

Equippier

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

February 2024



Pastor's Message



“Now That’s a Temptation!”

“Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” 10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’ 11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.” (Matthew 4:8-11)

Jesus’ baptism publicly identified Him with sinners, as a Savior who was willing to walk in our shoes and even take our place (Matthew 3:13-17). Soon after Jesus is baptized, Satan attacks. He meets Jesus in the desert to derail Him from His mission to literally save the world. First, it’s a temptation to put the goods of this world to work for self. After 40 days of fasting, Satan tempts Jesus to put His power to work to feed Himself to the full (Matthew 4:2-4). Then Satan tempts Jesus to test God the Father to see if He will really be there for Him when the chips are down. Let’s see if those angels will really protect you when things get tough (Matthew 4:5-7). But the final temptation in our reading is the most overarching of all. Satan offers Jesus the world. Take this, Jesus, be the leader of this world on my terms, not its Savior. It’s ironic that if Jesus had accepted Satan’s offer, chances are that even the religious people of the day would have honored and followed Him. Why? They too were looking for a political messiah, not an eternal life Savior from sin, death, and even Satan himself.

So, who rules the world? Whose world is it anyway? And what is Jesus telling us when He rejects all of Satan’s temptations in our place, for all of us, and also reasserts the primacy of a worshipful, obedient relationship to God as the most important thing in life? He’s telling us that God is in charge on His terms no matter what the present challenges to the contrary might be. God rules and is ruling the world. Jesus also demonstrates that worship of the Lord is a priority, both now and forever. Knowing how God’s saving work fits into that reality is the most important thing for every human being on the planet.

Jesus reiterates these themes throughout his ministry. He emphasizes how vital faith in God is, even in comparison to *“having it all”* in this world. Later in Matthew 10:28-29, Jesus says: *“Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. Jesus later asserts that “all authority in heaven and earth has been given to me” (Matthew 28:18).* This challenges Satan’s right to even offer the world as his *“supposed”* gift.

So, in the midst of the arrogance of modern society where people who flaunt the things of God seem to not only get away with it, but even prosper, Jesus reminds you to “*worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.*” In a world that continues to unravel before your very eyes, fear not. Follow Jesus. Trust in the clear words of God and trust in the one who could overcome the temptations that would have crushed us all. Trust in Jesus, because He has the power to face temptation, to overcome temptation, to see us through temptation, and to overcome our sin when we fail in times of temptation. Satan offered Jesus the world if He would only neglect and forget us. That was a temptation, but this lesson reminds us that Jesus resisted it, because He is our faithful Savior! During this season of Lent as we reflect on the passion, suffering, and death of Christ our Lord and Savior, look to Jesus who has overcome the works of the devil for you, freed you from your sins, and given you the gift of eternal life!

Prayer: *Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for being the disciplined, “temptation-overcoming” Savior that all of us need. Thank You for the blessings of Your salvation, and give all of us strength to face our temptations with the power of Your Word. Amen.*

See you in worship,

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Pastor John M. Taggatz

**New Members Class RESCHEDULED for Sunday February 4th
from 1:30-5:30pm at Grace Lutheran School**

Our next New Members class will take place in our Grace Lutheran School building located at 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave on Sunday February 4th from 1:30-5:30pm. We had to reschedule this class due to the Extreme Winter Weather we had during the weekend of January 14th. Please also let us know if you might need childcare for this event. Whether you have questions about Christ or want to deepen your faith in Him, this class will explore what the Bible says about our God, and how His love gives direction and meaning to your life today and forever. This class is designed for those who are interested in learning or reviewing the foundations of the Christian faith. Attendance at the class may lead to membership in our church, but there are no obligations. Let us know if you might need childcare. Watch an introductory video at: www.lhm.org/GodConnects.



