

Calendar Events



Please continue to watch for updates on our website, email and Facebook. Feel free to contact the office with any questions 920-848-2177.

APRIL 4 (NEW DATE)
4th Grade Faith
Milestone Class 6PM

APRIL 6
Men's Breakfast 8AM
OCC "To the Ends of
the Earth" Celebration
10AM-Noon

APRIL 7
4th Grade Faith Mile-
stone Presentations @
both services

APRIL 9
God's Glory Luncheon
11:30AM - 1:30PM

APRIL 15
Worship & Music 6PM
Council 7PM

APRIL 23
6th Grade Faith
Milestone Class 6PM

APRIL 28
6th Grade Faith
Milestone
Presentations

COMING IN MAY

Last day of JAM
Sunday, May 12, 2024

Baccalaureate Sunday
May 19, 2024
10:45AM Service

Summer Schedule Starts
May 26th
One Service at 9:30AM
through Labor Day

Messenger

April 2024
Volume 114
Issue 4

Grace Lutheran Church 920-848-2177

501 S. Main St.

Oconto Falls, WI 54154

So then, when the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.
Mark 16:19

Greetings Grace Family!

For every Christian, Easter Sunday marks a day of celebration and reflection. It is the day that all believers set aside to rejoice the fact that Jesus conquered the grave and even death itself. Easter is the day that God promised and the day the prophets wrote about.

I've often heard people discuss which day is more significant, Easter or Christmas. The day we as believers seem to overlook is the day Jesus ascended back into heaven. One day when Jesus' disciples were confused about some of His teachings, Jesus basically said "if you are having trouble with this, what are you going to do when you see me ascending to where I was before?" Jesus had told them earlier that He had indeed come down from heaven not to do His will, but to do the will of His Father.

The ascension of Jesus Christ is meaningful for several reasons. First, it signaled the end of His earthly ministry. God The Father had lovingly sent His Son into the world at Bethlehem and it was now time for the Son to return to the Father. Jesus was leaving this earth and going to go to heaven to be seated at the right hand of His Father, and then the mission of Christ was to be taken up by His followers.

The disciples knew that Jesus would be leaving, He had told them as much, but it happened so suddenly and without warning. The Bible tells us that as soon as Jesus finished talking, Jesus lifted up into the clouds and into heaven. The disciples "beheld" Him as He was taken up into a cloud. What an amazing sight that must have been!

Then, as the disciples gazed into the heavens, two angels appeared and asked why they were just standing there. Jesus had given them their instructions and they should get moving. They also told them that Jesus would return in the same way He left. Jesus allowed the disciples to witness Him ascend into heaven. But before He left, Jesus spent 40 days here on earth to stabilize the faith of the disciples and prepare them for a future with Him in heaven.

Easter is not just one day out of the year, it's a 40 day celebration. Just like we celebrate Lent for the 40 days before Easter, we get to celebrate Jesus resurrection for a full 40 days after Easter Sunday. And just in case that's not enough, we'll continue to celebrate it the rest of the year too!

In His peace,

Pastor Gary

OFFICIAL ACTS—MARCH 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Service</u> (includes designated giving)	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings Received</u>
March 3	8:30am	67	\$8,080.64
	10:45am	111	
	Online Giving		\$ 1,347.00
March 6 (Lenten Service)	7:00pm	56	
March 10	8:30am	57	\$3,055.86
	10:45am	74	
	Online Giving		\$ 928.00
March 13 (Lenten Service)	7:00pm	37	
March 17	8:30am	104	\$5,240.27
	10:45am	69	
	Online Giving		\$ 918.22
March 20 (Lenten Service)	7:00pm	104	
March 24 (Palm Sunday)	8:30am	92	\$3,592.33
	10:45am	84	
	Online Giving		\$ 623.00
March 28 (Maundy Thursday)	7:00pm	66	
March 28 (Good Friday)	7:00pm	60	
March 24 (Easter)	8:30am	249	\$8,536.84 (Includes all Holy Week giving)
	10:45am	142	
	Online Giving		\$ 638.00

Financial Report

Operations Checkbook (GENERAL OFFERING) - Month of MARCH 2024

Beginning Balance 2/29/2024	+\$36,870.77
Deposits Operating Fund	+\$30,372.16
Disbursements Operating Fund	-\$30,680.56
Ending Balance 03/31/2024	+\$36,562.37
Mortgage Loan Balance 3/05/2024.....	\$35,368.22
Monthly payment of principal.....	\$ 1,778.84
Monthly payment of interest.....	\$ 103.16
Additional principal.....	\$ 398.00

Grace Lutheran County Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2024

Meeting was called to order by President Jared Alfson at 7:06pm.

