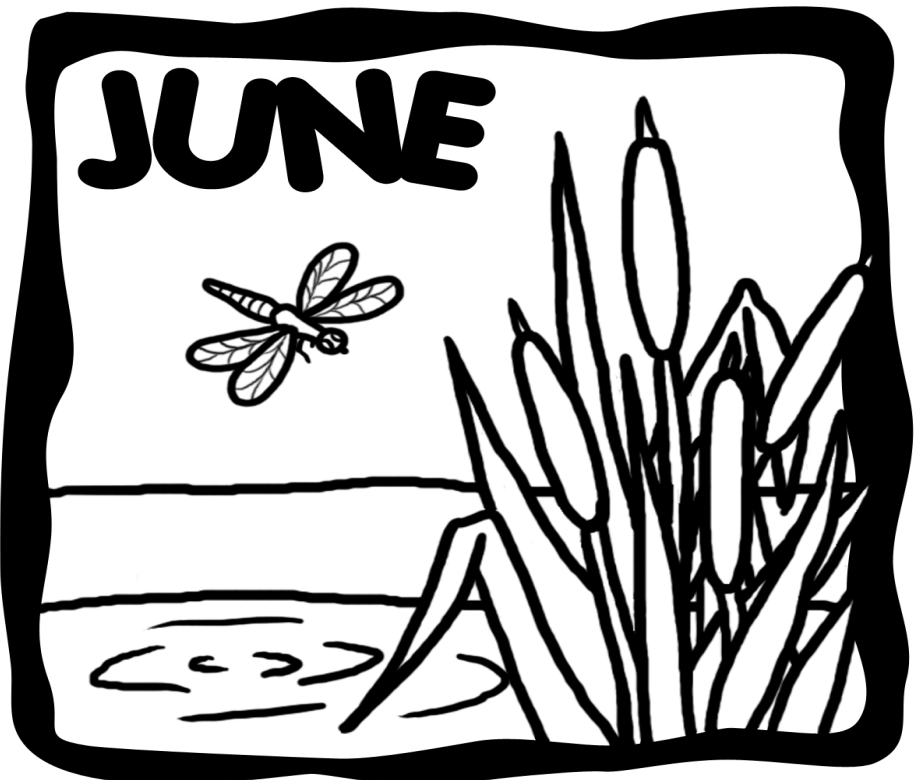


2014



**Grace Lutheran Church
Monroe, Wisconsin**

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

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MONROE, WI 53566
PERMIT NO. 13

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, 10:15 AM

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM—4:30 PM
Pastor
John J. Tabaka E-mail: pastortabaka@tds.net
Visitation Pastor
Richard Thickeny

Custodian
Terry Kolanda
Director of Music/Church Musician
Ann Herr
Secretarial Staff
Beth Faith (gracelc@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**)
(mjmbchapman@hotmail.com)

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

Ellen Mathiason 325-6766 (sammh@charter.net)
Greta Rath 201-9309 (gmrath@tds.net)
Lance Sathoff 325-2709 (**Treasurer**)
(lsathoff@wekz.net)

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

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Wes Robertson
 Gary Anderson 6/3
 Mary Dietz
 Dave Pinnow
 Jared Weber 6/4
 Angela Clark 6/5
 Lucille Rupnow
 Lane Shippy
 O’Nalee Marx 6/6
 MacKenzie Ohms
 Jaryn Wardlow
 Gert Koehn 6/7
 Kyle Olson
 Joyce Smith
 Julie Kielty 6/8
 Cindy Sigafus
 Janice Breisath 6/9
 Walt Graber
 John Milz
 Carrie Scherer 6/10
 Jessica Zimmerman-Stiner
 Glenda Yaun 6/11
 Dylan Fahrney 6/12
 Jocelyn Smith
 Robert Wahler
 Jodie Pfingsten 6/14
 Larry Heindel 6/15
 Christine Lawrence
 Zachary Zinsli

