

**GRACE CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2801 GARFIELD ST.
TWO RIVERS**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP:
8:00 & 10:30 AM**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 AM ~
ADULT STUDY 9:30 AM
920-553-1222
WWW.GRACEUCC.ORG**

unitedchurchofchristgrace@gmail.com
Pastor Kim khenning1956@gmail.com
Pastor Colie pastorcolie@gmail.com



FEBRUARY 2019

Reflecting Together

Kim M. Henning

"New Growth!"

"I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you..." Ephesians 1:17-18

Beside my computer is a green plant with five stalks that has been with me 12 years. Each Friday I give it a cup of water. Occasionally I'll add some fertilizer. But otherwise, that plant is pretty much on its own.

Back in December I was pouring a cup of water onto that plant when I noticed a new green sprout poking its way through the ground. I was excited. For twelve years nothing much has changed with that plant. Occasionally a new leaf would appear or I'd break off a dying one. But there before my eyes a new stalk was breaking through the soil. It was beautiful to behold.

When Paul wrote a letter to the church years ago, he prayed that 'the eyes of their hearts may be enlightened.' I have been pondering those words, "I pray..... that the eyes of your hearts may be enlightened."

Years ago, someone (Ecclesiastes!) described this world as being a place where there is nothing new under the sun. I suppose for some that is true: "Once a Democrat, always a Democrat"; or "once a Republican, always a Republican" or "Once an unbeliever, always an unbeliever."

Some are convinced that things will never change. Always, they say, we will have violence and kidnappings. Always, they say, people will harbor prejudice, hatred, and anger. Always we will have death and taxes and.....

The church thinks differently. Years ago Paul prayed for that those people in the early church would have the eyes of their hearts enlightened." Paul expected change and enlightenment from those early believers. Isn't that beautiful! Paul's prayer was that they would see what ordinary eyes do not see. Paul's hope was that with eyes of faith they would be hopeful instead of despairing; loving instead of hateful; believing, instead of saying, 'no, no, no.'

For twelve years I watered a plant and saw nothing noticeably new. But then one day, a new green stem pushed through the black soil. It was stunning; it was unexpected; it was beautiful!

In last Sunday's adult study class, we had a wonderful discussion about the virtue of the Christian Church. The church, we agreed, is that community where empathy is grown. In church, we talk and listen and we strive to understand the lives of others. The church is a place where we challenge each other to grow; we challenge each other to forgive and love; we challenge each other to behold God's beauty.

The church is that place where our lives are first broken open by the power of God's Holy Spirit and then we find ourselves caring and loving individuals we thought we could live without. Where else but the church? Have you noticed any green plants sprouting in your lives?

Poster found in a Church in France (Translated)

**“When you enter this church
It may be possible that you hear “the call of God.”
However, it is unlikely that God will call you on your mobile.
Thank you for turning off your phones.
If you want to talk to God, choose a quiet place and talk to Him.
If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving.”**

2018 Christmas Day Dinner

December 25, 2018 marked the 10th time Grace Congregational United Church of Christ participated in the annual Two Rivers Christmas Day Dinner. This ecumenical event is co-sponsored by St Peter the Fisherman Catholic Church, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and Grace Congregational United Church of Christ, supported by several generous benefactors. Dinner guests were offered an alternative to spending Christmas Day alone by partaking in a family oriented event involving food and fellowship, as a gift from the local religious community. The 2018 Dinner participants enjoyed entrees including ham, turkey and fish, along with various other vegetables and fruit dishes. Dessert for the meal was donated by Jerry's Bakery.

The location of the 2018 Dinner was St Peter the Fisherman Fellowship Hall. Approximately 300 meals were prepared. Of that amount, 200 meals were served to guests at the Hall, and another 100 were delivered to persons who indicated they were unable to travel to the site. The delivery of meals also included the Public Safety providers who were performing vital duties on Christmas Day.

