

NOVEMBER 2014



Grace Lutheran Church Monroe, Wisconsin

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church
1025—15th Avenue
Monroe, WI 53566

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MONROE, WI 53566
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Return Service Requested

GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
Phone: 608-325-9172 Fax: 608-325-9217
E-mail: gracelc@tds.net
WEBSITE: www.gracelcmonroe.org
Worship Schedule
Saturday, 5:00 PM & Sunday, 9:00 AM
Sunday School, 10:00 AM

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 8:30—12:00/1:00-4:30 PM
Pastor
John J. Tabaka E-mail: pastortabaka@tds.net

Director of Family & Parish Education Ministries
Jim Ranney Email: jmranney@gmail.com

Visitation Pastor
Richard Thieckpenny (608-455-1800)

Custodian
Terry K olanda

Director of Music/Church Musician
Ann Uresk

Secretarial Staff
Beth Faith (gracelc@tds.net)
Marci Hensel (gracelc2@tds.net)

2014 Church Council Representatives

Bruce Bahler
(brucebahler@yahoo.com)

Darci Boll 325-9787 (Secretary)
(darcid@charter.net)

Katie Brugger 469-0450 (President)
(katie-patterson14@yahoo.com)

Jennifer Chapman 558-8005 (Vice-President)
(mjimbchapman@hotmail.com)

Fritz Graber 325-6296 (HarleyFG1@yahoo.com)
Jim Fillhauer 325-4242 (jasu1@tds.net)

Ellen Mathiason 325-6766 (sammln@charter.net)

Greta Rath 201-9309 (gmrath@tds.net)

Lance Sathoff 325-2709 (Treasurer)
(lsathoff@wekz.net)

Ariel Thomas 328-1881 (arielbobbie@charter.net)

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Larry Lancaster	11/1	Valerie Torkelson	11/23
Glenene Hardel	11/2	Donna Wartenweiler	11/24
Morgan Kamholz		Martha Breisath	11/25
Joan Wolfe		Jackie Erlandson	
Justin Weber	11/5	Amanda Losenegger	11/26
Jerry Weldon		Evan Pinnow	
Zach LaVoie	11/6	Gordon Wahler	
Joel Dieckhoff	11/7	Jenna Wehinger	
Archie Myers		Alicia Kuester	11/27
Brad Bahler	11/8	Curt Nafzger	
Eveline Phillips	11/9	Jeanette Carpenter	11/28
Melanie Zentner		Sam Mathiason	
Jennifer Bahler	11/10	Wanda Grossen	11/29
Sue Patterson		Emilee Olson	
Sheena Runden	11/11	Lori Wehinger	
Matthew Sinkule		Hillary Hunt	11/30
Christine Tabaka			
Cooper Buxton	11/12		
Jeanette Scholz			
Annette Voegeli			
Grace Mathiason	11/13		
Dennis Meighan	11/15		
Don Pfister			
Janice Everson	11/16		
Samantha Pinnow			
Michelle Meier	11/17		
Landen Wilson			
Rich Heitkamp	11/18		
Willis Kolden			
Sylvan Waage			
Louis Scherer	11/19		
Randy Whipple			
Kennedy Dammen	11/22		



If you have a November birthday that we missed, please call the office and let us know so that we can include it next year!

Serving in November

ACOLYTES

Sat., Nov. 1	Quinn Schultz
Sun., Nov. 2	Alexa Bader
Sat., Nov. 8	Dylan Fahrney
Sun., Nov. 9	Grace Mathiason
Sat., Nov. 15	Clayton Howard
Sun., Nov. 16	Alexa Bader
Sat., Nov. 22	Dylan Fahrney
Sun., Nov. 23	Kerstin Miller
Wed., Nov. 26	Alexa Bader
Sat., Nov. 29	Eric Kielty
Sun., Nov. 30	Ashleigh Olson

LITURGISTS

Sat., Nov. 1	Alyssa Sinkule
Sun., Nov. 2	Ellen Mathiason
Sat., Nov. 8	Laurie Kruse
Sun., Nov. 9	Ann Hunter
Sat., Nov. 15	Beth Faith
Sun., Nov. 16	Penny Jahnke
Sat., Nov. 22	Dee Signer
Sun., Nov. 23	Sam Mathiason
Wed., Nov. 26	Jim Ranney
Sat., Nov. 29	Alyssa Sinkule
Sun., Nov. 30	Paul Moser

