

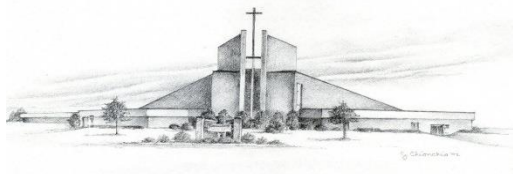
Grace English Lutheran Church
384 Oak Street, Berlin, WI 54923
*A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America*

Rebekah Tarras, Pastor
Email: pastortarras@gmail.com
Cellphone: 715-897-5393
Jessica Fritz – Worship and Music Coordinator
Jeremy Fritz – Choir Director
Sandy Peschke – Office Assistant
Penny Bahn – Office Assistant
(920) 361-1820
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THIS NEWSLETTER PREPARED ESPECIALLY FOR

Sunday Worship:
8:30 AM

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 noon
Hometown Broadcasting
WRPN AM 1600 at 12:00 PM



Worship Services

Facebook: www.facebook.com/gelcberlin

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLbOerRk5PMk1QWI9qtZ5_g



- June 2 - Worship Service at 8:30 am (In person and online)
- June 9 - Worship Service at 8:30 am (In person and online)
- June 16 - Worship Service at 8:30 am (In person and online)
- June 23 - Worship Service at 8:30 am (In person and online)
- June 30 - Worship Service at 8:30 am (In person and online)

**Grace Lutheran's Mission: We Gather to Worship, Grow, Care, and Share
"All Are Welcome In This Place"**

Being the Church in the World

A few months ago I found a resource from the South Central Synod of Wisconsin offering devotions for church councils. The words in the reflection for May written by Pastor Robb Kosky, an interim pastor in the Milwaukee Area Synod, were a good reminder for me of what it means for us to be the church in the world. You may find his words insightful as well.

TEXT:

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another. - John 13:34-35



REFLECTION

Love is underestimated. Love is unappreciated. Love is dismissed and explained away.

Love is diminished – reduced to what we say we love – like bar-b-que potato chips, root beer, this music, that car, the Packers, or the Cubs.

Love is misunderstood. And this makes sense because God is love, and who among us fully understands God; because Jesus calls us to love and shows us the way, and who among us really wants to fall in behind Jesus and take up our cross and follow.

No. We explain away the love of Jesus and the way of the cross. We do not wish to deny ourselves, to sell all that we own, to love our enemies, to remove the log from our own eye, to say “Father, forgive them...” We do not wish to drop our stone and walk away (for ours is no doubt a righteous stone).

Jesus has told us and shown us what love is, and we who are Jesus’ followers still, after 2000 years, have trouble understanding and loving as Jesus loved us.

(Of course, we do love. We have lots of love and even self-giving love, and sometimes, some of us in the Church attain to a strength of love that most of us can barely fathom. But if I love those who love me, of what credit is that, and I know that most of my love is for those who love me also, and for those whom I can relate to and understand and agree with. But when I am honest with myself, I can see and feel the limits of my love, and I know that I do not love as Jesus loves.)

Because love is so misconstrued and so difficult, and so little practiced in our world, our world is in desperate need of the love of Jesus. And this is why we, who are the Church, must love. Must try to love, even when we are not very good at it. We must do the difficult work of learning to love as we have been loved, of learning to forgive and accept as we have been forgiven and accepted.

This is why I believe that... (and you can fill in the blank here):

- Black lives matter. Because people who are black must be loved.
- Police lives matter. Because people who are police must be loved.
- Immigrants matter. Because I am called to love people who are immigrants – and why they left, or how they arrived, or what language they speak does not change my call to love them.
- LGBTQIA+ people matter. Because my call to love others has absolutely nothing to do with a person’s sexual identity or orientation or self-expression, and whether I do or do not understand it does not change my call to love.
- Republicans, Democrats, etc., matter. Because love has nothing to do with agreeing with others.
- People who have experienced the hatred of this world matter, AND
- People who have perpetrated hatred in this world matter. Because I am called to love as Jesus loves and through that love bring healing to people who are broken in this world.