Whenever a meal is prepared for a large group it is inevitable that excess food will remain after the event. This was the case; however, no food was wasted. All remaining food items were packaged in family size portions, transported to the Two Rivers Ecumenical Food Pantry, and stored there for distribution at a later time.

The Christmas Day Dinner would not be possible without the dedicated all-volunteer workforce who engage in a collective effort of planning, procuring, preparation, presentation, preservation and putting-things-away. Over the years, this event has become a community tradition for guests and volunteers alike. Many thanks are due to those who commit time and effort to promote and live out the spirit of Christmas.

Randy Ammerman

CONFIRMATION UPDATES

February 6: THE LORD'S PRAYER – The 6th & 7th Petition: Save us from the time of trial, And deliver us from evil

Before class, read: Luke 4:1-15 & Luke 3:7-18

February 13: THE LORD'S PRAYER – Conclusion: Doxology

Before class, read: Matthew 28:16-20

February 20: *Mentor Night*. SACRAMENTS AND CONFESSION – What is a sacrament? & Holy Baptism

Before class, read: Romans 6:3-11 & Mark 1:1-11

February 27: SACRAMENTS AND CONFESSION – Holy Communion

Before class, read: Luke 22:1-23 & 1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-34

Thoughts from Pastor Colie

Jesus the Teacher

What does it mean to say that someone is a good teacher? When I think back on my life, particular teachers come to my mind..... My second grade teacher (I think her name was Mrs. Richardson), who helped me through the emotional difficulty of moving to a new school. Mrs. Grodowski, who helped me begin break out of my shell (believe it or not, I was *very* shy as a child). Miss Rosenwein (who we called, "Miss Ro"), my high school French teacher, who encouraged my love for learning and my growing desire to know and understand people from different backgrounds and cultures.

This year, the lectionary cycle – the Bible readings we focus on each Sunday in worship – take us through the Gospel of Matthew. Many things could be said about what themes Matthew emphasizes in his story of Jesus's life. But one in particular is that Matthew shows Jesus as teacher. For Matthew, Jesus is "the teacher of Israel in his earthly ministry and teacher of the church after his resurrection."* Jesus used the traditions, the scriptures, the history of the people, and shed new light on how to understand them. Jesus led the people to think more deeply about God and what God wants for our lives and for this world. Jesus was a teacher.

So what makes a good teacher? I think it's less about the subject presented, and more about the encouragement of creativity, thoughtfulness, and growth. Learning, if done right, is hard work. It forces us to confront things we thought we knew about the world around us, things we thought we knew about ourselves, and to re-evaluate our own ideals and values. Real learning pushes us into sometime uncomfortable places of questioning and even confusion. But it also does it in a way that makes us feel cared for and encouraged, so that we can do this difficult work.

In our Sunday School and Confirmation programing, we have a list of things that we hope our children will learn and know at different age levels (if you are interested in seeing the list, let me know!). There are key Bible stories, important quotes from scripture, and other foundational teachings of the church. Things that we want our children and youth to understand in hopes that it will form the basis of a strong, adult faith. We want them to grow to know God in their lives and how to look to, learn from, and follow Jesus. Sometimes our Sunday School teachers feel intimidated by the importance of this task.

But even beyond that, there is one thing of primary importance that I want our kids to know. **The number one important lesson for our kids here is that our church is a place where they are safe, and where people love them and care about them.** Because if our children and youth don't know *that*, none of the other learning is going to happen.

And all of us – whether you are a Sunday School teacher or not – can help us create the type of environment where learning and growth happens, for our children and youth, and for all of us.

*a quote from the article "Preaching from Matthew's Gospel," by Arland J Hultgren,
<https://www.workingpreacher.org/craft.aspx?post=1638>

NEWS ABOUT YOUR NEWSLETTER!

Over the next few months, we will be working on a system to send newsletters electronically! This is also allow us to email out other church communication, for example about upcoming events, or notification of deaths within our church family. This will also allow us to save resources of paper and some of the costs of printing and postage. Soon we will be notifying folks and asking if you would like to receive these emails from the church. But don't worry – you will always be able to continue receiving your newsletter printed in the mail if you prefer!



