

Equipper

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

February 2020 “Hat in Hand”



An office worker named Bill had had just about enough. He was tired of the management's incompetence. Most of all, he was tired of his immediate supervisor, Mr. Sanders. He had to vent about it somewhere, so he walked over to his co-worker's desk and said "Sylvia, can you believe that Sanders guy? He never gets the work schedule done on time, and I think he deliberately ignores my requests for time off! A fourth grader could do a better job than he does. What a dimwit!" By this time, Sylvia was looking over Bill's shoulder with surprised horror. Sure enough, Mr. Sanders was right behind Bill the whole time. The manager spun on his heel, stomped into his office, and slammed the door. What could poor Bill do now? There was only one thing he *could* do, of course. He humbly went into Mr. Sanders's office to plead for his job. Though he wasn't wearing a hat, I guess you could say that Bill went to his boss with his "hat in his hands." He had no excuses—nothing to offer but a heartfelt apology.

Have you ever had the need to go,
hat in hand, to plead with someone
whom you had offended?

It might have been a parent, a teacher, your boss, or even a judge. It's not a pleasant experience, but sometimes it's the only way when you need the forgiveness of someone who holds your fate in his hands. In biblical times, the outward sign of a humble heart was the wearing of sackcloth and ashes (see Jonah 3:5-7). That's the reason we observe the beginning of Lent with *Ash Wednesday*. It's a day for us to come to Jesus' cross with the ashes of repentance. We come with no remedy for our own sins, no excuses, and nothing to offer except a plea for the Lord's mercy.

A heart that is truly broken over sin does not say, "All right, I guess you caught me. I'll say I'm sorry if that's what you want to hear." No, genuine repentance means that we come to the Lord, Whom we have deeply offended, with the same attitude of heart that David had when he wrote "*Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight.*" (Psalm 51:4)

When we do, the Lord replaces our black ashes of sin with the pure white righteousness of the Lord Jesus, "*who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree.*" (1 Peter 2:24) God's purpose from the beginning, in view of Jesus' death in our place, has always been to "*console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness.*" (Isaiah 61:3)

Whenever sinners come before the holy God with hat in hand, pleading only the blood of Christ, they always come away with God's declaration of complete forgiveness, and the promise of eternal life in Him. That's what Ash Wednesday is all about.

But what about Bill, our man with the loud mouth and the angry boss? He gave his humble speech, hat in hand, with a sincere apology—and Mr. Sanders fired him on the spot. That's how it goes with people sometimes. You burn a bridge and there is just no way to rebuild it. But that's not our Lord's way. He always stands ready to receive, forgive, and bless us because of our dear Savior. This Ash Wednesday, February 26th, let us have the same trusting confidence of which we read in Psalm 86:5: "*You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.*"

Devotion found on site entitled: "Lutheran Spokesman"

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

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Articles may be submitted
to: pastor@graceoakcreek.org

Deadline for
March Equipper:
February 17th

graceoakcreek.org

February

A Month Long Celebration of Ministry

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1: 3—6

Please join us throughout the month of February as we celebrate our ministry at Grace..

Jan 30 & Feb 2 Celebrating our ECC

The children of our ECC will sing during the 10:30 am service and our ECC Director, Rachel Miliacca will share all that has been happening with our Early Childhood center. Join us to learn why our ECC is an important part of our ministry at Grace. Our ECC will be having a bake sale following the 10:30 service.

Feb 6 & 9 Celebrating our Day School

Our congregation has been committed to Christian Education since its beginning. This week we will celebrate the joy of providing Christian Education. Christian education at Grace provides an opportunity for a solid foundation in academics and growth of their relationship to our Savior Jesus Christ. This gives them the ability to have a life of faith expressed throughout their experience in the classroom

The students of our day school will sing during the 10:30 am service and our principal, Mr. Gettelman, will share with us the role of our Day School as part of our ministry here at Grace.

Feb 13 & 16 Ministry Fair

We will have our regular worship service on Thursday. However, we will only have one service on Sunday. It will be at 9:00 am and held at our school. It will be a celebration of the many opportunities God gives for us to be in service at Grace. As part of this celebration, Jennifer Olen will be leading a question and answer session with two or three members as they showcase the importance of our ministry at Grace. This will be a unique service including special music, speakers and an opportunity to praise God for all He accomplishes in extending His Kingdom through His people.

Our Board of Stewardship will be providing breakfast following the service and inviting you to visit a variety of booths that will be set up to showcase many areas of ministry that are part of our congregational life.

Feb 20 & 23 Pastoral Ministry

We will conclude our month with a celebration of the pastoral ministry. It will be an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks to God for the 22 years of service together at Grace. The month of celebration will end with a special luncheon served at school following the final service on February 23rd.

