

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

OCTOBER 7

Men's Breakfast 8am
Confirmation Stole
Making 10am

OCTOBER 10

God's Glory Luncheon
11:30am-1:30pm
Women of Grace 6pm

OCTOBER 15

Confirmation
10:45am Service

OCTOBER 16

Worship & Music Mtg 6pm
Council Meeting 7pm

OCTOBER 24

1st Communion Class 6pm

OCTOBER 29

Fellowship Service and
First Communion
9:30am

OCTOBER 31

Trunk or Treat

COMING IN NOVEMBER

Semi Annual Business
Meeting
Date TBD

OCC Packing Parties &
Collection Week

Thanksgiving Eve
Service hosted by Youth

Messenger



Volume 108 Issue 10

Grace Lutheran Church 920-848-2177

501 S. Main St.

Oconto Falls, WI 54154

For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Grace family,

The fall season is definitely in full swing right now. Days are noticeably shorter already, the fall leaves are emitting their amazing colors and we're having conversations about when they will "peak". Fall is also a time for harvesting crops that have been growing all summer.

As a Church family, we have many things to be grateful for as well as many things to look forward to. We've seen several new families in our Youth Group and in our pews this new school year. We celebrated with our seventh graders as they received their new bibles and our Sunday school program is also in full swing with new students and also some new teachers.

We also have several opportunities this month to make a huge impact in God's Kingdom. One opportunity will be on October 31st right here in our church parking lot for the kids in our community. We call it "Trunk-or-Treat" and it will give us the chance to hand out some candy, a Gospel tract and some general information about our church. Last year we estimated that more than 300 kiddos came through. And this year other churches in our town are thinking about joining our effort by holding similar events in their church parking lots. It just might change the way some people think about Halloween...

Another way we will be able to further God's Kingdom in the world will be through "Operation Christmas Child". This is where we fill shoeboxes with everyday items and send them to kids around the world who can use them. We also include an amazing toy or game to try and make those kids say "WOW!" when they first open the shoebox. However, the most important thing that gets put in that box is the Gospel message in their own language and at a level they can understand. I'm challenging you as a Church family and as group of like-minded believers to send out 300 boxes from Grace Lutheran Church. And remember that each box represents a kid somewhere in the world that will be introduced to the Love of Christ and the Power of God. When you think about it like that, maybe 300 is too small of a number...

For everything there is a season. And this is the season to reach out to the world. Sometimes that means here in our community through things like JAM, Youth Group or "Trunk-or-Treat". Sometimes reaching out means sending a stuffed shoebox across the globe to a child that we will probably never meet while we're on this earth. But we can help them meet their Lord and Savior.

In His peace,

Pastor Gary

OFFICIAL ACTS—SEPTEMBER 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Service</u> (includes designated giving)	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings Received</u>
Sept 3	9:30am	76	\$4,034.48
	Online Giving		\$ 983.00
Sept 10	8:30am	57	\$4,451.16
	10:45am	81	
	Online Giving		\$ 793.00
Sept 17	8:30am	80	\$2,739.00
	10:45am	65	
	Online Giving		\$ 818.00
Sept 24	8:30am	67	\$2,057.95
	10:45am	95	
	Online Giving		\$ 643.00

FINANCIAL REPORT

Operations Checkbook (GENERAL OFFERING) - Month of SEPTEMBER 2023

Beginning Balance 8/30/2023	+\$ 1,376.86
Deposits Operating Fund	+ \$ 14,776.37
Disbursements Operating Fund	– \$17,780.33
Ending Balance 09/29/2023	–\$ 1,627.10
Mortgage Loan Balance 8/07/2023.....	\$48,157.43
Monthly payment of principal.....	\$ 1,741.53
Monthly payment of interest.....	\$ 140.47
Additional principal.....	\$ 353.00

Church Giving 101

General Fund: This refers to the cash fund that is used to operate the daily operations and activities of the church. Congregation members typically tithe (give) to the general fund. Envelopes are provided to individuals who would like them. We also offer online giving options. Each congregation member will receive a statement at the end of the year for their taxes.

Designated Giving: This refers to extra money given in addition to tithing that congregation members designate toward a certain fund or activity that they would like to support. For example: Kingdom Come, Operation Christmas Child, VBS, etc. We will highlight several of these funds throughout the next months so you can better understand what each fund represents.

- VBS Fund
- Youth Fund
- Sunday School Fund

These funds offset costs for curriculum, supplies, outings and miscellaneous event expenses.

