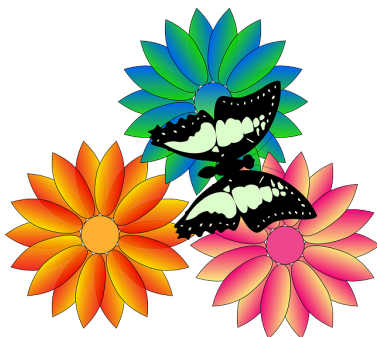


JUNE
2025



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

I am beginning a series on the Apostles of Jesus with one we know well, but not too well. Let's take a look at Thomas. He is included in the listing of disciples in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and the Acts of the Apostles.

Thomas makes key appearances in John's Gospel. "When Jesus resolves to run the danger of returning to Judea from beyond the Jordan, Thomas' comment reveals both a pessimistic outlook and a spirit of intense loyalty and bravery (11:16). When Jesus assumes that the disciples know the way to the Father's house to which he is going soon, Thomas is humble and candid enough to confess openly his ignorance of Jesus' meaning (14:5). He can be convinced of the reality of the Resurrection only by incontrovertible evidence (20:24-28). When such evidence is produced, he is represented as capable of lofty expressions of faith." (Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible)

Jesus appeared to the gathered disciples in a locked room on the first Easter evening. They were stunned into believing what they had heard from Mary that morning. But Thomas was not present. He gained the moniker "Doubting Thomas" because to believe in Jesus' resurrection, he wanted what they experienced - Jesus in the flesh. Until he saw Jesus, he would doubt their account. When Jesus appears again to the disciples including Thomas, Thomas professes his faith.

Thomas was with Jesus throughout his earthly ministry. His loyalty to Jesus is highlighted in the Gospel of John. And yet he struggled to believe the resurrection account until he saw him.

Toward the end of John's Gospel, Jesus states that blessed are those who have faith without seeing him physically. That is where we are, brought to faith through the presence and gifts of the Holy Spirit. It is not always an easy place. But if there is a place at the table for Thomas (and the other disciples), I trust there is a seat for us. For ultimately it is not about our amount of faith, but the love of Jesus that seats us there.

Scripture is silent about Thomas after the first chapter of Acts. However, according to legend, Thomas traveled to India where he proclaimed the saving grace of Christ and planted churches.

Pastor John

JUNE BAPTISMS

Taylor Bryant	Phil Hakanson	Maynard Heins
Don Heitkamp	Don Jacobson	Helen Johnson
Curt Kolden	Ruth Leistikow	John Patterson
Sue Patterson	Pastor John Tabaka	Addison White
Lisa Wunder	Ethan Christensen	Benni Wiemer
Alex Patterson	Brady Wyss	Jordan Graber
Linda Lehne	Ryan Leistiko	Angie Goth
Cory Scheider	Bill Helton	Peggy Ivik
Ashleigh Olson	Kirsten Vetterli	Anna Brugger
Jack Brugger	Lois Gordee	Brandon White
Jackson Vandellen	Ken Chapin	Susan Fillhouer
Jodie Pfingsten	Emerson Cessna	Sharon Smith
Macallister Wand	Lily Olson	Andy Scherer
Wendy Trost	Josef Scherer	Keri Ellefson
Kodi Ellefson-Jones	Greg Holthaus	Paul Leck
Onalee Marx	Cohen Jones	Darryl Leistiko
Lilliana Valentino	Dick Yaun	Larry Grossen
Joyce Smith	Dylan Wahler	Kurt Baldauf
Marsha Lindsay		

We're sorry if we missed your June 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!

JUNE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Curt & Ruth Zentner
Rich & Sheri Novak
Paula & Kat Meyer
Shane & Errin Olson
John & Sue Patterson
Kevin & Kelsey Plagge
Dan & Sandy Bestul
Mike & Kristine Leck
Eric & Laurie Holthaus
Jerry & Hazel Gelbach
Maynard & Jonna Heins
Tim & Krissy Hakanson
Jerry & Alice Albrecht
Erik & Katie Brugger
Bob & Ruth Leistikow
Dennis & Regina Meighan
Gary & Deb Kleppe



We're 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!

