

Semi-Annual Packet Of Reports

July 1, 2022
through
December 31, 2022

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For Reporting period of July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

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Elder Board Report
Semi-Annual Report
July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.” James 1:17

Various Bible translations express this truth in different words, but they all refer to the unchanging character of God who is the source and giver of all good and gracious blessings. Our Grace Fellowship Church family continues to be the recipient of bountiful gifts from Him. This expressed recognition of God’s blessings may sound repetitive, but as God’s blessings are never ending, songs and words of thanks should also be never ending.

Many of these blessings are easily seen. These would include the amazing number of tithes and offerings that our church family continues to give in response to God’s direction. It is the large number of neighbors joining us at the block party and the trunk or treat events which was heartwarming. We see the number of worshipers continuing to grow. We had such a large turnout for the study of heaven showing great interest in this important topic. New attenders are “hitting the ground running” getting involved with ministries and attending events. And we also thank God for the many, many blessings that are subtle or behind the scenes. These include God’s provision of good weather for the neighborhood events. We think of the man with the disabled auto in our parking lot listening to the Gospel while Pastor Kyle helped with his car. We have many people who, behind the scenes, quietly help each other in many ways. This includes but is not limited to checking the church boilers, providing food for Sunday morning discipleship hour, visiting and calling folks in their homes or care centers or fixing the drinking fountain. The people who help with nursery, help with church meals or help distribute household goods to needy women are all blessings from our Lord. We appreciate the musicians who offer so much. GFC is blessed to have a strong commitment to others. These are just a few of those to appreciate.

A highlight in the past six months for the elders was our retreat in Cedar Falls at Big Woods State Park. We used the book “LEAD; 12 Gospel Principles for Leadership in the Church” by Paul David Tripp as an agenda and guide for increasing the spiritual direction of the elder board. This was time well spent in prayer, study, discussion, and personal response to a study of leading a church under Biblical direction.

The elders are excited about all these things previously listed that are happening at GFC. Sunday morning worship is thrilling with wonderful music, layperson participation and powerful, gospel-centered sermons from Pastor Kyle. Attendance at corporate prayer and discipleship times is growing. Not only is there much to be thankful for at Grace Fellowship, but there is also much to look forward to in the coming months.

Your elder board,

Carl, Matt, Scott, Russ and Dick

Statistical Report
Semi Annual Report
July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

- Total Members are 105
 - New members during this time period:
 - Galen and Schaenette Anway
 - Crystal Bueneke
 - James and Annette Rechenberger
 - Bill Swan
 - Ethan and Maggie Van Sickle
- There was 1 Baptism during this reporting period:
 - Ethan Van Sickle

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Camarata
Office Manager

2022-23 Mid-Year Financial Recap

As of 12/31/2022

	Dec 31 Bal
Balance Checking – Community Bank	93,3441.80
Grace Financial Savings	74,673.24
Community Bank Savings	32,276.77
Grace Financial Scholarship	23,745.88
Total	224,137.69

Liability Accounts

Merit Scholarship	23,745.88
Flowthru liability	17,510.35
Special Mentions -	
Memorial Fund	1,280.99
Special projects – (Parking Lot)	3,895.64
Youth Reserved	4,285.74
Total of All liabilities	41,256.23

Budget Income / Expense

Budget	128,907.00
Budget income	145,316.00
Expenses	120,105.86
Net Ordinary Budget Income – (Income – Expenses)	25,210.14

Large expenses during this period

\$1336 for Streaming computer

\$7150 for Security Cameras and Burglar Alarm

\$1136 Roger and Cindy Lear were sent to a worship conference

\$4312 to have all cracks in Williston parking lot cleaned and tarred.

\$2400 to Youngs Plumbing for heating system and mini split service calls

Notes:

In August we stopped paying for someone to check the church because the security cameras and burglar alarm system were installed. At year end we have saved 750. The Burglar Alarm system cost 825, which included installation and 225 a year for the service. As of March 2023, We will have saved enough to completely pay for the system. We will then save money each month. Another interesting note, not one person has accidentally tripped the alarm system..... not yet.

For the year to date we have taken in \$27,522 more than we have spent! This includes all spending and income, not just budget. Just 4 years ago, Dec 31, 2018 we had lost \$24,000 in our first 6 months.

