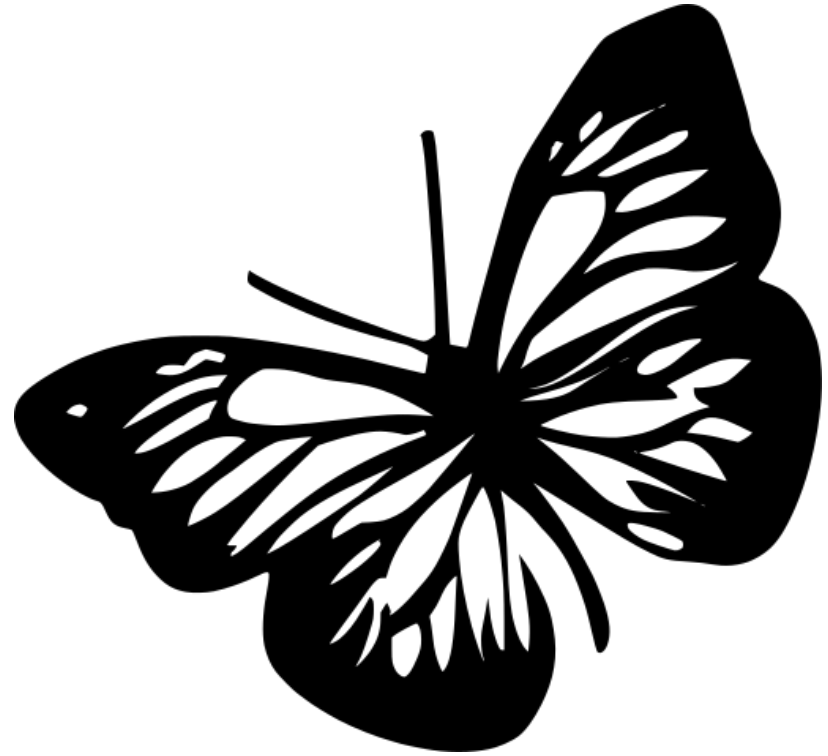


APRIL 2024



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Monroe, Wisconsin

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

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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

This past winter has been a time for jigsaw puzzles in our home. More times than not, there is a puzzle on the table in various stages of “put-togetherness”. We have worked on a variety of puzzles. Some of the puzzles were photographs. Others were paintings or animation stills. They were different sizes ranging from large to small. That affected the size of the pieces. Sometimes the puzzle pieces were well ordered and uniform, others were quite irregular.

Our usual plan of attack is to complete the border first. This is usually straightforward and easy. However, there were times when the border pieces would seem to fit together, then it was apparent that something was out of order. Take those tricky pieces apart and try again. We found that not every puzzle could be completed. Since many puzzles were purchased from a sale or thrift store, some were missing pieces. Probably half a dozen puzzles were missing pieces. Usually, there is just one errant piece. However, one larger puzzle was missing five pieces.

Sometimes it seems that life is like a puzzle. We fit the pieces together, sometimes by looking at the picture and taking guidance. Other times it is more intuitive, and we seek colors and patterns that may fit together. We are never assured of a complete picture.

Holy Week and all the events of those days can be something of a puzzle. Jesus enters Jerusalem with shouts of Hosanna! and that parade of palms. Quickly, things begin to turn from there. Those in power become more determined to rid themselves of Jesus. His disciples continue to be puzzled by what Jesus says about death and resurrection. He’s the Messiah. He’s come to take control, not die.

Jesus and his followers share the Passover meal, a remembrance of God acting to bring freedom to the people. He will change that meal from one of only remembrance, to one where he is truly present. He will take on the role of servant and wash their feet. He will give them a final command to love one another.

The disciples will fall asleep while he is praying. One will betray him. Another will deny knowing him. All will go into hiding. Their world and expectations have crumbled. Easter comes and the women bring the news that Jesus is alive. He has been resurrected. Later, Jesus comes to the disciples. A whole new future lies before them.

It is a future that they may not fully understand. It may seem to be puzzling at times. They will need to work together and include others to share this wondrous news. We are part of that legacy. We are pieces of the story.

Jesus is Risen. Alleluia!