GIVING TO GRACE THROUGH THE THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM

When you're ready to make an impact on the causes and nonprofits you care most about, we're here to help. Through our Thrivent Choice[®] program, you can make a personal donation or direct Thrivent Choice Dollars[®] to more than 40,000 churches and nonprofits. Eligible members can recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice Dollars[®]. Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership. *****Special notice regarding the Thrivent Choice Program:** Thrivent members wishing to continue their automatic withdrawal to the charity of their choice will have to let Thrivent know either by e-mail or phone. All you have to do is call this 1-800 number in order to see if you have Thrivent Choice dollars to give. To continue to direct your Choice Dollars to the charity of your choice call: 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and state "Thrivent Choice." **For More information on the Thrivent Choice Program please go to:** <https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/thrivent-choice.html>

Announcements

Please Note

Call the church office at 414.762.8990...

- When a member of your family is admitted to the hospital, so a visit can be made by Pastor Taggatz.
- When your address, email, or your home or business phone number have changed, so church records can be corrected.
- When you are planning to move either out of town or locally.
- When you know you are pregnant so that we will be able to assist you in any way we can with prayers, encouragement and support.
- When a new baby arrives in your family and/or in the family of another church member.
- When you are planning a wedding, baptism or funeral.

For appointments or emergencies, call church office or Pastor's cell phone.

Pastor John Taggatz, cell: 715.467.1231

Monday 8:00 am-1:00 pm

Tuesday 8:00 am-1:00 pm

Wednesday 8:00 am-1:00 pm

Thursday 8:00 am-1:00 pm

Friday Pastor Off

Visitations: Monday – Thursday Afternoons

Heidi, Church Secretary

Church office: 414.762.8990

Church office hours: T-W-Th 9:00am – 12:30pm

REMINDER: If you have any announcements and/or additions you would like printed in the monthly *Equipper* please forward to the church office at church@graceoakcreek.org by the 17th of each month.

**The Mites collection dates
for February are: 1st and 4th**



When you or your group plans to hold a meeting at the Grace Lutheran School campus, it must be cleared by Principal Steve Gettelman. His email address is: principal@graceoakcreek.org

Choir at Grace

Choir practice is on Thursday evenings in the church following worship. Please consider joining our church choir. Music has a unique way of connecting us with God, and being a part of the choir is a beautiful opportunity to share your voice and your faith. Whether you're an experienced singer or someone who simply loves to sing, we welcome you with open arms. Martin Luther once said, "He who sings, prays twice." Please contact Kathy Kolb, our Choir Director, for further details if you are interested in joining our church's choir.

Volunteers Needed to Assist with Worship!

We are in need of additional people to assist as ushers and lay readers during worship services, especially for Sunday mornings at 8am and Thursday evenings at 6:30pm. Ushers arrive early, greet people and hand out bulletins before service, gather offerings and assist with communion during service, and straighten up the church after service. Lay readers proclaim God's word to the congregation by reading the Old Testament and Epistle lessons during the worship service. If you are able and willing to help in either of these capacities, please sign up on the sheet in the back of church -- your assistance is greatly appreciated. Please feel free to approach the elder on duty with any questions you may have about these opportunities.

Worship Services at Willow Crest Nursing Home Volunteers Needed--Grace Lutheran Church members have helped out with leading worship services at Willow Crest Nursing Home on Sunday mornings. We have started leading these worship services again and could use some volunteers to help out with this ministry.

The worship services are roughly 30 minutes long and are held at 10:00am on Sundays at Willow Crest Nursing Home located at: 3821 Chicago Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172. We typically meet at Willow Crest at 9:45am to get prepared for the service and are done by 10:45am.

You may end up leading a worship service at Willow Crest once a month, or every 5 to 6 weeks, depending on how many people are willing to volunteer.

We would also provide you with resources to help you lead worship services at Willow Crest, and if you would like to shadow someone to see how the worship services are conducted, we can show you how it is done. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jeanne Meyer at: meyorch@sbcglobal.net or 414-719-2257.

Sign-up for 2024 Altar Flowers!

The sign-up sheet is posted on the white board in the narthex. Place your flower order directly with Parkway Floral in South Milwaukee at (414) 762-0246.