Amy Bestul 6/16
 Erin LaVoie
 Jane Nelson
 Jacob Teasdale
 Donna Johnson 6/17
 Julie Miller
 Harley Flannery 6/18
 Anita Huffman
 Taylor Weis
 Dan Meighan 6/20
 Kaitlyn Wardlow
 Summer Zinsli
 Brady Whipple 6/21
 Abby Leck 6/22
 Nicole Wyss 6/23
 Laura Ault 6/24
 Betty Iverson
 Amanda Larson 6/25
 Tessa Brown 6/26
 Brittany Graber
 Tim Kubly 6/28
 Ashton Nickel
 Tina Webster
 Don Fimreite 6/30
 Robert Jeglum



Serving in June

ACOLYTES

Sat., June 7.....Pending
 Sun., June 8.....Pending
 Sat., June 14.....Pending
 Sun., June 15.....Sydney Mathiason
 Sat., June 21.....Pending
 Sun., June 22.....Pending
 Sat., June 28.....Pending
 Sun., June 29.....Pending

LITURGISTS

Sat., June 7.....Jim Munro
 Sun., June 8.....Paul Moser
 Sat., June 14.....Dee Signer
 Sun., June 15.....Beth Faith
 Sat., June 21.....Laurie Kruse
 Sun., June 22.....Jackie Erlandson
 Sat., June 28.....Penny Jahnke
 Sun., June 29.....Sam Mathiason

ALTAR GUILD FOR JUNE

Altar Ornaments

MISSIONARY SPONSORS

June 7-8.....Gaida Vickerman
 June 14-15.....Jim Munro
 June 21-22.....Pending
 June 28-29.....Irene Paulson

ORGANISTS

Sat., June 7.....Penny Jahnke
 Sat., June 14.....Carolyn Rohloff
 Sat., June 21.....Carolyn Rohloff
 Sat., June 28.....Carolyn Rohloff

All Sundays in June.....Ann Uresk

USHERS

Saturdays in June: 7, 14, 28: Pat & Kris Parr; Sat., 21: Steve & Laurie Field

Sundays in June: Carol Mohns, Len & Sharon Potts

SEEKING SPECIAL MUSIC for the summer months. If you can provide special music, vocal or instrumental, please contact Ann Uresk or the church office.

THANK YOU to all who provided music this year, especially our choir, handchimes and praise band folks! You are appreciated!

A WORD FROM PASTOR JOHN

Last fall, Grace applied to host a seminary student from Slovakia. In an earlier article, I described this aspect of mission work. We were recently notified of our summer intern.

Her name is Michaela Hansova.. She is a 20-year old second year student at the Evanjelicka bohoslovecka fakulta—Univerzita Komenskeho in Bratislava. Michaela is from the village of Zilina, with is approximately twenty miles south of the Polish and Czech borders, in the northern part of Slovakia.

Michaela likes sing, dancing and social fellowship, especially spending time with church youth. Michaela is certain of her vocation n the ministry. She is looking forward to her time with us and hopes to discover new perceptions of the Lutheran Church. She is excited to experience a new culture.

Michaela will be active for the three months she is here, learning about how the Church functions in America. She will join me and Pastor Thickpenny on pastoral visits in homes, hospitals and nursing facilities. She will assist with worship services and be available for VBS. She will attend many church meetings and functions. Toward the end of her stay, she will preach at least once.

Part of her time with us will be learning about the Church, but we also want to show her some of the sites as we would any guest. If you are planning a day trip in the area, please consider inviting Michaela. We have two world class cities, Chicago and Milwaukee a few hours away, we have museums, zoos, House on the Rock, the Mississippi along with various festivals and celebrations. You get the idea. My hope before she arrives is that she will have many memories to take back.

She will give us an introduction to Central Europe. I am sure she would be available to describe life there to any group outside the congregation as well.

We are looking for families to host Michaela. She would stay with each family three or four weeks. The hosts would be responsible for meals, a safe place to call home and some transportation. If you are at all open to sharing your home and time, let me know. We do not have a firm arrival date, but we expect her in mid to late June.

Pastor John

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MARY FROILAND

This morning our former bishop, Bruce Burnside, pled guilty to second-degree reckless homicide and first offense OWI, in the April 7, 2013, death of Maureen Mengelt. Sentencing will be determined at a hearing within the next month or so. Bruce was taken into custody following the hearing.