I do not understand how to do all of this. But I do believe that the Church is in the world to love the world and make the love of Jesus known.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, send me your Spirit that I might stretch the limits of my love. Help me to love others as you have loved me. Amen.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
4.8.2024

President Linda called the meeting to order at 6:58pm

Council members present; Linda Reetz, Terry Wallace (via computer) Sandy Peschke, Becky Olsen, Pastor Rebekah, Anita Lind, Jody Ziemann, Bob Prellwitz, Craig Chovanec. Absent Mary Gropp.

Congregation member present; Sue Shemanski

Opening Devotion. Provided by Terry

Approval of the Agenda. Linda moved the New Business item of Christian Education Committee, placing it before the President's Report. Motion made by Jody to accept the agenda with the one amendment, seconded by Bob, motion carried.

Audience remarks. None.

Secretary's Report. March meeting minutes circulated via email, corrections made. Motion made by Craig to approve the report as written, seconded by Bob, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report. March Treasurer's report and check detail reviewed. Anita inquired about the discrepancy in the beginning balance of the general fund. Sandy will review the figures and email her findings. Other questions about the check details were answered. Discussion held on yesterday's offering. Anita questioned if returning to the passing of the offering plate would increase weekly offerings, no action taken at this time. Motion made by Anita to approve the report as written, seconded Craig, motion carried.

Christian Education. Sue Shemanski and Anita Lind proposed transitioning the current balance of the Youth Fund & Faith Formation Fund to the Christian Education Committee. Discussion included the rationale of the committee's desire to transfer the funds, such as being aware of funds available for youth camp reimbursements and potential youth events. Discussion also included having the group create a definition of their purpose, their functions and guidelines of operation, including an annual budget. The committee agreed to work on this criteria and bring it back to the council for further consideration.

President's Report.

Bingo Event on 2.1.2025. Linda inquired about the need to create a working group for the event. Linda will contact last year's committee members, asking if they are interested in serving on the committee in 2025.

Finance Committee. Linda inquired about what information would be beneficial for future meetings of the committee. Terry requested a copy of the budget and our 1st quarter financial summary. Becky requested current summaries of our investment and endowment funds. Linda will gather the reports for the meeting.

Door Codes. Linda stated that if any council member is in need of a door code to reach out to Jess.

Consultant update. Linda indicated that Cathy Cowling has completed her meetings with present council members. Cathy will now meet with small groups of members on Wednesday, April 17th. A sign up sheet for time slots will be placed on the kiosk. If members are unable to attend, letters may be emailed to Cathy, contact the church office for an email address. If you would like the letter mailed to Cathy, please drop it off at the office and it will be forwarded to her. Only signed letters will be reviewed. Cathy will then meet with the council on 4.22.24 to review her findings and discuss the next step.

Scholarship Committee. Discussion held on how the council should select one new member to this committee, yearly. Council agreed to put out a request to the congregation for a volunteer willing to serve on the committee. Linda will follow through on publishing the volunteer request.

Executive Committee Language. Discussion held on the language description for this committee. Linda asked members to further review the language, as it will be added to our Constitution. We will vote on this item at our May meeting.

Pastor's Report. Pastor provided a detailed report of her months' Pastoral Acts and Activities. Official Acts included one funeral outside of our churches and two funerals at First. Her report also included a large number of homebound and hospitalized member visits; 4 visits to Grace members or friends of Grace, 13 visits to First members, also stated she has 4 more homebound members to visit with. Ongoing activities include meeting with various committees at both churches, preparing for and leading Lent and Sunday services, attending a Webinar and the Oshkosh Conference. She will be participating in continuing education April 29th - May 5th, the Rev. Karen Jewell-vanBuskirk will provide services on May 5th.

Committee Reports.

Fellowship and Caring. Next meeting is 4.14.24, following service.

