

News of Grace

Monthly Newsletter ♦ March 2019

Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement

"We share God's love by welcoming all and making a Christ-like difference in our community and world."



Marge Weber, Doug Chroninger, Jim Clemens, Bev Attwell, Lorraine Leathead,

Gloria Moore, Harold & Jean Kissau, Jim Malaski, Karen & Walter Spigelmyre, Emma

Nelson, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Sheila Hansen, John Odstreil, Jordyn AnnMarie, Heather and Family, Joseph Hansen, Roger Schultz, Violet McLaren, Brian Gustafson, Baby Samuel, Evelyn Smith, Margaret Nosko, Reed Werth, Mark Jackson, Patricia Denstaedt, Scott Coddington, Mimi, David Schaedig, Cody Gustin.

We also remember the family of...

Dennis Diamond, who passed away February 19.



Our prayer list is redone each month. If you, or a family member, would like to continue on the prayer list, please call the office (354-2640).



For Worship & Bulletin

For adding Joys and Concerns to our Intercessory Prayers, we are now using the Prayer Requests forms found in the pew envelope holder. The

ushers will pick it up from you at the end of announcements. Please sign it indicating that you have the permission of the person(s) to have their name said in worship and/or printed in the bulletin. Thank you.

Our **ANNUAL MEETING** will be held **Sunday, March 3** following 9:30 a.m. worship.



On the agenda:

Receive Annual Reports
Please plan to attend!



Ash Wednesday Soup Supper at Grace

Grace Lutheran is hosting the Lenten Soup Supper on Wednesday, March 6. We are planning for 175-200 people, and we are in need of soups (approximately 15) and breads. We are also looking for setup and cleanup help. Sign-up sheets are located in the Office Narthex. Contact Jeanne Pankey (354-2416) for more information.



Welcome to our newest members of Grace Lutheran!

Harry Kautz
Don LaBarre
Kelly Pankey
Bob & Susan Stacey



FROM OUR PASTOR

We begin Lent on March 6th with Ash Wednesday. Our ecumenical Lenten Series again begins at Grace this year.

We often observe Lent in a penitential way, with emphasis on repentance for our sins, our sacrificing something to recognize Jesus' sacrifice for us and ultimately turning to follow Jesus more faithfully. That all makes for a somber tone. We acknowledge our failings. Yet that is not the whole story, of us and certainly not of Jesus. We know the rest of the story.

Jesus died and did not stay dead. Jesus is with us. The reality of death and the reality of resurrection. The *GOOD NEWS* of how much God loves us, that God did not even withhold God's own son from the pains and evils of this world. That there is a power greater than anything in this world.

So in Lent we simultaneously acknowledge our failings and God's grace to us. That our failings and sins are not the end of our story. Rather they are a part of God's greater story of forgiveness, grace and love. And even more, God using us to share that story so others may know of it and are reminded of the part God plays in their lives as well.

I invite us into looking at ourselves, and looking at God's BIG STORY. We are part of it. Let us use that for God's Kingdom building.

Peace

Pastor Tom

To God You Shall Return

The traditional Ash Wednesday words "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return" might seem depressing. But in our often death-denying culture, some might find it refreshing to hear the frank statement that we can do nothing to save ourselves, physically or spiritually — that, no matter how we try to avoid sin, we can't untangle ourselves from self-interest. How liberating, then, to know we don't have to! God loves us as we are and sent Jesus to break sin's power over us.

A pastor described Ash Wednesday as the point you can pinch in the middle of a long piece of ribbon, such that when you lift it high, the two ends — one symbolizing our baptism and the other, our funeral — meet and touch. We come from dust and will return to dust, but we also come from God and will return to God. Ash Wednesday reminds us that we're always safe in God's love.

Hospital visits

If you or a family member is hospitalized and would like a pastoral visit, please call the church office or Pastor Tom directly. The hospital *DOES NOT* notify churches or pastors of admissions *DESPITE* the question you are asked on admission.



Lenten Series 2019

Our series began on Ash Wednesday here at Grace Lutheran with the traditional service and scriptures for the day. Scriptural Stations of the Cross will form the basis for our remaining services and the Tre Ore on Good Friday, held this year at Trinity Episcopal Church. We invite you to join with all our fellow Christians as we follow Jesus to the cross. Even invite some friends and neighbors to see what is going on in the life of our churches.

This year's offering goes to Call Us for Help, Friendship Room and Sunday Supper.

