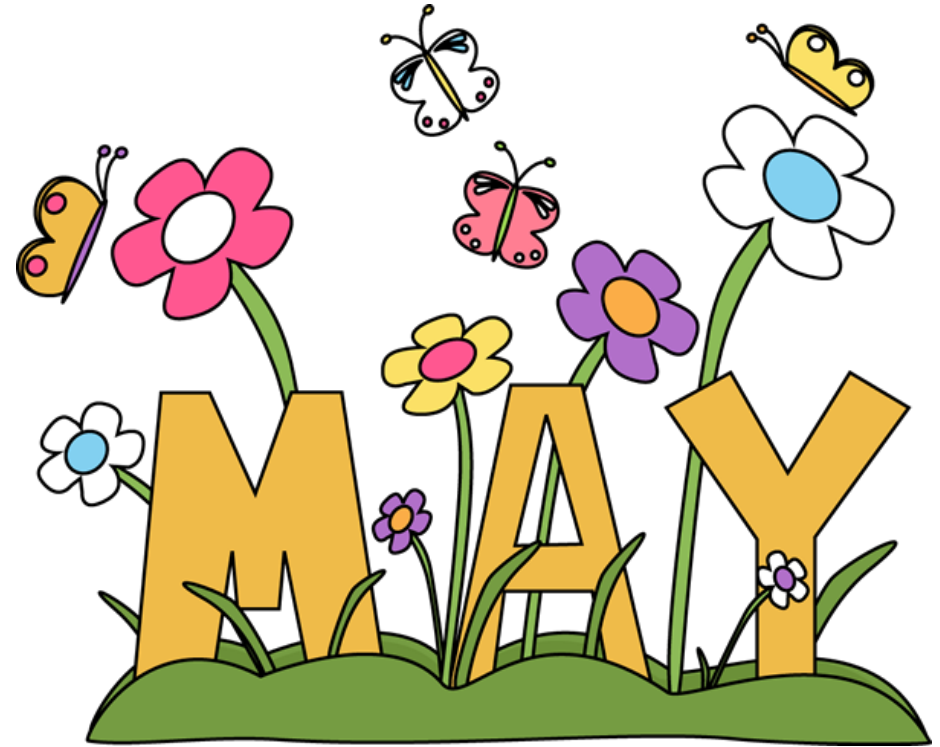


MAY
2025



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Monroe, Wisconsin

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

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Return Service Requested

HAPPY 
Mother's
DAY

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Planting time is upon us. Farmers are working in the fields. Gardeners are prepping their plots. Neighborhoods are abuzz with the sounds of lawn mowers. It is during this time of year that the parable of the Sower from Matthew 13 comes to mind. Gardeners who have dealt with inhospitable conditions can relate especially well to this parable. Drought, invasive critters and thorny weeds often seem to conspire against growers’ efforts. Yet when seeds fall on “good soil,” the crop yield is abundant, up to a hundred times what was sown. Sometimes, people read that parable and emphasize the need for hearts to be receptive to God’s Word. We want to be good soil where God’s Word, love and faith can grow and prosper. That coming to pass would be wonderful.

I am not sure we need to focus on the planting conditions as much as the Sower. This one is extravagant with seeds. The seed goes everywhere. It does not always take root. It does not always blossom and produce. But that does not stop the Sower.

Pastor J. Ellsworth Kalas wrote, “Whenever we serve as witnesses to the faith, we must do so with all earnestness, because one doesn’t know the season in which the soul currently abides. That uninterested, distracted or unresponsive person may be nearer the Kingdom than we, or they, realize. We dare not give up on anyone at any time – including ourselves.”

May God nurture your faith in this growing season.

Pastor John

MAY BAPTISMS

Donna Ackerman	Thomas Ackerman	Isaac Goeke
Kristin Hakanson	Timothy Hakanson	Azaria Hartwig
Jonna Heins	Karl Kuester	Robert Moe
Karen Redies	Ariel Thomas	TinaWahler
Charles Zeitler	Joan Chapin	Kristen Ault
Nicole Turner	Shirley Leck	ErrinOlson
Kayla Petersen	Raymond Siekert, Jr.	Kimberly Siekert
Raymond Siekert, Sr.	Spencer Siekert	Dan Huston
Melissa Teasdale	Krisann Holthaus	Hannah Vetterli
Karen Helton	Gary Guralski	Kaden Kuester
Lenwood Potts	Adrienne Bahler	Roger Mayer
Jennifer Chapman	Jesse Scheider	Deanne Signer
Becky Kamholz	Debra Moe	Mary Flisram
Xander Wiegel	Coltin Craigo	Kate Cessna
Mary Jo Hasler	Wren Rupnow-Hartley	Dana Depuy
Harley Flannery	Traci Schultz	

We’re sorry if we missed your May 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!

MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Larry & June Rood
Karl & Robbyn Kuester
Darryl & Carol Leistiko
Dave & Lori Wehinger
Ariel & Bobbie Thomas
Jim & Jean Sinkule
Thor & Konnie Thompson
Larry & Wanda Grossen
Jerry & Vickie Marie Cloutier
Jerry & Rosemary Hoover
Steve & Cindy Rupnow
Domanic & Vicki Wiegel
Oris & Dana Depuy
Pastor John & Christine Tabaka
Chad & Tammy Hartwig
Richard & Jackie Carpenter



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

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Nancy Larson	5/1
Barb Weldon	5/2
Becky Brown	5/5
Jocelyn Grendahl	5/5
Jaron Kuester	5/5
Jordy Riese	5/5
Kyler Smith	5/6
Logan Witt	5/7
Paul Leck	5/8
Kirsten Vetterli	5/8
John Patterson	5/9
Wynter Laws	5/10
Savannah Block	5/11
Kyle Ellefson-Jones	5/11
Oliver Havens	5/11
Pastor John Tabaka	5/11
Lisa Wunder	5/11
Lois Aebly	5/13
Linda Lehne	5/13
Kat Meyer	5/13
Greg Bahler	5/14
Dana Depuy	5/14
Lori Scherer	5/14
Ethan Witt	5/14
Curt Zentner	5/14
Addison Whipple	5/15
Audrina Whipple	5/15



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Patricia Czajkowski	5/17
Samantha Jorgenson	5/17
Beckett Schuldt	5/19
Taylor Bryant	5/20
Don Jacobson	5/21
Ruth Leistikow	5/21
Parker Havens	5/22
Stella Thoman	5/23
Don Heitkamp	5/24
Nathan Olson	5/26
Lois Gordee	5/29
Maryskah Rath	5/29
Laura Becherer	5/30
Wendy Drewes	5/31



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

Serving in May 2025

ACOLYTES

Sat., May 3.....Jordan Herbst
Sun., May 4.....Nina Leistiko

Sat., May 10.....Jordan Herbst
Sun., May 11.....Nina Leistiko

Sat., May 17.....Open
Sun., May 18.....Nina Leistiko

Sat., May 24.....Open
Sun., May 25.....Nina Leistiko

LITURGISTS

Sat., May 3.....Beth Faith
Sun., May 4.....Open

Sat., May 10.....Ed Kallas
Sun., May 11.....Open

Sat., May 17.....Beth Faith
Sun., May 18.....Nikki Austin

Sat., May 24.....Ed Kallas
Sun., May 25.....Open

Thank you to all our volunteers! You are appreciated!

MISSIONARY SPONSORS

May 3 & 4.....Ruth DeNure
May 10 & 11.....Women of Grace
May 17 & 18.....Jim & Jean Sinkule
May 24 & 25.....George Kint
In loving memory of his wife Jan and her May 23rd Birthday

You can sponsor our missionary family for \$35/week. There is a sign up calendar near the entry way. If you would like to sponsor our missionaries in honor or memory of a special person or event, just call the office to let us know!

SATURDAY EVENING MUSICIANS

Sat., May 3.....Maynard Heins
Sat., May 10.....Maynard Heins
Sat., May 17.....Sarah Johanson
Sat., May 24.....Sarah Johanson
Sat., May 31.....Lance Sathoff

ALTAR GUILD

Stitchery Committee for May 2025

MAY 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 5:00 PM, Worship
4 9:00 AM, Worship 10:15 AM, Sunday School	5	6 4:00 PM, Memorial 5:30 PM, Staff Support	7 9:15 AM, Bible Study Final Rehearsals: 5:30 PM, Praise Singers 6:00 PM, Potluck 6:30 PM, Adult Choir 7:00 PM, Hand Chimes 6:00 PM, Confirmation & Bible Study	8 8:30 AM, Quilters Group	9	10 9:30 AM, Honoring Our Mothers: Program, Food, Fun! 5:00 PM, Worship
11 9:00 AM, Worship 10:15 AM, Sunday School	12 <i>Deadline for Sky Carp Game Sign Up</i>	13 2:00 PM, Women of Grace Steering Committee 6:00 PM, Worship & Music	14 9:15 AM, Bible Study 6:00 PM, Finance Committee 6:00 PM, Confirmation & Bible Study	15	16	17 8:00 AM, Synod Assembly 5:00 PM, Worship
18 9:00 AM, Worship Distribute Graduating Senior's Blankets 10:15 AM, Sunday School (Final)	19 12:30 PM, Lydia Circle Meets 7:00 PM, Church Council	20 3:45 PM, Christian Life	21 9:15 AM, Bible Study 6:00 PM, Confirmation & Bible Study (Final)	22 8:30 AM, Quilters Group	23	24 5:00 PM, Worship
25 9:00 AM, Worship 4:00 PM, Loaves & Fishes Free Community Meal	26 MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed	27	28	29	30	31 5:00 PM, Worship