Pastor John

APRIL BAPTISMS

Sara Ackerman	Darrell Busjahn	Jay Goebel
George Kint	Larry Newcomer	Sheri Novak
Martha Scherer	Jerrica Stiner	Jane Swiggum
Chris Alston	Alexandra Kubly	Jaden Leistiko
John Kielty	Marty Balsiger	Jana Miller
Taryn Bomkamp	Patty Scheider	Ben Tredennick
Clara Ackerman	Jeanette Ackerman	Connie Cline
John Dieckhoff	Dan Bestul	Jeri Johnson
Kristine Leck	Kelsey Plagge	Quinn Schultz
Richard Carpenter	Ashton Nickel	Michael Reynolds
Samantha Becherer	Luke Patterson	Kaitlin Carpenter
Caitlynn Kamps	Courtney Jackson	Erik Everson
Allyce Fahrney	Dorene Fahrney	Dee Larson
Ellen Mathiason	Anikah Rath	Janice Everson

We’re sorry if we missed your April baptism. If you don’t see your baptism here please call to let us know of your baptismal date so that we may include your name next time!

APRIL WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Les & Laurie Kruse
Ron & Glenda Camron
John & Tereesa Schroeder
Tom & Donna Ackerman
Duane & Regina Weber



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

PARISH ACTIONS IN MARCH

FIRST COMMUNION was celebrated with Julia Hakanson, daughter of Tim & Krissy Hakanson and Ellie Johanson, daughter of Luke & Sarah Johanson. We celebrate with them and welcome them to the Lord’s Table!

MEMORIAL SERVICE was held at Shriner Hager Gohlke Funeral Home for Robert Golackson on March 23, 2024

SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS are extended to Jim Munro and Family in the death of his wife Judy on March 11, 2024. Please remember Jim and family during this difficult time.

Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting
February 26, 2024

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Marcia Crawford	4/1	Traci Schultz	4/8
Robert Derendinger	4/1	Jordan Herbst	4/9
Mary Jo Hasler	4/1	Vickie Marie Cloutier	4/10
Addison White	4/1	Cole Plagge	4/11
Timothy Wilchynski	4/1	Maynard Heins	4/13
Chuck Zeitler	4/1	Helen Johnson	4/13
Dee Larson	4/2	Maggie O'Brien	4/14
Hannah Vetterli	4/2	Kimberly Rielly	4/14
Isla Bolen	4/3	Timothy Hakanson	4/15
Karen Helton	4/3	Tina Wahler	4/15
Zackery Roper	4/3	Fritz Graber	4/16
Bob Smith	4/3	Flynn Carlson	4/17
Wendy Trost	4/3	Astrid Wunschel	4/17
Kris Ault	4/4	Michael Campbell Hauser	4/19
Karen Smith	4/4	Kylie Miller	4/19
Brandon White	4/4	Bruce Breisath	4/20
John Kielty	4/5	Sharon Smith	4/20
Karen Redies	4/5	Krisann Holthaus	4/21
Angie Goth	4/6	Julie Robieson	4/21
Greg Holthaus	4/6	Lily Olson	4/22
Dylan Wahler	4/6	Brooks Weimer	4/24
Brinlee Chapman	4/7	Kory Blacklock	4/25
Megan Chapman	4/7	Larry Grossen	4/26
Ranee Ellefson-Jones	4/7	Michael Kielty	4/26
Mark Lindsay	4/7	Wayne Ufken	4/27
Dee Signer	4/7	Ellie Scherer	4/28
		Kodi Ellefson-Jones	4/29
		Curt Kolden	4/29



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

Called to order 7:00 by Ariel Thomas

Members Present: Scott Christiansen, Jeri Johnson, Larry Rood, Ariel Thomas, Cathy Smith, , John Patterson, Katy Dickson, Gloria Scherer, Lance Sathoff, Sam Mathiason and Pastor John Tabaka

Devotions- John Patterson

Secretarial Report- Thrivent is misspelled. The annual congregational meeting next January will be on the third Sunday, not the fourth Sunday. Motion to approve amended minutes of the 1-22-2024 Council Meeting by Scott, second by Katy. Motion carried.

Treasurer's and Finance Committee Report- Verbal report by Scott and Lance. The computer program is going to change from Quickbooks to Shepard's Staff, saving the church over \$500. Motion to approve report was made by John. Cathy seconded it. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Christian Life- Katy reported they hosted the Lenten supper last Wednesday.

Memorial- John reported \$3,778.23 was moved to the general fund.

Mutual Ministry- No meeting

Parish Education- No meeting

Property Committee-Larry reported radon testing came back too high. Gutters fell down due to ice on the roof and the estimate on aluminum wrapping the eaves is \$17,000, including the steeple.

Staff Support- Pastor John reported that we need to hire a part time A/V Coordinator to replace Trent Weber next month. The job will be posted in the church bulletins.

Women of Grace- Cathy reported the pie sale will be moved to Mother's Day.

Worship and Music - Jeri reported that we will be helping the Staff Support Committee host the Lenten meal on March 6th. Trent is live streaming services on Youtube as well as Facebook.

Pastor's Thoughts - It's nice to have Lenten meals again. The youth are preparing to go to New Orleans.

