



Equipper

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

November 2025



Pastor's Message

"Happy New World!"

In John 18:36 Jesus says, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world."

Near the end of this month of November many Christian churches around the world will celebrate the reign of Jesus Christ with "Christ the King" Sunday. The last Sunday of the liturgical church year commemorates His rule every year, no matter what is happening at the moment. It reminds us that all things are moving ahead toward the final day when Christ will come again and judge the living and the dead. On Christ the King Sunday Christians who follow a liturgical calendar then enter into a new church year. In so doing, they join all believers in celebrating the fact that Christ's Kingdom is already now present in this world. His Kingdom is here in the midst of worldly kingdoms that are passing away. But it is a radically different Kingdom, one of undeserved forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life as a gift of God's grace. It's a comfort to know that God is always at work to preserve the world so that He might offer all people entrance into His eternal Kingdom by grace through faith in Christ alone. Happy New Church Year! But, even more so, we yearn for a happy *new world* in Christ, both now and forever.

During this time of waiting, one of the hardest things to deal with is the apparent delay in Jesus' return. What we know by faith, we don't yet see with our eyes. There is still the reality of sin and pain in this world. Often Christians are tempted to believe that Jesus came into this world merely to make this sinful world "*just a little better.*" We are tempted to think that Jesus only wishes to give us a bit of grace so that we can change things ourselves or at least be empowered to endure them. Now it is true that trying to lead a moral and ethical life, and to serve our fellow human beings in Jesus' Name can make this world better. But the Bible teaches that Jesus came to give much more!

So, there's real tension in being Christ's people today. There's the tension of living in the world as it is, and, at the same time, living under His gracious reign already now because of what Christ has done for us all on the cross. It's the reality of His Kingdom in this world, for this world, but not of this world. Our living and reigning Jesus inaugurated that Kingdom His way, through the cross and empty tomb, so that all might receive it by grace, through faith, in Him alone.

Revelation 21 gives us a glimpse of His Kingdom in all of its future glory. St. John writes, *“1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away....3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” 5 And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”*

Jesus alone will make *“all things new!”* The day is coming when what we know is true by faith, will be true by sight as well. But, in the meantime, God calls us to receive Christ’s Kingdom by grace through faith. He calls us to spread His Kingdom, not by force (the way of this world), but by service (the way of His Kingdom).

Jesus clearly differentiates His Kingdom from all others. He teaches us to *“give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s”* (Matthew 22:21). But Scripture also teaches that Caesar’s authority is given by God for God’s purposes, and not Caesar’s own (see Romans 13:1). Caesar’s authority, Pilate’s authority, and even the authority of our own politicians are real and intended by God to be beneficial, but they are not able to save. Instead, earthly authority is entrusted to them by God in order to preserve order in this sinful world so that the message of the Gospel, the message of the coming *“new heaven and the new earth,”* can be proclaimed for all to hear, calling all *“out of darkness into [Christ’s] marvelous light”* (1 Peter 2:9).

May we never forget which Kingdom lasts forever. Yes, God now works through His Two Kingdoms. In one He aims to work through earthly authorities to bless and preserve; in the other, He saves, both for now and forever, in and through Jesus Christ. You can be a part of both His preserving and His saving work for others. You’ll be glad that you did! Every *“happy new year”* here lasts only for the year. But *“happy new world”* will last forever!

Prayer: *Dear Lord Jesus, amidst all the distractions of this world, please keep my heart and mind on Your Kingdom, the Kingdom that lasts. Amen.*

See you in worship!

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Pastor John M Taggatz



We rejoice in the Lord as we welcome several new members into our Grace family! What a blessing it is to see God continuing to grow His church among us. Please join us in giving thanks to God and in warmly welcoming the following individuals and families who have recently joined our congregation:

Krista & Alexander Scudder and their daughter **Charlotte**

Darin & Jill Kent

Sandra Juntunen

Susan “Sue” Krueger

We are so happy to have each of you as part of our Grace family! May the Lord bless you richly as we grow together in faith, serve one another in love, and share the Good News of Jesus Christ with our community.