DEAR SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION STUDENTS,

I am very excited to announce the 2019 spring musical for Grace Congregational Church UCC, “Faith News”! To listen to the music and read about the musical, go to <https://wordchoralclub.com/faith-news.html?SID=>. You can also search *Faith News Musical* in YouTube to preview the show.

Practices begin in March and we will present the musical to the congregation on **May 5 at the 10:30 service.**

We will practice the music during the opening for Sunday School. If your child would like a role/speaking part, there will be Saturday practices from 10:00am-11:00am (see schedule below). I understand how busy families are! Everyone is welcome, regardless of how many rehearsals you can attend. If you are interested, we will find a place for you!

Thank you so much for helping continue this Grace UCC tradition! It is a fun and memorable way to dig deep into Christ’s teachings!

God Bless,

Andrea Allington

920-242-6240 or romsosa@yahoo.com or romsosa96@gmail.com

Musical Schedule

All rehearsals are from 10:00am-11:00am at Grace Church.

March 23

March 30

April 6

April 13

April 20 NO PRACTICE

April 27

May 4 Dress Rehearsal from 10am-Noon

Sunday, May 5 present musical at 10:30am service

Please fill out this portion if you are interested and return to Grace UCC. Or you may contact Andrea by phone or e-mail.

Student Name _____

I am interested in a speaking/acting part. Yes No

Parent/Guardian names and phone numbers _____

Family e-mail _____

Please list any conflicts you have with the practices and I will do my best to find a part in the musical that best fits your schedule.

[On Sunday, December 30, we read Christmas letters from Chuck and Sue Mahan,
Steve and Marianne Smith and the Rev. Robert and Jane Laubenstein.

The following, from the Rev. Jim Schleif, arrived too late for our use on December 30.]

Dear Grace Congregational Church Family,

I am pleased to have an opportunity to share a letter with you as you are on our minds often, especially at this time of the year. Some of you will remember Beverly and I, others not, especially newer members but I want you all to know that you are all never far from our thoughts and are always in our prayers. As I reflect on what all of you mean to us, it is hard not to also reflect on a life's spiritual journey that I apologize in advance, is not a short story.

My fondest Christmas Eve memories are my memories of Christmas Eve at Grace Congregational Church: the decorations, worship celebrations, cantatas, and special music at all worship services. In rebuilding my life, I had a small bungalow in Manitowoc. After essentially living at church on Christmas Eve I would retire to a small living room in the glow of a small Christmas tree, and spend the night on the couch surrounded by Christmas nativity, cards, and lights. I miss those Christmas Eve's! I miss blending my untrained voice with those of others in the choir, the special music gifts offered, and the small vocal group work (Fay Henning, Lucy Zeldenrust, Tim Hirvela and me. I miss sitting in the choir seats and feeling the warmth of the Holy Spirit flow over and through me.

Although I was born into and baptized in a United Church of Christ congregation, I dropped out of my confirmation program and spent most of my adult life away from the church. I came to Grace Congregational Church in my late 40's as a damaged and broken human being in the spring of 2005. My life was not going anyway according to my wishes and relationships, and finances; and my personal life were spinning out of control. I found stability, acceptance, warm hospitality, and a solid faith foundation with the members at Grace Congregational Church.

I sang in choir and a men's ensemble; I joined studies; I read liturgy, and I eventually served on the Mission and Outreach board. Although my life didn't immediately turn around, the distraction of the worldly things that were out of control suddenly didn't seem to matter as much. I started regular stewardship at a point in time when I had every reason not to. I was living in a one bedroom apartment, sleeping on a borrowed trundle bed in a sleeping bag. I had two chairs, one hand me down, and one salvaged and repaired from a garbage pick-up. Every two weeks I spent hours on the phone negotiating financial arrangements for bills that I couldn't pay in full, but giving to the church was the only thing that seemed to make financial sense to me.