Several people who attended the hearing reported that Bruce's attorney stated that Bruce had wanted to admit guilt and take responsibility "from the beginning", but as Bruce's lawyer, hired to protect his constitutional rights, he had not allowed Bruce to do so. This information is helpful to me, and I share it with you hoping it is helpful to you as well.

In addition, Bruce resigned from the clergy roster of the ELCA yesterday, and is no longer a pastor.

Our prayers continue for the Mengelts who have been so damaged by Bruce's actions, and for the Sun Prairie community that still feels the repercussions. We also entrust Bruce, his friends and his family to God, as they live into this new reality.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good so that we may do God's will, working in us that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL SPONSORS "SUNDAE ON A MONDAY"

The dates for our annual Sundae on a Monday are **Monday, June 23rd** and **Monday, July 14th**. Both will be held at the South Twining Park Shelter in Monroe's Twining Park (the shelter closest to the kids playground and baseball fields). We begin serving at 6:30 PM and stop at 7:30 PM so there time to walk across the road and enjoy the sweet sounds of the Monroe City Band Concert (beginning at 7:30). Everyone is welcome to come! Please bring a friend!!



The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us!

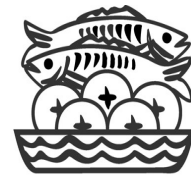
**LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS
TO OVERSEE SOUND SYSTEM
FOR WORSHIP**

Our new sound system will come equipped with something like an Ipad, that controls the sound levels and is the brain of our new system. We are assured it is very user-friendly. Therefore, we are looking for a number of volunteers willing to help us out by overseeing this “sound board.” If you have any interest in assisting in this way, please call the church office to volunteer, or for more information. Again, a degree is NOT necessary to easily operate this system. Thanks for your consideration.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Once again we are hosting the Community Gardens at the former Resurrection Church property. The plots are 20 x 30 and the cost is \$15. Water is not available, and therefore needs to be hauled in by each gardener. Our thanks to Eric & Katie Brugger for taking on this project again this year. If you are interested in a garden plot, please contact the Brugger’s at 608-469-0450. Happy gardening!

**LOAVES & FISHES
FREE COMMUNITY MEAL**



Loaves & Fishes

Loaves & Fishes, a non-profit group utilizing volunteers from local churches and local community members, 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, June 22, 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.

**7-UP YOUTH GATHERING
JUNE 1ST**

The 7-UP Youth are invited to meet with Jim Ranney, ministry position candidate, at the Bader’s on **Sunday, June 1st from 11:45—1:15.** (Their address is W6411 Patterson Road.) We will enjoy pizza and soda and get a chance to meet Jim. Please RSVP samnl@charter.net if possible.

JUNE BAPTISMS

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Christ Alston | Martha Breisath | Taylor Bryant |
| Don Jacobson | Helen Johnson | Jan Kint |
| Curt Kolden | Ruth Leistikow | Amy Olson |
| Sue Patterson | Alan Shippy | Lane Shippy |
| Pastor John Tabaka | Lisa Wunder | Ethan Christensen |
| Michael Christensen | Levi Gerber | Brady Wyss |
| Mitch DeNure | Jordan Graber | Ryan Leistiko |
| Ty Webster | Cooper Buxton | Cory Scheider |
| Peggy Bahler | Amy Bahler | Bruce Breisath |
| Cody Gilbert | Tina Gilbert | Jolene Goebel |
| Garrett Coplien | Ashleigh Olson | Wendi Stamm |
| Kirsten Vetterli | Danielle Voegeli | Anna Brugger |
| Jack Brugger | Lois Gordee | Emma Berndt |
| Judith Durgin | Jason Zeitler | Ken Chapin |
| Sue Fillhouer | Jodie Pfungsten | Emerson Cessna |
| Jerry Coplien | Sharon Smith | Macallister Wand |
| Julie Miller | Lily Olson | Wendy Trost |
| Josef Scherer | Keri Ellefson | Kodi Ellefson-Jones |
| Gert Waelti | Greg Holthaus | Paul Leck |
| O’Nalee Marx | Brett Nafzger | Darryl Leistiko |
| Russ Severson | Lilliana Valentino | Dick Yaun |
| Stephanie Bahler | Joshua Goebel | Larry Grossen |
| Joyce Smith | Dylan Wahler | Jessica Beightol |
| Rod Hespard | | |