Welcome to Grace!!!

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.

Look for the LARGE mite
box to drop your change and dollars into on
November 6th and 9th



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

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!!!





November 8th
10:00am-12:00pm
At school

We will be creating cookie packages for Grace's shut ins.
Please bring along a dozen cookies to share.
Any questions, please free to contact Jennifer Olen.

**We continue celebrating the 70th Anniversary
of Grace Guild!**

Each month we share some of Guild history...

April 20th, 1961

*The Guild voted to use the bazaar profits
to purchase a sterling silver flagon,
chalice and ciborium for the church altar.*

*There were numerous potluck dinners,
bake sales and refreshments served by the Guild
after weddings and funerals.*

Mite Box Sunday

November 6th and 9th

The large mite box will be in the narthex to accept your change to support grant #5 - Journey Lutheran School, to purchase 2 passenger vans. Journey school was hit with terrible flooding during the August storms, so they need our support now more than ever!

Muffins for Mites

Thank you for helping us support missions local and worldwide!
\$300 was collected for mites!

Rise & Sonshine Bible Study

November 8th and 22nd 8:00am-9:30am at Grace school



**Wednesday Morning
Ladies Bible Study**

The Ladies Bible Study will be starting up again. Please join us on Wednesday mornings at Church at 9:30 a.m. We are studying, **Joy: A Study of Philippians** by Deb Burma. This close look at Philippians, the letter of joy, unpacks messages of contentment, confidence, humility, and hope.



Opportunities at Grace

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. Call the church office at 414-762-8990 or email Pastor Tagatz at: pastor@graceoakcreek.org if you are interested in helping out with lay reading or ushering at Grace!!!

Grief Share Seminar and Support Group at Grace

No matter what the circumstances, grief recovery is a painful process. Have you or someone you know experienced the death of a loved one recently? On **Monday, September 15th**, Grace Lutheran will be starting a **Grief Share Seminar and Support Group** to help those walking through the difficult journey of grief. This group is designed to offer comfort, understanding, and encouragement through God's Word and the fellowship of His Church. Many who have attended Grief Share have found that it helps them begin putting their lives back together again with the Lord's help.

When: Mondays, September 15th – December 15th **Time:** 6:30–8:00pm

Where: Grace Lutheran School Library, 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Oak Creek, WI **Cost:** \$20.00

There will also be a **special session, "Surviving the Holidays,"** on **Monday, December 1st**—a time when grief can often feel even heavier. Our Grief Share group will be led by **Lori Kachelmeier** and **Jeanne Meyer**, who will walk alongside participants as they learn from nationally recognized experts on grief recovery. Topics include: *"Is This Normal?"* *"The Challenges of Grief,"* *"Grief and Your Relationships,"* *"Why?"* and *"Guilt and Anger."*

Register online here: tinyurl.com/57tky8

For more information, please call our Church Office at 414-762-8990 or email church@graceoakcreek.org

Jeanne Meyer – mevorch@sbcglobal.net **Lori Kachelmeier** – jlachel2@gmail.com

Please share this opportunity with anyone you know who may be struggling with the loss of a loved one. May our gracious Lord use this ministry to bring His comfort, peace, and hope to many.

Decorate the Chancel for Christmas! Order Your Poinsettia Today!

Bring Christmas joy to our sanctuary with a beautiful red poinsettia.

Deadline and Payment Due by: *Sunday, November 23rd, 2025*

Sizes & Prices:

6" (Width 16") \$17.00

7" (Width 18") \$22.00

10" (Width 28") \$42.00



How to Order:

Sign up on the table in the narthex and include your payment in the envelope provided - or call the church office at 762-8990 to order by phone. **Checks payable to:** Grace Lutheran Church

Red poinsettias in gold foil—perfect to honor or remember a loved one this Christmas!

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. 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 in leading worship services at Willow Crest. We would also provide you with resources to help you lead worship services at Willow Crest. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jeanne Meyer at: meyorch@sbcglobal.net or 414-423-0010 or Lori Kachelmeier at jlkachel2@gmail.com or 414-828-0290. You would also be able to shadow a current Willow Crest Worship Leader if you are wanting to learn more information about this ministry.