In the pain, frustration, heartbreak, and dissolution of a marriage gone bad, I found peace and comfort in the church. It was during this time that I experienced a call to ministry that made absolutely no sense to me. It is still amazing to me that eight years later I found the courage to speak about this to Pastor Kim and Karl Kuhn. To make a long story short, I trundled off to seminary in fall 2013; graduated in 2016; and accepted a call to ministry in June, 2016, ordained and installed as a settled pastor.

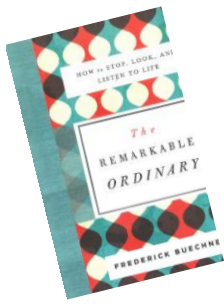
I serve two small churches in Slinger and Hartford, WI. Our total membership is currently around 125 members between the two churches; I share my time equally between the two churches. We have added members to both churches, tripled the size of our Sunday School program in Slinger, re-launched a confirmation program, completed an accessibility construction project in Hartford, and have re-landed ourselves as active participants in the wider church, ecumenical landscape, and started some fledgling mission efforts. All of this is heavily pastor driven and lay leadership is a struggle at this stage. Progress seems slow but steady and in the right direction. One of the things that buoys me in my darker moments is the belief that the United Church of Christ is deeply needed in these communities.

I have never in my life felt such vocational satisfaction. Yes, there are frustrating moments where church membership and finances are strained. I have no guarantee of success, but I am motivated and propelled to continue in pastoral ministry as long as health and the Holy Spirit are willing. I long for a day when Beverly and I are able to share in worship with you, possibly at a late service. Until then, thank you for opening your hearts and arms to those who may stumble through your doors in a state of brokenness. You never know how you are impacting lives and how you are cultivating the ministry of Christ.

I am grateful for our Grace Congregational Church family and the relationships that continue to sustain me.

With love and blessings in the name of our newborn savior, Jesus Christ!

Jim and Beverly Schleif



“The Remarkable Ordinary”

Monday Adult Study Class---Offered at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

First Class: Monday, January 28----Adult Study

Cost of book: \$12

You may not be able to see it---your life may seem boringly predictable and your work insignificant, until you look at your life as Frederick Buechner does.

Based mostly on several public presentations, Frederick Buechner reveals how to stop, look, and listen to your life. He reflects on how both art and faith teach us to pay attention to the remarkableness right in front of us, to watch for the greatness in the ordinary, to use our imaginations to see the greatness in others, and to love them truly and well.

Pay attention, says Buechner. Listen to the call of the bird or the rush of the wind, to the people who flow in and out of your life. The ordinary points you to the extraordinary God who created and loves all of creation, including you. Pay attention to these things as if your life depends upon it. Because, of course, it does.

ADULT ST. LOUIS TRIP

For 30 years, you have heard the Confirmation Class tell you of their trips to St. Louis. They told you of Eden Seminary, a school of the United Church of Christ. They told you of the time they spent with residents at Emmaus Home and their sheltered workshop, TEMPCO. With excitement they told you of the children served at Caroline Mission, and the troubled youth at Every Child’s Hope. They told you of the adults and children who are served a meal every Wednesday at Pilgrim United Church of Christ. And to the best of their ability they tried to describe for you the beauty of the St. Louis Cathedral.

Now, you are being given an opportunity to experience these very same places. On Sunday, April 28, Pastor Kim will guide a five-day, four night adult trip to St. Louis. (Departure: Sunday, April 28 at 12:30 p.m.; Return: Thursday, May 2 at 3 p.m.) The details are not quite finalized for this publication, but we will also include a ride up the St. Louis Arch, a guided tour of the Cathedral, and possibly time at the St. Louis Botanical Gardens or the Art Museum. The cost (per person: approximately \$600/single room; \$450/double room) covers motel, gasoline, breakfast, and admissions to the Cathedral, a ride up the St. Louis Arch and a video of its construction. Lunch and Dinners will be on your own.

We hope to distribute a brochure in your Sunday bulletin on January 27 or February 3

Every Christian is to become a little Christ. The whole purpose of becoming a Christian is simply nothing else.”