Present: Jared Alfson, Allie McDonald, Melanie Rice, Heidi Anderson, Andy Mercier, Jeff Schullo, Jerry Riste, Pastor Gary Olson

Absent: Grace/Faith Shamburek, Andy Shamburek, Lyle Nichols, Kent Lyng

Guests: Holli Kussow, Lori Johns

Opening Prayer by Jared Alfson & Devotion by Pastor Gary Olson

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Andy Mercier and seconded by Melanie Rice to approve the February 2024 Minutes without correction. Motion Approved.

Treasurer's Report: a paper report was provided for review detailing an operating fund balance of \$35,935.05 and a net income of -\$4,086.99. All March expenses have been paid up to 3/18. Allie McDonald made a motion to approve the report and Heidi Anderson seconded it. Motion approved.

Old Business

Capital Projects – no ministry needs have been identified at this time. We discussed replacing the sanctuary speakers and amps and replacing the basement flooring. Melanie Rice made a motion to gather cost details on the 2 projects – to determine if they are feasible for 2024. Andy Mercier seconded it. Motion approved.

New Business

Semi-Annual Meeting Date – scheduled for May 5th between the 1st and 2nd services.

Upcoming Events:

March 20 – Wednesday Lenten Meal/Service hosted by EPIC Youth

March 24 – Palm Sunday

March 28 – Maundy Thursday

March 29 – Good Friday

March 31 – Easter Sunday - Heidi will accept candy donations for the between service Easter Egg Hunt. Extra snacks for fellowship are welcome. There is no J.A.M. but the egg hunt will be held instead. A brass quintet will be playing for the Easter services.

Lori Johns spoke on behalf of the Women's Group. They are gathering each month for fellowship. They are working to determine how to use their funds available. They welcome new attendees.

Committee Reports

Evangelism – Jeff Schullo reported that 78 people were served at the March For God's Glory Luncheon. He's excited to see it grow and is grateful for all the volunteers that make it happen. Compassion Sunday will be 4/28. Joyful Noise is scheduled for 6/29 from 2-6pm at the East Side Beach.

Parish Education – Heidi Anderson reported that Mother's Day will be the last Sunday for J.A.M. for the season.

Parish Fellowship – Andy Mercier will continue with coffee and treats after our church services. Feel free to bring any treats you would like.

Property & Maintenance – Holli Kussow reported on behalf of Kent Lyng that he is out until Mid-April. Jennifer Lyng is handling building requests in his absence.

Public Relations – OPEN

Stewardship – Jared Alfson reported that we still need a few group pictures to finish up the church directory. \$580 was raised for the OCC Soup Sale!

Youth Ministry – EPIC Youth will be service at the 3/20/24 service and they have been enjoying outside activities during Lent.

Worship & Music – Holli Kussow reported on behalf of Lyle Nichols – there will be a brass quintet performing for both Easter services. We will be on the summer service schedule May 26-Labor Day weekend.

Endowment – Melanie Rice reported that 2 people have applied for Endowment funds for scholarships but we need more people to apply for worldwide missions, local missions and the general endowment giving in order to pay out the funds.

Long Range Planning – Jerry Riste reported no updates at this time.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Gary reminded us that the best ability is availability. We need to be aware of what is needed. Reach out- approach others to get them involved.

Heidi Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jerry Riste seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Allie McDonald

Executive Council Secretary

Adam	Moses	Hebrews	Cross
Eve	James	Eden	Father
Jesus	Solomon	Heaven	Church
Peter	Mary	Cyprus	Lord
Noah	Romans	Baptism	Christ



M H H N N M Y Q N F C R O S S X C F
J Y P S O J O J F A T H E R Q G P Y
C E L X O A F S L R R C H R I S T C
U Y Y G I L H R E U O N E D E N O U
Q X P J F X O T Q S M B A D I W H U
B Q Q R E G Y M L I A A D X F G E L
Q W P F U S L D O H N P A L R N B E
H R D E E S U Z R N S T M Y J Y R V
T T S K T E L S D M Q I J A T Y E E
R E W I H E A V E N R S R A R O W G
T J A M E S R J Y Y J M I V V Y S T
L M C H U R C H N G R O O R A G R H