Buildings and Grounds. Bob reported that outside work continues and the committee is beginning their spring yard projects. Regarding the parking lot, the company that previously paved the lot came and looked at the lot. They said the foundation is good but recommend that the cracks be filled. Their quote is \$ 2,500.00 to fill the cracks. Discussion held on whether the filling of the cracks would extend the life of the parking lot, Bob will reach out to the company for more information. Bob stated the group is working on coming up with a 5-10 year budget as requested. Bob is researching ideas for formulating a church safety plan to include steps to be taken in the event of a weather emergency, medical emergencies, intruders and bomb threats.

Christian Education. Anita reported that the last day of Sunday School will be 5.12.24. The group will be serving sundaes for fellowship that day.

Worship and Music. No report at the meeting. Linda will have Jess email the report to her and she will forward it to the council.

Mission and Outreach. Craig reported that the April mission of the month is World Hunger. He included that hunger affects nearly a billion people on our planet, that 20% of the world's poorest people live on less than a dollar a day and that someone in the world dies from hunger every six seconds. The ELCA World Hunger works in 60 countries around the world providing help with agriculture infrastructure, livestock, clean drinking water, health clinics, disease control and education. He indicated that we can save lives with our donations. The May mission will be Compassionate Child.

Unfinished Business.

Shared Covenant. Linda indicated that following our first Finance Committee meeting, that both Grace and First's Finance Committees would plan a meeting. Sandy inquired about the statement made by Heidi at the Annual Meeting, saying that a mediator would be coming about the covenant. Linda indicated that no mediator has contacted her regarding the covenant.

New Business.

As documented above, following the Treasurer's Report

Closing Prayer. Provided by Pastor Rebekah

Adjournment. Motion made by Anita to adjourn, seconded by Jody, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Becky Olsen, Secretary
4.9.24

Linda Reetz – President	920-279-7899	linda.reetz0726@gmail.com
Terry Wallace – Vice President	920-344-1523	terrywallace@charter.net
Sandy Peschke – Treasurer	920-290-1551	kspeschke1950@gmail.com
Becky Olsen – Secretary	920-290-4485	olsenfamilyshorthorns@gmail.com
Mary Gropp – Music/Worship	920-279-4054	jim_marygropp@yahoo.com
Anita Lind – Christian Education	920-290-1374	anita_lind@charter.net
Jody Ziemann – Fellowship/Caring	920-361-1326	lajirafa@hotmail.com
Craig Chovanec – Missions/Outreach	920-361-3727	craigfchovanec@centurytel.net
Bob Prellwitz – Building/Grounds	920-361-0669	bobprellwitz@yahoo.com

Synod Assembly Recap from May 17-18, 2024
Submitted by Linda Reetz

Pastor Rebekah Tarras, Terry Wallace, and I represented Grace Lutheran as voting members at the recent Synod Assembly. What happened at this two day event?

- 200+ attendees discussing, praying about, voting on the church's business in our East Central Wisconsin synod.
- Changing language from The Synod to Our Synod so there is more of a focus on working and walking together rather than thinking about an office somewhere in Appleton with someone called The Bishop doing 'stuff' for our group of churches.
- Walking in a procession from Oshkosh Convention Center, over Main Street bridge to 9th Avenue Peace Lutheran Church. I am thinking that motorists, walkers, and bicyclists were taken aback to see a group being led by a pastor carrying a very large cross, other religious officials in their robes, procession members waving banners and ribbons in the colors of Pentecost all on a mission to arrive at the church.
- Worshipping in a church possessing a high timbered ceiling letting the sounds of song, organ, violin resonate throughout. Having fire and water inside the building, observing a dancer interpret the music and the Word through contemporary dance combined to provide a unique but uplifting experience.
- Listening to a powerful sermon delivered by the Reverend Dr. Niveen Ibrahim Sarras – a native of Palestine and current pastor at St. Mark's Church, Neenah.
- Attempting to process information provided by Dr. Kerri Parker, Executive Director of Wisconsin Council of Churches. Her keynote focused on proclaiming the good news in an election year. She challenged attendees to think about: how to love your neighbor in one of the most polarized states in the country, how to be an advocate for God's truth, knowing what our WHY is when proclaiming the good news.
- Celebrating milestones such as 20 years in the clergy for Pastor Tarras, 1st Lutheran in Poy Sippi getting ready to celebrate 150 years in existence.
- Being attentive to Bishop Anne Edison-Albright's report as she shared her faith story. As an infant she was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and given months to live. She believes that a miracle intervened to save her life and how she felt the presence of Jesus alongside her during her health struggles. That life event led her to the path she is on today.
- Appreciating the proclamations of faith throughout the assembly. Some were from adults, some were young children, some were teenagers but all shared their belief in God and His impact on their lives.
- Chuckling over some of the prayers written by confirmation classes. While they were most sincere in their thoughts, we prayed for the world, for the environment, for pets, for a strong faith, for kindness, and for...aliens!