Grace Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes September 18, 2023 @ 7:00PM

Meeting was called to order by President Jared Alfson at 7:09pm.

Present: Jared Alfson, Allie McDonald, Melanie Rice, Kent Lyng, Heidi Anderson, Andy Shamburek, Andy Mercier, Jeff Schullo, Pastor Gary Olson

Absent: Grace/Faith Shamburek, Jerry Riste, Ellen Pritzlaff, Lyle Nichols

Guest: Holli Kussow

Opening Prayer by Jeff Schullo & Devotion by Pastor Gary Olson

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Andy Mercier and seconded by Heidi Anderson to approve the August 2023 minutes with the following correction detailing the organist compensation change: Diane Nichols is the primary organist and is paid \$100/service. All other organists are paid \$75/service.

Treasurer's Report: Andy Shamburek provided a paper report detailing a net operating loss of approximately \$20,500. We have enough in the cash reserve to cover expenses. Allie McDonald made a motion to approve the report and Andy Mercier seconded it.

Old Business

Budgeting

Most committees have returned their budgets to Andy Shamburek. The Executive Council will be meeting next month to review the budgets and prepare for the semi-annual meeting budget presentation in November.

New Business

Our group has declined to sponsor the "Find Your Path in the Woods" event.

Heidi Anderson made a motion to approve the 4 building use requests that were recently submitted. Jeff Schullo seconded the motion.

Past Events to Celebrate:

Rally Sunday – September 10th – great fellowship time between & after services

To God's Glory Luncheon – 57 served!

J.A.M. Parent Meeting - 51 kids are registered for J.A.M.

Thanks to all who helped make these events a success!

Upcoming Events

September 20: EPIC Youth Kickoff – 5:30-7pm @ the westside beach

September 24: 7th Grade Faith Milestone (Teen Bibles)

September 27: EPIC Youth Parent Meeting – 6:30pm

October 15: Confirmation

October 29: Fellowship Sunday – contemporary service with continuous communion

October 31: Trunk or Treat

Committee Reports

Evangelism – Jeff Schullo submitted a written report detailing 57 served at the September For God's Glory lunch. The group handed out approximately 100 clip-on bible verses for student backpacks. If anyone has an outreach they feel is needed in town, please contact the evangelism committee or join the team.

Parish Education – Heidi Anderson reported that 51 kids are signed up for J.A.M. We need volunteers – all lessons are detailed and created prior to class. She invites everyone to visit during J.A.M. to see what the roles entail. EPIC Youth members can be crew leaders! There will be a Christmas program on Dec 17th during second service.

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 – Kent Lyng reported that some folks will be getting together to paint the outside trim. He has been working on updating the work plan and budget for next year as well as taking care of small maintenance items.

Public Relations – Jared Alfson will handle PR related items until the committee position is filled.

Stewardship – Jared Alfson reported that there is an online sign up for church directory photos: www.graceocontofalls.org/directory. Please sign up! The group is considering Max Lucado's study called "Help is Here" for small groups.

Youth Ministry – EPIC Youth has the following events:

9/20 - kick-off at the west side beach - **5:30-7:00 PM**

9/27 - parent meeting @ **6:30 PM** to discuss expectations, dinner schedule, etc.

10/4 – start of regular services - **5:30 pm** - 7th-8th grade meal / **6:00 pm** - 7th-8th confirmation class / 9th-12th grade meal / **6:30-8 pm** - 7th-12th grade EPIC Youth Group

Worship & Music – Holli Kussow reported on behalf of Lyle Nichols – The choir will present a "Carol Suite" on 12/17 during the first service.

Christmas Eve 2023 is on a Sunday. We will have 4pm and 6pm services only. We will host a 9:30am Christmas Day service.

Endowment – Melanie Rice reported that a \$1,000 contribution was made to the endowment fund. The money will be available for use in 2024.

Long Range Planning – Jerry Riste submitted a written report confirming that he is working on a 1/5/10 year plan and will include safety updates.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Gary asked the council/committee members to consider our enthusiasm for our roles and involvement. We are struggling for volunteers and participation in some aspects of the church's operation. We must be the evangelists!