JUNE 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 AM, Worship	2	3 2:00 PM, Women of Grace Steering Committee	4	5	6	7 5:00 PM, Worship
8 Day of Pentecost 8:55 AM, Hymn Sing 9:00 AM, Worship	9	10 NO Memorial Committee this Month 5:30 PM, Staff Support 6:00 PM, Worship & Music Committee	11	12 8:30 AM, Quilters Group	13	14 5:00 PM, Worship
15 The Holy Trinity Father's Day 8:55 AM, Hymn Sing 9:00 AM, Worship	16 12:30 PM, Lydia Circle Meets	17 3:45 PM, Christian Life Committee	18	19	20	21 5:00 PM, Worship
22 8:55 AM, Hymn Sing 9:00 AM, Worship 11:00 AM, Meet to Travel to Sky Carp Game Together 4:00 PM, Loaves & Fishes	23 7:00 PM, Church Council	24	25	26 8:30 AM, Quilters Group 4:00 PM, Ice Cream Social by Women of Grace	27	28 5:00 PM, Worship
29 8:55 AM, Hymn Sing 9:00 AM, Worship	30 <i>Church Office Not Staffed</i>					Summer Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 AM—12:00 12:30 PM—3:00 Leave A Message at: 608-325-9172

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Wes Robertson	6/2
Gary Anderson	6/3
Mary Dietz	6/3
Marsha Lindsay	6/5
Onalee Marx	6/6
Jaryn Wardlow	6/6
Kyle Olson	6/7
Joyce Smith	6/7
Drew Goeke	6/8
Julie Kielty	6/8
Walter Graber	6/9
John Milz	6/9
June Rood	6/9
Tammy Baldauf	6/10
Mabel Johanson	6/10
Jessica Zettle	6/10
Glenda Yaun	6/11
Dylan Fahrney	6/12
Robert Wahler	6/12
Jodie Pfingsten	6/14
Caryn Hakanson	6/15
Larry Heindel	6/15
Jane Nelson	6/16
Jacob Teasdale	6/16



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Donna Johnson	6/17
Julie Miller	6/17
Harley Flannery	6/18
Anita Huffman	6/20
Krissy Hakanson	6/20
Katilyn Wardlow	6/20
Brady Whipple	6/21
Abigail Leck	6/22
Lilyonna Laws	6/23
Nicole Wyss	6/23
Danielle Schrenk	6/25
Brittany Graber	6/26
Richard Gordee	6/27
Ashton Nickel	6/28
Paisley Olson	6/30



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

Serving in June 2025

LITURGISTS

Sat., June 7.....Beth Faith
Sun., June 8.....Louis Scherer

Sat., June 14.....Open
Sun., June 15.....Nikki Austin

Sat., June 21.....Jim Sinkule
Sun., June 22.....Open

Sat., June 28.....Open
Sun., June 29.....Open

Thank you to all our volunteers! You are appreciated!

ALTAR FLOWERS

You are invited to sign up on the Flower Calendar in the narthex to provide cut flowers for weekend worship. Let the office know what you would like put in the bulletin, especially if you are honoring or memorializing a special person or event! (By Thursday of that week, please.) You may provide flowers from your own garden, or any provider you prefer. Please bring them to church by Friday at 3:00 PM and Altar Guild will make sure they are moved to the altar area for the weekend. Thank you!



MISSIONARY SPONSORS

June 7 & 8.....Duane & Regina Weber
June 14 & 15.....Open
June 21 & 22.....Bob & Ruth Leistikow
June 28 & 29.....Women of Grace

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., June 7.....Maynard Heins
Sat., June 14.....Sarah Johanson
Sat., June 21.....Lance Sathoff
Sat., June 28.....Natasha Patterson

ALTAR GUILD

Linen Committee for June 2025

FINAL OPPORTUNITY TO BE PART OF THE PICTURE DIRECTORY!

Volunteers have been working on putting an in-house produced Church Directory. We have been asking folks to submit photos or let us snap a quick photo of you here at church. If you have not yet had the chance, and still want to, call the office today and let us know. We will make arrangements to make sure you are included!