ALTAR GUILD

Flower Committee

MISSIONARY SPONSORS

Nov. 1 & 2	Anna Mae Gibbons
Nov. 8 & 9	Pending
Nov. 15 & 16	Helen & Millie Stauffer
Nov. 22 & 23	Len & Sharon Potts
Nov. 29 & 30	Pending

ORGANISTS

Sat., Nov. 1	Carolyn Rohloff
Sat., Nov. 8	Carolyn Rohloff
Sat., Nov. 15	Eric Tabaka
Sat., Nov. 22	Carolyn Rohloff
Sat., Nov. 29	Carolyn Rohloff

USHERS

Saturdays in November	Pat & Kris Parr
Sat., Nov. 29	Les Kruse, Jr.
Sundays in November	Dennis & Jan Everson and Jan & Jackie Erlandson

USHER COORDINATOR NEEDED

Many, many thanks to Steve Field for serving as our usher coordinator for the past two years! His assistance has been much appreciated! We are seeking a volunteer to take on this role for the coming year. If you could help us, or for more details, please contact the church office at 325-9172 or email us at gracelc@tds.net. Thank you!

A NOTE FROM PASTOR JOHN

In the past few weeks during worship, we have heard the accounts of the exodus from Egypt and Nathan confronting King David about Bathsheba.

Moses leads the Israelites from the old life of slavery towards the Promised Land. The Israelites, who had been enslaved for generations, prayed to God for deliverance. That deliverance would come in the form of Moses and plagues. On the way out of Egypt, Pharaoh pursues the former slaves with his army and the people are afraid for their lives. God protects them. On the journey, food runs low and the people complain that Moses has brought them to die instead of leaving them in Egypt where life was "good". God provided manna. The people were thirsty, God provided water.

When we are in the midst of bondage of any kind (which may include location, economic, relationship, illness) and receive freedom, we have two responses. The first is joy and gratitude for seeing us through those difficult times and hopefulness for the future. The second is fear and foreboding of what that future may look like. That is just a new type of bondage.

King David's desires led to adultery, murder and a cover up. The prophet Nathan used a parable to convict the king of his wrongs. It worked and David repented. We carry around various parts of our lives which we hope remain hidden. We have those little and large instances of poor or selfish judgment, things we would change or do over if we could. We have two responses. One is dragging these burdens through each day and re-opening wounds. The other is confession and healing.

These stories and the events they describe are ancient. Yet, they carry truth for us. Are you afraid of the past or the future? Are you able to recognize God's gifts to you at this moment? This is about having faith in the One who sent Jesus into this world. This is about trusting in forgiveness that God offers. This is about having new life, while putting our past and its wounds in the care of One who can bear them.

In Christ,

Pastor John

OCTOBER PARISH ACTIONS

SYMPATHY Pastor Richard Thickpenny & Ruth in the death of Ruth's dad, Rev. Richard Rem and also the death of Ruth's aunt

NEW MEMBERS Dawn Olson transferring to Grace from St. John's Lutheran Church, in Eau Claire, WI

ALTAR GUILD MEETING There will be an Altar Guild meeting on **Thursday, November 20th at 6:00 p.m.** This is the beginning of our new year; all members please try to attend. We will have a question and answer time, so please bring your Altar Guild questions!



THANKS FROM THE WOMEN OF GRACE

We are so thankful for our gracious and giving congregation of Grace!! You folks are awesome!! Thanks to you, Lutheran World Relief committee has received all the items we need for three kits. We were able to send 77 school kits, 22 baby kits, 11 personal care kits and 119 quilts. Thank you to all our quilters! Our thanks to our Sunday School children and staff for packing the school kits. Job well-done!! Also, thanks to Terry Kollanda for loading the many boxes and to Louis Scherer for the use of his truck and the trucking!! Many hands doing God's wonderful work!

Lutheran World Relief Chairpersons, Ruth Leistikow & Gaida Vickerman

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE Thank you to everyone who has supported the Green County Food Pantry, Inc. with your donations of food, personal care items, money and time. Your donations are appreciated, and needed. During the month of September, Grace Lutheran Church donated 74# of food items. In that time, 552 individuals were served by the Pantry. Items most needed right now are: hot cereal, hot chocolate, cake mixes, pudding, Jell-O, macaroni & cheese and pork & beans. Thanks again for your continued support of the Food Pantry!