Choir at Grace

Choir practice is following 6:30pm worship on Thursday evenings at Grace! The psalmist reminds us to “*make a joyful noise to the Lord*” (Psalm 100:1), and Martin Luther once said, “*He who sings prays twice.*” What a wonderful way to lift our voices in praise together! If you would like more information, please contact **Kathy Kolb at 414-744-7781**. Please join us—we would love to have you!

Join the Grace Oak Creek VBC Committee!

Plans are underway for **Vacation Bible School in June 2026**, and we’re forming a committee to help with planning and preparation. Volunteers are needed for areas such as **decorations, supplies, recruitment, fundraising, and more**. If you’re interested in serving, please email apankow@graceoakcreek.org

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.

A Special Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our Trunk or Treat Event at Grace Lutheran School on Friday, October 24th such a wonderful success! We truly appreciate all who decorated their trunks, handed out candy, helped with setup and cleanup, and joined in the fellowship and fun. Your joyful participation and helping hands made this event a great opportunity for our Grace Lutheran community to come together, share smiles, and extend Christ’s love to others. “*Serve the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs.*” — *Psalm 100:2* Thank you again for sharing your time, energy, and enthusiasm. What a blessing it is to celebrate the joy of Christian fellowship together at Grace!

Your 3rd Quarter Grace Lutheran Giving Statements are available to pick up in the Narthex

Thank you for your generosity and support of the ministries here at Grace. We couldn’t do the work of ministry at our Church, School, and ECC without your prayers and support. God bless you!!!

Save the Date!

Saturday, November 15th, 6:30–8:00 pm Trivia Night at Grace School in the gym!

Our Fellowship Committee is hosting a night of fun, food, and friendly competition.

- Teams of 6–8 will battle through **three rounds of trivia** to see who takes home the glory!
- Don't have a team? No problem—we'll put people together.
- **No phones allowed**—your brain is your best tool!
- Free to join—just bring a **finger food to share** and **non-alcoholic drinks** for your family.



Save the date, and get ready for a night of laughs, learning, and a little healthy competition!

We hope to see you there!

Sign-up with the link below - or at Church!

<https://forms.gle/Wj4E7Gc1sJXPYUfm9>

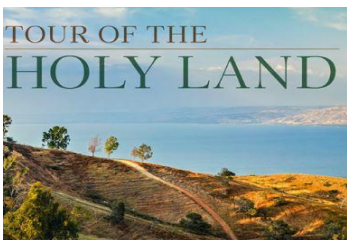
Sunday Morning Bible Class from 9:15-10:15am in the School Library

Matthew: “His Kingdom Forever.” (10 sessions)

Each study in the *God's Word for Today* series provides an in-depth exploration of a book of the Bible. Each session includes:

- Background information on the book of the Bible, its author, audience, occasion, and purpose; learning experiences that promote exciting and challenging discussions
- Notes for leaders that answer questions, suggest a learning process and
- Provide additional information and discussion starters that help participants apply God's Word to their daily lives.

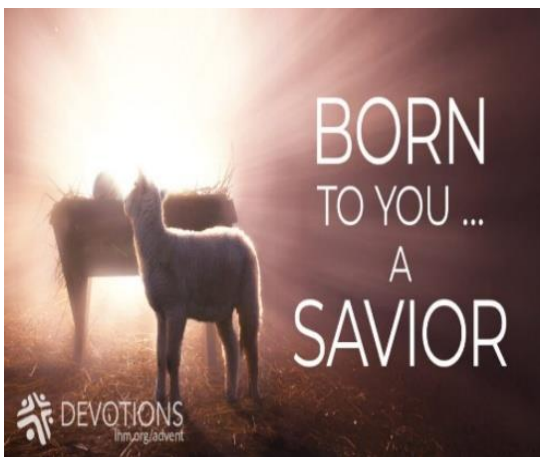
The apostle Matthew writes his gospel to proclaim to the world that its promised Savior has come. Pointing to Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies, Matthew proclaims the universality of Jesus' love. Let's take a look at the Gospel of Matthew and learn and grow!