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 19, 2025**

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

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

Members Absent: John Patterson, Katy Dickson and Deb Myers

Devotions- Jeri

Secretarial Report- Written report by Jeri. Motion to approve minutes of the 4-28-2025 Council Meeting by Gloria, second by Ariel. Motion carried.

Treasurer's and Finance Committee Report- Report by Lance. We're making some changes in our investing with Thrivent. We're still deciding on the company to use for the church website. Motion to approve report by Sam. Karen seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Christian Life- They are busy planning events including attending a game in June.

Memorial- No meeting

Mutual Ministry- No meeting

Parish Education- Jeri reported that Krissy Hakanson will continue being the Sunday School teacher next fall, using the same curriculum materials that will continue on for another year. It went well this year and she feels that she has enough support from parents and the oldest students going on to Confirmation may still be helpers.

Property Committee- The kitchen was cleaned after church yesterday. The new roof will get started after June 1st.

Staff Support- Sam reported they took the staff out for lunch. Shannon may be working on our new website so her job description will change. There is a hiring flow chart to show the process for hiring new staff in steps.

Women of Grace- Gloria reported the ice cream social is planned for June 26th. It's a fundraiser for repairing the planter outside.

Worship and Music - No meeting

Pastor's Thoughts: Sunday School ended yesterday with a church clean-up day. We'll be making plans this summer with Krissy Hakanson for next year's Sunday School. We will need some volunteers to help clean the church as our janitor will be taking some time off.

New Business: None

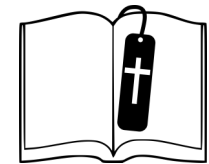
Motion to adjourn by Gloria. Second by Lance. Meeting ended with The Lord's Prayer
Next meeting will be June 23, 2025.

Jeri Johnson, Secretary

MAY PARISH ACTIONS

**SERVICE OF
INTERMENT**

Debra (Deb) Ann Heitkamp
May 17, 2025



**RENEWAL OF
VOWS**

Ariel & Bobbie Thomas
May 4, 2025

JUST A NOTE: OUT OF OFFICE Please note that from **June 30—July 8** the church office will not be staffed full-time. Deacon Beth will be out of the office until July 9th. The church will be open, but the office may be empty. Please call ahead to be certain someone is in to help you. Your patience is very appreciated.



PHOTO DIRECTORY FINAL APPEAL Many thanks to the small group of volunteers who are working hard to produce a new Photo Directory for Grace members. We would love to have all our members included! If you have not yet provided a photo and updated your family information, we ask you to please consider doing so! We have extended the **deadline for photos to June 18th**. You can email or drop off a photo that you have, or contact the office and we will come to you! Please smile and say YES!



ROOFING PROJECT TO BEGIN IN JUNE We will keep you informed as to when Swita Roofing will begin our new roof project. This is set to begin in June. Thanks to everyone who helped to make this possible!



**ICE CREAM SOCIAL! THURSDAY, JUNE 26TH, 4-6PM!
COME ONE, COME ALL!
YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO!**

KUDOS FOR YOUR MINISTRY JOURNEY Thank you to Bill Holland and Deb Myers for attending the Synod Assembly as Lay Voting Members on May 17th in Madison. This was a new experience for both of them, and we hope you will ask them about it. One of the highlights was the passing of a resolution to Support a U.S. Constitutional Amendment to Limit Money in Politics. Visiting more than 35 congregations in our Synod, Bill spent many hours working on this resolution (with help from other folks from our Synod) which was presented at the Synod Assembly. This resolution was overwhelmingly accepted and approved. Special thanks to Bill for his commitment to this issue and his leadership!



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME! We have a fabulous group of over 40 people going to the Sky Carp game on June 22nd! Everyone who has signed up will be notified with specifics. Baseball blessings!



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!



JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL!
 Women of Grace will be holding its annual Ice Cream Social on **Thursday, June 26th from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.** Stop in for a brat or hot dog, chips, baked beans, gluten free brownie or slice of homemade pie and ice cream! Purchase a whole meal or buy individual items. Dine in or Carry Out. Proceeds will be used to repair our outside planter.



