

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.

May 26—September 1
Summer Worship Schedule
Sundays one service at
9:30AM

May 4
Men's Breakfast 8AM

May 12
Mother's Day
Last day of JAM

May 14
God's Glory Luncheon
11:30AM-1:30PM
Women's Group 6:30PM

May 15
Last day of Confirmation
& EPIC Youth
Last day of Choir

May 19
Baccalaureate Service
10:45AM

May 21
Last day of Tuesday
morning Bible Study

May 26
Summer Worship
Schedule starts
One service at 9:30AM

May 27
Memorial Day
Office Closed

June 1
Office summer hours
begin. Office hours will
be Mon-Thurs 8-12pm

Messenger

May 2024
Volume
115



Grace Lutheran Church 920-848-2177

501 S. Main St.

Oconto Falls, WI 54154

Jesus said to him, Love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, and with all your mind. - Matt 22:37

As we continue our journey through these forty days of Easter, it would be wise for us to keep the end in mind. We are coming up to the end of the Easter season to what I like to refer to as "The Heart of The Order" of the Church year. Now I'm not talking about Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, and Earle Combs – the players who made up the heart of the batting order for the '27 Yankees – because this is a much, much bigger deal to each of Jesus' followers!

Individually, each of these upcoming Sundays on the Church calendar could be considered the most important day for us to celebrate and learn more about. Our three-week series starts with Ascension Sunday. The significance of that day is too broad of a topic to lay out in detail here. It's the day the Old Testament prophets talked about and the day Jesus said would indicate that His earthly work was accomplished and would also signify the end of His earthly ministry.

Jesus ascension into heaven also paved the way for the Holy Spirit to enter into the world and into the hearts of His followers and those who put their trust in Him. The church calls this day "Pentecost Sunday" and we celebrate the fact that the very life, breath, and energy of Jesus lives inside our hearts to shape our lives. The celebration of Pentecost Sunday reminds us that we have a unifying spirit poured out for us by our glorious Father in Heaven so that we are co-heirs with Christ.

The third Sunday of the heart of the order ties the Old Testament and the New Testament together for the Church of the first century, the twenty-first and beyond. Through our celebration of Trinity Sunday, we gain a better understanding of how God exists and how He works in our lives. Again, the Psalms and the Old Testament Prophets tell us to live into this reality and to embrace it as the building blocks of our relationship with our Creator, Savior, and Comforter.

Join us in these upcoming Sundays to learn how to apply these truths to your life.

In His Grace,

Pastor Gary

OFFICIAL ACTS—APRIL 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Service</u> (includes designated giving)	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings Received</u>
April 7	8:30am	77	\$ 6,089.98
	10:45am	98	
	Online Giving		\$ 2,018.00
April 14	8:30am	79	\$ 3,077.63
	10:45am	73	
	Online Giving		\$ 918.00
April 21	8:30am	70	\$ 2,201.54
	10:45am	109	
	Online Giving		\$ 823.00
April 28	8:30am	82	\$ 1,985.68
	10:45am	53	
	Online Giving		\$ 638.00

FINANCIAL REPORT

Operations Checkbook (GENERAL OFFERING) - Month of APRIL 2024

Beginning Balance 3/31/2024 +\$36,462.37
 Deposits Operating Fund..... +\$17,492.83
 Disbursements Operating Fund -\$20,567.61
 Ending Balance 04/30/2024 +\$33,387.59

Mortgage Loan Balance 4/07/2024..... \$33,191.03
 Monthly payment of principal..... \$ 1,785.19
 Monthly payment of interest..... \$ 96.81
 Additional principal..... \$ 388.00



SIX MONTHS UNTIL OCC PACKING PARTIES

The children in JAM on April 6th helped assemble 321 Tic Tac Toe games as gifts for our shoeboxes! What an assembly line, everyone doing their part! Thank you kids and teachers for working so hard.

The newest announcement from OCC is that soap bars will no longer be included in the boxes. Soap complicates the boxes clearing customs in some countries.

So we need not be buying bars of soap.

Thank you for the searching and bargain shopping that you do. Socks, hair brushes, hair pretties, combs, decks of cards, toys, anything that looks fun for a child are all welcomed!

Grace Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2024 @ 7:00pm

Meeting was called to order by President Jared Alfson at 7:04pm.