APRIL Birthdays



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 - Tammy Kardoskee | 16 - Eden Paitl |
| 2 - Chris Desterheft
Noah Pagel | Tim Peterson |
| 3 - Kelly Haselhuhn
Stephanie Peitersen
Shelby Neta | 17 - Tyler Klimpke |
| 4 - Jameson Beaman
Diane Nichols | 18- Brecken Alaniva |
| 11 - Judy Kopczynski
Jeff Neta | 19 - Andrew LeFevre |
| 12 - Mya Magnin | 20 - Brynn Heise
Joan Peterson |
| 13 - Mason Anderson
Renee Klitzka
Grant Shallow | 21 - Kris Garbrecht |
| 14 - Jane Bigelow
Kilyn Brabant
Henry Pagel
Allissa Stanek
Jamie Warner | 23 - Tami McQuillan |
| | 24 - Mark Neta |
| | 25 - Andrew Derouin
Ruth Heimke
Hudson Klitzka |
| | 27 - Justin Beaman
Robb Brabant
Luke Gilbertson
Yvonne Nelson |
| | 28 - Carol Burns
Lily Delzer
Sawyer Firgens |

PRAYER list...

GRACE MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Carol Burns | Continued healing/strength |
| Kim Desterheft | Ovarian cancer |
| Donnie Drews Jr. | Strength & healing |
| Dorothy Ellner | Strength & healing |
| Jerry Fischer | Health concerns |
| Doris Knox | Health concerns |
| Patrick Lewis | Health concerns/nerve pain |
| Lorraine Murphy | Strength/healing |
| Randy Nelson | Macular degeneration |
| Lyle Nichols | Health concerns |
| Bonnie Peterson | B-Cell lymphoma |
| RaeAnn Rouse | Strength & healing |
| Julia Schullo | Strength & healing |
| Bob Thomson | Health concerns |
| Don VanArk | Health concerns |
| Don Voermans | Health concerns |
| Leslie (Butch) Vorpahl | Cancer treatment |
| Shirley Vorpahl | Strength & healing |
| Tami Wall | Thyroid disease |
| Bob Walker | Cancer / Strength & healing |

FAMILY/FRIENDS OF GRACE

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Ashleigh Mercier Bordelais | Breast cancer |
| Kevin Breuninger | Metastatic lung cancer |
| Trishya Brown | Double Mastectomy—Breast cancer treatment |
| | MPGN—Disease of kidneys |
| | Complications—liver transplant |
| Liam Britzke | Health concerns |
| Ethan Burant | Breast cancer |
| Kim (Capelle) Fischer | Prayers for family |
| Tara Foht | Health concerns |
| Bryant Hodkiewicz | Cancer treatment |
| Carol Hostrawser | Rare progressive dementia |
| Maggie Jones | Cancer |
| Cathy Kaster | Continued strength/healing |
| Julie Luebeck | Breast cancer |
| David Majeski | Liver transplant |
| Teri Malingowski/Schwenke | Awaiting new kidney |
| Greg Meilahn | Strength/healing |
| David Nelson | Cancer |
| Brett Nichols | Thyroid cancer |
| Rochell Otto | Health concerns |
| Ashley Post | Leukemia |
| Rollyn Radke | Health concerns |
| Amira Rynish | Healing from infection |
| Becky Saari | Dialysis |
| Barb Schaal | Health concerns |
| David Schefdore | Health concerns |
| Bob Schindel | Health concerns |
| Ruth Schulz | Cancer |
| Vern Tamura | Cancer treatment |
| Mary Thompson | Cancer treatment |
| Gail Venne | Healing & recovery |
| Carol Weber | Recent passing of Frank |
| Waschbisch Family | Prostate/Lung cancer |
| Jim Wesley | |

HAPPY APRIL Anniversary!