Flowers will be delivered to church, free of charge, before the Thursday evening service.

You can also supply your own arrangement. Rachel Miliacca at the ECC can provide you with a vase liner. Your flowers will be refrigerated after the Thursday service so they will be fresh for Sunday's services.

Take your flowers to enjoy at home after the 10:30am service on Sunday.

Reminder: If you want to put flowers on the altar, you must pay for it directly to the florist (Parkway Floral, South Milwaukee) if using a florist.

Also, there are special offering envelopes in the narthex for Altar Flowers that you can use to make payment.



Lenten Midweek Series for Grace Lutheran Church

Ash Wednesday February 14th – Easter Sunday March 31st, 2024

“St. John Passion”

Join us for this exciting series as we meditate upon Christ’s passion in dying on the cross to save us from our sins. Please note: **ASH WEDNESDAY** will be on Wednesday February 14th with Holy Communion at 6:30 p.m. There will be no Thursday evening service that week. The Lenten Services following Ash Wednesday will be on Thursday nights at 6:30pm without communion. Here is an overview of the series... From earliest days the Christian Church employed the weeks before Easter—what came to be called the season of Lent—as the time of the year to prepare candidates for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, the catechumenate. Paul wrote, *“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). Baptism involves death, burial, and resurrection. During Lent, we discover that Jesus is not the only one who suffers, dies, and rises again. Our midweek Lenten services prepare us to consider our identity and connection with the Passion of Christ as the baptized children of God. We do so through the eyes of the Holy Evangelist, Saint John, as we hear, in John 18–19, of Jesus’ betrayal and arrest, Jesus facing Annas and Caiaphas, Jesus before Pilate, Jesus delivered, Jesus crucified, and Jesus’ death and burial. Look for this Lenten season to provide a deeper understanding of your Baptism into the passion and death of Christ, with the result as Paul describes it: we are *“always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies”* (2 Corinthians 4:10).

1. February 14th, 2024 6:30pm (with communion, no Thursday Service this week) Ash Wednesday: “The Powerless “I Am,” John 18:1–11
2. February 22nd, 2024 6:30pm (no communion) Lenten Midweek 2: “Two Interrogations,” John 18:12–27
3. February 29th, 2024 6:30pm (no communion) Lenten Midweek 3: “What Kind of King Is This?” John 18:28–40
4. March 7th, 2024 6:30pm (no communion) Lenten Midweek 4: “Whom Do We Follow?” John 19:1–16a
5. March 14th, 2024 6:30pm (no communion) Lenten Midweek 5: “Wisdom Has a Friend on the Cross,” John 19:16b–27
6. March 21st, 2024 6:30pm (no communion) Lenten Midweek 6: “Jesus Finishes the Battle for Your Salvation,” John 19:28–42
7. March 28th, 2024 6:30pm (with communion) “Hey, It’s Not about Me!” Luke 14:12–14, Maundy Thursday
8. March 29th, 2024 (no communion) Good Friday “Our Lord Did This for You!” Psalm 22, 12pm-Noon Day Service
9. March 29th, 2024 (no communion) “Real Life after Good Friday” Mark 15:33–34, 6:30pm Tenebrae Service (no communion)
10. March 31st, 2024 (no communion) “Larger than the Stone” Mark 16:1-8, 6am Easter Sunday Sunrise Service
11. March 31st, 2024 (with communion) “A Startling New Reality!” Mark 16:1–8 8:30am & 10am Easter Sunday Festival Service



Lenten Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries

“Lamb of God”



In *Lamb of God*, we have God’s Son come to earth as the eternal Word, Jesus Christ. Throughout John’s Gospel, Jesus is made known to us as both God and Man, full of grace and truth. He has come into the world to seek us out—you and me—to rescue us from the power of evil, and to make us His beloved children forever.

