood. But with Michael's leadership, talents and volunteering by so many members, we were able to continue being a church, worshipping and fellowshiping.

Now reflecting over the past year...

Not only did we regain electrical power in the rest of the church. God brought more children to Wednesday night's Children's Ministry. Thru the Winter, Spring and Summer God has brought us new people into the church. God was, is and will always be with Grace. God is awesome and I can't wait to reflect again in another year.

CALENDAR

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:45 AM Fellowship (Narthex)
10:45 Aam Adult Education (Wesley)

Wednesday Night schedule

5:30 - Community Meal (free-will offering)
6:00- Grace Kids
6:00 - Choir Practice
7:00 - Bell Choir Practice

Committee Meetings

Children's & Youth Ministry	November 11	6:30 PM	Library
Church Council	November 24	6:30 PM	Fireside
Finance	November 10	5:30 PM	Wesley
Grace Cares	November 15	3:00 PM	
Missions	November 3	3:30 PM	Library
SPRC	November 3	6:00 PM	
Trustees	November 10	6:30 PM	Library
Worship	November 5	4:00 PM	Library

Chair Yoga	Monday & Wednesday	10:00AM	Wesley
Coffee @ Grace	November 5 & 19, 9:30AM	9:30AM	Narthex
Essentrics Class	Monday & Wednesday	9:30AM	Wesley
Esther Circle	November 18	5:00PM	
Grace Band Practice			Sanctuary
Loom Work Session	Wednesday	2:00-4:00 PM	Fellowship Hall
Men's Bible Study	Wednesday	1:00 PM	Narthex
Ruth Circle	November 20	1:30 PM	
UMM	November 11	8:00 AM	BenTena Room
UWFaith	No meeting this month		
Weighted Works with Love	November 25	9:00 AM	Fellowship Hall
Adult Study Group	Sunday	10:45 AM	Wesley

[The complete calendar may be accessed here.](#)

CHAIR PERSON OF MINISTRY BOARDS:

Church Council: Judith Olson
Co-Lay Leaders: Sandy Heerdt, Ben Pullen
Lay Member to Ann. Conference: Jenn Ingledue, Bri Pullen
Treasurer: Sue Burdick
SPRC: Ric Guerrero
Trustee: Gary Small
Finance: Paul Kassel
Missions: Brownie Small
Memorial: Judi Calhoon
Grace Cares: Cyndi O'Hara
Worship: Linda O'Clair
Children's & Youth Ministry: Lisa Elliott
UWF: Cyndi O'Hara and Pastor Shurmaine McAlpine
UMM: Bill Elliott
Youth Rep:
Church Council Secretary: Joan Waller
Finance Secretary: Sandy Thomas
Director of Communications: Alison Herman



JOIN US FOR...

Inperson/Live Stream Worship▶
Sundays @ 9:30 AM- Sanctuary

CONTACT US

Grace United Methodist Church
311 2nd Ave W
Spencer, IA 51301
Phone: 712-262-5970
office@spencergumc.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Friday - Sunday
Closed