Tour the Holy Land in Eastertide of 2026!

There is something special about meditating on the Scriptures in the very places where the events occurred. Pastor Aaron Koch of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Greenfield, LCMS, will be leading a tour back to the Holy Land next April. Destinations include Bethlehem, Nazareth, Capernaum, the Mount of Beatitudes, Mt. Carmel, Caesarea Philippi, Qumran, Masada, and of course the Temple Mount, Gethsemane, and the places of Jesus' trial, death, and resurrection in Jerusalem.

We will visit the site of Jesus' baptism at the Jordan River, take a boat trip on the Sea of Galilee, and take a swim in the buoyant Dead Sea. Plus, there is an optional trip extension to Egypt to ascend the Mountain of Moses in Sinai, and see the Sphinx and the Great Pyramids of Egypt. It only takes \$500 registration to hold your spot for this tour. Spaces are limited, so you are encouraged to sign up soon. Questions? Please contact Pastor Aaron Koch at: 414-795-9005 or pastor.koch@gmail.com. Register online at: registernow.ittworld.com. Tour code: **Koch26** to get a downloadable brochure with all the information you need. We hope you will take part in this great experience!



2025 "Born to You ... a Savior"

Lutheran Hour Ministries Advent Devotion

God in His incomparable love has made a way for us through the wilderness. He did this by giving us His Son, our Light in the darkness. In ***Born to You ... a Savior***, we embrace the Christmas joy and wonder of Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

At Christ's birth, God the Father did a new and everlasting thing in our lives: He gave us His one and only Son for our redemption. In divine humility, Jesus joined us as a human being. Born of a woman, bearing the sins of the world, Jesus comes to us as our Protector, our Deliverer, our Savior.

Daily Devotions from LHM will help strengthen and encourage your faith as you do the same for others. Have them delivered right to your inbox by going to this link: <https://www.lhm.org/newsroom/default.asp>. Perfect for personal reflection or to share with family, friends and congregations, these seasonal meditations will help prepare you to celebrate the true meaning of these seasons. We will have copies of the Advent Devotions available for pick up in our church narthex, which will include our Holiday Worship Schedule that you can share with your neighbors, family, and friends to invite them to worship at Grace during the holiday season!!!

What is Advent?

The church divides the year into different seasons that emphasize the life of Christ and the life of the church. Beginning on Sunday, November 30, 2025, we will enter the season of the church year called Advent. Advent is the season of preparation and anticipation leading up to Christmas, and continuing to Epiphany January 6, 2026.



Holiday Worship Schedule for 2025

"All About Mary"

On Thursday nights @ 6:30pm at Grace during the month of December we will once again be having our Advent Midweek Worship Services. The Advent season starts the time that is referred to as the festival half of the Church Year. Between now and the final week of the Easter season, we will follow the life of our Lord Jesus Christ, from now, when we await His

coming as a baby in Bethlehem, to the time when He physically leaves the earth at His ascension and then His disciples begin the new era of life in the church as it takes form in Jerusalem and beyond.

During Advent, we wait *for* Jesus, *with* Jesus. The darkest part of the year is brightened by the assurance that the Savior who came for the world once is coming again. And we do not wait alone. Together, the whole Christian Church is accompanied in this waiting by the Christ who promises to be with His people always. Jesus' mother, the virgin Mary, knows a lot about waiting. With pregnant anticipation, Mary waited *for* Jesus, the promised Messiah who would reign from David's throne forever. But Mary was always waiting *with* Jesus, the Son of the Most High nestled within her womb. Throughout this Advent, we will listen with Mary, sing with Mary, and wait with Mary. Because, on darkest days, the Christ comes as near to you as He did to Mary to wait *with* you for the glorious sunrise that's coming.

Please note, due to our special holiday worship there will be no Thursday night worship service on Thursday December 25th, as we will be having worship that morning on Christmas Day.