Mere Christianity, C.S. Lewis

We are always falling in love or quarreling, looking for jobs or fearing to lose them, getting ill and recovering, following public affairs. If we let ourselves, we shall always be waiting for some distraction or other to end before we can really get down to our work. The only people who achieve much are those who want knowledge so badly that they seek it while the conditions are still unfavorable. Favorable conditions never come. *The Weight of Glory, C.S. Lewis*

CHURCH CABINET

Moderator, Don DeBruyn **Treasurer**, Linda Justema **Clerk**, Rein Elias
Financial Sec, Chris Blimel **Trustee Chair**, Todd Moolenaar
Diaconate Chair, Brian VanElls
Board of Christian Ed Chair, Kelly Ruhbusch
Mission & Outreach Chair, Doug Charles
Pastor Kim-Pastor/Parish Chair, Jeff Harding
Pastor Colie-Pastor/Parish Chair, Jim Miller

Stewardship Corner for Grace Congregational United Church of Christ:

Total 2018 Expected Pledges	\$364,100
Total 2018 Received Pledges	\$368,036
Other Income:	\$21,203
Total 2018 Expense	\$402,059

Please Note: Our constitution prohibits us from using any proceeds from our Endowment Fund to support our day to day ministry at Grace Congregational Church. It is our church's expectation that our members are responsible for the support of this church's ministry as an act of faithfulness to God.

Notes From the Trustees:

We paid our entire OCWM commitment of \$41,820
To lessen the 2018 deficit, we paid \$5,000 to the Campital Campaign (instead of \$15,000)
The Trustees are presenting a 2019 budget that lessens the gap between income and expenses

United Church Camps, Incorporated CAMPital Campaign

Grace Congregational Church has been invited to contribute \$300,000 towards a major capital fund campaign for the upkeep and improvement of our two church camps, Moon Beach and Pilgrim Center. We are grateful to individuals who voluntarily contribute to this campaign. Through December of 2018, our records show that individuals have made contributions totaling \$97,493.

ABOVE AND BEYOND....

Individuals and friends of Grace Congregational Church gave the following gifts in 2018 (above our budget.....)

\$19,504 – to the Campital Campaign (Moon Beach and Pilgrim Center)
\$8,691 – to Neighbors in Need; One Great Hour of Sharing; Strengthen the Church; Christmas Fund;
\$1,833 – to the Two Rivers Ecumenical Pantry;
\$942 – Habitat for Humanity
\$701 - The Crossing
\$2,203 - The Haven
\$2,203 – Missionary Support for Lesotho
\$737 -- Hope House
\$2,605 - What IF? Foundation (Haiti)
\$395 – Eden Theological Seminary
\$370 - Moon Beach Church Camp
\$40 - InCourage
\$250 - Global Ministries
\$140 - to a family for adoption
A Total of \$40,614!

3rd PLEDGES RECEIVED AS OF 12/22/18

GARY BURNSTAD
MELISSA DUPKE
BRAD HOLTZ
JEFF & LAURA JASPER
ALEX & AMY LEGREVE

JOYCE MARCELLE
GARY & GESINE MCVEY
CAPT. AL & DIANE NELSON
GINA ROHR
DAVID WANIGER

BLESSINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS

On Sunday, January 13, Bethel United Church of Christ called Diane Cayemberg to be their pastor and teacher. Diane begins her service to the community at Bethel on Sunday, February 3. Cards of well-wishes may be sent to her at: 1412 Hazelwood Dr., Manitowoc, WI

Address: W4225 County Line Rd, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020



APOLOGIZING...

The city council in Charleston, South Carolina, apologized for the role the city played in the history of slavery. Charleston was the port of entry for 40 percent of American slaves. The two-page statement acknowledges the brutality of slavery and the way it stripped people of their culture and destroyed families. It calls on the city to work for equality and to establish an office of racial reconciliation. The action was taken on June 19, 2018, the day the abolition of slavery is celebrated. (Christian Century)

HAPPEINESS IS.....