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



JUNE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Curt & Ruth Zentner
Rich & Sheri Novak
Steve & Tami Hoesly
Shane & Errin Olson
Darryl & Amy Bates
Dan & Sandy Bestul
Don & Rose Anderson
Gerry & Hazel Gelbach
Bob & Ruth Leistikow
Gary & Deb Kleppe



Rod & Michele Hesgard
Jerry & Barb Weldon
John & Julie Kielty
John & Sue Patterson
Laverne & Gail Wichelt
Carl & Lisa Huber
Bob & Kris Ault
Dave & Judy Wilhelmson
Dennis & Regina Meighan

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

I SCREAM, YOU SCREAM WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM! JOIN US AS WE BEAT THE HEAT WITH A COLD AND TASTY TREAT!

Mark your calendar for Grace's Annual Ice Cream Social! This event will take place on June 19th from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM. We'll be scooping up plenty of good food, including BBQ, potato or macaroni salad and let's not forget about those homemade desserts! Bring your family and friends for an evening of Food, Fun, and Fellowship.

We have plenty of serving opportunities for this event, which have been posted on the office door:

- Volunteer to prepare food on June 18th
- Volunteer to set-up and/or serve on June 19th

If you have questions about volunteering, please contact Kari Gray at 325-2189 or gray-girl@tds.net

For those who can't donate time, please consider a cash donation to help buy ingredients we'll need to purchase. We have quite a list of delicious recipes—including some wonderful desserts! If you want to donate, please pick up an envelope at the Church office. All proceeds from the event will go towards the new sound system.



MEET & GREET The candidate for the new ministry position, **Jim Ranney** and his family will be with us **Sunday, June 1st** for worship. Following the service there will be a "Meet & Greet" gathering in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us in welcoming Jim and introducing yourself. The 7-UP Youth Group will then meet at the home of the Bader's (W6411 Patterson Road) from 11:45—1:15 for pizza and soda and a chance to meet Jim. Please RSVP samnln@charter.net if you can come!

WORSHIP & MUSIC IS LOOKING FOR PARTICIPANTS in what will be an exciting reading of the story of Pentecost on **Sunday, June 8**. Several participants will simultaneously read **Acts 2:5-11** in several languages, recreating the sound of the first Pentecost and reminding us of the work of the Holy Spirit. You need not speak a foreign language, as helps will be available. If this sounds like an experience you would like to be a part of or would like more information, please contact Ann Uresk, Gaida Vickerman or the church office.

JOIN US FOR A BELOIT SNAPPERS BASEBALL GAME on **Saturday, June 14th** with a picnic at 6:00 PM and first pitch at 7:00 PM. The cost is \$13.50 per ticket. Please sign up on the office door if you are interested in going!

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS If you have problems or allergies with gluten in food items, please let Pastor John or the office know. We do have gluten-free communion wafers available! Just let us know! Thank you.

CARE PACKAGES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS & THOSE IN MILITARY Please contact the church office if you have a son or daughter in college or in the military so that we can send them a care package from time to time. Please include their full name, address, food allergies & likes/dislikes to help us put together a package and let them know we are thinking of them, and praying for them. (Also let us know if they are no longer in college or on active duty in the military. Thank you!)

GRACE SOFTBALL TEAM Grace Lutheran has a Softball Team playing on the church league at Twining Park. If you are interested in playing, contact Greta Rath at gnrath@tds.net or call/text at 608-201-9309. Everyone and anyone that is interested in playing is asked to let her know. The more the merrier!! If you just want to come watch and cheer, that would be great, too. This is a wonderful fellowship opportunity for our congregation to gather and have fun together. Minimum age is 14 to play.

Committee Reports

Parish Education Committee – Sparks will be used for the Sunday School Curriculum. Vacation Bible School is scheduled to take place July 27 – July 30th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Someone has offered to donate all of the snacks. A meeting will take place on Thursday, May 1st at 6:00 p.m.