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

Absent: Grace & Faith Shamburek, Jerry Riste

Guest: Scott Magnin, Angie Magnin, Macy Magnin, Makenna LeMere, Maddie Kussow, Holli Kussow, Bill Kussow, Sue Mogged, Paul Mogged, Lisa Shamburek, Jeff McDonald, Brynn Larsen

Opening Prayer and Devotion: Pastor Gary Olson

Secretary's Report: Correction made to the March 18th minutes - Ellen Pritzlaff was absent and needs to be added into the report. A motion was made by Andy Mercier and seconded by Ellen Pritzlaff to approve the March 2024 minutes with the correction described above. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report: Andy Shamburek provided a paper report detailing a net ordinary income of \$3,180.28. Our total giving as of 4/15/24 is approximately \$85,487.18 and the operating fund is \$37,675.73. Andy Shamburek reported that our offering totals for 2024, this far, are up about \$10,000 and our net ordinary income is about \$3,000 more this year than at this time in 2023. A motion was made by Kent Lyng and seconded by Allie McDonald to approve the treasurer's report. Motion approved.

Old Business:

- Capital Projects - the council is exploring the costs involved in replacing/updating the sanctuary sound system; more information needs to be obtained before an estimated cost can be provided (i.e. how much work can be done in house and what equipment does not need to be replaced)
- Easter Sunday: Jelly Bean Jam had approximately 40 kids present, over 400 eggs were filled and hidden for the egg hunt, a parachute game was played with the kids, small gift bags with candy, a stuffed animal and religious trinkets were handed out to each kid and 3 baskets were raffled off to the JAM participants. A brass quintet performed at both services; the music was "beautiful" and the congregation truly enjoyed the musical treat. A thankyou card will be sent to Kelly for organizing the brass quintet. The Fellowship Brunch had several delicious snacks and refreshments to be shared between services.
 - A HUGE "Thank You" to everyone who donated candy for the egg hunt, there was plenty to go around, and to everyone who brought food for the fellowship brunch.
- There will NOT be a "Taste of Grace" this year

Upcoming Events

- April 28th - Compassion Sunday - Pastor Gary will be gone; Jeff Schullo will be delivering the sermon, tables will be set up in the narthex to inform the congregation about the Compassion program
- May 5th - Semi Annual Meeting - held between services at 9:30am
- May 12th - Mother's Day/Last Day of JAM - Heidi Anderson will plan to have the JAM kids sing a song at both the 1st and 2nd service; the Women's group has purchased notebooks (inspirational bible verses printed on the covers) to be handout at both services
- May 19th - Baccalaureate Sunday 10:45am Service - Teresa Raddatz will make a cake; balloons & pictures will also be provided
- May 26th - Summer worship schedule begins. 9:30am Services only

Committee Reports (if any)

1. **Evangelism** - Jeff Schullo reported 75 meals were served at the April "To God's Glory" luncheon. The employees at The Cottage had provided the soup and sandwiches that were served; the congregation provided the desserts. Jeff will have tables set up with information about the Compassion project on April 28th. Joyful Noise prep has begun; it will be on 6/29 at the East Side Beach.

2. **Parish Education** - Heidi Anderson reported there are enough lesson teachers and crew leaders signed up for the remainder of the JAM year (ending on 5/12). This year's VBS theme will be announced in May along with sign-ups and advertisements. VBS will be July 21st - 25th.
3. **Parish Fellowship** - Andy Mercier reported no update at this time.
4. **Property & Maintenance** - Kent Lyng reported an estimate of \$25,000 to remove all the flooring in the basement hall (this includes the asbestos removal) with an additional \$25,000 to install carpeting (carpet squares). Minor maintenance things were taken care of around the church.
5. **Public Relations** - no update at this time, position is still open and needs to be filled.
6. **Stewardship** - Ellen Pritzlaff reported on April 6th Grace Lutheran hosted "To the Ends of the Earth" OCC Celebration; the 12 counties of the Green Bay area were invited to come and share in fellowship, refreshments and door prizes. The area representative, Sheri, had high regards for the welcoming attitude of the members of Grace and the loving environment we provide; she stated our enthusiasm for OCC is "contagious". Ellen plans to have Grace Lutheran put together a total of 600 boxes for OCC this year. Ellen worked with Heidi to present and teach the kids in JAM about OCC on April 7th. The kids put together over 300 hundred tic-tac-toe games that will go in the OCC boxes and had a lot of fun doing it; it may become an annual event for the JAM kids. Ellen also reported the Women's group will be hosting a prayer vigil on May 2nd from 7am to 7pm; Pam Langlay will be running the event and will have materials and suggestions for prayers. All are welcome, no sign up is necessary. The church picnic is set to be on July 28th following service.
7. **Youth Ministry** - no report at this time.
8. **Worship & Music** - Brass quintet performed during both services on Easter Sunday; well received. There are still old hymnals that need to be rehomed.
9. **Endowment** - Melanie Rice shared a "Thank You" letter & card from Pastor Henry with the Gospel Extension Ministries in Uganda; our continued monetary support has provided many children with the opportunity to go to school and learn about God and Jesus. Pastor Henry also shared he is now working towards building a new school in Uganda. The endowment committee has received a couple of applications for scholarships; they will continue to take applications and will decide how to distribute the scholarships in the upcoming months.
10. **Long Range Planning** - no report at this time.
11. **Pastor's Report** - Pastor Gary reported he will be out of town on 4/28. He also reviewed the OCC celebration Grace Lutheran hosted on 4/6 and praised everyone who continues to enthusiastically create a welcoming environment here at Grace.