RETIREMENT
CELEBRATION
honoring
PASTOR DUMMER

FELLOWSHIP & LUNCH

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY | **23** | 2020

Church service at 10:30 | Lunch to follow at Grace School

Adult meal

Bar-B-Que Ribs, Brisket, and more

Children's meal

Chicken strips and fries

Church: 3381 E Puetz Rd Oak Creek WI 53154

School: 8537 S Pennsylvania Ave Oak Creek WI 53154

RSVP by February 9, 2020

rsvp@graceoakcreek.org or signup at Church

Ladies Guild

February Guild Meeting
- Saturday- February 8th-
9am-10am at school

We will be working on our plastic bag sleeping mats.
Bring along your scissors and favorite morning beverage!
All ladies are invited to join us!



Blessings for Baby Shower Ingathering- Jan. 16th-Feb. 9th

We will be collecting items for the children at A Place of Refuge.

Items needed:

Infant socks

Infant sleepers- winter weight-newborn, 3 months and 6 months

Infant wash clothes and bath towels

Bibs

Books for babies thru grade school aged children

Please leave items in the designated box in the lower level of church.

Altar Guild

We are looking for someone who is interested in serving on Linens.
For this year it would be serving in the months of October and December.
For a conversation on serving with gladness in this position, please contact
Jennifer Olen at 414-305-3740.

Grace Lutheran School

Make Someone's Day Yellow #betheyellow

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

The Make Someone's Say Yellow movement was inspired by the life and legacy of a fantastic teacher named Honor. Created by Adam Peterson, Make Someone's Day Yellow is about being kind and celebrating kindness.

Grace Lutheran is taking part in this kindness movement and taking another opportunity to show the love of Christ and God's grace to us.

Our school and congregation will be selling #betheyellow shirts as a fundraiser to acquire money to purchase food and other needed household supplies to pack boxes for families in need.

Our packed supplies will be donated to Hope House in Milwaukee and will be distributed through them.

The t-shirts fundraiser will also provide money to purchase fleece materials to make no-sew blankets that will be mailed to Soldiers Angels in San Antonio for soldiers that need blankets. The packing of boxes and making of blankets will take part during school on Friday, May 22nd, 2020.

Available for sale after services

Feb 6 & 9

Feb 13 & 16



Do you like to craft?
Join us for a Grace Outings Night
at Oak Creek's Board & Brush!



Signup by **Feb 4th** at:



[https://boardandbrush.com/oakcreek/events/
gracecraftinggroupprivateparty/](https://boardandbrush.com/oakcreek/events/gracecraftinggroupprivateparty/)

Cost is \$68/person - you choose your project from their selection
Since this will be a private event, light food/snacks are welcomed.
Beer, Hard Cider, Soda and Water will be available for purchase.

You can also use the QR Code to take you directly to the signup!

Grace Outings – Bowling and Pizza

Please join us for our next social outing on February 9th for bowling and pizza. Since football will be done for the year, we know you will be looking for something fun to do late on a Sunday afternoon.

This event is open to everyone! Feel free to invite family or bring a friend!

Sunday, February 9th - 4 pm to 6 pm
South Shore Bowl - 3620 E Carpenter Ave Cudahy
\$8.00 per person – Includes Pizza and 2 Games
Pay Mark Olen on or by February 9th.

We are trying something different by creating an online form to sign-up.
You can scan this QR Code with your phone.

There are also paper sign-up sheets available at the
back of the church.



Questions: Text or Call Mark Olen 414-704-0055

February Birthdays



Name	Month/Day
Mallon, Brianna	2/2
Bukovcan, Dale	2/4
Pulkownik, Stephanie	2/4
Gottwald, Heidi	2/6
Stresing, Joshua	2/6
Eggert, Peter	2/7
Pieper, Alina	2/10
Laabs, Kelly	2/11
Mirenda, Anthony	2/11
Riemer, Cynthia	2/11
Kelley, Kaden	2/12
Pankow, Amy	2/12
Buretta, Beverly	2/13
Tindall, Henry	2/13
Meyer, Terri	2/15
Poellet, Anna	2/15
Urbaniak, Emma	2/15
Kopperud, Evan	2/16

Kamprath, Elizabeth	2/18
Kamprath, Rebecca	2/18
Olen, Robert	2/18
Zunker, Emilee	2/18
Dummer, Susan	2/19
Malicki, Taylor	2/19
Willms, Scott	2/19
Norton, Abigail	2/20
Sauer, Jim	2/20
Abelt, Leah	2/21
Gottwald IV, John	2/21
Lutzke, Graciana	2/22
Eggert, Joshua	2/23
Hobart, Sarah	2/23
Svicek, Samara	2/25
Peppler, Melissa	2/26
Gettelman, Steve	2/27
Wenzel, Christ	2/27
Campbell, Matthew	2/28

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,

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.

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

INFORMATION LINKS

Click on any of these Hyperlinks.
You'll be taken to the appropriate spot on our website!

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

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