Church Consultant Update
Linda Reetz, Council President

On May 9 Cathy Cowling, church conflict resolution consultant, shared the results of her congregational interviews. Cathy interviewed a total of 52 members and compiled the results.

During the presentation the congregation was informed of common themes, concerns, praise connected to Grace.

With the information now finalized, the first step in acting on the recommendations will be a congregation council retreat. June 7 is an all-day work session for council members. Cathy Cowling will assist in helping the council work on being a cohesive, united group as decisions are made for the good of our church community. Whatever actions come out of the work day will certainly be shared with the congregation.

Anyone still wanting a copy of the final report may contact the church office,

Constitution Corner

Our congregation has a constitution, that in addition to the Bible, serves to guide our life together as a church. This constitution reflects the theology and polity of this church as it organizes itself to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, share the sacraments, reach out to the neighbor with good news, and share the love of God in the world. Each month we plan to highlight a part of our constitution. The full constitution is found under resources on the website.

Chapter 9 of the constitution contains details about the Rostered Minister (pastor and or a deacon). This includes the duties of the rostered minister, provisions for termination, disability, guidance for vacancy and calling of a rostered minister.

Here are the pastor's general duties as outlined in our constitution: *C9.03. Consistent with the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

a. Every minister of Word and Sacrament shall:

1) preach the Word; 2) administer the sacraments; 3) conduct public worship; 4) provide pastoral care; 5) seek out and encourage qualified persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel; 6) impart knowledge of this church and its wider ministry through available channels of effective communication; 7) witness to the Kingdom of God in the community, in the nation, and abroad; and 8) speak publicly to the world in solidarity with the poor and oppressed, calling for justice and proclaiming God's love for the world.

b. Each pastor with a congregational call shall, within the congregation:

1) offer instruction, confirm, marry, visit the sick and distressed, and bury the dead; 2) relate to all schools and organizations of this congregation; 3) install regularly elected members of the Congregation Council; 4) with the council, administer discipline; 5) endeavor to increase the support given by the congregation to the work of the ELCA churchwide organization and of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin and 6) encourage adherence to covenantal relationship with this church as expressed in the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

*C9.04. The specific duties of the pastor, compensation, and other matters pertaining to the service of the pastor shall be included in a letter of call, which shall be attested by the bishop of the synod.

*C9.12. The pastor of this congregation:

a.) shall keep accurate parochial records of all baptisms, confirmations, marriages, burials, communicants, members received, members dismissed, or members excluded from this congregation; b.) shall submit a summary of such statistics annually to the synod; and c.) shall become a member of this congregation upon receipt and acceptance of the letter of call. In a parish of multiple congregations, the pastor shall hold membership in one of the congregations.

*C9.13. The pastor(s) shall submit a report of his or her ministry to the bishop of the synod at least 90 days prior to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.



The Grace Book Club has chosen **“Long Way Gone”** by Charles Martin as their book for June. Cooper O’Connor is a musician and songwriter, at the age of 18 he steals everything his father holds dear and heads to Nashville to make it big. His future is riding on a six-string guitar named Jimmy, and a bold wager that he has talent, which proves foolish shortly after he arrives! 5 years after losing everything, he falls in love with Daley Cross, an angelic voice in need of a song. When his relationship with her leads to tragedy and he has nowhere else to go, he returns home to the remote Colorado mountains searching for answers about his father and his faith. **“Long Way Gone”** is a radical retelling of the prodigal son story, it takes us from tent revivals to the Ryman Auditorium to the tender relationship between a broken man and the father who never stopped calling him home.

