



Panther Newsletter

Grace Lutheran School
Oak Creek, WI
www.graceoakcreek.org

December 8, 2023

Dear Families of Grace Lutheran,

In preparation of our upcoming Christmas Programs, we need to make one small change to our time schedule due to an overwhelming number of people attending our 4K – 2nd grade program. We will be pushing the start time of the 3rd – 8th grade program from 7:00 pm to 7:15 pm. This extra 15 minutes will allow us a little more time to have families exit the gym from the earlier program. We appreciate your understanding and cannot wait to share this evening with all of you.

We do have a few things to note for January already. Our January open house is already booked full with families inquiring about enrolling at Grace Lutheran School! We have started filling spots for our February open house as well. We know that part of this interest is directly related to our amazing families at Grace and the referrals you give to friends and family. Thank you for that! Please continue to share information about Grace with anyone who may be looking for a Christian education for their child.

We will be celebrating National Lutheran Schools Week during the last week of January. There will be lots of exciting things planned for the students along with a week full of casual days. It's hard to believe, but enrollment will also be opening on January 22nd to existing families of Grace Lutheran School. We will be opening it up to new families beginning February 1st! More information about this will come home the week of December 18th.

As we head through the rest of December, please consider joining us for worship during this Advent Season. Please see the enclosed flyer noting our worship schedule.

Blessings,

Mr. Gettelman



LET US PRAY

Each week our teachers lift up two or three of our students in their personal prayers and staff devotions. We will announce the names of these students during our Monday announcements and include them in our school prayers as well. We also invite members of our congregation to keep these families in their prayers throughout the week.

We invite you to join with us as we bring our requests for one another before God.

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

John 15:5

Our prayers for November will include:

Keith, Flynnne, Emmarie,
Lily, Samuel, Dakota, Jorie,
Madelyn and Julia

REMEMBER!

Christmas Programs are Dec. 15th

6:00 pm 4K - 2nd grade

****7:15 pm 3rd - 8th grade**

****NOTE TIME CHANGE!**

December Casual Days

- 12/15 Green Day
- 12/18 Red Day
- 12/19 Christmas Head Gear Day
- 12/20 Christmas Attire (NO Pajamas)
- 12/21 Chapel Family Shirt Day
- 12/22 Christmas Pajamas Day

No School Dec. 25th - Jan. 5th

2nd Quarter ends Jan. 18th



ENROLLMENT OPENS ON JANUARY 22ND FOR RETURNING STUDENTS!

Mark your January calendar for the 2024/2025 school year enrollment. We will be opening it up to our returning families on January 22nd. This is will give you an opportunity to enroll your existing student(s) and any siblings that are eligible before it opens to new families. If you have a 4K student coming next year, we highly encourage you to enroll them prior to February 1st when that class will be open to new families. We cannot guarantee a seat in any grade. Your completed enrollment, tuition agreement and paid registration fee will guarantee your seat.

More information will come home the week of December 18th.

Private School Choice Program

Grace Lutheran School participates in three private school choice programs offered by the State of WI to qualifying families. Please understand that this is not just for low-income families. Many families qualify for this program and do not even realize it.

These programs give eligible families an opportunity to attend our school tuition-free. A student who is accepted into the program has the possibility of having tuition-free education all the way through high school! Please take a moment to review the following information to determine whether your student(s) might be eligible to apply for a private school choice voucher when enrollment for these programs open on February 1st, 2024.

If your family does qualify and you intend on enrolling into the voucher program, please let the school office know by December 22nd. It is imperative that you let us know so we are able to request the correct number of voucher seats per each grade.

Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP)

- Lives in the Milwaukee Public School District and can prove it with acceptable documentation.
- Family income that is at or below 300% of the federal poverty level (See Table 1 Below).
- Currently have MPCP voucher and is interested in attending Grace.

Racine Parental Choice Program (RPCP)

- Lives in Racine Unified School District and can prove it with acceptable documentation.
- Be a student attending a public, charter, home or virtual school OR be a current student of Grace (or any other private school) who will be entering **4K, 5K, or 1st** who meet eligibility requirements of residency and income. This means that our existing 4K & 5K students who meet eligibility requirements of residency and income can apply.
- Family income that is at or below 300% of the federal poverty level (See Table 1 Below).
- Currently have RPCP voucher and is interested in attending Grace.