- The Ice Cream Social is just one of many things that Women of Grace are involved in during the year. Here is a list of others:
- Bible Study: Lydia circle meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 12:30 in the fellowship hall
 - Graduate blankets: lovingly made by Gloria Scherer and given to high school graduates
 - Care packages: box of goodies sent to college students and military members each fall
 - Thanksgiving Remembrance: gifts & cards sent to our seniors who are shut-in or in nursing homes or assisted living facilities
 - Chili Take-Out: open to everyone and proceeds are donated to a special project at Grace
 - Big Brothers/Big Sisters: collecting snacks and supplies for BBBS after school program
 - Quilters Group: meets two Thursdays a month to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief
 - Funeral Lunch Group: allows families to gather for a lunch and fellowship following a funeral
 - Supports Missionary Sponsorship: We sponsor our missionary once a month.

If any of these look like something you would be interested in or if you'd like more information, please call:

Cathy Smith 608-325-2697	Chris Alston 608-558-2280
Gloria Scherer 608-214-6646	Becky Brown 608-214-5867
Wanda Grossen 608-426-0813	Laurie Kruse 608-293-2731

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

Summer Office Hours
 Monday-Friday, 8:30—12:00/12:30-3:00

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)



RECIPE REMINDER

Food recipes are wanted to place one a month in the church newsletter. Depending on the number received, we may be able to feature them in a pamphlet made by staff to feature recipes. We are looking for recipes for 2-3 people, 4-5 ingredient crockpot meals, gluten-free meals, and meals for small families. Include desserts! Thanks so much; we look forward to seeing your recipes.

Recipe #1: Crock Pot Steaks

Ingredients: Six (6) Cube Steaks, Sliced Onions (optional), One (1) Can Cream of Chicken Soup, One (1) Can Cream of Celery Soup, One (1) Packet Lipton Onion Soup Mix, One-Half (1/2) can of water (to desired consistency). **Cook Six Hours On Low.**

Recipe #2: Tuna Burgers

Ingredients: One (1) Can (7.5 oz.) Tuna, drained, One (1) Cubed American Cheese, One-Half (1/2) Cup Cooked & Cubed Potatoes, One-Third (1/3) Cup Chopped Celery, One-Fourth (1/4) Cup Peas, drained, One (1) Tablespoon Chopped Parsley, One (1) Tablespoon Grated Onion, One-Third (1/3) Cup Mayonnaise. **Mix all ingredients and spread evenly on split buns. Bake 400 degree oven until cheese melts (or under broiler). Serve with salad.**



RECIPE FOR A FRIENDSHIP

Ingredients:

- 1 cup loyalty
- 2 cups kindness
- 3 teaspoons forgiveness
- 5 tablespoons *thyme* for each other
- 4 gallons honesty
- 1 cup faith

Procedure:

- Combine all ingredients with love and affection, and mix carefully
- Stir well, and should you notice any lumps or flaws, handle gently and overlook as often as possible.
- Sweeten generously with a firm belief in each other and keep warm with a caring heart, and watchful eye.
- Never serve hot or cold, just room temperature.
- Let stand for a lifetime of special memories.

A FATHER’S LOVE, A FATHER’S BLESSING

A father’s love flows deep and true,
A steadfast guide in all we do.
He shows us strength and models grace,
As he walks with us each day we face.

His love is like a gentle breeze,
That soothes our hearts and brings us ease
And in its wake, we find a way,
To trust in him and build our faith.

A father’s blessing is a thing of worth,
A gift that lasts beyond the earth.
For in his voice, we hear the call,
To stand up tall and give our all.

So on this Father’s Day, we say,
Thank you, Dad, in every way.
For all the love and all the care,
We couldn’t ask for better, anywhere.

We honor fathers of all kinds, and appreciate all men who show the love and guidance of a father.

What’s Dad’s favorite kind of music?
Pop!

What do you call a dad who falls through the ice? A popsicle!

Why do fathers always tell the same jokes?
Because they’re dad-icated!

Why did the dad always bring a pencil to the party?
In case he had to draw some attention!

