<u>Calendar</u> <u>Events</u>



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

> FEBRUARY 7 Women of Grace Meeting 6PM

FEBRUARY II Men's Breakfast 8-10AM

FEBRUARY 12 OCC Cupcake Sale Following both services

FEBRUARY 19 Grace Family Bowling Lena Lanes IPM

FEBRUARY 22 Ash Wednesday Service 7PM

FEBRUARY 24-26 EPIC Youth to Silver Birch Ranch



COMING in MARCH

STARTING MARCH 1st

Lenten Fellowship Dinners / Services 6PM Dinner 7PM Services





Grace Lutheran Church 920-848-2177

<u>501 S.</u> Main St. Oc

Oconto Falls, WI 54154

I trust in you with all my heart. Don't let me wander away from your commands. Psalm 119:10

When my family and I lived in Alaska, we had a neighbor that had kids about the same age as Lillian and Bethy. These neighbors also had two small dogs that provided a vast amount of entertainment! One of the dogs, who was named "Rocko," was so small that when a hawk or an eagle flew overhead we would all run to make sure he was safe and not end up as an easy snack for one of those huge birds. We sometimes still quote the mom of that family when she said "watch out for Rocko, you know how he tends to wander!"

Those are words of wisdom for all of us. I feel we all have a tendency to wander. The textbook definition of *wander* is 'to move about aimlessly.' If we were to be completely honest, the word wander might be an accurate description of many aspects of our lives. We often go about portions of our lives without a clear purpose or any real objective. It's like when I go grocery shopping without a list or even a real idea of what we're out of or what's on sale. I might come back with several full bags of food, but then struggle to find something to make for supper! Some of the times we "tend to wander off" can be easily fixed by making (and bringing) a shopping list, or mapping out how to get from point "A" to point "B".

In the same way, we can easily wander off the path that God has planned for us. We might say that we have a relationship with God, but do we have a real purpose and a real objective for that relationship? Have you ever thought of making a list of things you want to accomplish in your walk with the Creator of the universe? Have you ever thought about mapping out a course of direction that will lead you closer to Him?

God promises to help you with all of that if you will simply seek Him out and then trust Him to lead you down the right path. Try starting with these words from Proverbs 3:5-6 – *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path.*

In His Service,

Pastor Gary

OFFICIAL ACTS—JANUARY 2023			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Service</u> <u>Atten</u> (includes designated giving)	dance <u>Offer</u>	ings Received
Jan 1	8:30am 3	2 9	\$3,953.09
	Online Giving		\$ 533.00
Jan 8		7	\$4,063.14
	Online Giving		\$1,013.00
Jan 15		55 59	\$ 3,679.43
	Online Giving		\$ 923.00
Jan 22		58	\$ 1,749.72
	Online Giving		\$ 798.00
Jan 29	9:30am 1 Online Giving	38	\$ 4,773.65

Financial Report

Operations Checkbook (GENERAL OFFERING) - Month o	of January 2023
Beginning Balance 12/31/2022	+\$22,625.87
Deposits Operating Fund	+\$19,912.03
Disbursements Operating Fund	\$19,969.64
Ending Balance 01/31/2023	+\$22,568.21
Mortgage Loan Balance 1/08/2023	\$65,478.07
Monthly payment of principal	\$ 1,691.02
Monthly payment of interest	\$ 190.98
Additional principal	\$ 818.00

SUPPORT OUR CHURCH WITH eGIVING

eGiving brings flexibility to your generosity. You can direct funds, set up one-time or recurring payments from your phone or tablet and give from anywhere at any time! Learn more about our eGiving options by visiting the church's website at

https://www.graceocontofalls.org/giving

OR download the Vanco Mobile App on your mobile phone. Questions? Contact the office at (920) 848-2177.