Jesus was born for sacrifice and servanthood. As God’s beloved Lamb, He intimately joined our lives in the flesh, compassionately healing, teaching, and loving us as our Good Shepherd. On the cross, He gave His life for our transgressions, and three days later He rose triumphant in victory over sin, death, and the devil.

We are offering these devotions at our Church in both a physical booklet form and we will be emailing them out to our members. This devotional will include our Lenten Worship Schedule for Grace with contact information for our Church. To view the devotions online go to: <https://www.lhm.org/lent/>

Consider using this devotion not only for your own personal and family devotions during the Lenten season, but also to share with your neighbor, family member, friend, or co- worker so that they too can share in the comforting Gospel of our Lord’s passion and death for the forgiveness of our sins.

What is Lent? The season of Lent begins in February or March. The word *lent* has its origin in the same root as one of the German words for “spring,” *Lenz*. As nature awakens from the death of winter, so the Christian finds newness of life in Christ, rising from sin’s death. During the 40 days of Lent, God’s baptized people cleanse their hearts through the discipline of Lent: *repentance, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving*. Lent is a time in which God’s people prepare with joy for the paschal feast (Easter). It is a time in which God renews His people’s zeal in faith and life. It is a time in which we pray that we may be given the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God.

Customs: Lent begins with Ash Wednesday when ashes are placed on the forehead to symbolize repentance. The color for this service is black or purple. The color for the rest of Lent is purple. The hymns and services of Lent do not include the joyful word, “*Alleluia*.” Consider fasting during daylight hours. Spend your regular mealtime in prayer and devotional reading. If you cannot abstain from food for health reasons, abstain from something else (*e.g., television or another leisure activity*). Do not fast on Sundays, which are not part of the 40 days of Lent. Read Bible stories with children each day.

Stephen Ministry Training at Grace

Our Stephen Ministry will be celebrating our 20th anniversary this coming year! We have had many Stephen Ministers over the 20 years, some who have moved on, some who have passed away and some who still enjoy being Stephen Ministers.

We will be starting new classes in February for those who would like to become Stephen Ministers. We ask that you prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister. The classes are held at Church on a Sunday evenings. You will have 52 hours of training and skill learning. In the past, I have put in the Equipper many letters and notes from Stephen Ministers and Care Receivers from around the country, about how Stephen Ministry has been a blessing to them. I would like to send out some remarks from our very own Stephen Ministers here at Grace over the next few months to give you an idea of how blessed they have been by being a Stephen Minister and walking beside those in need, and sharing God's Word with them.

– Pauline Parker

Letting God be the Cure Giver and us being the Care Giver.



Christ caring for people through people

**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

Adam Voss

I did not enjoy the training at first, only because I doubted whether I could go through with it along with my busy schedule at the time. As the class went on, I appreciated it more and more and look back fondly on those hours spent with the group. My Stephen Ministry skills have helped me to be more patient in all of my day-to-day conversations. I realized that sometimes, people don't want to hear solutions or advice but just someone to listen. Responding in a non-judgmental way can be challenging at times, but just being aware of it goes a long way. The skills have helped me to be a more patient listener. It has also helped me to look beyond myself and think about others more and meeting their needs. When we start to focus on others, that release not only benefits them but comes back around as well. When everyone helps everyone, everyone is eventually taken care of. Spiritually, it keeps validating how true the word of God is when you apply the principles to life. He is the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort. He comforts us in our distress so we ourselves can comfort others with the same comfort he gives us. It also reminds me that we are only the caregivers, not the cure givers for others.

Beth Jackson

I was not sure that we would be able to finish because of time constraints, but we did finish and I learned a lot. The instructors made it fun. During covid we met at a private home and really got to know each other. When helping my Care Receiver and others, the S.M. skills have helped me stay focused on using the Word of God and prayer. I think I've benefited by realizing that just like our Heavenly Father has patience with me, I can help others by being patient with them. The S. M. Meetings have helped me grow as I'm exposed to such great examples. They give me new hints every Meeting in how to help my Care Receiver. I really appreciate the prayers, the laughter, and the discussion we have every Meeting.