Allie McDonald made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jeff Schullo seconded it.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allie McDonald

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1— Pam Langlay
Justin Paulson
Gus Siolka | 17— Tanner Arndt
Brad Langlay |
| 3— Abbi Remic
Lauren Vorpahl | 18— Regina Garbrecht |
| 4— Kade Brabant
Sharon Fischer
Sam Konitzer | 20— Teresa Raddatz
Susan Sweetman
David Trempe |
| 5— Kimberly St. Louis | 21— RaeAnn Rouse |
| 6— Don Voermans
Shirley Vorpahl | 22— Heidi Anderson
Zachary Brye
Adam Desterheft
Karen Herms
Otto Kraszewski |
| 7— Jake Belongia
Mike Gorman
Oscar Kardoskee | 23— Dawn Grenke
Carleigh Kaczmarek
Kathy Tappa |
| 8— Dawn Coppens
Devon Gagnon
Nancy Kuchenbecker | 24— Nathaniel Johns
Arline Klimpke |
| 9— Terry Vorpahl | 25— Sally Krueger
William Radke |
| 10— Erin Jahnke | 26— Donna Fabry
Kevin Heimke
Nancy Weiss |
| 12— Macey Schiesl
Holli Kussow | 27— Bethy Olson |
| 14— Linda Reidinger
Parker St. Louis
Chad Wilcox | 28— Jackson McDonald |
| 15— Aaron Kramer | 29— Broc Goldschmidt |
| 16— Nathan Desterheft | 30— Sadie Delzer |

Prayer REQUESTS

GRACE MEMBERS

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Carol Burns | Continued healing/strength |
| Donnie Drews Jr. | Recovery - liver transplant |
| Dorothy Ellner | Strength/healing |
| Jerry Heim | Strength/healing |
| Marilyn Hennig | Health concerns |
| Rita Krause & Andy Graef | Loss of son, Henry |
| Lorraine Murphy | Strength/healing |
| Randy Nelson | Macular degeneration |
| Lyle Nichols | Cancer |
| Leanne Riste | Cancer treatment |
| Julia Schullo | Strength/healing |
| Bob Thomson | Health concerns |
| Don VanArk | Health concerns |
| Don Voermans | Health concerns |
| Leslie (Butch) Vorpahl | Cancer treatment |
| Mary Vowinkel | Strength & healing |
| Tami Wall | Thyroid disease |

FAMILY/FRIENDS OF GRACE

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Janice Bloemer | Breast cancer & dementia |
| Ashleigh Mercier Bordelais | Breast cancer |
| Liam Britzke | MPGN-Disease of kidneys |
| Ethan Burant | Complications -liver transplant |
| Kim (Capelle) Fischer | Health concerns |
| Angela Heim | Health concerns |
| Larry & Barb Hillyer | Healing & support |
| Bryant Hodkiewicz | Cancer treatment |
| Carol Hostrawser | Health concerns |
| Maggie Jones | Cancer treatment |
| Cathy Kaster | Rare progressive dementia |
| David Majeski | Continued strength/healing |
| Greg Meilahn | Liver transplant |
| David Nelson | Awaiting new kidney |
| Brett Nichols | Strength/healing |
| Sharon Raatz | Health concerns |
| Rollyn Radke | Health concerns |
| Amira Rynish | Leukemia |
| David Schefdore | Dialysis |
| Bob Schindel | Health concerns |
| Vern Tamura | Cancer |
| Mary Thompson | Cancer treatment |
| Ruth Trudell | Healing & recovery |
| Gail Venne | Cancer treatment |
| Carol Weber | Healing & recovery |
| Amy Winkler | Cancer recovery |
| Katie Zak | Continued growth/healing |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY OCTOBER



- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1— Gene & Robin Miller | 18— Eric & Jessica Angus |
| Wally & Anna Remic | 19— Jerry & Vicki Fischer |
| Jim & RaeAnn Rouse | 20— Chad & Rachel Wilcox |
| 4— Steve & Karen Herms | 22— Al & Cheryl Mogged |
| 7— Justin & Crystal Beaman | 24— Adam & Melissa Desterheft |
| 8— Jim & Nancy Kuchenbecker | 25— Chris & Shelley Desterheft |
| 12— Jared & Allison Pagel | 29— Bill & Erin Bancroft |
| 16— Daniel & Carol Krieser | |
| 17— Jeff & Shannon Jarvey | |
| Al & Deb Konitzer | |

WELCOME ABOARD!

Please join us in welcoming our newest members of Grace.

Aaron & Heather Trempe
and their children.
Connor, David, Elijah, Caleb and Ethan



Please email grace@graceocontofalls.org or
call the office at 920-848-2177.