January 16, 2023, Council Minutes

Meeting was called to order by President, Jared Alfson at 7:03pm

PRESENT: Andy Shamburek, Jeff Schullo, Dave Borisch, Jennifer Lyng, Brooke Siolka, Allie McDonald, Jared Alfson, Melanie Rice, Andy Mercier, Kent Lyng, Grace Shamburek

GUESTS: Holli Kussow

ABSENT: Ellen Pritzlaff, Gary Olson, Lyle Nichols

Prayer and devotional by Jared Alfson

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Motion by Andy Mercier, second by Allie McDonald to approve the report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Andy Shamburek provided a paper report to be reviewed by the group. We are only 16 days into the new year. We will have a better picture of our finances by next month's meeting. Motion by Grace Shamburek and second by Brooke Siolka to approve the report.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

•Benevolences – Holli provided a list with the beneficiaries, amounts and years supported. The budgeted amount of benevolence giving is 12% of all expenses combined. The amount for 2023 will be \$30,534. Jeff Schullo suggested that we add the International Children's Fund, out of Neenah, WI, to our giving list. He will provide additional information about their organization at our next meeting.

•Furnace Replacement – we had problems with 3 furnaces during the holidays- the exchanger was plugged in one, the gas valves had to be replaced in one furnace and the blower motor in the other. Kent received a quote to replace all 3 for a total of \$9,335. Jennifer Lyng made a motion to approve the replacement of the 3 furnaces with funds available in our Building Fund. Jeff Schullo seconded it.

•Lenten Schedule – Holli provided a copy of the 2023 Lenten schedule detailing the services and meals.

Upcoming Events:

•Fellowship Service with Communion – January 29th at 9:30 – The meal theme for 1/29 is breakfast/brunch.

•First Communion – January 29th at 9:30 – cake will be served

•Bowling at Lena Lanes – February 19th - the Stewardship Committee is organizing – sign up will be available closer to the date

•Ash Wednesday – February 22nd 7pm service

Committee Reports:

EVANGELISM: Jeff Schullo reported that every 2nd Tuesday of the month is the God's Glory soup lunch. Joyful Noise is scheduled for 6/24- we have 4 band scheduled and are looking for a headliner. The Paul Family Band is interested in performing for our group however they only have 2 dates available 7/8 or 15th. We decided to decline and focus on the Joyful Noise event. **PARISH EDUCATION:** Brooke Siolka reported that there is no J.A.M. on 1/29.

We need help with J.A.M.! The roles are laid out in detail from the program we are using and are easy to follow. Please contact Brooke to sign-up at 920-373-4709.

PARISH FELLOWSHIP: Andy Mercier reported that we will be serving treats at the 1/29 service.

PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE: Kent Lyng performed some maintenance at the parsonage and has been cleaning up the furnace rooms to prep for the new furnaces. Ellen Pritzlaff and Candice Bero have been cleaning up some other rooms downstairs too.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Jennifer Lyng reported that the sound booth layout has been updated and it easier to use. We could use more sound booth workers. This is a paid position.

STEWARDSHIP: Jared reported that the bowling night is scheduled for 2/19 at Lena Lanes. Pam Langlay will be putting a cribbage tournament together in March.

YOUTH: Grace Shamburek reported that Winter Jam at Silver Birch Ranch is rescheduled for February 24-26. The cost is \$25 per child and friends are free! We need drivers to and from Silver Birch.

WORSHIP & MUSIC: Lyle Nichols submitted a written report this month. February 20th is the deadline for ordering new hymnals. We are still collecting funds for this and the cost for 200 hymnals is estimated at \$2,000. We are still in need of a pianist

and organist.

ENDOWMENT: Melanie Rice reported that \$1,000 has been donated to the fund. LONG RANGE PLANNING: Dave Borisch reported no update at this time. PASTORS REPORT: No update at this time. Motion to adjourn made by Andy Mercier and seconded by Allie McDonald. Closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allie McDonald Council Secretary

Women of Grace Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2023

Treasurer's Report: Last account balance was \$3,128.69. Did not receive this month's financial sheet. Balance is approximated to be about the same due to donations & a Thrivent Action Team to help offset expenses.