If you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister or to have a Stephen Minister please contact one of our leaders or Stephen Ministers. Leaders: Pastor Taggatz, Jeanne Meyer, Lori Kachelemeier, Chris Cotter, or Lisa Kamprath. (Our leaders are also Stephen Ministers). Stephen Ministers: Richard Jackson, Adam Voss, Donna Wenzel, Beth Jackson, Gail Olen, Pauline Parker. Bob Morgan and Jan Barrett have retired.

In our stewardship journey, we are transformed into new people who are changed by the Holy Spirit from self-centered to Christ-centered people. In Christ, we are new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17). We have been changed from selfish to generous people. We move forward in our generosity, learning to give more and more.

Our journey will be marked by ups and downs, but with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we continue moving forward by God's Grace. Our journey and transformation are only complete in our eternal home with Jesus.



Blessings on your stewardship journey!

"Stewardship Is Mission Focused"

When you think of stewardship, do your thoughts, like many, center only on giving? Giving is an essential part of stewardship, but it is much, much more. Stewardship education should always be more focused on raising people rather than raising funds. Stewardship is a faith and world view with God at the center. Stewardship is our faith in action.

Stewardship is often spoken of in terms of time, talents, and treasures. Referencing stewardship this way is acceptable, but it does not give us the total importance of stewardship. As God's stewards, we are to manage and give these three "T's" faithfully, but these activities are means to end, not the end itself. The stewardship of our time, talents, and treasures should always be focused on God's Mission, which is the end of stewardship. God wants and enables us to join Him in His mission *"to seek and save the lost"* (Luke 19:10) and to work with Him to bring about His will on earth. Through faith, we know that God *"desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth"* (1 Timothy 2:4), and He blesses us with the honor and privilege to help others enjoy His kingdom now on earth and to be with Him forever in eternity. Our life and mission here on earth is the Great Commission. We are to be doing what we can to help all people hear the Gospel message. God has a standing invitation to us to be His stewards who use all that He entrusts to us to help others hear the good news of Jesus' love for them. With God's help, we will remember that the giving of our time, talents, and treasures are important because they are means toward expanding and extending God's kingdom.

With the help of the Holy Spirit, Who takes from us our hearts of stone and gives us hearts of flesh (Ezekiel 36:26), we, as God's stewards, are guided and equipped to do the works He has prepared for us to do. It is amazing that, in spite of our sinful ways, God calls us to participate with Him in sharing the good news of the Gospel. Each of us is a part of God's mission and has a purpose to fulfill. We are an important part of God's plan. In fact, the Apostle Paul tells us that we are God's fellow workers (1 Corinthians 3:9). Paul also wrote, *"We are ambassadors for Christ"* (2 Corinthians 5:20). He commended the Philippians on their partnership in the gospel (Philippians 1:5). Just like the Philippian Christians, we Christians today share in that partnership. May God find all of us available and eager to be faithful stewards, who use our lives and blessings as willing and devoted participants to fulfill His mission on earth.

Grace Ladies Guild

Mitten Tree Report

Thank you for your generous gifts!

South Milwaukee Human Concerns was so excited to receive all the donations.

And in the January weather we had, so needed!

Hats- 50

Gloves-20 pairs

Scarves-23

Head Bands-10

A Place of Refuge Visit

Final details are being made to visit A Place of Refuge house in February.

We have supported APOR for many years with our Blessings for Baby events, so it would be only fitting to visit the house and the great work they are doing there.

This visit will take the place of our February meeting.

More information will be forthcoming- watch the bulletin for it!

Altar Guild

We at Grace are blessed with not just one faithful and selfless individual who tends to the altar, we have a whole team of such folks! And we are looking for more to join the team! Altar Guild duties are divided into Communion Set-up and Linen Care. Our schedules are flexible so we can accommodate your schedule. Questions about serving? Contact Jennifer Olen 414.305.3740 olenjennifer@aol.com OR ask one of the altar ladies as you see her working in the altar room!