Date	Host	Preacher	Theme
Ash Wednesday March 6	Grace Lutheran	Rev. Paul Lance	Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane
March 13	First Presbyterian	Rev. Seok Nam Lim	Jesus is betrayed by Judas and is arrested
March 20	First United Methodist	Pastor Tom Orth	Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin
March 27	First Congregational United Church of Christ	Fr Joe Muszkiewicz	Jesus is denied by Peter
April 3	St. Paul	Rev. Bill Rayment	Jesus is judged by Pilate
April 10	All Saints	Rev. Bill McClure	Jesus is scourged and crowned with thorns
Maundy Thursday April 18	Trinity Episcopal	Rev. Dr. Bob Case	Jesus takes up his cross
Tre Ore April 19	Trinity Episcopal		Remaining Stations of the Cross



Scholarship Applications

Applications for Grace Lutheran scholarships are available in the Office Narthex, for high school graduates or anyone wanting to pursue their education.

Applications should be turned in to the office by April 15, 2019. For further information contact Donna Czarniecki (354-8990). Please contact the office if you would like an application emailed to you (354-2640).



2018 Giving Statements

2018 Giving Statements are now available to be picked up. They are located on the center table in the Office Narthex. If you would like your statement mailed to you, please contact the Church Office (354-2640).



Wesley Garant (USAF - S. Korea)
PSC 2 BOX: 1071
APO AP 96264

Please contact the church office to add a name to this list.

Baked Potato Bar & Ice Cream Supper

Where: St. Paul Lutheran Church

Date: Saturday, March 9, 2019

Time: Right after the worship service

(approximately 6:30 p.m.)

We will have baked potatoes with all the fixings. Invite a friend and come enjoy some good food, raffles, fun and fellowship!

Plan now to attend and bring a friend!

Reminder for Taking Altar Flowers to Shut-Ins

Just a reminder to please either check directly with those placing flowers on the altar or with the office prior to taking flowers from the altar to give to our shut-ins. Many of those placing flowers would like their flowers delivered to a shut-in following our weekend services, however, some prefer to pick their flowers up (sometimes not until Monday or Tuesday for those attending on Saturday evening) to give to someone or enjoy for themselves.



Altar Flowers

Lutheran Marriage Encounter - Spring 2019

Married husbands and wives can celebrate their special relationship and learn unique insights and tools to improve their communication for the long haul with Marriage Encounter! It's a whole weekend away from chores, jobs, and kids to reap joyful long-term rewards for their relationship, their family, and their faith journey.

Your Relationship Deserves Marriage Encounter!

March 29 - 31, 2019

Comfort Inn, Birch Run, MI

Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org!

Special 50% Discount off the regular application fee for 2019 events in celebration of Worldwide Marriage Encounter's 50 Years of enriching marriages!

Questions? Contact Us!

Albert & Sally Chan

Sallyalme@yahoo.com ~ 517-540-0781

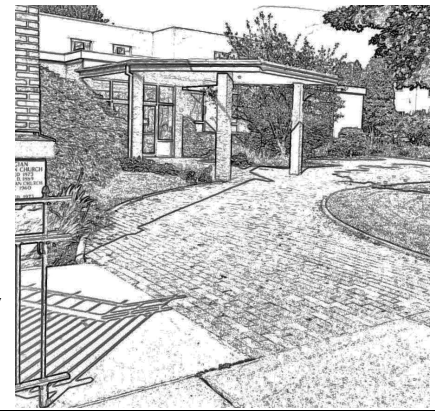
Pastor Ed & Emily Kast

EdEmKast@sbcglobal.net ~ 989-791-4172

Pre-registration and payment are required by March 20 - don't miss out!

Driveway Fund

Church Council has set a goal of paying off the Driveway Fund Balance this year. A monthly goal of \$575 will pay off the remaining \$6900 by this coming December. Contributions in any amount can use the regular offering envelope marking the amount on the Other Line, the special golden envelope in the bi-monthly packet or a pew envelope. Thanks for making this project possible for everyone's safety and convenience. We were well over February's goal with the Euchre Tournament proceeds - *THANK YOU.*



Dear Grace Lutheran,

Thank you for your many cards, the gift bags from the youth, and all your prayers. Thank you also to Pastor Orth and Joelyn Rich for visits with communion.

With Love,

Lorraine Leathead



Thrivent Choice Dollars

Deadline March 31, 2019

Remember that you can designate Grace Lutheran Church if you have available Thrivent Choice Dollars. Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars have until March 31, 2019, to direct them. To direct Choice Dollars, go to thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



The Little Food Pantry is getting plenty of activity.

We have people coming often and taking items and we have people coming plenty and leaving items. Last week a man, not from the church, left 3 cases of soup.