NOTE: We will be moving 60,000 to Grace Financial (previously GBIF) shortly after the first of the year

The Lord has put us in a very unbelievable financial position. Our attitude should be “Lord, how do you want us to use YOUR money? Open our eyes and show us where you want us to go so we don’t get in your way!”

Praise the Lord for His goodness.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brad Morris

Treasurer

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
 July through December 2022

	<u>Jul - Dec 22</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
40000 · CONTRIBUTIONS	145,316.00	128,907.00	16,409.00
Total Income	145,316.00	128,907.00	16,409.00
Gross Profit	145,316.00	128,907.00	16,409.00
Expense			
72000 · BUSINESS TEAM	87,556.76	85,827.00	1,729.76
92899 · CARE MINISTRY	1,885.81	1,668.00	217.81
94000 · COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY	25.00	276.00	(251.00)
94500 · MISSIONS - GLOBAL	19,929.00	23,200.00	(3,271.00)
94840 · MISSIONS - LOCAL	4,548.28	4,266.00	282.28
95000 · CORPORATE WORSHIP	1,797.69	2,226.00	(428.31)
95700 · DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY	5,026.40	7,344.00	(2,317.60)
Total Expense	120,105.86	124,807.00	(4,701.14)
Net Ordinary Income	25,210.14	4,100.00	21,110.14
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
40200 · MISCELLANEOUS	13,043.07	0.00	13,043.07
41800 · INTEREST INVESTMENTS	731.83	0.00	731.83
Total Other Income	13,774.90	0.00	13,774.90
Other Expense			
96510 · NON-BUDGET APPROVED EXPENSES	7,149.74	0.00	7,149.74
96540 · MISC NON-BUDGET EXPENSES	4,312.50	0.00	4,312.50
Total Other Expense	11,462.24	0.00	11,462.24
Net Other Income	2,312.66	0.00	2,312.66
Net Income	27,522.80	4,100.00	23,422.80

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Balance Sheet (Expanded)
 As of December 31, 2022

	<u>Dec 31, 22</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
11050 · COMMUNITY NATIONAL	93,441.80
11200 · GRACE FINANCIAL - 8202 SAVINGS	74,673.24
11210 · COMMUNITY SAVINGS	32,276.77
11300 · GF-8203 SCHOLARSHIP	23,745.88
Total Checking/Savings	224,137.69
Total Current Assets	224,137.69
Fixed Assets	
15300 · BUILDING IMPROVMENTS	786,327.43
Total Fixed Assets	786,327.43
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,010,465.12</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
89000 · A CCOUNTS PAYABLE	257.59
Total Accounts Payable	257.59
Other Current Liabilities	
23000 · PAYROLL	773.00
27000 · FLOWTHROUGH	15,629.76
27350 · GRACE MERIT SCHOLARSHIP	24,595.88
Total Other Current Liabilities	40,998.64
Total Current Liabilities	41,256.23
Total Liabilities	41,256.23
Equity	
30010 · Retained Earnings	692,757.10
39004 · CONGREGATIONAL BUILDING INVEST	248,928.99
Net Income	27,522.80
Total Equity	969,208.89
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>1,010,465.12</u>

Business Team Report
Semi-Annual Report
July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

As the new chairman of the business team I want to personally thank Jim Murray for the faithful work he has done over the years as the business team chairman. I'm now seeing the work he has done and will be hard shoes to fill. I also want to thank Jean Davis for her excellent secretary recording. You don't want to say anything out of line or it will be in the minutes. Your business team is responsible for the church building and the finances of the church. The finance report will be given by Brad Morris and Tracy Keller. I will give the report on actions discussed and acted on during the past six months.

We have been trying to figure out why we get a sewer smell down by the water fountains. Rick Johnson has been checking into this and has gone into the wall behind the fountains and discovered some problems. We still do not know how to fix it, but Rick is on it as I write this.

We have discussed at length about our streaming of the church services and when Brad checks it here at the church it is working well but we hear from people that are listening that there are problems. This is and will be an ongoing problem until something pops out in front of us that here's the problem. Rest assured that we continually are trying to improve it.