Holiday Worship Service Schedule

Wednesday, November 26 – 6:30pm

Thanksgiving Eve Service with Communion

“Think...Thank” – Deuteronomy 8:1–10

Thursday, December 4 – 6:30pm

Advent Midweek 1: “Introducing Mary” – Luke 1:26

Sunday, December 7 – 8:00am & 10:30am

Special “Trim the Tree” Service – 2nd Sunday in Advent

Thursday, December 11 – 6:30pm

Advent Midweek 2: “She Was Betrothed to a Man” – Luke 1:27

Thursday, December 18 – 6:30pm

Advent Midweek 3: “And Mary Sang” – Luke 1:46–55

Wednesday, December 24 – 4:00pm & 5:30pm

Christmas Eve – “The Nativity of Our Lord: She Gave Birth” – Luke 2:7

Thursday, December 25 – 9:30am

Christmas Day – “Became Flesh” – John 1:14

(Note: No Thursday evening worship on December 25th)

Sunday, December 28 – 9:30am only

Worship with Communion – 1st Sunday after Christmas

(Note: One service only this Sunday)

Thursday, January 1 – 6:30pm

New Year’s Day Worship with Communion – “Digging in Dirt, Finding the Name of God” – Numbers 6:22–27

Sunday, January 5 – 8:00am & 10:30am

The Epiphany of Our Lord – “The Singing Camels of Sheba” – Isaiah 60:1–6

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 non profits. 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>

How Stephen Ministry Works

The Stephen Minister steps in "AFTER" things in your life seem to go astray and you need someone to talk with that will walk with you through this time of need.



A free and **confidential** service, Stephen Ministry serves people who are struggling with a special need or going through a difficult time. They are paired with lay persons who have been trained as Stephen Ministers to offer Christian support and care. This is someone who is going to walk along beside you, is going to hold your hand the whole way. If you just want to sit there and cry, that's fine. If you want prayer, they will pray, but they're not going to come and hit you over the head with a Bible.

Stephen Ministry is helping people walk through a difficult time in their life and showing them Christian care. It is what the church is supposed to be.

The ministry itself works like this:

Pastors, church staff and lay leaders attend a one-week Leader Training Course, taught by the Stephen Ministries St. Louis facility to learn how to implement and direct the Stephen Series in their congregations. These trained Stephen Leaders then return home to set up and administer Stephen Ministry in their congregations.

Stephen Leaders recruit and select lay people from a congregation to serve as Stephen Ministers and provide them with 50 hours of Christian care giving training in the congregation, and as long as they are a Stephen Minister they get continued education at their monthly meetings.

Some of the training topics include **listening**, assertiveness, **confidentiality**, and ministering to people in specific situations such as childbirth, divorce, terminal illness, grief and much more. Stephen Ministers are also trained to recognize when a care receiver's needs go beyond the care a Stephen Minister can provide, and where and how to refer the care receiver for additional care.

A very key training module is what we call **process** versus **results**. We are there to perform a caring process--to listen and care-- not to try to "fix things" or push for results. We are the care givers; **GOD is the cure giver**.

After the Stephen Minister is commissioned, Stephen Leaders link them with a care receiver--a member of the congregation who is in need of quality Christian care.

Stephen Ministry is not just for people in our congregation but also it is a community outreach program. We sometimes get referrals from churches in other parts of the city or if someone moves we will find a Stephen Minister in their new town.

A Stephen Minister normally is assigned to only one care receiver at a time and meets with the care receiver for an average of about an hour each week. Stephen Ministers also meet once a month for peer supervision and continuing education.

Stephen Ministers are not counselors, they are trained **listeners** and caregivers. Those who stand to benefit most from Stephen Ministry are the care receivers. Having someone to talk to walk alongside, in **confidentiality**, during life's crises, both big and small, can make the journey a little smoother.

If you are going through an emotional or spiritual struggle, it's going to come out in a physical way. Stephen Ministry is here to help your physical being, spiritual and emotional being. Some folks are unsure about seeking care and wonder whether a strong person should need to ask for care. God sent us to help one another, Stephen Ministry is on way God provides that care.

Our Stephen Ministry at Grace has been going on since 2004 and has been growing!