FINANCES AT A GLANCE

Total September Undesignated Gifts.....	\$21,222
Total September Expenses	\$26,477
Estimated Contributions Needed Monthly to meet Budget.....	\$34,772
Current October Undesignated Contributions to date.....	\$27,720
Current October Expenses (Paid & Pending)	\$31,096
Current Mortgage Balance.....	\$38,852
Current Bank Balance.....	\$905
Money Borrowed to Meet Expenses.....	\$16,400

THANKSGIVING BASKETS: It's the time of the year we remember those in our church family who can no longer join us in the pews. We will be delivering small boxes of treats to our shut-ins the weekend before Thanksgiving (Nov. 22, 23, 24). Please keep an eye out for a board in the narthex for the types of food needed to fill these boxes. Too, think about what time you could give to deliver these treats. It is amazing how much pleasure your visit and this small remembrance gives our shut-ins. Thank you!



GRACE FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE



Your Grace Family Promise ministry with the help of Juda and Oakley United Methodist Church will again be hosting Family Promise of Green County guests the week of November 2, 2014. The number of guests is fluctuating between 10-14 at any one time, depending on graduations from and new guests into the program. Graduates go into our transitional housing, until they are able to obtain regular housing. FPGC continues to support guests with counseling, even though they have graduated. Our previously reported successful graduation rate of 72% is now approaching 80%, so our ministry appears to be getting better. The Grace Family Promise Committee would like to thank all the volunteers who give hours of their time and talent. We would also like to thank those who support this ministry with food, and cash donations. You make it possible for us to continue this valuable & successful ministry.

USHERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE We still need three people to help serve as ushers at the **10:00 PM service on Christmas Eve**. If you can help, please call the church office or email us at gracelc@tds.net to volunteer. Thank you for your consideration!

NOVEMBER BAPTISMS

Sarah Goebel	Dave Powers	Lance Sathoff
Joseph Zinsli	Summer Zinsli	Erin LaVoie
Keith Rielly	Kaitlyn Wardlow	Joan Wolfe
T.J. Figi	Derek Wahler	Jared Weber
Michael Campbell-Hauser	Jim Grinnell	Jordan Kamholz
Ethan Mueller	Jennifer Zeitler	Steven Figi
Jacob Ohms	Zachary Simonson	Emma Stephenson
Dan Hoesly	Barb Moser	Penny Jahnke
Tereesa Schroeder	Dominick Rath	Melaney Johnson
Kendrick Rath	Rich Heitkamp	Bill Flisram
Janice Peterson	Ryan Camron	Trevor Jackson
Nic Ruch	Rylee Svendsen	Landen Wilson
Sydney Schultz	Kim Tallman	Madalyn Leck
Michael Wolfe	MacKenzie Ohms	Millie Stauffer
Donna Gilbertson	Emily Grossen	Carrie Scherer
Rosemary Hoover	Matt Whipple	

We are sorry if we missed your November baptism. Please call the office to let us know of your baptism date so that we may include your name next time!

NOVEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Shawn & Julie Miller
 Dale & Janice Peterson
 Len & Sharon Potts
 Lori & Dennis Timm
 Larry & Diane Heindel



We are sorry if we missed your November anniversary. Please call the office to let us know of your anniversary date so that we may include your name next year!

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
September 22, 2014

Del Heins will be here on October 19th for a polka service and confirmation will take place on October 26th. We are in need of a new Usher Captain at the beginning of next year. Chimes has a couple new members.

Parish Ed – Sunday School students will be filling backpacks for Lutheran World Relief on Sunday, September 28th and Gaida Vickerman will give a presentation.

Women of Grace – There will be a quilter's presentation at church. There are plenty of items for the school kits. Cleaning and doing inventory of the kitchen will take place on Saturday, October 18th. The Chili Luncheon will take place on Saturday, November 1st. We will be putting care packages together for college students.

Pastor's Thoughts – Confirmation and Sunday School are going well. The budget for 2015 will be reviewed soon. Our summer intern, Michaela Honsova left on September 16th. We are glad to have Jim Ranney as our new Director of Family and Parish Education Ministries.