The wall in the parsonage has been fixed by an outside contractor. It was bowing in and the put steel strips on the wall to guarantee it would not keep getting worse. Then under Russ Davis direction some of your business team members put in new paneling on that same wall and fixed up the floor and painted it. We have had good rains since then but there has not been any water leak into the basement.

The business team voted to go with Hawkeye Systems for the church's security system. It has been a work in progress and Brad Morris is handling all of it. He has spent countless hours working with Hawkeye on this project. As of right now it is working fine. There is an alarm system on all the doors that automatically arm at night and disarm in the morning. Also, they have installed cameras all around the church so that a few of us can monitor the activities going on outside the church building. The office can monitor all the activity all the time. So smile when you are in church because you might be on camera.

The church purchased a new John Deere lawn mower to replace the old broken-down rider. A church member stepped up to the plate and purchased the mower for about \$6,000.00. A snowblower also came with it.

Dick Jensen has done a detailed church handbook that details all of the church building and how everything works. It is quite lengthy and a valuable resource for taking care of the facilities.

In August our former janitor Janice retired, and we hired Teresa Livingston as our new janitorial person. She works eight hours a week and more if needed. She has been doing an excellent job also. If you see her at church sometime say hello and thank her for her great work.

We also had a church work night and twenty or so people came in and mopped the basement floors and then wiped down all the pews and furnishings in the sanctuary.

Mike Christian has done quite a bit of work on the church van. New brakes, fixing running boards etc.

The parking lot on the Williston side of the church had some attention to it. We had all the cracks filled with tar to help keep the weeds out and also to get us a couple more years before we need to resurface it. The cost was around \$4,000.00.

Signs were put up in the kitchen to inform people not to leave any perishable food in the refrigerators more than a day or two. If left longer than that it will be thrown out. Be sure to clean up behind you and make sure you wash all utensils that are used.

A new women's ministry room was set up down the steps and to the left of the Minnesota door. Russ Davis cleaned it out and put carpet squares down and fixed the light to the closet. Welcome to your new home ladies.

It was brought to the business team's attention that the church scholarship needed to be addressed. We have been giving youth church members a \$1,000.00 scholarship each year they attended a Christian college. We change that to \$2,000.00 a year.

It was brought to the business team that the Elders were recommending that Gabby Skiles be brought on as paid staff to help with the youth responsibility. There were many questions, and a job description was given. We voted 100 percent in favor.

The mission team requested that we support Austin and Lori Taylor \$3,000.00 per year for their ministry with Cru.

Sheri Lesh decided to step down as the chairman of decorating the church. Esly Dwyer has accepted those responsibilities.

As you can see we have been busy working on a lot of church business concerns. We as a team want to thank our church members and attenders of their excellent financial giving for the Lord's work and the faithful involvement of each of you.

Respectfully,
The Business Team

Children's Ministry Report
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Nursery - meet weekly year round

- The toddler nursery is currently the only nursery staffed
- Volunteers serve once a month on a rotation basis: Ron & Vivian Weimer, Amy Blakesley, Maggie Van Sickle, Jeff & Sheri Lesh, Rita Kehoe, Ivy Weber, Derek & Gabby Skiles and Joyce Helfer.

Sunday School - meet weekly year round

- We took the summer months of June, July and August off.
- Currently we have one class for ages Pre-K to 1st Grade taught by April Schwartz. All lessons are taught using Lifeway: Setting the Pace curriculum.

Children's Church - have not met since March 2020 due to COVID as well as no need for it at this time.

Global Missions Report
Semi-Annual Report
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In July we shared a video from the Eagle Commission.

In August we had Austin and Lori Taylor share with us about their ministry in Thailand. We took and love offering for them and raised \$1,500 to help them.

In September Sam & Anna Danforth were able to share with us an update about Titus Auto in South Africa. We were able to give them a love gift from the church as they set up their home here in the states.

In October we raised money to help provide clean drinking water for kids during the school year. We were able to send just over \$900 to Water for Good to help with this initiative.

On October 30th we shared a video from Encompass for Charis Celebration Sunday and shared the opportunity for all to be involved in the Charis Prayer Walk for the month of November. Jean printed this for any who requested them.

In November we officially agreed to support Lori and Austin Taylor (Missionaries in Thailand with CRU) for \$3,000 a year.