How can you get a Stephen Minister at Grace? Or Become a Stephen Minister? Contact Pastor Taggatz 715-467-1231 - or to one of the Stephen Leaders Jeanne Meyer 423-0010, Lori Kachelmeier 414-828-0290.



"Called to Be Ambassadors"

In Webster's New World Dictionary, ambassador is defined as "the highest-ranking diplomatic representative of one country to another." An ambassador of the United States to another country holds a very prestigious position. This person speaks for our country. The honor of a country is in the ambassador's hands. The responsibility of an ambassador is to represent his/her country in a very honorable way.

By His grace, God calls us to be ambassadors for Jesus by representing and speaking on His behalf. We bring Jesus' message to the world. As important as it is to be an ambassador who represents a country, it is a much greater privilege and a much more significant responsibility to represent Jesus. The Apostle Paul wrote, *"All this is from God, Who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation...Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us"* (2 Corinthians 5:18-20). Just as Jesus sent Paul to be an ambassador, He is sending us. As ambassadors for Jesus, we share the Gospel with whomever God places in our paths.

God makes His appeal to unbelievers through us, and, therefore, it is imperative that we share the Gospel, which is the life-giving truth. We are to preach and teach the Word of God. We choose to be among those workers in the harvest field (Matthew 9:36-38) who share our testimonies of faith, always pointing others to Christ and His Gospel. As ambassadors, we share the good news that God has reconciled us sinners with Himself through His Son, Jesus. Because Jesus, Who knew no sin, took upon Himself our sins, we are made righteous in Jesus. We are called to take this life-saving message to our homes, neighborhoods, schools, places of work, and the entire world.

God not only gives us His marching orders; He empowers us to carry them out. What God expects He enables. Through the working of the Holy Spirit, God changes us into people who are up to the task of being ambassadors. As we spend time in God's Word and in prayer, we are emboldened to speak the Good News so that others may experience the joy and peace that God gives.

Blessings on your Stewardship journey!



Portals of Prayer Devotional

Over the years the church has provided the Portals of Prayers devotional book to our members. Throughout these years the church has carried this expense. To help offset that burden we now have envelopes available in the narthex for our members to designate funds to this devotional book. It is our goal to continue to provide this amazing tool to our members in their faith journey.

Prayer Line

Our prayer line at Grace started back in the 1970's as a telephone prayer line, by Lucille Kowert our former Pastor's wife. We had about 15 people on the prayer line. The first person received the call and passed it on to the next in line. We were not supposed to talk about anything except the prayer and pass it on.

It went on like that until Mr. Bailey joined us as our principal and he added the email prayer line. At that time we had the events committee started and they paid for the stamps and cards that I sent out. Not as many as we do now but everyone received a card.

When the Events committee had stopped, someone had suggested that I give Thrivent a call and find out if they would pay for the stamps. Those of us who sent out cards paid for the cards ourselves previously. Then Carol Thurber and Wendy Tischendorf offered to make cards for us. Later, we asked for people to donate cards and that worked for a few years

In December of 2019 Thrivent started paying for the stamps, since then we have sent out more than 6,000 cards. A couple of years ago Gail Nowakowski and her daughter Michelle offered to make all the beautiful cards that you see on the table in the back of church. They donate their time and the money to purchase the items needed to make these beautiful cards.

A few years ago Kathy Kolb brought me a pattern for the prayer pads that we send out along with the cards. Lori Jablonski and Barb Huber started making those inspiring prayer pads which are so loved by those receiving them. We receive so many emails and cards of thanks. They continue to make them.

Please take time to thank these ladies for all that they do to make our prayer line work so well, and be such an inspiration to those in need. It has never stopped working since it started in the 70's

We have a few ladies who help send out cards regularly, Barb Huber, Sandy Herte, Beth Jackson, Sharon Iseli, myself and a few that send them out occasionally. If you are interested in helping, please feel free to take the stamps and cards that are on the table, send them out to those on the prayer line and listed in the bulletin. If you have questions or would like to join the prayer line, please call me, Pauline at 414 764 5574



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



gracelutheran_oakcreek



We use these social media platforms to share the special things going on at church, school and the Early Childhood Center.