Jim Ranney's Thoughts – Jim Ranney informed Council members that the 7-UP Youth Group gathering went well at the Mathiason's home on Sunday, September 14th. A meeting for the 2015 National ELCA Youth Gathering will take place on Sunday, September 28th. The youth gathering will take place the third week of July in Detroit, Michigan. Scott Christensen and Lisa Wunder have expressed an interest in going. Jim will be leading an Adult Study Group on Sundays from 10:15-11:15 a.m. There will be 4-6 week blocks from the fall through the spring.

Other Items Discussed:

Discussion on the placement of the flags took place at this time. Motion by Lance Sathoff and seconded by Bruce Bahler to leave the flags where they are currently located. Motion carried.

We received \$1,390.00 during Cheese Days for the rental of spaces in our parking lot. Suggestions for the money include putting it towards the youth gathering, the canopy, and/or expenses.

Motion by Greta Rath and seconded by Fritz Graber to use the \$1390.00 from the sale of parking lot spaces during Cheese Days for expenses. Motion carried.

Some suggestions for the next Cheese Days include making a sign showing what the proceeds will go towards and opening the parking lot earlier on Friday.

A silent auction will take place on Saturday, November 1st during the Chili Luncheon. The Council will put together two baskets for the auction. One will have a sports theme and the other will have a cooking theme.

The next Church Council meeting will take place on Monday, October 27th.

Motion to adjourn by Bruce Bahler and seconded by Fritz Graber.

Respectfully Submitted, Darci Boll, Secretary

Members Present: Katie Brugger, Darci Boll, Bruce Bahler, Lance Sathoff, Fritz Graber, Greta Rath, and Pastor John Tabaka.

Member(s) Absent: Jennifer Chapman, Jim Fillhouer, Ellen Mathiason, and Ariel Thomas.

Also Present: Jim Ranney

Council members discussed Chapter 9 of the book "Rich Church, Poor Church" at this time.

Secretary's Report – Motion by Lance Sathoff and seconded by Bruce Bahler to approve the August 25, 2014 minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Undesignated funds are down 3% and designated funds are up 54.2% compared to last year at this time. Thrivent Dollars are up 6%. According to the A/P Aging Summary we owe \$5,199.91 in Benevolence. The money for the canopy, steeple repairs, & south doors is to come out of Resurrection Sale Moneys. We will need to keep track of any money that comes out of Resurrection Sale Moneys for expenses because it will need to be paid back. We will need to pay bills from money we have. Bequests and the sale of Resurrection have helped us the last few years. Motion by Bruce Bahler and seconded by Greta Rath to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Memorial Committee – The current balance is \$8,286.27. Bob Leistikow will be meeting with Altar Guild to discuss candles for candelabras. Samples are being looked at from Stempfer and C.L. Almay.

Building Committee – Met with the contractor and the price for putting up the canopy is approximately \$25,000, which is astronomical. We will be going back to the architect to look over the plans. We would like the cost for the canopy to be around \$10,000. The canopy will not be done this year.

Stewardship Committee – Met & discussed distributing time & talents information.

Mutual Ministry – Did not meet.

Staff Support – They are finishing up staff reviews.

Property Committee – The cost to replace the south doors with a single door and side lights is \$4,800. Everything in front would have been \$7,800. The estimate from Arrow Sales for cleaning carpets is \$410.00. Will be getting another estimate.

Worship & Music – Michaela Honsova will preach on September 14th. Services will take place at 8:00 a.m. on September 21st due to Cheese Days. Jim Ranney will be installed as Director of Family and Parish Education Ministries the weekend of September 27th and 28th. Pastor John will be gone on October 11th and 12th.

A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRY

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your heart sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” — Colossians 3:16-17

The cool air in the month of November brings with it a change of season, and a time of reflection and thankfulness. I look back with wonderful memories of seasons past, gathering with family for Thanksgiving Day at my grandparents home farm near Blue Mounds. I also reflect on great memories spending time in the woods deer hunting with family and attending the November annual lutefisk dinner at our home church at Barneveld Lutheran.

In the more recent years, Maria and I have found much joy in the celebration of Thanksgiving as a family with our boys Andrew and Matthew. It has been a blessing to see their excitement for each of the holidays and to find ways to build family memories to gather, celebrate, pray and worship together.