Memorial Committee – The current balance is \$7,739.41. Marilyn Hauser still needs to be contacted regarding Eileen Weiler and Jack Hauser memorials. Discussed whether there are any needs for the church from the Memorial Savings Undesignated Funds. The dishwasher is 10 years old and was bought used; however it still seems to be working fine. There is \$2900 budgeted towards one if needed. New hymnals and putting money towards the sound system are also possibilities.

The Portals of Prayer were discussed. A copy goes along with the prayer shawls. The cost is \$300/year and they come in quarterly. We usually get 30 large print copies.

The picture of Christ for the narthex is tabled for now.

Building Committee – The Building Committee will be meeting with our architect, Dave Haroldson to go over the plans for the canopy. Cars will not be able to drive under it because that type would extend out into the parking lot too far. The outside button for the automatic door needs to be installed; the lighted sign needs to be moved to the planter on the northeast corner of the building, and some landscaping needs to be done on the north and south sides of the parking lot.

Property Committee – Paul Moser has talked to the representative from Focus on Energy on what it would cost to finish the lights downstairs. We have not heard anything back yet. We would like to get sensors done in the preschool wing. The fascia is coming off of the building and Jim Fillhouer has talked to Dan Henke about it.

The old sandbox has been removed. A special sandbox is needed according to Rebecca from the preschool. The cost for the sandbox is \$300. Jim Fillhouer questioned whether we could possibly help the preschool out by donating the sand and/or possibly put \$50 towards the new sandbox.

Worship & Music – The high school graduation breakfast will take place on Sunday, May 25th. Ruth Leistikow brought up the possibility of starting up a youth choir.

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

April 28, 2014

Members Present: Katie Brugger, Bruce Bahler, Darci Boll, Ariel Thomas, Lance Sathoff, Ellen Mathiason, Greta Rath, Jim Fillhouer, Jennifer Chapman, and Pastor John Tabaka.

Member(s) Absent: Fritz Graber

The Council reviewed the Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2 of the book Rich Poor, Poor Church by J. Clif Christopher.

Council would like to have someone to do a temple talk during offering one Sunday a month. Greta will talk about Vacation Bible School on Sunday, May 18th.

Secretary's Report – Motion by Lance Sathoff and seconded by Bruce Bahler to approve the March 24, 2014 minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – The Finance Committee met on April 16th. The current offering is down 8.7% or \$6,657. Thrivent Dollars are down \$909, which does show improvement from the month before. Easter was not included. Undesignated Funds are down 11.9% or \$10,278. Total Income is up 3.1% or \$3,338 due mostly to sound system donations. Expenses are down 5.9% or \$5,433, which helps to offset the lower offering. The amount of \$31,545.51 has been donated to the sound system so far.

Dennis Everson and Bob Leistikow have gone over the Official Audit Report. They discovered a variance in the endowment fund. They recommend moving sale proceeds from the sale of Resurrection Church to a savings account. Interest could be used to help fund things like Caring Hands. This would ensure segregation from the general fund. Discussed the check register in Quick Books and voided checks. Also recommend having the various committees sign off on expenses approved by their committee.

The sound system will receive approximately \$15,000 from the sale of Resurrection Church. We would like to start installing the sound system at the beginning of June. Any remaining sale money could be used for steeple repairs, the south doors, the canopy, or the sound system. If any money remains, it could be put into a savings account and we could borrow from that first if needed.

Motion by Jennifer Chapman and seconded by Greta Rath to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Mutual Ministry – Did not meet.

Altar Guild – Did not meet.

Christian Life – Has not met.

Women of Grace – The Ice Cream Social was discussed. It will take place on Thursday, June 19th.

Staff Support – Jennifer Chapman reported that an interview was held with a candidate for the lay position. He held his prior position for 9 years. A meet and greet will take place on Sunday, June 1st and he will also be doing the children’s sermon that day. He is also very interested in starting a men’s ministry if hired.

Pastor’s Thoughts – A Slovak Seminary Intern will be arriving in the middle of June. One family has offered to be a host. We will be looking for two other families to be hosts during his or her stay.

Wednesday morning Bible Studies will be starting up again.

There are just three more sessions of confirmation remaining.

Other Items Discussed:

Greta Rath mentioned that the church would like to start up a softball team. Games would take place on Friday nights at Twining Park.