We will meet to discuss **“Long Way Gone”** on Tuesday, June 11th at 12:00 Noon at a location to be determined. If you have already read this book, please consider joining us for discussion. If you would like to read **“Long Way Gone”** and join in the discussion on the 11th, please contact Cindy Wallace and she will get you a copy. We would love to have you join us.

LWR Summer Project - June, July, and August

As in prior years, the Ladies of Grace will be putting together kits for personal care, school supplies, and baby care. When you are out shopping, whether it be retail stores, garage sales, or flea markets, keep an eye out for the list of items needed. Any item(s) can be dropped off at church, anytime during the summer months.

Thrivent Action Cards can be applied for to purchase items for the kits. If you apply for the cards and want someone to “shop” for you, the ladies of Grace would be happy to do so. Just let the office staff know.

Kits will be assembled in September. If you have any questions, contact Bev Chadwick at 361-0860.

Personal Care

- 1 – light weight bath size towel dark color
20x40 or 27x52
(no larger please)
- 2 or 3 – bath size bars of soap
(8 – 9 ounces total in original wrapping)
- 1 – sturdy comb
- 1 – metal nail clipper
- 1 – toothbrush

School Supply Kit

- 4 – 70 sheet notebooks
(wide or college rule)
- 1 – 30 centimeter ruler
(or centimeters on one side inches on the other)
- 1 – pencil sharpener
- 1 – blunt pair of scissors
- 5 – unsharpened #2 pencils
- 5 – black or blue pens (no gel ink)
- 1 – box of 16 – 24 crayons
- 1 – sturdy drawstring backpack (14" x 17")
with shoulder straps

Baby Care Kit

- 2 – lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesie)
- 2 – short or long sleeve sleepers (without feet)
- 2 – blankets
(between 36 – 52 inches)
- 2 – diaper pins or large safety pins
- 2 – pairs of socks
- 1 – hand towel (dark color preferred)
- 2 – 3 bars of gentle soap
(8 – 9 ounces total)



Grace Annual Brat Fry Riverside Park - North Shelter House Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 5:30 pm

On Wednesday, June 19th the Men of Grace will be sponsoring the annual brat fry. It will be held at Riverside Park in the North Shelter starting at 5:30 pm. The men will provide the meat, beans, and beverages. Please bring a dish to pass (salad or desert).

Everyone is invited for good food, fun, and bingo!

Please sign up on the church kiosk or call the church office (920-361-1820) to give the men an approximate number to plan for.

Note about the Summer Scripture Readings

Last summer, we began using the semi-continuous readings from the Old Testament that focused on major stories from Genesis and Exodus including the covenant with Moses, and the establishment of Israel in the Promised Land. This year, the semi-continuous Old Testament readings focus on the covenant of David and Wisdom literature.

During the summer months, the readings will come from the Old Testament books of First and Second Samuel. In addition to those readings, the epistle readings will come from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians and later in the summer Ephesians. The Gospel readings will primarily be from Mark.

Synod Hearings on Draft Social Statement, "Civic Life and Faith," Scheduled

The ELCA is developing a social statement on civic life and faith, the relationship of church and state, and related matters, as called for by the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Social statements are the ELCA's primary documents to address significant social issues. They are intended to aid reflection, shape conscience and set forth the ELCA's teaching and policy on the major social issues and questions of contemporary life. Social statements are developed by task forces, using an established process of study and widespread participation across the church to guide theological and moral deliberation.

At this time the task force encourages you to study and give feedback on a [draft version of the social statement](#). You can participate by filling out a survey, [found here](#), or by participating in one of the hearings offered in our synod. Hearings are public gatherings where participants share their specific affirmations or concerns about a draft statement. The feedback period will be open until Sept. 30, 2024.