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - MARCH 24, 2025

Meeting called to order 7:00 by Scott Christiansen, Council President

Members Present: Ariel Thomas, Scott Christiansen, Jeri Johnson, Gloria Scherer, John Patterson, Sam Mathiason, Lance Sathoff, Deb Myers, and Pastor John Tabaka

Members Absent: Katy Dickson, Karen Helton

Devotions- John Patterson

Secretarial Report- Written report by Jeri. Motion to approve minutes of the 2-24-2025 Council Meeting by Gloria, second by John. Motion carried.

Treasurer's and Finance Committee Report- Report by Lance. Transferring \$7,000 from the money market for insurance, new computers and boiler repair. We will pay \$500 per month for the endowment fund. We have earned \$350,000 for the roof. Motion to approve report by Ariel. Sam seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Christian Life- Written report

Memorial- No meeting

Mutual Ministry- No meeting

Parish Education- No meeting

Property Committee- Ariel reported another bid for the roof will be considered at the meeting tomorrow night and compared to the other bids obtained, so decisions of what to present to the congregation on the 30th will be finalized at that meeting.

Staff Support- Sam reported Terry's 20th anniversary working at our church was celebrated this week.

Women of Grace- Gloria reported they are working on making the blankets for the graduates. They made the Lenten supper last Wednesday with the Staff Support committee.

Worship and Music - No meeting

Pastor's Thoughts: Our community and the pastors who filled in were appreciated.

Old Business - The special congregational meeting about the roof on Sunday, March 30th was discussed. We have the money needed to accept the bid for the roof job presented by the roof committee and if extra money is needed for gutters, the Memorial committee will cover it. Scott suggested that a foundation frame should be built around the air conditioner to protect it during the roofing project.

Motion to adjourn by John. Second by Sam.

Meeting ended with The Lord's Prayer

Next meeting will be April 28, 2025

Jeri Johnson, Secretary

APRIL PARISH ACTIONS

No Parish Actions in April.

A Prayer for All Women on Mother's Day

by Hillary Baggett

Lord, we praise you when we think about the sacrifice and love given to us by our mothers. Thank you for the mother who gave birth to us, the one who adopted us, and the one(s) who mentored us along the path of life.

We show gratitude to the mother who held our hands, stood by our sides, and cheered us on, drove us to every practice, had food on the table, and gave us her shoulder to cry on.

With gratitude, we lift up the moms who did their best, who made mistakes, let us see them cry, and for those who were tougher on us than we would have preferred. O, the strength, tenacity, resilience, independence, and perseverance we learned from both these blessings and from these challenges.

Extending glory, honor, and praise to you, O Lord, for the young teenage mom who was not yet planning to become a mom, but had the courage to make a difficult choice to present the child for adoption in hopes of a better life.

Next, we thank you, Lord, for the mother who surrendered and entrusted her child to another parent for adoption, grant her peace.

And for the one whose child did not live to take a breath or left the earth too soon, we pray for comfort that only comes from knowing Jesus.

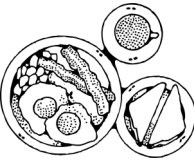
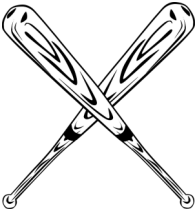
Sweet and loving, Lord, for those who are struggling with guilt, shame, and feelings of not being enough, we claim your healing redemption upon their lives.

Lord, we lift up to you the women who yearn to have a child and struggle with infertility or difficulties of carrying a baby to term. Comfort them as only you can. Fill them with your love and peace, help them to feel completed by your grace and mercy.

Wrap your arms around the girls and women who no longer have their mother here on earth. This day can also be a painful reminder of the grief and loss in noticing the absence of our moms. Bless these women with a touch from you reassuring them of your presence.