OLD BUSINESS:

Thanksgiving Day Meal: Went well and was very appreciated by those that received meals. Thanks to all who made this possible. About 60 people were served in-person and via delivery.

Advent by Candlelight: Went well and there were about 26 people in attendance. Discussed possibility of having next one before Thanksgiving due to usual weekends being bad timing for many. Will discuss more when planning this Fall. No youth signed up this year like previously. Still looking at ways to incorporate the youth into some of our events to connect with them.

Christmas Cookie Bags: Assembled about 80 cookie bags which were dropped off to a few homes in Oconto Falls that had Thanksgiving meals delivered, plus Meadowlands & Meadowbrooke. Thank you to all that baked & frosted cookies, and special thank yous to Becky Pytak for making the cookies & extra chocolates and Pritzlaffs for bagging and delivering.

NEW BUSINESS:

OCC Valentine's Cupcake Sale: We are having this year's Cupcake Sale on Sunday, February 12th after both services. We are looking for someone to complete a Thrivent Action Team request, If able to help please contact Ellen Pritzlaff. Come enjoy a delicious cupcake and we will be accepting donations to cover our Operation Christmas Child shoebox project expenses. **Kitchen Supplies:** We've discussed in the past sorting through the cooking and serving equipment in the Hearth Room and Fellowship Hall kitchens to remove not working items. With the recent events like the Men's Breakfasts, the Thanksgiving Meal, and the Soup Kitchen, we will look at getting some new items, for example a good quality knife set and serving spoons, plus a hand mixer. Jennifer Lyng will talk to Cheryl Mogged & Becky Pytak about having them sort through the existing items and propose a list of replacements/new additions.

February Fun Activity: Due to short notice for January, we proceeded to brainstorm ideas for February's Fun Activity. Pam Langlay agreed to organize the event and we are looking at a Pizza Party at S&S Hometown in Oconto Falls on either Thursday, February 16th or 23rd but Pam will see what dates are available. Update: Event will be on February 16th @ 6:00 pm and we will cover pizza and pitchers of soda. Ladies come join the fun!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Fellowship Sunday: Combined Service January 29th @ 9:30 am with First Communion Faith Milestone and Breakfast Potluck *Please bring a dish to share.

February Business Meeting: Due to normal meeting date falling on Valentine's Day, our next meeting will be one week earlier on Tuesday, February 7th @ 6:30 pm.

Pizza Night February Fun Activity: Ladies join us February 16th @ 6:00 pm for pizza and soda at S&S Hometown. **Stewardship Committee**: Adult Bible Study Starts January 22nd on Sundays between services from 9:45 – 10:30 am with the Book of Acts, Bowling at Lena Lanes has been moved to February 19th from 1:00 – 4:00 pm, Cribbage Tournament in March

Update: After our meeting Jennifer Lyng was notified of multiple interest in the For King + Country concert that is coming to the Resch Center in Green Bay on Wednesday, April 5th at 7:00 pm. Due to the multiple interest and really narrow window of ticket opportunity, Jennifer Lyng authorized payment to purchase a limited number of tickets for the concert for Women of Grace. In line with previous event cost coverage, the Women of Grace will cover approximately half of the ticket cost. With the limited number and Women of Grace price coverage, we will be limiting the attendees to members of Grace first and then depending on if there are remaining open slots, we may expand to external invites. The price per person will be \$43.00 which includes your VIP seating ticket with complimentary Q & A, and transportation to and from the concert via a small rented bus. The tickets are first come first served based on sign-up notification and payment to either Jennifer Lyng or Holli Kussow in the Office. We will record the order of sign ups and note a list of backups in the event of last minute attendee withdrawal. If paying via a check, please make it out to Grace Lutheran Church with memo line: Women's Concert Ticket.