A longitudinal study at Harvard followed 800 people for their entire lives to see what makes them live happier, healthier, longer lives. Six factors are salient; avoiding smoking and moderation in alcohol; pursuit of education; a happy childhood; making meaningful relationship (loving relationships later can compensate for an unhappy childhood); coping skills; and generativity (living a well-rounded life and giving back to others and society.) George Vaillant, who led this study for over 30 years, said, "Whether we live to a vigorous old age lies not so much in our stars or our genes as in ourselves." (Christian Century)

NEWS FROM THE CABINET

This month the people newly elected to Boards and committees of the church will begin serving. The regularly scheduled meeting times of these groups are listed below. Please mark your calendar with the time that applies to you.

Diaconate: first Monday of the month at 6 pm

Board of Christian Education: second Monday at 5 pm

Trustees: second Tuesday at 4:30 pm

Board of Mission & Outreach: second Tuesday at 5 pm

Cabinet: second Tuesday at 6 pm

Other committees will meet at times determined by their chairperson, who is responsible to notify their committee.

Plans for Inclement Weather

In case of bad weather, please use your judgment as to your safety before venturing out to church. On Sundays, we will decide by 7 am whether to hold worship services. You may check the church Facebook page or local radio and TV stations regarding closings. For weekday events, you may receive a phone call or email from the church or leader of your meeting about whether it will be held as scheduled.

Christmas dinner

On Christmas Day, 300 people enjoyed a free dinner and fellowship thanks to the efforts of many volunteers from Grace, St. Peter the Fisherman, and Good Shepherd Lutheran churches. We are grateful for the team that organized and served or delivered meals to make this tradition possible for the tenth year.

Book Fair successful

Thanks to the Board of Christian Education for organizing a book fair in December. Many good books for all ages were available at reasonable prices. The money raised from the sale will help underwrite events for families with children this year.

Youth Retreat

Seventeen youth of high school and college age attended a retreat at Pilgrim Center camp on the first weekend in January. They learned about Epiphany and baptism and had a good time together. Thanks to the adults who provided transportation and mentoring to our young people.

EQUAL EXCHANGE

Need a Gift of Chocolate?

On Sunday, February 10, Equal Exchange will have some small Valentine Gift Baskets made up for you to give someone you are sweet on. Of course chocolate is involved, but nuts, tea and coffee can be included if you want to have a special one made up. Forms are available on the information desk.

WOMEN OF GRACE NEWS & NOTES



The Women Of Grace will have a short meeting on Saturday, February 2nd @ 9am in the Fellowship Hall. Following our meeting, we will have our 3rd annual Painting On Canvas party. Donna Weier will lead us in the art of painting! The price is \$20 per person. The cost includes a canvas and all painting supplies that you will need. Please bring a snack to share and refreshments will be provided. All are welcome to attend! Hope to see you there!

Peace In Christ,
Amy LeGreve

GENERATION G

Thank you youth, parents, and Grace for supporting Generation G as we spend the first weekend of January 2019 at Pilgrim Center on retreat! Seventeen of us (five adults and twelve youth) arrived Friday evening and stayed through Sunday spending the weekend focused on celebrating epiphany as we learned more about the story of the wisemen as told through Matthew, then discussing the baptism of Jesus through different passages, and closing with the reality that we are all beloved children of God. The time spent together diving into the stories as well as talking together was such a gift— for which we are grateful. Thank you to Keith and Cheryl Barneson, Taylor Lechler and Robert Herda for helping drive and chaperone, we are grateful for your examples of faith. Thank you to the youth who came, you made the discussion and questions go deeper so we were all learning more.