Online Bible Study, "Forms of Government in the Bible" with Rev. Dr. Niveen Ibrahim Sarras

June 11, 6:30 - 8:00 pm | via [Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 868 3046 7562

Passcode: ECSWstudy

Hearings on Social Statement Draft

July 9, 10:00 - 11:30 am | St. Mark's, Neenah

August 15, 6:30 - 8:00 pm | St. Mark's, Neenah

Berlin Food Pantry Annual Meeting

As the pastor at Grace, Pastor Rebekah serves on the Board of Directors for the Berlin Food Pantry along with several other pastors in Berlin and the president of the food pantry. The following are some notes about the Berlin Food Pantry from the annual meeting/

In 2023, the food pantry had 371 active clients, a 20% increase over 2022. This was primarily due to the elimination of food assistance programs due to COVID. Due to supply chain issues affecting food availability and inflation, yearly food expenditures for the pantry rose from \$8,000 in 2022 to over \$25,000 in 2023, a trend that will continue in 2024.

In 2023, the pantry distributed 168,103 pounds of food and grocery items to community members in need, a 41% increase over 2022. This was made possible through food donations (133,619 pounds) from government programs, national and local donors, individuals, and local businesses, organizations, and community churches. About 28,000 pounds were purchases made possible by financial donations from community supporters.

In addition to financial support and in-kind donations, the pantry needs more volunteers. This includes people to help with set up and food distribution but also people who are willing to serve in a leadership capacity. Next year several of the officer positions will be up for election and a couple of the current folks are "aging out." If you are interested in volunteering at the pantry or finding out more about the leadership position needs, email the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer.berlinfoodpantry@gmail.com or call the Berlin Food Pantry at (920) 745-0357. You can also check out their website for more information www.berlinfoodpantry.org/bfp-volunteer.

WinnebagoLand Housing Coalition: Green Lake Subcommittee

Pastor was asked to represent Grace as part of a subcommittee for Green Lake County. The goal of the committee is to bring awareness and understanding of homelessness and housing issues in Green Lake County and take steps to help address the needs. A goal for the next meeting is to identify better data on the situation of homelessness in Berlin and Green Lake County.

There will also be a presentation from an emergency shelter in Shawano. Due to other ministry needs, Pastor is not able to attend this meeting. If you may be interested in representing Grace and serving on this committee, please talk with Pastor Rebekah.

Graduating Seniors



Walker Goffard: Graduated from Berlin High School.

Favorite Memory of Grace Lutheran: Attending vacation bible school.

Future Plans: Attend Kansas State University working towards a degree in Engineering. I will also be a part of the Kansas State College Rodeo Team.



Gretchen Mildebrandt: Graduated from Ripon High School.

Favorite Memory of Grace Lutheran: Being involved with the church I was mostly doing so by being at crossways camp. As I have been going there since I was able to until I couldn't anymore. Along with helping out with communion and cleaning up for church service.

Future Plans: Attend Bellin College in Green Bay. I have been accepted into the surgical assistant program.



Thank you to Diane Toraason for spearheading the quilt project. Thank you to Cindy, Diane, and Sandy for sewing the quilts and Pastor Rebekah for quilting them.



Radio Ministry

- June 2 - In Memory of Grandma Goettl by Sadie and Spencer
- June 9 - Happy Birthday Dad (Bill Drecktrah) from Bill, Craig, and Sue
- June 16 - In Memory of Henry Grams by his loving family
- June 23 - In Memory of their daughter Christine by Henry and Lois Stark
- June 30 - In Memory of Joanne Bush and Jeannette Koch

Flowers

- June 2 - In Honor of Andrew and Alexa's Wedding Anniversary by Doug and Bonnie Kline
- June 9 - Happy Birthday Dad (Bill Drecktrah) from Bill, Craig, and Sue
- June 16 - In Honor of Dave and Jodie Ziemann's 33rd Wedding Anniversary
- June 23 - In Honor of Mary Pomplun's Birthday
- June 30 - In Honor of Charlie McCarthy's Birthday