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4 Nick & Nikki Tolzman | 27 Duane & Danna Magnin |
| 16 Adam & Laura Zielinski | 28 Jerry & Donna Heim |
| 23 Roger & Dawn Grenke | 30 Joy & Paul Schmidt |
| 25 Bill & Stephanie Paitl | |



Please email grace@graceocontofalls.org

ChurchArt Onli

GRACE MEETINGS & SCHEDULES

APRIL/MAY COMMUNION DUTIES

April 7:

SET UP 8:30: Kriss Krause

CLEAN UP 8:30: Kriss Krause

CLEAN UP 10:45: Jenny Mercier

April 21:

SET UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng

CLEAN UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng

CLEAN UP 10:45: Maddie Kussow/Brynn Larsen

May 5:

SET UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng

CLEAN UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng

CLEAN UP 10:45: Sue Mogged

May 19:

SET UP 8:30: Pam Langlay

CLEAN UP 8:30: Pam Langlay

CLEAN UP 10:45: Jenny Mercier

COMMUNION BREAD SCHEDULE

APRIL/MAY

APRIL 7: Susan Krumrei

APRIL 21: Rosemary Lyng

MAY 5: Sue Mogged

MAY 19: Kelly Haselhuhn



Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

CHURCH
BUSINESS
MEETING

Sunday, May 5 between services.

THANK YOU!

NOTE: JAM WILL STILL MEET AS USUAL

EPIC Youth Taste of Grace following 2nd service

FAITH, FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

MEN'S BREAKFAST



Saturday, April 6
8:00-10:00am

Tuesday Morning

BIBLE



8:00AM

STUDY

TO GOD'S GLORY



FREE LUNCHEON / SOCIAL

UPCOMING DATE!

Free Luncheon / Social

Tuesday, April 9 @ Grace
Serving 11:30AM-1:30PM

All are welcome.



April 9, 2024

6:30PM

All women welcome!

MONTHLY MEETINGS

April 15, 2024

Worship & Music Meeting 6PM

Council Meeting 7PM

GRACE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE



Rummage Sale at Grace

We will again be hosting a church rummage sale here at Grace in August. Please feel free to start bringing in gently used items.

(NO ELECTRONICS OR FURNITURE PLEASE)

Items should be placed downstairs in the Women of Grace storage room. It is in the hallway with the kids handprints made into flowers.

BIBLES FOR 2024 GRADUATES

EACH OF OUR GRADUATES WILL BE GIFTED A RYRIE STUDY BIBLE AS THEIR FINAL FAITH MILESTONE AT GRACE. THE COST OF EACH BIBLE IS \$60.00. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A BIBLE, PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO GRACE LUTHERAN AND INDICATE "BIBLE SPONSORSHIP" IN THE MEMO/NOTES LINE OF THE CHECK. THE BIBLES WILL BE PRESENTED TO OUR GRADUATES AT OUR BACCALAUREATE SERVICE ON MAY 19, 2023.



BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

Sunday, May 19, 2024 @ 10:45AM Service

Come celebrate our 2024 graduating seniors.



A big thank you to Brynn Larsen for going out and collecting \$800 in donations to purchase reusable utensil sets. Her generous efforts allowed us to purchase 600 sets so each child will get their own set in their shoebox. Great addition to our boxes! Thank you, Brynn!

A BIG
thank
you

Thank you Grace Lutheran for your generous support of the soup sale! \$538 will help purchase WOW items for our boxes next fall. It is such a blessing to find items in our collection box each week.

Grace Lutheran, you are awesome!

YOU are invited "To the Ends of the Earth" Celebration

Operation Christmas Child

Saturday, April 6, 2024 from 10am—Noon

Please join your friends and fellow shoebox packers of our 12 county OCC Green Bay Area. We will celebrate our 2023 collection and share exciting news for 2024!

We will have praise and prayer, fellowship and fun, refreshments and door prizes.

Please join us, we have much to celebrate together.

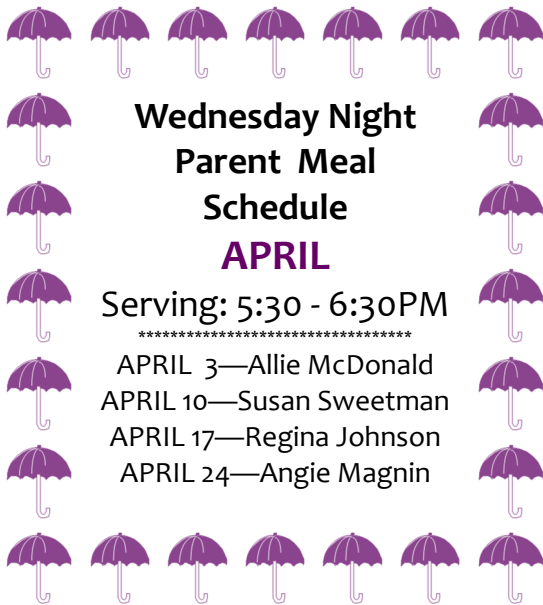
How exciting that this even is being hosted right here in our church. Anyone interested in OCC is welcome; there is no commitment involved. We would just love to see a welcoming type of turn out for this event!