We have been reading chapters of Matthew together Wednesday nights, just as we did the stories of David in the Fall from 7-8pm in the high school youth room. Youth have expressed some interest in some upcoming movies— so stay tuned in for more information. Upcoming event: Easter Breakfast will be April 21st from 9am-10:15 in the fellowship hall. If you have questions you can be in contact with Nicole Herda at nlherda@yahoo.com, thank you.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 – Kay Bero
Lou Ann Smith
Mark Schmitt
Josh Kimmes
Adrianna Powalisz
2 - Joshua Kuhn
3 - Carol Gruetzmacher
Luke Smith
5 - Jorie Windus
Eldon Riha
Sandra Way
6 - Pam Wargin
Andrew Wagner
Alissa Taylor
Diane Grimmer
Madilyn Zich
7 - McKenzie Kornely
Laura Slickman
8 - Dave Loomis
Keith Van Ess
Olivia Mancheski
9 – Heather Antoniewicz
11- Taya Tome
12 – Joyce Marcelle
13 - Keith Diedrich
Jackson Zich
Tom Christensen

Grace Backus
Richard Ott
James Schleif
Betsy Freiberg
Steven Schwobe
14 - Levi Taylor
Valentina Stueck
Ryker Heimerl
15 –Henry Basken
Grace DeRosier
Larry Wensauer
Amy Loomis
Kristin Schuh
Chris Sayeski
16 - Aubry DeRosier
17 - Auden Peterson
Saleena Gulseth
19 - Wil Schmid
Minoka Skenandore-Veleke
Arianna Stodola
20- William Otto
Jim Rasmus
21 - Robert Steeber
Brayden Laurin
Mckenzie Holschbach
22 - Joyce Behnke
Lance Anderson
23 - George Taylor
Shelby Bohman

Flossie Luecker
24 – Sara Schuh
25 - Cathy Lambries
26 - David Gallagher
Sandy Monka
Paul Smith
Sara Brey
Cheryl Barneson
27 - Robert Herda
Clare Kuhn
28 - Casey Rennert
Krystle Zich
Daniel Grant
Nicole Yanda

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY

11 - John and Judy Lango
14 - Gary and Gesine McVey
14 - Keith and Cheryl Barneson
20 – Stephen and Jennifer Wisnowski
21 – David and Ann Kleman
22- Jim and Jennifer Dewane
23 – Jim and Martha Rasmus

“ A Senior Get-Together at Grace Congregational Church”



Where: Grace Church Fellowship Hall

When: Tuesday, **March 5, 2019** 1:30 to 3:00 pm

On May 7, 2019 there will be a Senior Luncheon at 12:30 & Bingo from 1:30-3:00.

Hope to See You! Any Questions / Need Transportation?

Call 553-4051(Marsha Heuer)

GRACE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY HIGHLIGHTS

HOSPITALIZED

Florence Shekoski was recently hospitalized at Aurora Medical Center. She is back at Northland Lodge.

Trenton Bohman is hospitalized at Children's Hospital in Milwaukee. He was admitted a week ago Wednesday, and came home on Wednesday, January 9.

Jim Rasmus was hospitalized at Holy Family Memorial Hospital in Manitowoc.

OUR SYMPATHY

A Memorial Service was held on Thursday, December 27 for the family of Chris Shimulunas. Chris died on Sunday, December 16, and is survived by his daughters, Kacie and Kelsie; his parents, Bucky and Jill Shimulunas; and his brothers, Cory and Paula Shimulunas, and Chad and Kathy Shimulunas

A Memorial Service was held on Friday, December 28 for the family of Norma Schoss. Norma died on Friday, December 21, and is survived by her daughters, Peggy and Mike Mueller, and Lori and Joe Brandt; her brother, Alan Spearbraker; and her Grandchildren, Nicholas and Rebekah Mueller, Tyler and Kourtney Brandt, and Jenna Brandt.

A Memorial Service will be held for the family of Kelly Stodola Reszczynski. Kelly died on Saturday, November 17, and is survived by her husband, Steve; her three children, Gabe, Timo and Nica; her parents, Joe and Dottie Stodola; and her siblings, Chad and Laurel Stodola, Joe and Lisa Stodola, Jerry and Sarah Stodola, and Kari and Tony Welnicke.