Ladies Wednesday Morning Bible Study

The Ladies Wednesday Morning Bible Study has started a new Bible Study on Wednesday mornings. It is entitled, "God's Provision in a Wilderness World" by [Lindsay Hausch](#) through **Concordia Publishing House**. In this Bible Study we will learn that for the Israelites wandering through the wilderness and us, God's manna is a gift wrapped in struggle. This example of

God providing manna invites us to look at our present life—with its bittersweet beauty—and see how our Creator is blessing us with His gifts in our everyday struggles. The forty studies in this book will lead you through the Book of Exodus as the Israelites wander through the wilderness, pointing you to what God wants you to know and apply to your own life. This women's Bible study is broken up into eight weeks, with five sessions per week, for a total of forty studies. Our culture is a wilderness where our effort to satisfy our needs with things of this world leaves our hearts empty and aching for more. Every day, no matter where you wander, God invites you to take time in His Word and re-center your heart on Him. God's provision for you is personal. He meets you where you are. And He gives you what you need.

We meet on Wednesday mornings at church at 9:30 a.m.

All women of our congregation are invited to attend.



Rise & Sonshine Bible Study

Saturday, February 10th & 24th at 8:00am-9:30am

At Grace Lutheran School



Adult Bible Class Topic

God's Word for Today: 1 Peter "God's Chosen People."

On Sunday mornings in the school library from 9:15-10:15am, we will be studying 1 Peter. In this Bible Study you will learn that by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the apostle Peter writes His first epistle to those concerned about living their Christian faith in a sometimes unreceptive and even hostile environment. Peter's words of hope are just as timely today as they were for the believers of the first century who first received them.

Grace Lutheran Greeting Card Ministry

The greeting-card ministry consists of volunteers mailing cards and notes of encouragement to people in nursing facilities, who are homebound, or otherwise can't be at church regularly.

'Think of your neighbor, love your neighbor.' This is the way people answer that message, letting people know they haven't been forgotten.

If you would like to share in this ministry, please take a card which is provided for you on the table in the narthex of the Church. Remember...you are giving joy to these people. If you are interested in taking part in this ministry, please contact Pauline Parker at: 414-807-6338 or paulinemom@aol.com

ONLINE GIVING AT GRACE

You can now give to our Church online.

It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving.

Thank you for supporting our ministries here at Grace!!!

Text the word: graceoc to 206-859-9405, use this QR Code
or head to our web-site: graceoakcreek.org.

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

Thank you for your generosity and support of the ministries at Grace!!!





Easter Lilies/Plants

To help make our Easter celebration more memorable, Milaeger's is offering a beautiful assortment of plants to celebrate the glorious Easter holiday.

- 1) Sign-up for your preferred flower/plant on sheets posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.
- 2) 2) Enclose cash or check in the envelopes provided and place in offering basket or hand to an elder.

All money and orders need to be placed by February 25th , 2024.

SAVE THE DATE!!



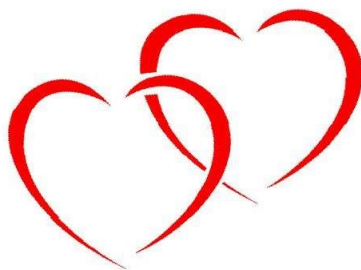
February 11th - New Member Potluck

On Sunday February 11th, following our 10:30am worship service, we will be having a New Member Potluck in our School Gymnasium. During the month of January, we will have a sign-up sheet in the Church Narthex requesting our members to bring a main entrée, side dish, and/or desserts for this event. Please plan on coming to our New Member Potluck to get a chance to meet and get to know our new members at Grace!