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) – OAK CREEK, FRANKLIN, SOUTH MILWAUKEE RESIDENTS!

- Lives in the state of Wisconsin outside of MPS or RUSD and can prove it with acceptable documentation.
- Be a student attending a public, charter, home or virtual school in any grade OR be a current student of Grace (or any other private school) who will be entering **4K, 5K or 1st Grade**. This means that our existing 4K & 5K students who meet eligibility requirements of residency and income can apply.
- Family income that is at or below 220% of the federal poverty level (See Table 2 Below).
- Currently has a WPCP voucher and is interested in attending Grace.

* Please use your **federal adjusted gross income (AGI)** when looking at the maximum yearly income table.

*Married couples should subtract \$7,000 from the AGI and that is the number you should use when looking at the tables.

Your AGI is taken from the 2023 tax return to determine eligibility. We can also use 2022 tax return if that qualifies, however, you must apply prior to filing your 2023 return. Please see Mrs. Dena for more details.

Income verification is only done with the initial application. Once your child is approved for a school choice voucher you will only be required to establish proof of residency every year after that for renewal of the voucher, regardless if you exceed the income limit.

Please contact our school office if you think you may qualify for the voucher program for 2024-25 school year.

Table 1 – **MPCP and RPCP** Income Limits
300% of the Federal Poverty Level for 2024-25

Family Size	Maximum Yearly Income*
1	\$43,740
2	\$59,160
3	\$74,580
4	\$90,000
5	\$105,420
6	\$120,840

For each additional member add \$15,420

Table 2 – **WPCP** Only Income Limits
220% of the Federal Poverty Level for 2024-25

Family Size	Maximum Yearly Income*
1	\$32,076
2	\$43,384
3	\$54,692
4	\$66,000
5	\$77,308
6	\$88,616

For each additional member add \$11,308

THANK YOU!

**WE RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 89 PAJAMAS THIS
YEAR! JUST A FEW SHY OF THE GOAL OF 100!
THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE THAT DONATED.**

Grace Lutheran's

4TH ANNUAL PAJAMA DRIVE

Partnering with
Scholastic Books

WORKING TOGETHER TO BRING
PAJAMAS AND BOOKS TO THE
CHILDREN OF KNAPP ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL IN RACINE, WISCONSIN





Grace Lutheran School

December Events 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Panther Gear or Royal Blue & White Day	2
3 8:00 & 10:30 am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Study & Sunday School	4 OPEN HOUSE by Appointment 4:00pm - 8:00pm Panera Dining Out	5 3:45 - 5:00pm Girl's BB Practice	6 3:45 - 5:00pm Boy's BB Practice @ Salvation Army 3:45 - 5:00pm Girl's BB Practice 6:30 - 7:30 pm Open Meeting	7 Girl's BB Tournament 6:30pm Advent Service	8 Favorite Hat Day Girl's BB Tournament	9 Girl's BB Tournament 10:00am Girl's BB Game
10 Girl's BB Tournament 8:00 & 10:30 am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Study	11 3:45 - 5:00pm Boy's BB Practice @ Salvation Army 3:45 - 5:00pm Girl's BB Practice	12 3:45 - 5:00pm Girl's BB Practice	13	14 6:30pm Advent Worship	15 Green Day Christmas Programs	16 1:00pm Girl's BB Game
17 8:00 & 10:30 am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Study & Sunday School	18 Red Day	19 Christmas Head Gear Day 10:00am - 10:00pm Culver's Dining Out Event 3:35 - 5:00pm Boy's BB Practice 3:45 - 5:00pm Girl's BB Practice	20 Christmas Attire Day (NO PJs) 3:45 - 5:00pm Girl's BB Practice	21 Chapel Shirt Day Christmas Shut- Ins Mission 6:30pm Advent Worship	22 Christmas Pajamas Day	23
24 9:30am Divine Worship 4:00 & 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 9:30 am Christmas Day Worship	26	27	28 10:00am - 12:00pm Girl's BB Practice	29	30
31 9:30am Divine Worship	1	2	3	4 6:30pm Divine Worship	5	6
No School – Christmas Break						
No School – Christmas Break						

2nd Quarter Chapel

NEWSLETTER

What's New?