This is a reminder of items we are noticing that have been moving lately: tuna in foil package, Dinty Moore microwave stews or the like, paper towel, toilet paper, deodorant, toothpaste, baking mixes (brownie, cake, Bisquick or the like, pancake), cooking oil, cereal, oatmeal, nuts, tea, microwave popcorn, granola type snack bar, instant potatoes (any style).

Other suggested items: single serving crackers, feminine hygiene products, heat water and add box/bag ingredients (mac & cheese, rice, rice, Rice-a-Roni, Pasta-Rone, Suddenly Salad, quinoa mixtures, Hamburger Helper, etc.), instant coffee, juice (single serve size, package opened for multiple single servings rather than the multi bottle purchase package), tea bags, hot chocolate packets (open the box and remove the packets), sugar (1-2 lb. bags), flour (2 lb. bag).

Remember, some of these items do not have to be "standard" size, small packages are fine. We have plenty of mittens, gloves, hats and scarves.

Thank you to everyone helping to make this project successful.

Discipleship Work group

Kid's Page Answer Key



Decode The days

At this time of year, God's creation "springs" to life.

Directions: After reading Genesis 1:1-2:3, write the correct Creation day number under each picture. Then add up each day's total and write it on the correct blank below.

1	3	4	5	3	5	2
4	5	2	5	5	4	3
3	6	5	4	6	5	3
6	3	6	3	6	5	6
2	6	6	1	6	1	4
6	5	3	6	5	7	6
3	6	7	4	6	6	3

Day 1 (light) _____ Day 2 (waters) _____ Day 3 (land and plants) _____ Day 4 (heavenly bodies) _____
 Day 5 (birds and water animals) _____ Day 6 (land animals and people) _____ Day 7 (God rested) _____

Answers: Day 1 = 3, Day 2 = 3, Day 3 = 10, Day 4 = 6, Day 5 = 10, Day 6 = 15, Day 7 = 2

GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH Staff & Leadership Telephone Numbers

CHURCH OFFICE 354-2640
 Rev. Tom Orth Home 356-8729
 Cell 916-8759
 Office Manager Peggy Tomaszewski .. 255-8850
 Music Director David Delano 207-322-2074

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

President Tom Lappan 356-3718
 Vice-President Rick Engstrom 916-5963
 Exec. Secretary Debby Nitchman 916-8213
 Treasurer Don Barnard 340-1055

WORK GROUP LEADERS/COUNCIL

Education Elsa Phillips 884-1809
 Worship Sharon Engstrom 354-5133
 Discipleship Phran Ludington 471-9117
 Dawn Anderson 657-6923
 Property Jeff Welch 595-2195
 Bill Platt 340-0154
 Fellowship Jeanne Pankey 354-2416
 Pat Schultz 356-2781
 Finance/Stewardship... Dennis Werblow 354-5560

OTHER V.I.P.s

Youth Director
 WELCA Darleen Freel 354-8866
 Dorothy Hansen 354-3563
 Samaritans Kay Grove 727-2054
 Quilters
 LARCC Steve Hansen 404-406-8079

February 2019

Finances

GENERAL FUND \$ 15,083.00
 BUILDING FUND 1,723.33
 CHRISTIAN GROWTH 5.00
 DRIVEWAY FUND 1,401.00
 OTHER 4,448.44

TOTAL \$ 22,660.77

Attendance

SATURDAY WORSHIP (4) 132
 SUNDAY WORSHIP (4) 269
 TOTAL 401

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE LORD

MARCH 2019

LECTORS

03 PAUL DENSTAEDT
10 VERA FURZE
17 DAWN ANDERSON
24 DONNA CZARNECKI
31 JOE GENTRY

USHERS

JOEL SUSZEK
GARY & KAY GROVE
RICK ENGSTROM
CINDY DOMRASE (SATURDAYS)

GREETERS

03 CORKY GATES
SANDRA CHRISTOPHERSON
10 DON, VERA & TAMMY FURZE
17 RICK & SHARON ENGSTROM
24 JOE & DAWN GENTRY
31

COUNTERS

DALE & PAT SCHULTZ

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

CLARENCE & BONNIE CROSS

ALTAR GUILD

JOELYN RICH
MARY ROWADER

HOSPITAL

JANET CHRONINGER

COOKIE/DOUGHNUT PICK UP (Sundays)

GARY & KAY GROVE

FLOWERS

03 SUSZEK
10
17
24 HANSEN
31

COFFEE HOUR

03 RICK & SHARON ENGSTROM
10 JOEL & CINDY SUSZEK
17 WAYNE & ANNA LEWIS
24 RUBY & OLIVIA HASKE
31 CLARENCE & BONNIE CROSS

PLEASE, please, please try to find a replacement or someone to switch with if you are unable to fulfill your Sunday scheduled duty AND share the change with Peggy. Thank you!