February Birthdays

- 2— David Borisch Lori Johns
- 4— Cheryl Mogged Zachary Schwantes
- 5— Kim Fischer6— Greg Maloney
- Richard Marquardt Betsy Voermans
- 8– Bill Holtz
- 9– Charlotte Klimpke
- 10— Isaac Raddatz
- 11— Aidan Spillane
- 12— Conner Stanek Kyle Zielinski
- 13— Daniel Krieser Kalli Schindel Emma Ward Bodee Woods
- 14— Andrew Angus
- 16– Bev Schwantes



Nonie Dobratz 17— Kayla Goldschmidt 18— Andrea Shamburek **Demi Francois** 19— Steve Herms Amelia Rice Gary VanDenHeuvel **Tracey Johnson** 20 -Jack Goldschmidt Alex Radke 21 -Michelle Klimpke 23 -Garret Shallow Joanne Drews 24 -25 -**Oliver Bailey** Abby Montie Nathan Raddatz **Regina Johnson** 26— Colin Fischer 27 -28 -**Raachel Hosking Emmie Magnin**



26- Al & Jane Sutrick

28-Kyle & Kelly Frederick







GRACE MEMBERS

Carol Burns Dorothy Ellner Barb Merwin Lorraine Murphy Randy Nelson Barb Nickel Diane Peitersen Julia Schullo Aidan Spillane Jane Sutrick Bob Thomson Don Voermans Mary Vowinkel Health concerns Strength/healing Alzheimer's Strength/healing Macular degeneration Health concerns Strength/healing Strength/healing Army @ Ft. Bliss Health concerns Health concerns Health concerns Cancer treatment

FAMILY/FRIENDS OF GRACE

Annie Boehmer

Janice Bloemer Ashleigh Mercier Bordelais Liam Britzke C.J. Edwards Kim (Capelle) Fischer **Rick Fries** Cody Fries Angela Heim Larry & Barb Hillyer Bryant Hodkiewicz Carol Hostrawser Cathy Kaster Judy Melotte David Majeski Greg Meilahn David Nelson Brett Nichols Sharon Raatz Reuben Radke Rollyn Radke Amira Rynish David Schefdore Bob Schindel Mary Thompson Ruth Trudell Gail Venne Carol Weber

Sight loss - diabetes Loss of Greg Breast cancer & dementia Breast cancer MPGN-Disease of kidneys Brain cancer Health concerns Heart problems Recovery from collapsed lung Health concerns for end of life Healing & support Cancer treatment Health concerns Rare progressive dementia Health concerns Continued strength/healing Liver transplant Awaiting new kidney Strength/healing Health concerns Recovery from hip surgery Health concerns Leukemia Dialysis Health concerns Cancer treatment Healing & recovery Cancer treatment Healing & recovery



GRACE MEETINGS & SCHEDULES

FEBRUARY/MARCH COMMUNION DUTIES

February 5:

SET UP 8:30: Pam Langlay CLEAN UP 8:30:Pam Langlay/Vicki Thomson CLEAN UP 10:45: Holli Kussow/Michelle Heimke

February 19:

SET UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng CLEAN UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng CLEAN UP 10:45: Lisa Shamburek

March 5:

SET UP 8:30: Pam Langlay CLEAN UP 8:30: Pam & Brad Langlay CLEAN UP 10:45: Sue Mogged

<u>March 19:</u>

SET UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng CLEAN UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng CLEAN UP 10:45: Nancy Weiss/Joy Schmidt