GRACE MEETINGS & SCHEDULES

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER COMMUNION DUTIES

October 1:

SET UP/CLEAN UP 8:30: Pam Langlay
CLEAN UP 10:45: Jenny Mercier

October 15: (Confirmation @ 10:45)

SET UP/CLEAN UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng
CLEAN UP 10:45: Sue Mogged

October 29: (Fellowship Sunday-9:30 Service)

SET UP 9:30: Holli Kussow
CLEAN UP 9:30: Holli Kussow/Michelle Heimke

November 5:

SET UP/CLEAN UP 8:30: Pam Langlay
CLEAN UP 10:45: Andy & Jenny Mercier

November 19:

SET UP/CLEAN UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng
CLEAN UP 10:45: Sue Mogged

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER COMMUNION BREAD SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 1: Kelly Haselhuhn

OCTOBER 15: Rosemary Lyng
(Confirmation Service @ 10:45am)

OCTOBER 29: Susan Krumrei
(Fellowship Sunday-First Communion 9:30 Service)

NOVEMBER 5: Pam Langlay

NOVEMBER 19: Rosemary Lyng

NOVEMBER 22: Sue Mogged
(Thanksgiving Eve Service)

FAITH, FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

**MEN'S
BREAKFAST**



October 7 @ 8am

TO GOD'S GLORY



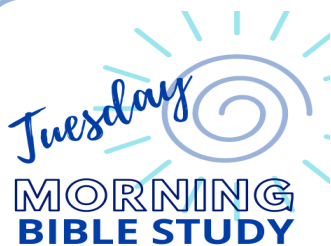
UPCOMING DATE!

Free Luncheon / Social
Tuesday, October 10 @ Grace
Serving 11:30AM-1:30PM
All are welcome.

Looking for volunteers for serving. We also need
volunteers to help prepare the food. Please
contact Pam Langlay if you're able to help.
(920) 373-2731



October 10, 2023
6:30PM
All women welcome!



Join Pastor Gary for
his Tuesday morning
Bible Study—Genesis
chapters 1 & 2
Creation.

Tuesday mornings
@ 8 AM See you there!

W&M and COUNCIL

October 16, 2023
Worship & Music Meeting 6PM
Council Meeting 7PM



Sundays following
the 8:30AM
Service
Prayer Room



COMMITTEE
MEETING
October 5
6:30PM

GRACE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Enjoy baking? Please feel free to bring in goodies on Sundays for our fellowship between services. Thanks!



Women of Grace had a successful meeting on September 12. The rummage and bake sale was a huge success. We provided a service to the community and members of our church. We earned over \$2,000. A

donation to help support the upcoming Trunk or Treat will be made. We will be making place cards with an inspirational quote for everyone who shows up for one of our next soup lunches. We are checking into another pumpkin decorating event. Come to our next meeting on October 10 to see what other projects we will be working on. Looking ahead, our December meeting will be a Christmas party.



FOR WHAT ARE YOU GETTING READY?
Fall weather? Hunting season? The holidays?

OCC Packing Parties?

There will be three packing parties, one for each age group. Choose one or come to all three. They are held like an open house; come when you can. Come to the church basement.

Tuesday October 30th at 6:30 ages 2-4

Thursday Nov. 2nd at 6:30 ages 5-10

Saturday Nov. 4th at 9:30 ages 11-14



**October 31st
4:00 - 6:00 pm**

Bring your vehicle to the west side parking lot at Grace, open your trunk, and hand out your candy! You can dress up and/or decorate your trunk. Plan to bring enough candy for 300-400 kids. This is a really fun event! Come and join us!



**NATIONAL
COLLECTION
WEEK**



OCC COLLECTION WEEK

Grace Lutheran is a collection site for our area. Two hours everyday from November 13th to the 20th we receive and pray over the boxes. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex during October if you would like to be part of this fantastic ministry, or call Ellen 920-362-5752.

GRACE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



October 29th
Combined Fellowship
Service @ 9:30AM
With Fellowship Meal
to follow

Join us as we come together on the 5th Sunday of October to worship at our 9:30am combined service.

- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL.
- 5th Grade students will make their First Communion during the service.
- Fellowship meal to follow the service.

Grace Tee's ~Only \$5 each.



FRONT



BACK



4 Foot Refinished Grace Church Pew
\$150

Proceeds will go to Men's Ministry
Contact Pam Langlay if interested in
purchasing. (920) 373-2731

Grace Lutheran Church Directory

Photo sessions will be scheduled for Nov 5 from 10am-4pm, Nov 7, 8 and 9 from 5-8pm, and Nov 12 from 10am-4pm. There are sign up sheets in the church office or you can sign up online at graceocontofalls.org/directory. Sign up early so you can get the time slot that works best for you. If you have any questions please contact Pam Langlay 920-373-2731 or Jared Alfson 920-246-7748.