In December, we once again supported the Gideons International and their Bibles for Jesus program. We were able to donate just over 105 Bibles with the funds given.

Written by Athena Grady

Global Missions Team Members:

Athena Grady - Chair

Jim Grady, April Schwartz - Team Members

Local Missions Ministry- Love Inc. Report
Semi-Annual Report
July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

We have been very busy since July 1st.

We continue to meet each Monday morning to put together boxes of kitchen items (either donated or purchased) for people in the our community. We put together approximately 100 boxes for families in need that are just starting out or starting over and have reached out to Love Inc for help. It is a honor and privilege to be involved in this outreach ministry program.

We recently received a large donation from Trinity Bible Church which was amazing. We also get donations from our own Grace family which we don't always know who they come from which is a nice surprise.

We are including a list here if any are interested in donating: (New or **slightly used**). We only do kitchen supplies- dishes, cups, glasses, silverware, pots and pans, microwaves.

We also can always use potholders, kitchen towels, and cooking utensils such as spatulas, ladles, and bubble wrap for packing.

We are looking forward to this new year to see how God uses us to Bless others.

In Christ

Rae Jean, Deb, Louise

Women's Ministry Report
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The Women's Ministry team had the fall kickoff on Saturday, Oct 1st 2022. "Come to the Garden." We had 38 ladies attend which is great for the fall activity. A light lunch of coffee cakes, muffins, bagels with drinks were served. We also surprised Dorothy McKinley, Beth's mom, who was turning 91 with singing, and a special sash to wear and a Scratch cupcake everyone enjoyed that. Jean Davis read a devotion on why we need to Evangelize followed a testimony from Beth Hottle which also spoke of the importance of evangelism. We were all in awe while listening. She is a wonderful speaker, and it was very evident what Christ has done for her and through her. We thanked everyone from the ladies present, the ones that helped with the food, sat at the signup table, to all those that helped behind the scenes...it takes a village.

Our second event was held December 3rd as we "Celebrated Jesus Birth. There were 49 women and 5 men present. Of course, it was our annual cookie exchange, it was amazing to see the number of cookies people brought. We served a light brunch that everyone seemed to enjoy. We even had entertainment by our Throne Together Quartet, Scott Blakesley, Jim Murray, Russ Davis and Ron Fink, filling in for Don Penn. They always do a wonderful job. We also enjoyed a special song sang by Scott, "Mary Did You Know."

There were drawings for door prizes and one last song by the men. All those that help, both in front and behind the scenes were thanked. We ended the event with all the women singing, "The First Noel." It was another success in the books.

Submitted by Women's Ministry Team

Senior Pastor, Discipleship, and Youth Ministry
Semi-Annual Report
July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

It is simple yet profound to say that the Lord has been at work in our midst! In regard to discipleship, we've nearly completed our study of the book *Heaven* by Randy Alcorn in Sunday School – and what a study that has been! We've covered a wide range of theological topics on heaven from Scripture and I believe we've all been built up and encouraged. I'm so encouraged that we're seeing more and more discussion in Sunday School. It has quickly become a highlight for me every week.

As Senior Pastor, we're seeing more and more digging deep into the word of God, loving of the brothers and sisters in Christ, and desire to serve than ever before. In my estimation, our church is the healthiest it has been since the Lord brought me here in 2018. We see a greater love for Christ through a love for each other, willingness to serve, and our Elder Board is doubling down on their commitment to a biblical model for our church. While we may be relatively small in numbers, our ministry is being felt around the community in others who have visited us and new members as well.

In our Sunday services, by God's grace, we have examined Jesus' incarnation from John's perspective in his gospel account. We have finished the first chapter of Philippians, and had a blessed series in 2 Peter chapter one.

All these things add up to a church that is being fed and becoming a vibrant voice for Christ in our community.

I am so thrilled at what the Lord is doing.

These things are also filtering into our Youth Ministries. We are studying who God is from Scripture, and we are experiencing the grace of the Holy Spirit in the opening of minds to the truth of God's word in the teens that come. Our teens are growing in their love for Christ and knowledge of God – and through this – we are answering life's tough questions as we study.

I want to personally thank you for your continued love and support for the work of Christ in our local church body.

Let us keep pressing forward!

Pastor Kyle