

# Equipp~~e~~r

Equipping God's people as we celebrate, teach, and share God's Grace.

## March, 2019

### “Saved Through Water

*And when He came up out of the water, immediately He saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove. (Mark 1:10)*

Read Mark 1:9-11

Water is hard to talk about because it carries so many meanings. Water is a symbol of life -- before birth we develop in the water of our mothers' bodies, and gushing water is a sign that a baby is about to be born. After birth we depend on water for life and health -- few people can live more than three days without drinking, and who would want to go unwashed that long?

But water is also a symbol of death. People drown when floods come, or when waves or riptides sweep them away. And diseases that cause too much fluid in the brain, the heart, or the lungs can kill even on dry land.

Maybe this is why Jesus chose water to mark the beginning of His public ministry. When John baptized Him, Jesus went down into the water and came back up out of it again. He foreshadowed what He was going to do at the end of His public ministry. At that time, He freely went down into death to save us all -- and then rose out of it, back to life again.

Jesus led the way for all of us through His Baptism. Paul reminds us, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by Baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:3-4).

Here, at the beginning of His ministry, Jesus leads the way through the waters of life and death. He offers us new birth through Baptism into the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. There is death there, yes -- death for our old sinful nature, death for the evil that clings to us so closely and infects our hearts and minds. And that is frightening. But it is so worth it. Through Baptism, Jesus gives us everlasting life and joy as God's own beloved children, both now and on the day He returns to raise us all from the dead.

**THE PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, thank You for Your gift of life through Baptism. This day and always, drown out the sin in my life and raise me up to live with You in joy and peace. Amen.

Daily Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries” Check out these daily devotions at [www.lhm.org/dailydevotions](http://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions)



Volume 62 Issue 8

Grace Lutheran Church  
School, & ECC  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin

(Click on name to send an e-mail)

Pastor  
Rev. Dean A. Dummer

Principal  
Mr. Steve Gettelman

Early Childhood Center  
Mrs. Rachel Miliacca

[www.graceoakcreek.org](http://www.graceoakcreek.org)

#### Table of Contents

Devotion	1
Ladies Guild/	2
<b>ECC Accreditation</b>	<b>3</b>
On-Line Giving	4,5
Everyone His Witness	6
March Birthdays	7

Click on link for  
[March Calendar](#)

Articles may be submitted  
to: [pastor@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:pastor@graceoakcreek.org)

Deadline for  
February Equipper:  
March 17th

[graceoakcreek.org](http://graceoakcreek.org)

# Ladies Guild

Unfortunately the February meeting was cancelled on account of the weather.

However- the Guild was busy collecting baby items for A Place of Refuge- what a wonderful blessing to help welcome these little ones into the world. Also, Guild served breakfast to the Martin Luther Brass Choir who joined us in worship. The kids really enjoy being fed and appreciate the Guild going the extra mile.

**Next month's meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm**  
**at church**

We will be meeting at church to conduct some light cleaning of the sanctuary before Easter.

This is a fun evening of activity and fellowship, much more fun than cleaning your own house by yourself!

See you there!

**LWML Opportunity**  
**Leadership Development Workshop**  
**Led By the Spirit**  
**March 23<sup>rd</sup> 9am-3pm**  
**Beautiful Savior Lutheran church-Waukesha**

This is a great opportunity to find out more about LWML, how LWML supports their leaders and all about the bountiful LWML resources that are available.

Registration can be found on [www.lwml-swd.org](http://www.lwml-swd.org) under Events-Workshops.

Please join us!

---

# Congratulations ECC



**Grace Lutheran Early Childhood Center and Preschool IS AWARDED ACCREDITATION THROUGH THE NATIONAL ACCREDITATION COMMISSION FOR EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

Oak Creek, WI 1/25/2019 The National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs announced today that Grace Lutheran Early Childhood Center and Preschool has been awarded Accreditation.

As an Accredited center, Grace Lutheran Early Childhood Center and Preschool has been recognized as an early care and education program exemplifying excellence in the care of young children. By achieving accreditation Grace Lutheran Early Childhood Center and Preschool provides a high quality program for children, professional development opportunities for staff, and an environment for children that is conducive to their individual growth and development that exceeds state licensing requirements.

## Keep Your Offerings Consistent By Setting Up Online Giving Part 1

We are in an age when many people no longer deal with cash or checks. Payments are easily made online. Monthly bills are handled with a recurring payment automatically withdrawn from our account. There have been several who have expressed frustration with not having the opportunity to give regularly to church without first stopping at an ATM for cash. They also express a desire to improve their personal stewardship by giving their offering regularly even when they are out of town. **We hope you will join us in changing the way we bring our offerings to the Lord that will make it fast, simple, and easy to track!**

We are pleased to announce that Online Giving is now available for members of Grace. It's easy, fast, and secure. Either a one-time or recurring gift can be given. We would encourage you to consider setting up recurring giving using your bank account. This gives an opportunity for regular giving even when you are out of town. You can still place your envelope in the offering plate when you're in worship and simply write "online giving" on the front.