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE LORD

APRIL 2019

LECTORS

07 ANNE GENTRY
14 BILL & NANCY PLATT
21 Easter CORINNE FRALEY, RUBY HASKE
28 VICKI DENSTAEDT

USHERS

ROGER & JEANNE PANKEY
DON FURZE
MATT, EVERET & OLIVIA HASKE
BRUCE ANSCHUETZ (Saturdays)

GREETERS

07 GARY & KAY GROVE
14 WAYNE & ANNA LEWIS
21 Easter JOELYN RICH, PHRAN LUDINGTON,
DAWN ANDERSON, MARY ROWADER
28 FRED & CAROLYNNE WEGMEYER

COUNTERS

CLARENCE & BONNIE CROSS

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

PAUL & VICKI DENSTAEDT

ALTAR GUILD

JEANNE PANKEY
CHRIS CHRISTOPHERSON
NANCY PLATT

HOSPITAL

JANET CHRONINGER

COOKIE/DOUGHNUT PICK UP (Sundays)

JACK & PATTI TUCKER

FLOWERS

07 FURZE
14 LAPPAN
21 EASTER FLOWERS
28

COFFEE HOUR

07 JEFF & SANDY WELCH
14 JOE & DAWN GENTRY
21 EASTER BREAKFAST
28 DON, VERNA & TAMMY FURZE

PLEASE, please, please try to find a replacement or someone to switch with if you are unable to fulfill your Sunday scheduled duty AND share the change with Peggy. Thank you!



Birthdays

Anniversaries of Baptism



March 3
Arnold Jahnke

March 23
Robert Greene

March 5
Amy Townsend

March 24
Mark Suszek

March 11
Hadleigh Suszek

March 26
John Kuligowski

March 13
Sharlene Kennedy

March 27
Eleanor Coddington

March 17
Patricia Schultz
Adam Urlaub
Brody Yuchasz

March 28
Allison Urlaub

March 19
Joel Suszek

March 29
Stephanie Ihnat



March 1
Gene Domrase
Anna Greene

March 17
Joan Brennan
Patrick Daly

March 2
Alisha Poirier

March 18
Kayla Bertrand
Vicki Cripps

March 3
Mark Suszek

March 19
Bonnie Cross
Kelly Poirier
Tyler Suszek

March 4
Beverly Attwell
Alexis Crittenden

March 21
Anna Lewis

March 6
Tiffany LaFave
Patrick McCourt

March 22
Gerald Lancaster
Karen Spigelmyre
Erica Wilson

March 8
Dorene Schultz

March 9
Matthew Gillard

March 23
Brent Barrow

March 10
Lois Westergard

March 24
Tracie Granata

March 11
Norm Timm

March 25
Kristin Rich
Sheri Smith

March 12
Thelma Stevens
Donice Ziberna

March 29
Jeanette Chroninger

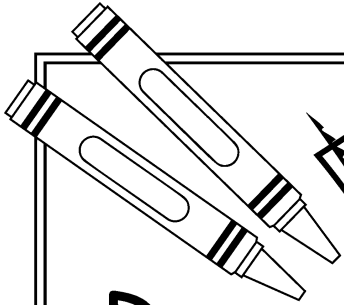
March 14
Barbara Mudge

March 30
Charles Snyder

March 15
Kathy Piontkowski

March 31
Emma Barber

Kid's Page



PUZZLE

Decode The days

At this time of year, God's creation "springs" to life.

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Day 1 (light) ____ Day 2 (waters) ____ Day 3 (land and plants) ____ Day 4 (heavenly bodies) ____

Day 5 (birds and water animals) ____ Day 6 (land animals and people) ____ Day 7 (God rested) ____

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Answer Key on Page 6

DAYS OF CREATION

Play this game to remember when God made each of his masterpieces.



What you need:

- Paper
- Rulers
- Pencils
- Markers or crayons
- Dice
- Bibles (open to Genesis 1:1-2:3 for reference)

What you do:

1. To make game boards, draw a grid with four rows and seven columns, totaling 28 squares.
2. Across the top row, write DAY 1 in the first square and continue through DAY 7.
3. Take turns rolling one die, or all players can roll at once. For the number rolled, draw something God created on that day (in the correct column).
4. When you fill an entire row, draw a smiley face in the DAY 7 square. The first player with two smileys wins.