As we continue to gather for Thanksgiving, things may change and can feel different from one year to the next with family. New blessings may have arrived, some loved ones may have passed; but God is always a constant strength and is ever present in and amongst each of our lives.

I pray for each of you, that you are filled with wonderful memories of Thanksgiving days past and that you continue to celebrate and discover new blessings, peace and joys in this present time and year!

7-Up November Meetings:

Leaf Raking: On Sunday, November 9th we will be gathering from Noon- 3:00 p.m. at Grace. Plan to bring a rake and gloves as we will be doing a service project to help rake some yards in the Monroe community. We will plan to gather back at Grace for a time for snacks and fellowship.

Bowling: On Sunday, November 23rd we are planning to meet at Grace and will walk to Turner Hall from 6:00-7:30 p.m. for a fun night of bowling and fellowship. Plan to bring around \$15 for bowling and food.

Adult/High School Education: (Nooma Videos)

We have been enjoying some great discussion and fellowship with our six-week Nooma series with Pastor Rob Bell. Each Sunday is a different devotion and an opportunity to learn and discuss various topics. We meet from 10:15-11:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the church library. Everyone in 9th grade and up is welcome to attend. So, grab a cup of coffee and a treat and join us for a nice morning of fellowship and learning! We will be meeting through Sunday, November 23rd.

Wishing you all a blessed month of November and Thanksgiving!

Peace and Joy in Christ,

Jim ><

LOAVES & FISHES FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

Loaves & Fishes, a non-profit group utilizing volunteers from local churches, provides a free meal to anyone in the community on the 4th Sunday of each month from 4:00—6:00 PM. Please join us on **Sunday, November 23, 2014 at 4:00 PM** for a wonderful meal served in our Fellowship Hall downstairs. Volunteers are needed each month to help cook, serve, welcome, and clean up. If you would like to help, please contact Donna Phillips at 325-3738. Thank you for your support!



THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP NOVEMBER 26, 2014 6:30 PM

Join in a worship of thanksgiving and praise on **Wednesday, November 26th at 6:30 PM**. Communion will be shared. We hope you will come!

ALL SAINTS DAY NOVEMBER 2, 2014

Join us on All Saints Day for a festive service with our special guests, The Last Gasp Jazz Band! We will remember those saints who have died in the past 12 months, and all saints on this special day. Worship begins at 9:00 AM. We hope you will come and experience the musical talents of the Last Gasp Jazz Band, for all the saints!

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH'S ALTAR GUILD CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

FIRST MEETING HELD—JULY 15, 1974

Attended by: Ethel Stauffer, Thora Zeitler & Virginia Monaghan

MEETING TO FORM ALTAR GUILD HELD—OCTOBER 23, 1974

Members attending: Ethel Stauffer, Thora Zeitler, Virginia Monaghan
Mary Burri, Carol Connors, Jenny Franklin, Grace Roth,
Janice Peterson, Marcella Peterson, Jane Swiggum,
Marge Warfel & Marge Zupanc

DIRECTORS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

1974 — Thora Zeitler	1995 — Terry Lind
1975 — Thora Zeitler	1996 — Terry Lind
1976 — Marge Zupanc	1997 — Becky Mischka
1977 — Grace Roth	1998 — Becky Mischka
1978 — Jenny Franklin	1999 — Ruth Leistikow
1979 — Janice Peterson	2000 — Ruth Leistikow
1980 — Phyllis Huebner	2001 — Laurie Kruse
1981 — Elvina Rust	2002 — Carol Connors
1982 — Marge Warfel	2003 — Mary Flisram
1983 — Clara Baumgartner	2004 — Sheri Novak
1984 — Martha Scherer	2005 — Laurie Kruse
1985 — Marge Zupanc	2006 — Martha Scherer
1986 — Carol Connors	2007 — Mary Flisram
1987 — Janice Peterson	2008 — Regina Meighan
1988 — Grace (Roth) Marty	2009 — Regina Meighan
1989 — Evelyn Miller	2010 — Janice Everson
1990 — Laurie Kruse	2011 — Janice Everson
1991 — Evelyn Miller	2012 — Cindy McKeown
1992 — Martha Scherer	2013 — Cindy McKeown
1993 — Maren Kuester	2014 — Ruth Leistikow
1994 — Ruth Leistikow	2015 — Ruth Leistikow