Credit and debit cards may be used for your transactions, but please be aware that we incur a 2.9% charge on each transaction. The charge for gifts given through your bank account is only 1%. We would encourage as many as possible to simply have their offering withdrawn through their bank account.

Signing up is simple. You can start now. There are three ways of entering the giving site using either your computer, tablet or phone. If you would like to set online giving but are unable to set this up yourself, please feel free to contact Pastor Dummer and set up a time to meet with him and he will walk you through the steps.

**Start your online giving now!**

Text the word: graceoc to 206-859-9405  
or use this QR Code.  
or head to our web-site: [graceoakcreek.org](http://graceoakcreek.org)



(Continued on next page)

---

# Keep Your Offerings Consistent By Setting Up Online Giving Part 2

## **HOW SECURE IS SUBSPLASH GIVING?**

Our online giving is handled through a company used across the country by churches and businesses. Security is of the utmost importance at Subsplash. Subsplash Giving is PCI-compliant and is protected by industry standard encryption and payment data is stored in PCI Level 1, SOC1, and SSAE16 compliant gateways, First Data and Wells Fargo.

- 1) All cardholder data is transmitted directly from each donor's browser to the gateway that we utilize, never touching our servers.
- 2) Our gateway is compliant in storing cardholder data, and is audited regularly.
- 3) Our back-end processing center (First Data) is fully PCI compliant as one of a handful of secure facilities that are heavily regulated by all of the card brands.
- 4) Our banking partner, Wells Fargo, is fully PCI compliant as a member of the Visa and MasterCard associations.

## **What are supported payment options?**

Accepted payment methods vary by organization and most accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover. Additionally, direct bank transfer (ACH) donations are supported (Direct bank transfer would be the preferred method of transfer, since the cost per transaction is less. However, we will accept transfers through credit cards!)

## **Can I use a debit card?**

Yes, you may use your debit card as long as it has a Visa or MasterCard logo. You do not need to enter your pin; simply enter it like a regular credit card.

## **I accidentally entered an incorrect amount for my donation! Can I modify my transaction?**

Not at this time. You may make a second donation, or you can contact your church giving administrator to request a refund and then make a new donation.

You may give a one time gift or set up your regular weekly/monthly offering.

Once on the Giving sight you will first set up an account. You will enter your email address and sett up a personal password. You will then have access to your account at any time.

**Questions? Check with Pastor.**

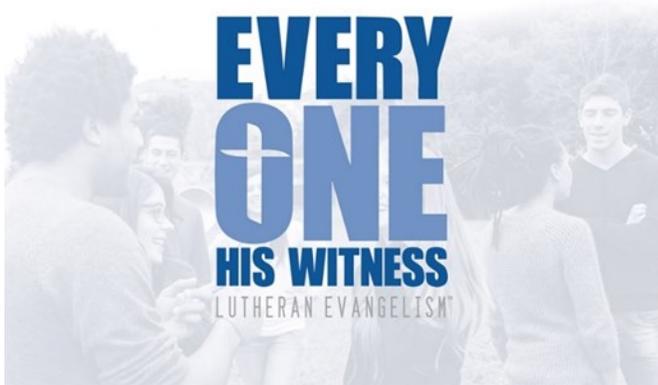
**We can answer your questions and assist you to begin your regular giving online!**

---

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

## Every One His Witness

Please call the office (762-8990) and register today.



### Lutheran Evangelism Workshop

Saturday, March 16, 2019

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$14.00

(\$12.00 for the materials and \$2.00 to defray the cost for lunch).

***Every One His Witness*** is a Lutheran evangelism program that teaches you how to witness to your friends, co-workers, neighbors and family members and any other nonchurched people you may know.

The evangelism committee at Grace Lutheran Church is sponsoring a one-day workshop with ***Every One His Witness***. At the workshop we will explore the LASSIE (Listen, Ask, Seek, Share, Invite and Encourage) approach for witnessing. you will learn how to naturally share the Good News of Jesus Christ through relational, contextual witnessing.

Our presenter will be Rev. Jonah Burakowski, director of Missions and Human Care for the South Wisconsin District of the LC-MS.

Please prayerfully consider joining this opportunity to grow in the knowledge of how to share the love of God given to us through Jesus Christ.