We have been working hard all quarter to bring in our offerings to support some special missions. Our offering goal this year is \$2,300. So far, we have raised \$1,358.21. We thank you for your generous support! We also have had a few guest chapel speakers during the 1st quarter and are looking forward to more during this second quarter!

Chapel Families

We had two chapel family events during the 1st quarter. The first was Grandparents Day and the second was in preparation for Muffins in the Morning! We are loving chapel families and the opportunity to be with other kids in the school!



2nd Quarter Offerings

During our 2nd Quarter, we will be raising our chapel offerings for Grace's Sponsor a Student Program. We have been doing a fantastic job of bringing in offerings. Keep up the good work!



If you know of a family looking for a school, invite them to tour Grace Lutheran. We would love to share what Grace has to offer with families looking for a school for their child or children.

Tuesday, January 18
4:00 – 6:30 pm

Tuesday, February 13
4:00 – 6:30 pm

We have decided to do our **OPEN HOUSE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**. Families interested in a tour can contact the school office at (414) 762-3655 to schedule their appointment.

Our teachers and office staff will be onsite to answer any questions they may have about Grace Lutheran School and the enrollment process.



Grace Lutheran Church

December 19th, 2023

at

Culver's Oak Creek

7841 S. Howell Avenue

from 10 A.M. – 10 P.M.

Please present voucher when ordering and Culver's will donate 10% of the total to the organization.

Thank you for supporting your community!

\$_____



Merry Christmas

Join us for worship this Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Mid-week Advent Services
Thursday, Dec. 7th, 14th, & 21st
at 6:30 pm

Sunday Divine Worship
Dec. 3rd, 10th, & 17th
8:00 & 10:30 am

Sunday, December 24th
Divine Worship 9:30 am
Christmas Eve Service
4:00 & 5:30 pm

Monday, December 25th
Christmas Day Service 9:30 am

BINGO

**HOSTED BY GRACE LUTHERAN
FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 20TH
6:30 - 8:00 PM**

**FREE NIGHT OF FELLOWSHIP, FUN, FOOD
AND SMALL PRIZES. BRING FINGER FOOD
TO PASS AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
FOR YOUR FAMILY.**

**ACTIVITIES FOR GRADE SCHOOL CHILDREN 5K AND UP.
UNFORTUNATELY WE CANNOT ACCOMMODATE YOUNGER
CHILDREN.**

**SIGN-UP NOW AT:
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/VJPMZMEXTMVJGEU8](https://forms.gle/VJPMZMEXTMVJGEU8)**



We are a Christ-centered school
preparing children for life both academically and spiritually.

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	pastor@graceoakcreek.org
Principal	Mr. Steve Gettelman	principal@graceoakcreek.org
Admin. Asst.	Mrs. Dena Guziewicz	school@graceoakcreek.org
Librarian	Mrs. Suzie Mirenda	library@graceoakcreek.org
4K	Mrs. Amy Pankow	apankow@graceoakcreek.org
4K Teacher Aide	Mrs. Brittany Kuffel	bkuffel@graceoakcreek.org
5K	Mrs. Jennifer Mendez	jmendez@graceoakcreek.org
5K Teacher Aide	Mrs. Nicole Tindall	ntindall@graceoakcreek.org
1 st Grade	Mrs. Roxanne Taggatz	rtaggatz@graceoakcreek.org
1 st & 2 nd Grade Aide	Ms. Stephanie Payne	spayne@graceoakcreek.org
2 nd Grade	Mr. Anthony Hengst	ahengst@graceoakcreek.org
3 rd Grade	Mrs. Kristi DeVries	kdevries@graceoakcreek.org
4 th Grade	Mrs. Rita Heinen	rheinen@graceoakcreek.org
5 th & 6 th Homeroom	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	lhengst@graceoakcreek.org
7 th & 8 th Homeroom	Mrs. Ariel Hagar	ahagar@graceoakcreek.org
Computer	Ms. Ariel Wald	
Band	Mr. Anthony Hengst	
Athletic Director	Mrs. Rita Heinen	
Music Program	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	

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