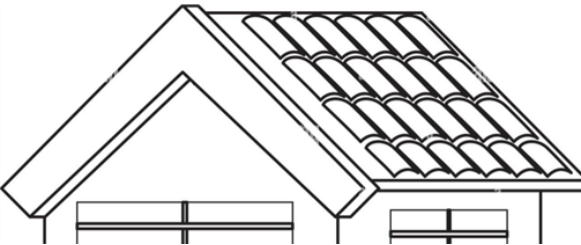
God, grant each woman, mother, and daughter reading today the peace that passes all understanding to guard the hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. In Jesus' sweet and Holy Name, Amen.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME! We would like to see if there is interest in attending a Sky Carp Baseball Game together. If we can get a group of 25 people, the ticket price would be discounted to \$13.61 each. There is a sign up sheet on the office door. Please sign up if you would be interested in attending. The game will be held on **Sunday, June 22nd. The deadline to sign up is May 12th.** We will let everyone know if there is enough interest to attend!



MEN’S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY You are invited to join the men from Peace Bible Church in Browntown for their monthly breakfast and Bible study. The fellas gather the **2nd Sunday of each month at 8:00 AM** at Peace Church. All men are welcome to attend!

LOAVES & FISHES INVITES YOU TO DINNER THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 4PM! The entire community is invited to attend a meal together the 4th Sunday of each month at Grace Lutheran Church from 4-6 PM. This meal is open to anyone, and is free. Please consider dropping by! Volunteers are always sought as well!



ROOF PROJECT UPDATE A special congregational meeting was held on Sunday, March 30th to discuss the upcoming roof project. The roof committee shared information and made a recommendation to hire Swita Metal Roofing for \$340,500 and Tri-State Gutters for \$17,654. A motion was made and

passed to approve \$350,000 for the roof and \$20,000 for the gutters, noting that this would cover any additional costs that might arise. At the end of the meeting, names were drawn for the “Raise the Roof Campaign” prizes. The winners were Jane Swiggum and Jane Nelson! Thanks to all who donated items for these prizes. \$356,852 has been raised for the roof and a gift that was given several years ago in the amount of \$15,417 has been designated to be used towards the cost of the gutters. We want to thank everyone who donated towards this large endeavor! Grace Lutheran is truly blessed!

CHURCH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Scott Christiansen (*President*) (scott.christiansen@sccompanies.com).....608-558-6161
 Katy Dickson (christensensfarm@gmail.com).....608-214-3525
 Karen Helton (heltonkarenm2@gmail.com).....919-480-5360
 Jeri Johnson (*Secretary*) (jerijohnson1216@gmail.com).....608-214-5386
 Sam Mathiason (*Vice-President*) (sammathiason@gmail.com).....608-698-6612
 Deb Myers (debkm1975@gmail.com).....773-620-6475
 John Patterson(jskpat@tds.net)
 Lance Sathoff (*Treasurer*) (lsathoff@yahoo.com).....608-558-1038
 Gloria Scherer (moveme@tds.net).....608-214-6646
 Ariel Thomas (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

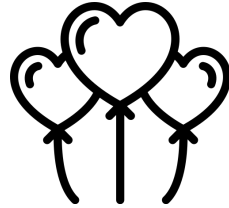
Winter Office Hours
 Monday-Friday, 8:30—12:00/1:00– 4:30 PM

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)





COME ONE — COME ALL!



GRACE HONORS OUR MOTHERS

**Saturday, May 10th
9:30—11:00 AM**

FUN FOR ALL

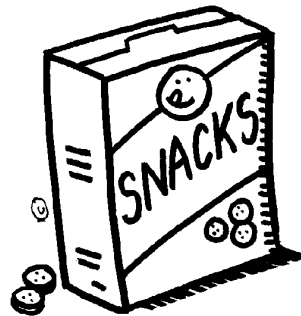
**Entertainment by
Dotty the Clown
and Friends**

Photo Booth

Games — Crafts

Treats — Drinks

Y'ALL COME



EASTER FLOWERS



*Thank you to the following families or individuals for providing flowers to adorn
our altar area for Easter Sunday!*

- Richard and Jackie Carpenter in loving memory of our daughter Melody Manthei and Richard's brother Ronald Carpenter
- The Mathiason Family in honor of Barb Sathoff and in memory of Mo Sathoff
- The Mathiason Family in honor of Renee Mathiason and in memory of Doug Mathiason
- Lois C. Aebly in loving memory of Stanley L. Aebly
- Roger & Chris Alston in loving memory of Ralph & Viola Alston
- In loving memory of John Pfingsten from his family
- Les & Laurie Kruse in loving memory of Bud & Evelyn Kruse
- In loving memory of Ken & Thora Zeitler by their family
- Jim & Jean Sinkule "May this Easter Season bring you peace, joy and new opportunities!"
- In loving memory of Walter & Ruth Bahler by their family