New Business:

- New Summer Hours - beginning in June and continuing through August, office hours will be from 8am to 12pm.
- Other - a discussion was held about the criteria necessary for the members of Grace Lutheran to uphold in order to serve the church. No motion was made at this time; it was a majority consensus to exercise love and acceptance among all members of the church and to accept all volunteers willing to serve.
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Andy Mercier made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Melanie Rice seconded it. Motion approved.
Closed with the Lord's Prayer. Meeting Adjourned at 9:12pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Heidi Anderson,
Council Parish Education

MAY Birthdays



- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1- Tami Wall | 17- Blake Thomson |
| 2- Robert Vorpahl | Chyna VanCleve |
| 3- Abigail Alfson | 18- Laura Zielinski |
| Georgia Blom | 19- Michelle Heimke |
| Taryn Shallow | 20- Karen Haines |
| 4- Stella Bailey | Matt Lyng |
| 5- Mark Stanek | 21- Chris Firgens |
| 7- Jake Krieser | 22- Braxton Rajkovich |
| Alli Remic | 24- Emma Alfson |
| 8- Carol Krieser | Jodi Fry |
| Tylor Wold | 26- Mark Brye |
| 10- Ava Magee | 27- Kris Seidel |
| Kim Pritzlaff | 29- Judy Ama |
| Nikki Tolzman | Randy Lierman |
| 11- Natalie Klitzka | Barbara Nickel |
| 12- Ellen Pritzlaff | 30- Jeff Jarvey |
| 13- Sarah Schindel | 31- Sharon anDenHeuvel |
| 14- Angie Magnin | |
| Jazmine Trudeau | |

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 |
| Julia Schullo | Strength & healing |
| Bob Thomson | Health concerns |
| Don VanArk | Health concerns |
| Joyce Vizelka | Strength & healing |
| 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 | Breast cancer treatment |
| Liam Britzke | MPGN-Disease of kidneys |
| Ethan Burant | Healing / Liver transplant |
| Kim (Capelle) Fischer | Health concerns |
| Tara Foht | Breast cancer |
| Bryant Hodkiewicz | Prayers for family |
| Carol Hostrawser | Health concerns |
| Maggie Jones | Cancer treatment |
| Cathy Kaster | Rare progressive dementia |
| Julie Luebeck | Cancer |
| David Majeski | Strength & healing |
| Teri Malingowski/Schwenke | Breast cancer |
| Greg Meilahn | Liver transplant |
| David Nelson | Awaiting new kidney |
| Brett Nichols | Strength/healing |
| Rochell Otto | Cancer treatment |
| Ashley Post | Thyroid cancer |
| Rollyn Radke | Health concerns |
| Amira Rynish | Leukemia |
| Becky Saari | Health concerns |
| Barb Schaal | Healing from infection |
| David Schefdore | Dialysis |
| Bob Schindel | Health concerns |
| Ruth Schulz | Health concerns |
| Vern Tamura | Cancer |
| Mary Thompson | Cancer treatment |
| Gail Venne | Cancer treatment |
| Carol Weber | Healing & recovery |
| Jim Wesley | Prostate/Lung cancer |



- 2- David and Deb Kowenstrot
- 4- Adam and Sharon Fischer
- 11- Emil Jr. and Eva Groth
- 17- Kim and Ken Fischer
- 21- Walter and Nancy Weiss
- 21- Terry and Jane Radke
- 31- Tim and Cara Peterson

BAPTISM



Marie Elise Warner
 Baptized April 21, 2024
 Parents:
 Justin & Annalise Warner



Please email grace@graceocontofalls.org

GRACE MEETINGS & SCHEDULES

MAY/JUNE COMMUNION DUTIES

May 5:

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

May 19:

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

June 2:

9:30AM SET UP: Holli Kussow
CLEAN UP: Maddie Kussow/Brynn Larsen

June 16:

