

January 2023

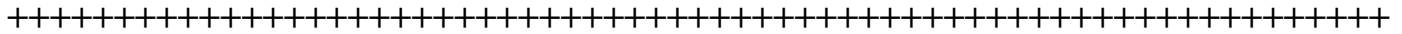
THE CARILLON



Grace Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Epiphany is both a feast day and a season – one of the oldest in the Christian Church year, second only to the Easter season. This **season of lights** emphasizes Jesus' manifestation (or epiphany) as **both fully God and fully human**. (Certainly a great reason if there needs to be one to keep those Christmas lights up and lit!) The earliest Christians called the **Feast of Epiphany (Jan. 6th)** the Theophany ("revelation of God). When the Gentile Magi (non-Jewish "wise men" from the East) come to worship Jesus and bring their gifts, they show that everyone now has access to God. **Now ALL people**, Jew and Gentile, can come to God's temple to worship, because **Jesus is the new temple: God in the flesh**. The Epiphany of Our Lord on January 6th marks the celebration of the Magi's visit. **During Epiphany we worship Jesus, who has given all humankind access to God through himself.**

The season after Epiphany begins and ends with two important feasts of Christ, the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, on the first Sunday, and ending with the Feast of the Transfiguration (when Jesus' glory is visually revealed to Peter, James and John). It can include include as many as nine Sundays, depending upon the date of Ash Wednesday (which beginning the season of Lent, moving toward Easter); however, this year the season after Epiphany contains **seven Sundays**, taking us through February 19th. The color for feasts themselves is **white** (traditionally representing Jesus' divinity and purity, as well as joy). The Sundays after Epiphany focus on **the growth of Jesus' ministry**, so the color is **green**.



During **January** the money collected in our “noisy offering” collection jug in worship will go to support **Bright Stars of Bethlehem**.

Please also be sure to select one of the **STAR ornaments** on display in the gathering space, made by our Confirmation youth, as a thank-you for giving and as a reminder to pray for the people of

Palestine and Israel and that the area might be transformed by justice and peace.

Feel free to add monetary contributions other than change.

To learn more, check out their website: brightstarsbethlehem.com

Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb is founder of Dar al-Kalima University and co-founder of “Bright Stars of Bethlehem”. Formerly he was pastor of Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, Palestine and former bishop of the Lutheran World Federation.



Grace Lutheran Church Council

President: Don Barnard
Vice President: Steve Kottke
Secretary: Kris Fleming
Barb Schilling

Chuck Barnard
Financial Secretary: Laura Barnard
Treasurer: Tina Riechers
Technology: Hannah Badertscher

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Things your Council is working on now:

- LEAD Training—February 11, 2023 in Middleton at St. Luke’s Church--sign up if you can join us or talk to Pastor for more information.
- Council and Stewardship Committees met with Tim Zauche from Thrivent. Watch for workshops on a variety of topics in the coming year
- Looking into ACH options for giving. You can also set up a recurring payment through your on-line banking. Talk to a council member for more information.
- We are looking for new council members. If interested, talk to Don Barnard.
- ANNUAL MEETING is set for Sunday, February 5 (weather date February 12)

First there were **LIGHTS ...** Now **CAMERA ...** Then **ACTION!**



Project Description: We are raising funds for the equipment necessary to record and post worship services and other events held in the sanctuary in a manner that provides good quality of visuals and sound, is simple to operate, allows freedom of movement, and **serves our mission to reach people beyond our walls with the good news!**

Check out the display in the back of the worship space for commitment cards/envelopes.

Please consider giving toward this important project. Thank you!

Our contributions are at \$1,625 as of December 30.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for January

	January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
Altar Care	Jalaine Ruessegger Sheila Carrington	Jalaine Ruessegger Sheila Carrington	Mary Roelli Pat Roelli	Linda Considine Diane Bredeson	Marilyn Johns
Reader	Jalaine Ruessegger	Kris Fleming Steve Kottke	MaKenna Roelli	Kris Fleming	Chris Wick
Greeter			Chuck & Carol Barnard	Jalaine Ruessegger Sheila Carrington	Black Family
Ushers	Don Leinberger	Don Leinberger	Don Leinberger Marta Roelli	Don Leinberger Steve Fleming	Don Leinberger Chuck Barnard
Acolytes			Marta Roelli	Ryelyn Badertscher	Mercedes & Joel Meyers
Communion	Jalaine Ruessegger	Jalaine Ruessegger	Mary Roelli	Linda Considine	Marilyn Johns
Bread	Marilyn Johns	-----	Mary Roelli	-----	Carol Barnard
Counters	January 10-14 _____ January 24-30 _____				

**Please arrive 20 minutes early. **Please arrive 25 minutes early.*

If you are unable to fulfill your role on a given weekend, please contact another person/family on the Worship Leader Schedule and swap or have someone cover for you.

See the bulletin board in the narthex for a more extensive schedule.

Please indicate changes ahead of time on that master schedule, **or** if need be, contact the office with changes. (Office: 608.776.4462; darlinglutherans@gmail.com).

FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

Fellowship following worship for refreshments and conversation. Directions are posted inside the cabinet in the upstairs fellowship area. If you have questions, please call Vicki Johnston (776-4572) or Pat Roelli (482-0572).



January 2023

- 1- Diane Bredeson/Carol Barnard
- 8- Tina Riechers/Jan Riechers
- 15- Kris Fleming/Kate Chambers
- 22- Judy Boll/Vicki Johnston
- 29- Judy Elzen/Missy Zasada

IN OUR PRAYERS

We remember in our prayers:



Congregation: Sue Korinek (David Kieckhafer's sister/Pastor's sister-in-law), Jan Riechers, Billie Ferger, Gloria Blaser, Rachel Suthers, Jean Belanger, Janet Andrews, Duane Nelson, Les Torstenson and Jack Leu.

Friends, Family, & Neighbors: Harold Colbeck, (brother-in-law of Chuck and Carol Barnard), Mark Mallard (Paul Roelli brother-in-law), Jim Bredeson, Rob Nelson (son of Duane and Barb Nelson), Jenna Gill and family, Joe Leu, (Jack's brother), Gene and Emmy Wilson, Devin, Duane Jorgenson, and Kathy Jenamann (JoNell Coates' sister-in-law).

Deaths: Family and friends of Lorraine Riechers and Evelyn (Evie) Evans



POINSETTIAS

Thank you for all of the Christmas poinsettias and donations:

In Honor Of:

- Pastor Kate – Steve & Kris Fleming
- Art & Elaine Koenig, Cait & Dan Janasch, Nate & Emma Fleming – Steve & Kris Fleming
- Our Family – Larry & Carol Kammes
- Our Children Mike & Miriam, Brad & Jennie, Brian & Hillary - Stu & Patty Vamstad
- Ruth Vamstad – Stu & Patty Vamstad
- Our Grandchildren Dahlia, Diego, Bryce & Thorin – Stu & Patty Vamstad
- Mary Knellwolf – Humble Choir
- Our Grandchildren: Alyssa, Bryce, Ryan, Brynlee, Leo & Lucy - Paul & Pat Roelli
- The Barnard Family, The Siegel Family, Grace Lutheran Church - Don & Laura Barnard

In Memory Of:

- Adler Roelli – Mary Ann Roelli
- Veronica Garrison – Diane Bredeson
- Lyn Koenig, John & Evelyn Fleming, Patti Fleming – Steve & Kris Fleming
- Granholm & Jacobson Family – Linda Considine
- Shirley Johnson, Vernon Johnson & Olson Grandparents - Sheila Carrington, Robert & Jalaine Ruegsegger
- Robert & Peggy Berg and Oscar Vamstad – Stu & Patty Vamstad
- Pat Miller – Duane & Barb Nelson
- Thomas D. Johns - Marilyn Johns family



WORDS OF GRATITUDE

A big thank you to:



- Care Team and donators for the gifts and cards for Homebound
- Altar Care team & Humble Choir for decorating and preparations for Advent & Christmas
- Hannah Badertscher, parents, youth and children for a wonderful Christmas program!
- Tina Riechers, Laura Barnard, Don Barnard for 2022 year-end financial work and 2023 budget preparations
- Offering Counters in December: Steve Kottke and Laura and Don Barnard
- December Fellowship hosts: Vicki Johnston, Renae Johnson, Mary Roelli, Pat Roelli, Heather Blosch, and the Worship Team.
- Tana Risseuw and Sheila Carrington for donating all the cards we sent out for this holiday season.
- Those who have helped keep the poinsettias watered.

Thank You(s) Received

“Christmas Carolers: Thank you for coming to sing for my family gathering on Sunday. We all enjoyed it so much and thank you for letters and Rylyn play along. I am so proud of her playing the piano and clarinet. Thank you again – turned 84 this year and never had any carolers come to sing to me before. So many thanks.” ---Billie Ferger

“On behalf of the volunteers, staff, and friends of Southwestern Wisconsin Community Action Program, please accept my gratitude for your support, and my sincerest wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season. Thanks in part to especially generous friends, like you, more than 15,000 of our neighbors in southwestern Wisconsin have food to eat, a place to live, warm clothes, healthcare, transportation, improved wellbeing, and other community services.”
--- Wally Orzechowski Executive Director, SWCAP



Celebration!



Birthdays

Dylan Zasada (1/3)

Kate Chambers (1/9)

Sharan Ohnstad (1/19)

Tim White (1/27)

Sue Torstenson (1/4)

Tina Riechers (1/14)

Patty Vamstad (1/25)

Janet Andrews (1/28)

Tash Opland (1/29)

Jody White (1/7)

Chuck Barnard (1/18)

Jalaine Ruegsegger (1/26)

Alana Black (1/28)

Anniversaries

Barb and Duane Nelson (1/4)

Bridget and Brian Schilling (1/10)

Please let the office know if we have missed your birthday or anniversary in the listing so we can add your special day to our records.