Hunger Task Force - Annual Fund Drive

The Evangelism Board along with the *Hunger Task Force* is holding their Annual Fund Drive **starting February 11th**. The best way to support the *Hunger Task Force* is to make a monetary donation. The *Hunger Task Force* will then purchase the food to be distributed to those in need. There are envelopes on the table in the back of church to put your donations. The envelopes then can be placed in the offering plate. Checks should be made out to: Grace Lutheran Church. Please write *Hunger Task Force* in the memo section of your check. Thank you in advance for your generosity! Grace Evangelism Board. Please bring a jar of peanut butter to the New Member Potluck on Sunday February 11th as a kickoff to this fundraiser and thank you for helping out those in need!!!



March 16, 2024 – You are cordially invited to South Wisconsin District LWML Heart to Heart Sisters Event!

Doors open at 8:30am and end at 2:30pm. Hosted at Granville Lutheran School: 8242 N Granville Road Milwaukee, WI 53224.

The theme: *"Hearts for the Harvest."* (Matthew 9:37-38) Program brings LCMS ethnic groups and LCMS ethnic pastors together for a 1 day event. This year, we will have a cooking demonstration, African dance, ethnic choirs, children choirs, door prizes, and more! For more information: Email: jamellis2003@yahoo.com or visit www.lwml-swd.org

BINGO at Grace!

The Grace Fellowship Committee put the event on and it was a big success - over 40 people came! We even got to watch part of the Packer game that night!

Thank you to everyone who came and who helped put this event together!



Church & School Furnaces Needed

We are currently in need of funding for our aged furnaces at both the school and church. This fundraiser is to replace the 7 remaining furnaces at our school and the boiler at our church. All units are over 20 years old. The goal is \$50,000. Please prayerfully consider donating above and beyond your general offerings. There will be offering envelopes in the narthex and a donation box for your offerings. Thank you for your ongoing support of our ministries at Grace! God bless you!

Currently we have raised over \$26,906.63 for the church & school furnace fund!

Thank you for your support!!!



We use these social media platforms to share the special things going on at church, school and the Early Childhood Center. However, most importantly, we share on social media the Gospel of God's redeeming love!

We enjoy using technology to continue the work of spreading the...

...*Good News of God's Riches at Christ's Expense!*

LIKE our page, and make sure you SHARE these messages with others too!



Facebook:

Grace Lutheran Church, School & Early Childhood Center, Oak Creek, WI



Instagram:

gracelutheran_oakcreek

SCRIP at Grace Lutheran Church, School & ECC

Did you know that Grace Lutheran Church Sells SCRIP??? Scrip is a **No-Cost Fundraiser** that helps to support the ministries here at Grace for our Lutheran Church, School, and ECC. Scrip is gift cards that we buy from various restaurants, gas stations, and grocery stores to name a few and then sell at face value to you. Examples include: Woodmans, Kwik Trip, Meijer, Menards, Culvers, Kohls, to name a few. Each merchant sets their own discount percentage, so some scrip purchases "*earn more*" than others. The gift cards you buy and then use at these stores our Church, School, and ECC earns a certain percentage of the purchase from the retailer that you shop at. Gail Nowakowski is our new Scrip Coordinator. If you are interested in Scrip please contact our Church office. We sell Scrip after each of our worship services, if you would like to take a look at what Scrip cards you can buy to help support the ministries of Grace.



HAPPY Birthday!

May God bless you with an abundance of peace, joy, and love this coming year.

- 2/2 Brianna Mallon
- 2/4 Jessica Mould
- 2/4 Stephanie Pulkownik
- 2/6 Brad Abelt
- 2/6 Timothy Cooksy
- 2/6 Heidi Gottwald
- 2/11 Tony Mirenda
- 2/11 Cindy Riemer
- 2/12 Amy Pankow
- 2/12 Tammy Rowley
- 2/13 Dylan Schaefer
- 2/15 Terri Meyer






- 2/15 Emma Urbaniak
- 2/18 Rebecca Kamprath
- 2/18 Elizabeth Murphy
- 2/18 Robert Olen
- 2/18 Emilee Zunker
- 2/20 Jim Sauer
- 2/21 Leah Abelt
- 2/22 Graciana Lutzke
- 2/23 Sarah Hobart
- 2/25 Joel Banach
- 2/26 Melissa Peppler
- 2/27 Steve Gettleman


Happy Anniversary!