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!

Introducing RaiseRight -- The new name for Scrip The same program and process, just a different name.

You can now order gift cards from Raise Right in the comfort of your home through your phone or computer. You receive the same tuition credit and it is more convenient! Many cards are available that are not on our order form because we cannot list them all.

There are three options. You can order physical cards, E-cards or reloadable cards. Physical cards are mailed directly to you. There is a postage fee of \$1.00 for the first card and \$.50 per additional card. The convenience fee is 1% if using a debit card and 3% if using a credit card. E-cards appear immediately in your wallet in the Raise Right app. The convenience fee is the same as physical cards, but there is no mailing fee.

Reloadable cards have a \$.29 reload fee per card. Some cards cannot be mailed directly to you and need to be sent to the coordinator, Gail Nowakowski. There may be a delay receiving those cards because we do not place orders every week.

Simply download the Raise Right app and set up an account. The code for Grace is **6EA22B9E8287**. The current process has not changed and you can order Raise Right using the form and give it to one of the Raise Right coordinators in the Narthex after each service.

If you are interested in using the online process, or have questions,
please contact Gail Nowakowski at 414-791-4075

Birthdays & Anniversaries in November



11/2 *Jim Block*
11/2 *Lori Kachelmeier*
11/3 *Rebecca Koehn*
11/4 *Nick Norton*
11/6 *Jason Stone*
11/7 *Sean McKinney*
11/7 *Nina McKinster*
11/8 *Jesse Dotson*
11/8 *Teri Nameth*
11/8 *Patricia Toman*
11/9 *Rachel Miliacca*
11/10 *Rick Weeks*
11/11 *Mary Savarino*
11/12 *Natalie Jaskie*
11/14 *Madeline Durant*
11/15 *Tere Hasse*
11/16 *Jeanne Meyer*
11/17 *Molly Pulkownik*

11/18 *Larry Herte*
11/20 *Bernice Byklum*
11/21 *Laura Urbaniak*
11/22 *Linda Maldonado*
11/22 *Reagan Svicek*
11/25 *Erica Vitek*
11/26 *Dawn Jantz*
11/28 *Lynn Serdynski*
11/29 *Morgan Parker*
11/29 *Donna Wenzel*
11/30 *Andrew Gonsowski*
11/30 *Erik Kopperud*

11/1 *Mark and Jennifer Olen*
11/3 *Glenn and Donna Dotson*
11/13 *Arthur and Marie Soucek*
11/23 *Steve and Jennifer Gettelman*

Happy Anniversary!

May God's love continue to shine
upon your marriage, filling your
hearts with joy and peace.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Class 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Divine Worship 6:00pm - 8:30pm Stephen Minister Training	3 6:30pm 6-8 Grade Confirmation Class 6:30pm - 8:00pm Grief Share	4 7:00am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner) 6:30pm - 8:30pm Stephen Ministry Meeting	5 9:30am Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm All Board's Meeting	6 6:30pm Divine Worship	7	8 8:00am - 9:30am Rise & Sonshine 10:00am - 12:00pm Ladies Guild
9 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Divine Worship 6:00pm - 8:30pm Stephen Minister Training	10 6:30pm 6-8 Grade Confirmation Class 6:30pm - 8:00pm Grief Share	11 7:00am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)	12 9:30am Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm Council Meeting	13 6:30pm Divine Worship	14	15 Trivia Night 6:30pm-8:30pm
16 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Class 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Divine Worship 6:00pm - 8:30pm Stephen Minister Training	17 6:30pm 6-8 Grade Confirmation Class 6:30pm - 8:00pm Grief Share	18 7:00am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)	19 9:30am Ladies Bible Study	20 6:30pm Divine Worship	21	22 8:00am - 9:30am Rise & Sonshine
23 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Divine Worship 6:00pm - 8:30pm Stephen Minister Training	24 6:30pm 6-8 Grade Confirmation Class 6:30pm - 8:00pm Grief Share	25 7:00am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)	26 9:30am Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship	27 6:30pm Divine Worship	28	29
30 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Divine Worship						

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