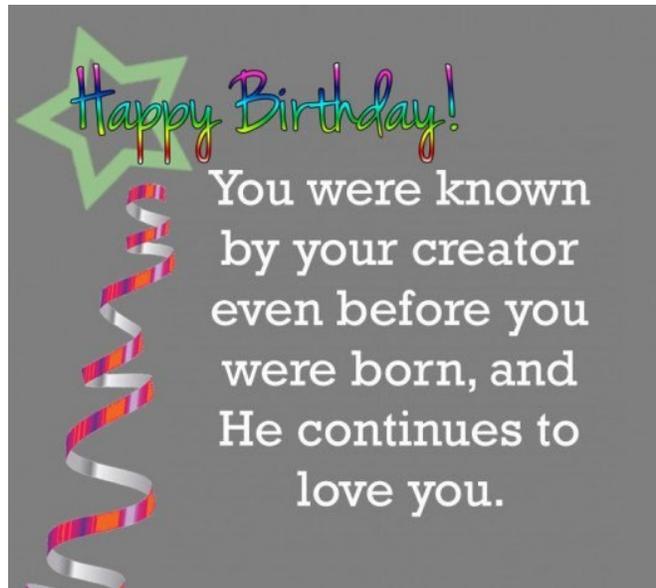
Please fill out the next page and return it to the usher at worship or drop off at the school or ECC office.

*“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”*

*1 Peter 2:9*

# February Birthdays

Name	Month/Day
Pfeilstifter, Jaden	3/1
Laabs, Tiffany	3/2
Mallum, Kyle	3/3
Norton, Lisa	3/6
Hengst, Anthony	3/7
Kopperud, Lance	3/8
Morgan, Braeden	3/9
Oelke, Debra	3/9
Evers, Cris	3/11
Barlay, Matthew	3/13
Larson, Jan	3/13
Tuskowski, Janine	3/13
Miliacca, Rosanna	3/15
Toman, Michael	3/16
Jablonski, Lori	3/17
Kamprath, Eric	3/17
Mallum, Kevin	3/17
Olen II, Ryan	3/17
Stresing, Adam	3/17
Gettelman, Aaron	3/18
Ratliff, Heather	3/18
Larson, Aaron	3/20
Hengst, Thomas	3/22
Miliacca, Vincent	3/22
Gottwald, Drew	3/25
Mendez, Jennifer	3/25
Puetz, Jodi	3/25
Simmons-Kooping, Braden	3/25
Berglund, Phyllis	3/26
Smith, Hannah	3/26
Flower, Jason	3/27
Handle, LeRoy	3/28
Poellet, Heinz	3/28
Lara, Lana	3/30
Van Doren, Evelyn	3/31



## Radio Worship Services

***“The Lutheran Hour”*** can be heard every Sunday Morning at 6:00 AM on WGN 720 AM, Chicago or at 6:30 AM on WTMJ 620 AM or at 11:00 am WRRD 540 AM, Milwaukee.

***“The Lutheran Hour,”*** which began in 1930, is the world’s oldest continually broadcast Gospel radio program. This weekly half-hour program, now heard on more than 1,200 radio stations, pro-claims the message of Jesus Christ to a world-wide audience.

***“Woman To Woman”*** is a nationally syndicated weekly half-hour radio talk show that nurtures and provides encouragement for women throughout North America. It can be heard on Saturday at 7:00 PM on WGLB 1560 AM, Milwaukee or on Sunday at 11:30 AM at WRRD 540 AM, Milwaukee.

Stimulating conversation between host Phyllis Wallace and her interesting guests explores issues which impact women. ***“Woman To Woman”*** promotes the spiritual growth of its listeners while providing practical lifestyle information. It equips women to live and share the truth of God's Word in their many relationships: friends, spouses, parents and children.

### **Lutheran TV — “On Main Street”** (WTMJ, Channel 4 Sunday 4:30 AM)

On Main Street is a pre-recorded half-hour weekly television program which shares practical spiritual teaching on today's issues from a Christ-centered, Biblical perspective.

Each On Main Street episode explores a different life problem. Program host, Dr. Dale A. Meyer, is joined by a featured expert guest and select panel members for a candid discussion of the program's topic.

## INFORMATION LINKS

Click on any of these Hyperlinks.

You’ll be taken to the appropriate spot on our website!

### [School Newsletters](#)

### [Go On-Line to Request a Prayer](#)

### [2019 Altar Flower Sign-up](#)

### [Set up One Time or Recurring Online-Giving](#)

## Prayer Hot Line



In order to request prayers by members of Grace, please contact one of the following people. Your request will be made known to all members of our Prayer Line. Prayer requests for worship service should be directed to the church office or Pastor Dummer.

10 AM-3 PM  
Carol Thurber — 762-9615

3 PM-9 PM  
Chet & Pauline Parker — 764-5574

**Internet Prayerline**  
Pauline Parker  
paulinemom@aol.com