If you know of someone
in need of a home visit,
please contact the office
at

920-848-2177 or email
grace@graceocontofalls.org



Youth news



SIGN UP FOR JAM (Jesus and Me)
<https://vbspro.events/pljam2023-24>

We are asking parents to take turns providing a meal for the EPIC Youth. Please go online and sign up for your date here.

<https://gracelutheranchurch.flocknote.com/signup/131709>



No JAM on October 29



5th Grade Parent/Student Class:
October 24 @ 6pm

First Communion Celebration:
Sunday, October 29th @ 9:30am Fellowship Service

Watch the mail for your 5th Grade Student's invitation and information.

OCTOBER



- 5:30-6PM Meal for Confirmation students
- 6-6:30PM Confirmation Class Meal for Sr High
- 6:30-8PM EPIC Youth Group (7th - 12th Grade)

REGISTER NOW FOR CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP

vbspro.events/p/epicyouth2023-24



Confirmation Celebration

9th grade students who have completed their 7th and 8th grade confirmation classes.

Stole Making—October 7 at 10am
(Parents welcome)

Confirmation Day—October 15 @ 10:45am service

(Picture date and time -TBD)

Service Duty Schedule

OCT/NOV

OCTOBER

October 1 - Communion

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Josh Wendt / Adam Haselhuhn
Lay Reader: Josh Wendt

Communion Set Up: Pam Langlay
Communion Assistant: Brad & Pam Langlay
Communion Clean Up: Brad & Pam Langlay

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Shambureks train Klitzkas
Lay Reader: Grace Shamburek
Communion Assistant: Andy & Jenny Mercier
Communion Clean Up: Jenny Mercier
Money Count: Brad & Pam Langlay

October 8

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Tom & Diane Malcomson
Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Jerry & Donna Heim
Lay Reader: Donna Heim
Money Count: Andy Shamburek / OPEN

October 15 - Communion & Confirmation (10:45)

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Kent Lyng / Vicki Thomson
Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols
Communion Set Up: Rosemary Lyng
Communion Assistant: Brad & Pam Langlay
Communion Clean Up: Rosemary Lyng

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Jeff & Allie McDonald
Lay Reader: Allie McDonald
Communion Assistant: Paul & Sue Mogged
Communion Clean Up: Sue Mogged
Money Count: Paul Mogged / Allie McDonald

October 23

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Matt & Emerson Rice
Lay Reader: Randy Nelson

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Jerry & Vicki Fischer
Lay Reader: Heidi Anderson
Money Count: Angie Magnin / Linda Reidinger

October 30 - 9:30am One Service Communion

Ushers: Klitzka Family
Lay Reader: Heidi Anderson
Communion Set Up: Holli Kussow
Communion Clean Up: Holli Kussow/Michelle Heimke
Communion Assistants: Barb & Jeff Schullo

NOVEMBER

November 5 - Communion

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Kent Lyng / Adam Haselhuhn
Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols

Communion Set Up: Pam Langlay
Communion Assistant: Brad & Pam Langlay
Communion Clean Up: Brad & Pam Langlay

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Donna & Jerry Heim
Lay Reader: Donna Heim
Communion Assistant: Andy & Jenny Mercier
Communion Clean Up: Andy & Jenny Mercier
Money Count: Pam Langlay / Kriss Krause

November 12

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Tom & Diane Malcomson
Lay Reader: Randy Nelson

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Klitzka Family
Lay Reader: Ellen Pritzlaff
Money Count: Andy Shamburek / Jared Alfson

November 19 - Communion

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Brad & Pam Langlay
Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols
Communion Set Up: Rosemary Lyng
Communion Assistant: Barb & Jeff Schullo
Communion Clean Up: Rosemary Lyng

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Jeff & Allie McDonald
Lay Reader: Allie McDonald
Communion Assistant: Paul & Sue Mogged
Communion Clean Up: Sue Mogged
Money Count: Paul Mogged / Allie McDonald

November 22—Thanksgiving Eve

7:00PM Service

EPIC Youth will serve for this service.

November 26

8:30AM Service

Ushers: Beth Lehner / Vicki Thomson
Lay Reader: Josh Wendt

10:45AM Service

Ushers: Shamburek Family
Lay Reader: Faith Shamburek
Money Count: Angie Magnin / Linda Reidinger