We offer our sympathy to Theo Lynn Hoffmann as she grieves the death of her mother, Margaret Mansfield. Margaret died on Sunday, December 2. A memorial service was held at First Presbyterian Church in Manitowoc on Saturday, January 5.

We extend our sympathy to Bill and Sandy Monka as they grieve the death of Bill's brother, Robert.....

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Ann Suettinger as they grieve her death. Ann died on Monday, January 7 at the Manitowoc Health Care. A memorial service was held here at Grace Congregational Church on Friday, January 11, .

We extend our sympathy to Kathy and Jerry Nichols and Dean and Laura Hayes-Stoeger as they grieve the death of their aunt, Grace Stock.

Marilyn McCullough passed away on January 19. We offer our prayers and sympathy to her husband, Denny, and their children and grandchildren. Marilyn was a member of our church choir for many years.

BAPTISMS

Lucas Charles son of Shawn and Kristie Kaiser was baptized December 30. Lucas has two brothers, Levi and Lane. His grandparents are Jean & Arnold Wanek, Sue & Jerry Stanull and Mark & Lisa Wanek. Chosen as godparent for Lucas was Brittany Legois.

Levi Joseph son of Shawn and Kristie Kaiser was baptized December 30. Levi has two brothers, Lucas and Lane. His grandparents are Jean & Arnold Wanek, Sue & Jerry Stanull and Mark & Lisa Wanek. Joseph Kaiser was chosen as godparent for Levi.

Lane Louis son of Shawn and Kristie Kaiser was baptized December 30. Lane has two brothers, Lucas and Levi. His grandparents are Jean & Arnold Wanek, Sue & Jerry Stanull and Mark & Lisa Wanek. Kaelyn Koeser was chosen as godparent for Lane.



Hope House
of Manitowoc County **HOST WEEK**

Hope House The **next host week is March 17 – March 24.** Looking for generous volunteers to help. Let me Thank You in advance for your continued dedication to this project.

WOMEN'S LUNCHEON GROUP

We would like to invite **ALL** women of the church to our **Women's Luncheon Group.**

Announcements are usually in the bulletin and in the newsletter. If you need a ride we can usually provide it. **February 12th we are going to be at Fork & Knife in Manitowoc at 11:30 a.m.** Contact Chris Blimel at 793-2204 or Sandy Monka at 553-2047 if you will be going.



HABITAT SUPPORTER,

First Lutheran Church, located at 521 N. Eighth St. in Manitowoc, will host the Fifteenth Annual *Spring Chili Warm-up & Bake Sale* on Saturday, March 9, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. All proceeds will benefit Manitowoc County Habitat for Humanity.

This year, the menu will include chili, dessert and a beverage. Hot dogs will be available as a substitute for chili dinners. The price for tickets is \$6.00 for an adult and \$3.00 for children under 12. A one quart jar of chili for takeout will be available throughout the event and will sell for \$7.00.

Habitat, in partnership with First Lutheran Church, is also soliciting baked goods for this event. We are looking for sheet cakes, cookies and bars of all kinds to accompany dinner orders. Any other baked goods - bread, fruit pies, cupcakes, etc. (no cream desserts) -- will be sold in the Fireside Hall. If you can get a group of your members to provide baked goods it would be deeply appreciated. Baked goods can be dropped off at First Lutheran on Friday, March 8 between Noon and 3:00 p.m. or Saturday, March 9 after 8:30 a.m.

Again, thank you for all your cooperation and the efforts you will be putting forth. If you would like to help at the event or have any questions or suggestions, please call.

In Christian Partnership, Tove Alecksen. First Lutheran Church 686-3870----

Jean Wakefield, Manitowoc County Habitat , 683-8466

SPRING CHILI WARM-UP & BAKE SALE

Saturday, March 9, 2018
11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



First Lutheran Church
Fireside Room
521 N. 8th Street
Manitowoc, Wisconsin

Adult: \$6.00
Children under 12: \$3.00
Includes chili, dessert and beverage
Takeout (One quart): \$7.00