COMMUNION BREAD SCHEDULE FEBRUARY/MARCH

FEBRUARY 5: Susan Krumrei

FEBRUARY 19: Kelly Haselhuhn

MARCH 5: Sue Mogged

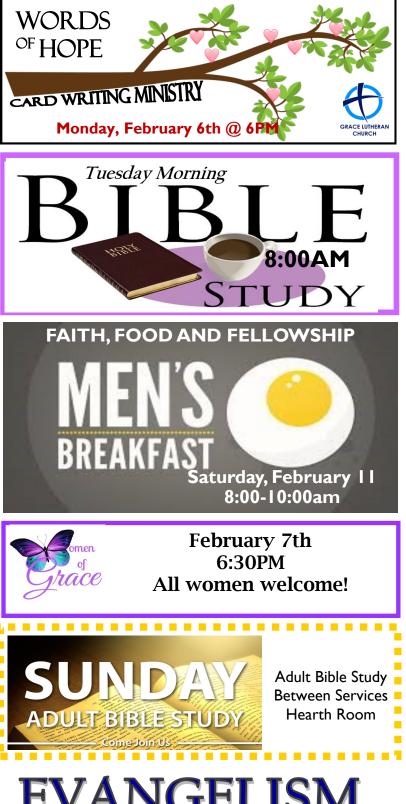
MARCH 19: Pam Langlay

WEDNESDAY LENTEN FELLOWSHIP MEALS – 6PM

Groups that serve the meal also serve as ushers, greeters and readers for the service. February 22nd - Ash Wednesday (No Meal) March 1st - Choir March 8th – Women of Grace March 15th - Council March 22nd - Men's Group March 29th - EPIC Youth

MONTHLY MEETINGS

February 20 Worship & Music Meeting 6PM Council Meeting 7PM





February 12 following the 2nd service.

GRACE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Operation Christmas Child Cupcakes for your Valentine



GRACE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



For King & Country Concert Tickets April 5th @ 7PM

The Women of Grace have purchased a limited number of VIP seating tickets to the "For King and Country" concert at the Resch Center on February 5th. Tickets are being offered to Grace members first and if there are extra tickets, we will open them up to others outside of Grace.

The price per person will be \$43.00 which includes your VIP seating ticket with complimentary Q & A, and transportation to and from the concert via a small rented bus. The tickets are first come first served based on sign-up notification and payment to either Jennifer Lyng or Holli Kussow in the Office. We will record the order of sign ups and note a list of backups in the event of last minute attendee withdrawal.

If paying via a check, please make it out to Grace Lutheran Church with memo line: Women's Concert Ticket.

A Deeper Relationship with God

Have you ever felt like you would like a deeper relationship with Jesus? Many of the members of Grace Lutheran Church have found that relationship through a movement called Via de Cristo. The aim of Via de Cristo is to show pastors and lay people the love of God through a very intense weekend. The Via de Cristo weekends take place at one of two camps – Silver Birch Ranch and Camp Forest Springs.

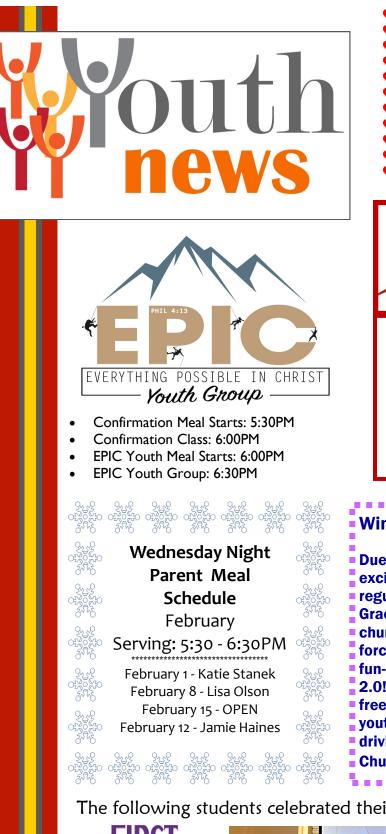
During the three days of Via de Cristo, attendees listen to 14 talks given by laypeople and clergy. Following each talk, small group table discussions focus on the main points of the talk. In an overlapping fashion, the talks present various aspects of the Christian life, based on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ as an ideal.

People from all walks of life grow closer to one another during the Via de Cristo weekend. They worship, listen, and sing in a joyful family atmosphere. Men and women will be separated for most activities including learning, discussing, and sleeping at separate locations within the camp. A spirit of fellowship and a rustic camp atmosphere makes for a special weekend. Good food and snacks are abundant.