Youth news

APRIL 2024

*Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.
1 Peter 5:7*



Wednesday Night Parent Meal Schedule
APRIL
Serving: 5:30 - 6:30PM

APRIL 3—Allie McDonald
APRIL 10—Susan Sweetman
APRIL 17—Regina Johnson
APRIL 24—Angie Magnin

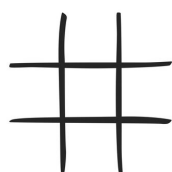


4th Grade Faith Milestone **DATE CHANGE**

Parent/Student Class: **April 4 @ 6PM**
Presentations: April 7 @ both services



Sunday, May 5
Following the 2nd service.
Come support our youth!



OCC/JAM Joint Project

April 7th in the hearth room, construction of 400 Tic Tac Toe games will be underway between the services in the hearth room. Peek in and see where you can help!

We need
YOUR HELP!



We are still in need of JAM volunteers for April & May. If you are a parent of a JAM student, please contact Heidi to sign up.
Heidi.crittercomforts@gmail.com
(715) 307-9073

Service Duty Schedule

APRIL/MAY

APRIL SERVICES

April 7 - Communion

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Adam Haselhuhn / Josh Wendt

Reader: Josh Wendt

Communion Set Up/Clean Up: Kriss Krause

Communion Assistant: Jeff & Barb Schullo

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Donna & Jerry Heim

Lay Reader: Angie Magnin

Communion Assistants: Andy & Jenny Mercier

Clean Up: Jenny Mercier

Money Count: Pam & Brad Langlay

April 14

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Riste / Blom Family

Lay Reader: Leanne Riste

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Jeff & Allie McDonald

Lay Reader: Heidi Anderson

Money Count: Heidi Anderson / Pam Langlay

April 21-Communion

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Kent & Jennifer Lyng

Lay Reader: Pam Langlay

Communion Set Up/Clean Up: Rosemary Lyng

Communion Assistant: Pam & Brad Langlay

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Klitzka Family

Lay Reader: Sue Mogged

Communion Assistant: Andy & Lisa Shamburek

Communion Clean Up: Maddie Kussow / Brynn Larsen

Money Count: Paul Mogged / Andy Shamburek

April 28

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Jeff & Barb Schullo

Lay Reader: Sally Krueger

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Andy & Jenny Mercier

Lay Reader: Ellen Pritzlaff

Money Count: Pam & Brad Langlay

May 5 - Communion

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Kent Lyng / Wally Krueger

Reader: Sally Krueger

Communion Set Up/Clean Up: Rosemary Lyng

Communion Assistant: Leanne & Jerry Riste

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Jeff & Allie McDonald

Lay Reader: Heidi Anderson

Communion Assistants: Sue Mogged / Ellen Pritzlaff

Clean Up: Sue Mogged

Money Count: Paul Mogged / Allie McDonald

May 12

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Adam Haselhuhn / Josh Wendt

Lay Reader: Josh Wendt

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Andy & Lisa Shamburek

Lay Reader: Lisa Shamburek

Money Count: Andy Shamburek / Holli Kussow

May 19-Communion –Baccaulaureate

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Matt & Emerson Rice

Lay Reader: Pam Langlay

Communion Set Up/Clean Up: Pam Langlay

Communion Assistant: Pam & Brad Langlay

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Jerry & Donna Heim

Lay Reader: Donna Heim

Communion Assistant: Andy & Jen Mercier

Communion Clean Up: Jen Mercier

Money Count: Pam & Brad Langlay

May 26-Summer Schedule Starts

9:30AM Service

Ushers: Kent Lyng / Wally Krueger

Lay Reader: Sally Krueger

Money Count: Kent Lyng / Mike Krause