Bulletins

- June 2 - In Memory of Grandma Goettl by Sadie and Spencer
- June 9 - In Memory of Tim Lueptow by DeAnna Lueptow
- June 16 - Open
- June 23 - In Honor of Mary Pomplun's 80th Birthday
- June 30 - In Memory of Bill and Shirley Huck's 63rd Wedding Anniversary

Fellowship

- June 2 - Women of Grace
- June 9 - Open
- June 16 - Open
- June 23 - Open
- June 30 - Open

Greeters

- June 2 - Open
- June 9 - Open
- June 16 - Open
- June 23 - Open
- June 30 - Open



Mission of the Month - Lutheran Disaster Relief

Lutheran Disaster Relief shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

Lutheran Disaster Relief collaborates with other disaster response organizations and religious entities in the United States and around the world. This enables the greatest stewardship of resources and maximum impact of response.

Lutheran Disaster Relief would not exist if it were not for the thousands, if not millions, of people who make an impact by getting involved. Whether efforts are financial support, volunteering or helping to prepare communities after disasters, lives and livelihoods are improved.

Your gifts make it possible for this church to provide support to communities in need, whenever and wherever a disaster may strike.

Happy Birthday



June Birthdays

- 1 David Ziemann
- 4 Gary Battenhorst
- 5 Michelle Klawitter
Alyse Paulsen
- 6 Brian Mildebrandt
Victor Schramer
- 10 Wilbur Drecktrah
- 11 Suzanne Ferron
Carol Roehl
- 13 Bryce Dretske
Allison Kessen
- 18 Patsy Hanson
John Klawitter
- 19 David Schenk
- 20 Kathy Eid
Adam Schenk
- 23 Connor Nelson
Frank Neitzke
Mary Pomplun
- 25 Sarah Guenther
- 28 Valerie Hinz
Charles McCarthy
- 30 Fay McMonigal

Berlin Community Blood Drive

Grace Church is providing the food for the next blood drive on **Tuesday, July 9**. We need you to share your homemade goodies (2 dozen) for the donors and workers.

We'll use a Thrivent card so the rest of the food will be covered. Along with desserts, we'll need a few workers for the day.

Please look for the sign-up sheet mid June on the kiosk or contact Tammy at 290-1145 or tlondowski@yahoo.com. All baked goods can be dropped off in the kitchen on Sunday during church or Tuesday, July 9 (8-10).

Goettl Crew (Tammy, Sadie & Spencer)

Happy Anniversary



June Anniversaries

- 3 Mark & Mindy Goffard
- 5 Dave & Renee Neitzke
- 8 Robert & Mary Sillanpaa
- 11 Edmund & Carol Roehl
- 14 John & Sue Koch
- 15 David & Jody Ziemann
- 27 Mark & Susan Calabresa

If any birthdays or anniversaries were missed please let the office staff know.

Sunday School Students



May 12, 2024 was the last day of Sunday School. Along with having Ice Cream Sundae's for fellowship, the students created a hanging flower basket for their mothers for Mother's Day.

Nice Job!

June

2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:30 am Worship with Communion	3 1:30 pm Bible Study at First Lutheran	4 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:00 am LWR Quilting	5 8:30 am - 3:30 pm Council Retreat with Cathy Cowling	6 9:00 am Bible Study at Grace Lutheran	7	8
9 8:30 am Worship with Communion Congregation Workshop with Cathy Cowling following worship	10 1:30 pm Bible Study at First Lutheran 7:00 pm Congregation Council Meeting	11 9:00 am Staff Meeting 12:00 noon Book Club	12	13 9:00 am Bible Study at Grace Lutheran	14	15
16 8:30 am Worship with Communion 	17 1:30 pm Bible Study at First Lutheran 6:30pm Joint Council meeting at First Lutheran	18 9:00 am Staff Meeting	19 5:30 pm Brat Fry at North Shelterhouse at Riverside Park Everyone is Welcome!	20 9:00 am Bible Study at Grace Lutheran 	21	22
23 8:30 am Worship with Communion	24 1:30 pm Bible Study at First Lutheran	25 9:00 am Staff Meeting	26	27 9:00 am Bible Study at Grace Lutheran	28	29
30 8:30 am Worship with Communion						