- 2/3 Justin and Jennifer Mendez
- 2/19 Cory and Alex McIntosh

Stay connected with your church community all the time, anywhere with the MyUCD App at no cost.



-  Watch Church Services Anytime, Anywhere
-  Announce Events & Programs
-  Members are able to contact staff easily
-  YouVersion Bible for daily verses and study
-  View Church events for immediate access.
- 
-  Email Church
-  Call or Message the Church
-  Call & Message
-  Easier to Give
-  Full Directory of all church members
-  Directory




VISIT CHURCH WEBSITE   

Introducing Our Grace Lutheran Church Mobile Directory! Now you can have an updated directory with you 24/7

Updatable by the church
 - Update or Add Family photos, names, addresses, phone numbers, and emails
 (*No photography with Universal required for updates)...

We have been working with Universal Church Directories to establish our congregation on their APP made for your mobile phone or tablet. From the APP, you can watch downloaded services, contact us directly, access the church calendar, online-giving, You Version Bible, and the church directory. You will be receiving an email from Universal Church Directories with directions to download the APP to your device, along with a unique identifier that is required to login to the APP. Tip: It is also easiest to copy and paste this unique identifier code into the APP to gain access to the church directory. If you have any questions please contact Heidi, Tuesday through Thursday 9am-12pm 414-762-8990.

hello February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Divine Worship	29 6:30pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Grief Share	30 7:00am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)	31 9:30am Ladies Bible Study	1 6:30pm Divine Worship	2	3 9:00am Chili Assembly 
4 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Study 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Divine Worship 1:30pm - 5:30pm New Member Class	5 6:30pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Grief Share	6 7:00am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner) 6:30pm Stephen Ministry Meeting	7 9:30am Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm All Board's Meeting 7:15pm Council Meeting	8 6:30pm Divine Worship	9	10 8:00am Rise & Sonshine Bible Study 10:00am Ladies Guild
11 Hunger Task Force 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Divine Worship 11:30am New Member Potluck 6:00pm - 8:30pm Stephen Ministries	12 Grief Share 6:30pm Confirmation Class	13 7:00am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)	14 9:30am Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm Ash Wednesday - Divine Worship 	15	16	17
18 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Study 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Divine Worship 6:00pm - 8:30pm Stephen Ministries	19 6:30pm Confirmation Class	20 7:00am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner) 10:00am - 10:00pm Culver's Dining Out Event 	21 9:30am Ladies Bible Study	22 6:30pm Lent & Divine Worship	23	24 8:00am Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
25 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Divine Worship 6:00pm - 8:30pm Stephen Ministries	26 6:30pm Confirmation Class	27 7:00am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)	28 9:30am Ladies Bible Study	29 6:30pm Lent & Divine Worship	1	2 9:00am - 3:00pm Stephen Ministries



Radio Worship Service

"*The Lutheran Hour*" can be heard anytime on the internet at lhm.org – scroll down the page and click on, "*listen now.*" You can also listen to any of these local radio stations on Sunday mornings:

WTMJ Milwaukee, WI 103.3 FM Sunday at 6:30 am
WTMJ Milwaukee, WI 620 AM Sunday at 5:30 am
WTMJ Milwaukee, WI 620 AM Sunday at 6:30 am

"*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.



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 Taggatz.

10AM – 3PM

Carol Thurber, 762-9615

3PM – 9PM

Pauline Parker, 764-5574

Internet Prayerline

Pauline Parker

paulinemom@aol.com

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, SCHOOL, ECC



CHURCH & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.
Oak Creek, WI 53154

SCHOOL & CHURCH OFFICE

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
Oak Creek, WI 53154

WEBSITE

<https://graceoakcreek.org>

Pastor John M. Taggatz

PH: 414.762.8990

Thursday Worship 6:30 pm
Sunday Worship 8:00 am and
10:30 am