If you feel like you are at a point in your life that you want a deeper relationship with our Savior, please talk to Jeff or Barb Schullo or Brad or Pam Langlay to find out more.



You can support the Kingdom Come Food Pantry by donating food, monetary donations or volunteering. Call 920-604-2729 to volunteer.







2nd Grade Book Class & Presentation

Parent/Student Class: February 13, 2023 @ 6PM Presentation: Sunday, February 19 at both services

Watch the mail for your 2nd grader's invitation!

Miss Du

February

24th - 26th

Winter Jam 2.0

Due to an overload of excited youth for the regular Winter Jam, Grace and other local churches are joining forces to offer a separate fun-packed Winter Jam

2.0!!! It's \$25 per kid and they can bring a friend for free. We also need adult drivers to transport all our youth to Silver Birch Ranch in White Lake. Youth & driving volunteers can sign up by contacting the Church Office."

The following students celebrated their First Communion on January 29, 2023.



Dayton Stanek, Brandon Stanek, Lily Delzer, Aaron Gilbertson, Owen Stamsta, Gabriella Johnson, Eden Paitl & Aubrey Schindel

Service Duty Schedule FEB/MARCH

FEBRUARY SERVICES

February 5 - Communion 8:30AM Service

Ushers: Vicki Thomson & Kent Lyng Lay Reader: Sally Krueger Communion Set Up: Pam Langlay Communion Assistant: Pam & Brad Langlay Communion Clean Up: Pam Langlay / Vicki Thomson **10:45AM Service**

Ushers: Andy & Jenny Mercier Lay Reader: Faith Shamburek Communion Assistant: Shamburek Family Communion Clean Up: Holli Kussow/Michelle Heimke

February 12

<u>8:30AM Service</u> Ushers: Adam & Kelly Haselhuhn Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols <u>10:45AM Service</u> Ushers: Teresa & Nathan Raddatz Lay Reader: Nathan Raddatz

February 19 - Communion 8:30AM Service

Ushers: Pat Spillane & Beth Lehner Lay Reader: Josh Wendt Communion Set Up: Rosemary Lyng Communion Assistant: Barb & Jeff Schullo Communion Clean Up: Rosemary Lyng

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Sarah & Braxton Rajkovich Lay Reader: Sue Mogged Communion Assistant: Jerry & Donna Heim Communion Clean Up: Sue Mogged

February 26

<u>8:30AM Service</u> Ushers: OPEN Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols <u>10:45AM Service</u> Ushers: Jeff & Allie McDonald Lay Reader: Allie McDonald

MARCH SERVICES

March 5 - Communion 8:30AM Service

Ushers: Pat Spillane & Beth Lehner Lay Reader: Josh Wendt Communion Set Up: Pam Langlay Communion Assistant: Pam & Brad Langlay Communion Clean Up: Pam Langlay 10:45AM Service

Ushers: Andy & Jenny Mercier train Jerry & Vicki Fischer Lay Reader: Heidi Anderson Communion Assistant: Sue Mogged / Ellen Pritzlaff Communion Clean Up: Sue Mogged

March 12

<u>8:30AM Service</u> Ushers: Adam & Kelly Haselhuhn train Becky Pytak Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols <u>10:45AM Service</u> Ushers: Shamburek Family Lay Reader: Grace Shamburek

March 19 - Communion 8:30AM Service

Ushers: Wally Krueger / Kent Lyng Lay Reader: Sally Krueger Communion Set Up: Rosemary Lyng Communion Assistant: Barb & Jeff Schullo Communion Clean Up: Rosemary Lyng

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Jerry & Donna Heim Lay Reader: Donna Heim Communion Assistant: Teresa & Nathan Raddatz Communion Clean Up: Nancy Weiss / Joy Schmidt

March 26

8:30AM Service Ushers: Don & Sharon VanArk Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols 10:45AM Service Ushers: Jeff & Allie McDonald Lay Reader: Allie McDonald