The next Council meeting will take place on Monday, May 19th at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Bruce Bahler and seconded by Ariel Thomas.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darci Boll, Secretary

FINANCES AT A GLANCE

Total April Undesignated Contributions.....	\$21,602
Total April Expenses	\$23,948
Estimated Contributions Needed Monthly to meet budget.....	\$34,772
Current May Undesignated Contributions to date.....	\$27,819
Current May Expenses (Paid & Pending)	\$35,031
Current Mortgage Balance.....	\$49,583
Current Bank Balance.....	\$5,575

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL COMING TO GRACE!
Mark Your Calendars Now!**

Theme: Wilderness Escape ~ "Where God Guides & Provides"

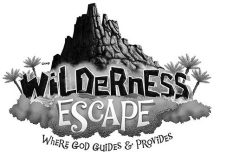
When: July 27th - July 30th (*Sunday - Wednesday*)

Where: Grace Lutheran Church

Time: 5:30—8:00 PM

The first and major area of help is: Volunteers that would like to teach, help decorate, or even be an assistant for one of the VBS stations. People are our biggest need and we are hoping we have volunteers jump at this great opportunity to show what God is all about!

The second major area is: funding and/or donating of supplies for our snacks, art projects, and decorating for VBS week. If you would like to donate money towards VBS, please put "VBS" in the memo line of your check during offering or bring cash donations to the church office directing it for VBS. There is a poster in the narthex asking for donations of items needed as well. Thank you!



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE During the month of April 448 individuals were served by the Green County Food Pantry, Inc. During that month Grace Lutheran donated 26# of food. Thank you to everyone who supports the Food Pantry! Items most needed right now are coffee, flour, sugar and pork & beans. The need continues; please give as you are able. Your donations of time, money, food and personal care items are so very appreciated. Thanks for your continued support!



NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

JULY 15-19, 2015

DETROIT, MI

The ELCA Youth Gathering for high school-age youth takes place every three years and is about faith formation, worship, study, fellowship, service and play.

It is an opportunity for youth to engage in worship and fellowship with peers from across the United States and the world who share a common commitment and faith in Christ. The next Youth Gathering will be held July 15-19, 2015, in Detroit, Mich.

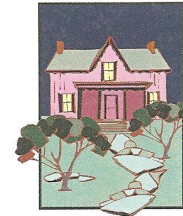
Many ELCA congregations see their participation in the ministry of the ELCA Youth Gathering as one aspect of their work to fulfill the promise they made around the baptismal font to raise faithful young people who:

Live among God's faithful people,

- Hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- Proclaim the good news of God in Christ through their words and actions,
- Serve and love our neighbors, following the example of Jesus, and
- Pursue justice and peace in the world.



More to come in future months!



Family Promise Housing Updates

As of May 1, 2014

The numbers reflected include all persons currently and previously served by Family Promise Green County. These numbers reflect our Emergency Shelter and Transitional Living Program.

	April	YTD 2014	Accumulative
Months of Operation	1	4	30
Host weeks completed	4	17	127
Families served	8	8	31
People Receiving Services During Month	19	19	87
Children served	11	11	48
Total Bed Nights (IHN and Transitional Housing)	470	1,639	12,484
Average length of stay in the IHN	**	84.6	**
Jobs obtained	1	1	22
Benefits obtained	0	0	12
Program graduation rate	**	**	74%
Graduates sustaining housing today	**	**	94%

*The numbers reflected on this chart have been adjusted from the previous month due to one program participant having been missed in the previous counts. We are currently providing shelter for 2 families (2 adults and 3 children). We are also providing aftercare services to an additional 7 people (3 adults and 4 children).

During the month of April we celebrated the success of one of our aftercare families graduating out of the Family Promise Program. This family started in our shelter program; graduated and entered their own apartment supported by the ongoing services of our After Care Program and has since demonstrated the ability to maintain their housing independently! Well done! Thank you to everyone for believing we can make a difference.

Geographical Breakdown 2014:

Of the 8 families served YTD; the breakdown of the family origin is as follows:

- 2 Families originated from Brodhead, WI
- 6 Families originated from Monroe, WI