9:30AM SET UP /CLEAN UP: Rosemary Lyng

June 30:

9:30AM SET UP /CLEAN UP: Kriss Krause

FAITH, FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

MEN'S BREAKFAST



Saturday, May 4, 2024
8:00-10:00am

Tuesday Morning
BIBLE

STUDY

8:00AM

Last day
May 21st

COMMUNION BREAD SCHEDULE

MAY/JUNE

MAY 5: Sue Mogged

MAY 19: Kelly Haselhuhn

JUNE 2: Pam Langlay

JUNE 16: Rosemary Lyng

JUNE 30: Sue Mogged



Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

CHURCH
BUSINESS
MEETING

Sunday, May 5 between services.

THANK YOU!

NOTE: JAM WILL STILL MEET AS USUAL

TO GOD'S GLORY



FREE LUNCHEON / SOCIAL

UPCOMING DATE!

Free Luncheon / Social

Tuesday, May 14 @ Grace
Serving 11:30AM-1:30PM

All are welcome.

Volunteers needed!



May 14, 2024

6:30PM

Guest speaker—Pastor Gary
Pastor will speak on women
serving in church.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

May 20, 2024

Worship & Music Meeting 6PM

Council Meeting 7PM

GRACE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



BACCALAUREATE
S E R V I C E

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

Come celebrate our 2024 graduating seniors.

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. Thank you!



Joyful Noise

Saturday, June 29th
2:00 - 6:00 pm
East Side Beach,
Oconto Falls

FREE Live Music
Food available
for purchase

Featured Bands:
Grace Worship Band
The Rockin Psalms
OWCC Band
Thurmont Ridge

Bring chairs
& blankets



In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved to Grace Lutheran Church, 501 South Main Street, Oconto Falls.

JOIN US FOR SUMMER

W O R S H I P

MAY 26 - SEPTEMBER 1

We will offer one combined Sunday Service at 9:30AM throughout the summer.

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.



APRIL 2024

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

Wednesday Night Parent Meal Schedule

MAY

Serving: 5:30 - 6:30PM

May 1st—Rachel Wilcox

May 8th—Jared Alfson

May 15th—Last day of Youth for the summer



The final day for EPIC Youth for the year will be May 15th.



The final day for JAM for the year will be May 12th.



BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

We will be honoring our 2024 Graduates at our Baccalaureate Service on Sunday, May 19th at 10:45AM. Individual and group photos will be taken of the graduates. More information as we get closer.

Congratulations to our 2024 Graduates

Sophia Collar
Callie Gagnon
Bailee Gorman
Alex Haines
Nathaniel Johns
Aaron Kramer
Hannah Ludemann
Mya Magnin



Jackson McDonald
Kathryn Raddatz
Allison Remic
Grant Shallow
Faith Shamburek
Grace Shamburek
Leah Vorpahl
Grayce Wilcox

Help us congratulate and pray for them at the Baccalaureate Service on May 19th at 10:45AM.

Service Duty Schedule

APRIL/MAY

MAY SERVICES

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: Kandice Bero / Zoey Thomson

Lay Reader: Heidi Anderson

Communion Assistants: Sue Mogged / Ellen Pritzlaff

Communion Clean Up: Sue Mogged

Money Count: Paul Mogged / Sue Mogged

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

JUNE SERVICES

June 2—Communion

9:30AM Service

Ushers: Paul & Sue Mogged

Lay Reader: Sue Mogged

Communion Set Up: Holli Kussow

Clean Up: Maddie Kussow / Brynn Larsen

Communion Assistants: Shambureks

Money Count: Andy Shamburek / Paul Mogged

June 9

9:30AM Service

Ushers: Adam Haselhuhn / Josh Wendt

Lay Reader: Josh Wendt

Money Count: Pam & Brad Langlay

June 16—Communion

9:30AM Service

Ushers: Kent & Jennifer Lyng

Lay Reader: Heidi Anderson

Communion Set Up/Clean Up: Rosemary Lyng

Communion Assistants: Brad & Pam Langlay

Money Count: Pam Langlay / Heidi Anderson

June 23

9:30AM Service

Ushers: Stanek Family

Lay Reader: Sally Krueger

Money Count: Paul Mogged / Sue Mogged

June 30—Communion

9:30AM Service

Ushers: Jerry & Donna Heim

Lay Reader: Ellen Pritzlaff

Communion Set Up/Clean Up: Kriss Krause

Communion Assistants: Andy & Jenny Mercier

Money Count: Kent Lyng / Mike Krause