New Business- The new job description for Custodian was reviewed and John moved to approve it as written. Second by Gloria. Motion carried.

Contact information, treats/devotions, and committee assignments for council members were listed so they can be printed out for the members.

Motion to adjourn by Scott. Second by Lance.

Meeting ended with The Lord's Prayer

Next meeting will be March 25, 2024

Jeri Johnson, Secretary

CHURCH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Scott Christiansen (*Vice-President*) (scott.christiansen@sccompanies.com)....608-558-6161
Katy Dickson (christensenfarms@gmail.com).....608-214-3525
Jeri Johnson (*Secretary*) (jerijohnson1216@gmail.com).....608-214-5386
Sam Mathiason (semathiason@gmail.com).....608-698-6612
John Patterson(jskpat@tds.net)
Larry Rood (larood@hotmail.com).....608-328-4867
Lance Sathoff (*Treasurer*) (lsathoff@yahoo.com).....608-558-1038
Gloria Scherer (moveme@tds.net).....608-214-6646
Cathy Smith (clynrd@yahoo.com).....608-325-2697
Ariel Thomas (*President*) (arielbobbie00@gmail.com).....608-558-4840

GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
Phone: 608-325-9172

WEBSITE: www.gracelcmonroe.org

Worship Schedule
Saturday, 5:00 PM & Sunday, 9:00 AM

Fall Office Hours
Monday-Friday, 8:30—12:00 / 1:00—4:30 PM

Pastor: Pastor John J. Tabaka E-mail: pastortabaka@tds.net
Visitation Pastor: Rev. Richard Thickpenny
Custodian: Terry Kolanda
Director of Music/Church Musician: Ann Uresk
Financial Secretary: Laurie Kruse
Secretarial Staff: Deacon Beth Faith (gracelc@tds.net)



“For it is by God’s Grace that you have been saved by Faith”

PLEASE TAKE NOTE...

SPREAD KINDNESS! For the month of April, we will have a stack of paper hearts that you can take at church. Do a random act of kindness, write what you did on the heart, and bring it back to church for them to be hung up on the wall. Some ideas are letting someone go in front of you at the grocery store if they have fewer items than you, getting flowers for a friend or loved one, holding the door for someone, complimenting a stranger, leaving a generous tip, sending coloring books for children at the hospital, paying for the person behind you in a drive through, making cookies for a neighbor, sending someone a hand-written note, or even just smiling and saying hello to people throughout your day. We can’t wait to see all of the amazing things that you all will do!|

CREATIVE ART OPPORTUNITY! On April 7th after our Sunday morning worship at around 10:15 am, we will be going to the church basement to create some artwork. We encourage children, youth and adults of all ages and artistic abilities to participate. No experience needed! You will be able to make artwork on a canvas with a Bible verses of your choice. There will be examples and ideas to spark your creativity, and you can be as creative as you’d like with your canvas. Shannon Weber and a few others will be there to help. RSVP at 325-9172 by April 4th so we can have enough supplies for everyone.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT! Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Monroe WI has a job opening for a paid part-time Audio-Visual Coordinator. The primary responsibility of the Audio-Visual Coordinator is to provide technical expertise and team leadership for the church’s sound, media, video, lighting and the ability to troubleshoot any technical issues that may arise. The A/V Coordinator is also responsible for live streaming Weekly Worship and Special Services. Working knowledge or experience with audio-visual equipment and systems is required.

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES We include monthly Council Meeting minutes in our monthly newsletter. If you are ever interested in additional detail, or wish to see the actual meeting minutes from a particular meeting, these are available by calling or stopping by the office!

IF YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED and would like a visit please ask family or friends to let the church office know! The hospital no longer provides that information. Thank you!

DO YOU WATCH US ON FACEBOOK LIVE? If so, and if you would like one of our hymnals to follow along and participate, call the office at 325-9172 and we will get you one!

EASTER 2024

Easter flowers are provided by the following individuals or families:



- In loving memory of Ken & Thora Zeitler by their family
- In loving memory of Walter & Ruth Bahler by their family
- Richard Thickpenny in loving memory of his wife Ruth and son Christopher
- In loving memory of John W. Pfingsten from his family
- Jean & Jim Sinkule in memory of Jean’s parents, Jack & Virginia Monaghan and Jim’s siter, Jill Sinkule
- In loving memory of Robert L. Ableman by his family
- Ann Uresk in loving memory of Louis, Corinne, Rene & Eric Uresk and Eric & Martha Blomquist
- Kevin & Nikki Austin in honor of our parents, Sharon Austin & Harold & Rita Thompson and in loving memory of Robert Austin
- Jim Munro in loving memory of his wife Judy, son Tom and Jim & Judy’s parents
- Regina, Duane, Trent & Shannon Weber
- Given in honor of Barb Sathoff and Renee Mathiason in loving memory of Mo Sathoff & Doug Mathiason by the Mathiason Family
- Fritz & Beverly Graber in loving memory of Beverly’s parents & sister Judy Graber
- Martha Scherer honoring family
- Becky Brown given in loving memory of her husband Brownie
- Jane Swiggum in loving memory of her husband Dennis Swiggum
- William Holland in loving memory of Reeve Lambert
- The Chapman Family in honor of Megan & Brinlee celebrating their 16th Birthday on April 7th and in loving memory of Jeff Hardel
- Lois C. Aebly in loving memory of Stanley L. Aebly
- Deborah Myers in loving memory of Archie & Wanda Myers
- Ken & Marcia Blumer in loving memory of Ken’s parents, Henry & Mary Joyce Blumer
- The Huffman Family in loving memory of Jim Huffman
- Roger & Chris Alston in loving memory of Ralph & Viola Alston
- Maggie Guralski
- Les & Laurie Kruse in honor of Ken & Joan Chapin and in loving memory of Bud & Evelyn Kruse
- Lori Timm in loving memory of Gordie & Rose Wahler
- In loving memory of Lester Johnson from Helen and the family
- John Patterson
- Richard & Jackie Carpenter in honor of our family and friends and in loving memory of their daughter, Melodie Manthei

Serving in April 2024

LITURGISTS

Please consider serving as a Liturgist on a Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning. See the sign up on the office door. There are many opportunities in April. Thank you!

- Sat., April 6
- Sun., April 7
- Sat., April 13.....Beth Faith
- Sun., April 14.....Louis Scherer
- Sat., April 20
- Sun., April 21.....Beth Faith
- Sat., April 27
- Sun., April 28

ACOLYTES

- Sat., April 6.....Azaria Hartwig
- Sun., April 7.....Jordan Herbst
- Sat., April 13
- Sun., April 14.....Jordan Herbst
- Sat., April 20.....Azaria Hartwig
- Sun., April 21
- Sat., April 27
- Sun., April 28

MISSIONARY SPONSORS

Each week Grace Lutheran commits to support our missionary family with a gift of \$35. You are invited to sign up on our Missionary Calendar to help with this ministry. Our missionaries are Zachary Courter & Rachel Eskesen Courter who are serving in Munich Germany. Your participation is appreciated and makes a great difference! Please take a look at the open weeks on the calendar located in the narthex. Thank you for your support!

- April 6-7.....Open
- April 13-14.....George Kint
- In loving memory of his wife Janet*
- April 20-21.....Open
- April 27-28.....Women of Grace

SATURDAY EVENING PIANISTS

- Sat., April 6
- Sat., April 13
- Sat., April 20
- Sat., April 28

ALTAR GUILD

Altar Ornaments Committee

APRIL 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Grace Random Acts of Kindness Month: Check out the box in the narthex & Share An Act of Kindness</i>	1	2 6:00 PM, Property Committee	3 9:15 AM, Bible Study 2:00 PM, Women of Grace Steering Committee 5:30 PM, Praise Singers 6:00 PM, Adult Choir 6:00 PM, Confirmation Class 7:00 PM, Hand Chimes	4	5	6 5:00 PM, Worship
7 9:00 AM, Worship 10:00 AM, Sunday School 10:15 AM, Creative Art: Guided Painting w/Shannon Weber (RSVP 325-9172) Men, Women, Children...All Invited!	8	9 4:00 PM, Memorial 5:30 PM, Staff Support 6:00 PM, Worship & Music	10 9:15 AM, Bible Study 5:30 PM, Praise Singers 6:00 PM, Adult Choir 6:00 PM, Confirmation Class 7:00 PM, Hand Chimes	11 8:30 AM, Quilters Group	12	13 5:00 PM, Worship
14 9:00 AM, Worship 10:00 AM, Sunday School	15 12:30 PM, Lydia Circle Meets	16 6:00 PM, Christian Life	17 9:15 AM, Bible Study 5:30 PM, Praise Singers 6:00 PM, Adult Choir 6:00 PM, Confirmation Class 6:00 PM, Finance Committee 7:00 PM, Hand Chimes	18	19	20 5:00 PM, Worship
21 9:00 AM, Worship 10:00 AM, Sunday School	22 7:00 PM, Church Council	23	24 9:15 AM, Bible Study 5:30 PM, Praise Singers 6:00 PM, Adult Choir 6:00 PM, Confirmation Class 7:00 PM, Hand Chimes	25 8:30 AM, Quilters Group	26	27 5:00 PM, Worship
28 9:00 AM, Worship 10:00 AM, Sunday School	29	30				