CARE COMMITTEE

The Care Committee is so appreciative of all the amazing and wonderful things that were donated by you, the incredible people of Grace, for our homebound Christmas bags! What a nice variety! We packed **71 bags!!** This would never have happened without the help of the faithful workers that are always so generous and willing to help to put these bags together and get them delivered!



You are angels: Diane Bredeson, Linda Considine, Marilyn Johns, Pat Roelli, and Sheila Carrington. Grace Lutheran is so blessed to have each and every one of you with the many, many things you always do for our church!! --- Jalaine

Faith Formation



CONFIRMATION CLASSES for 5th-8th Grade STUDENTS

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:45 PM – Grace Fellowship Hall

Classes will resume on January 11 with a special event at Pastor Kate's home

PROPHETS AND PROMISES: DEVOTIONS FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2022-2023

This devotional draws on the Gospel of Matthew, as well as the prophets, to help you add a Christian observance to your Advent and Christmas seasons. This devotional continues through Epiphany on January 6.



TAKING FAITH HOME

Taking Faith Home are inserted in weekly bulletins for faith conversations and devotions **in the home** and **small groups**. Extra copies are available in the welcome center, as well as acrylic stands to use at home.

CHRIST IN OUR HOME/THE WORD IN SEASON

The January-March editions of these devotionals are available in the gathering space.

COMMUNITY

GIVING TREE



Another wonderful year with our giving tree. Thank you to all the generous people that helped make this possible. Your gifts definitely brightened up the holidays for a lot of people. Thank you for opening up your hearts!!

Contributors were: Barb Nelson, Diane Bredeson, Laura Barnard, Marilyn Johns, Mary Knellwolf, Pat Roelli, Carol Kammes, Sheila Carrington, Sharon Ohnstad, Mary Ann Roelli, Lexus Barnard and Jalaine Ruegsegger.

MITTEN TREE

The Mitten Tree will continue to collect donations of hat, gloves, mitten, scarves, and gaiters for a few more weeks. These items will be given to the local schools for the children in need of them.



GOOD GIFTS

Giving “Good Gifts” through Lutheran World Relief. Go to: <https://wr.org/blog/2015/how-give-better-christmas-lwr-gifts>. Gift giving catalogues are also available at the church’s information center.



SALVATION ARMY BELL-RINGING

Grace Lutheran’s assignment date was on Friday, December 23 at Piggly Wiggly. The event was cancelled due to inclement weather. Thank you to all who signed up to help with this event: Linda Considine, Mary Roelli, Eldon and Kitty Wilson.

Lafayette County Food Pantry

The Lafayette County Food Pantry is currently accepting donations. Particular needs right now are cooking oil, Hamburger Helper, **personal care products** (shampoo, crème rinse, lotion, etc.), **baby wipes, diapers (sizes 2, 3, & 5)**. **Toilet paper and paper towels** are always needed.

Donations can be dropped off at Grace in the shopping cart located near the fellowship area. Frozen products can be dropped off at the Food Pantry on Tuesdays or Thursdays (10:00-3:00). Tell them you represent Grace Lutheran Church, and your donation will be added to our ongoing count of pounds for 2022! **November total was 41#.** **Our total for the year so far is 817#.**



GRACE IN PICTURES



Packing Boxes for the Homebound



Sunday School Christmas Program



Christmas Eve



Christmas Carolers



January 2023

Pastor's Schedule (608/732-9688)
 Pastor.GraceDar@gmail.com
 Mondays - Thursdays
 Fridays: Pastor's Day Off

Church Office Hours (Tana)
 DarlingLutherans@gmail.com (608/776-4462)
 Tuesday-Thursday 8:00-1:00

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 AM Worship/Hope 10:30 AM Worship/Grace	2 7:00 PM Council Exec. Committee	3	4 ----- Pastor's Spiritual Retreat -----	5	6	7 E. Evans Funeral
8 8:30 AM Worship/Hope 9:30 Sun Sch. 10:30 AM Worship/Grace	9	10	11 5:30-6:45 PM Confirmation @ Pastor's home	12 7:00 PM Council	13	14
15 8:30 AM Worship/Hope 9:30 Sun Sch. 10:30 AM Worship/Grace	16	17 9:30 Worship Committee 6:30 PM Hope Council	18 5:30-6:45 PM Confirmation	19	20	21
22 8:30 AM Worship/Hope Annual Mtg Follows Service 9:30 Sun Sch. 10:30 AM Worship/Grace	23	24 10:30 AM Worship at Laf. Manor	25 Newsletter articles due 5:30-6:45 PM Confirmation	26	27	28
29 8:30 AM Worship/Hope 9:30 Sun Sch. 10:30 AM Worship/Grace	30	31				

GRACE ANNUAL MEETING
February 5, 2023
 (weather date February 12)



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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

1302 Clay St • Darlington, WI 53530

Return Service Requested



Mission Statement

We are Grace people. Jesus Christ sends us out to:

- + Feed the hungry
- + Welcome every child
- + Seek out the stranger
- + Give thanks to God in all things
- + Follow the way of the cross

Church phone: 608.776.4462
 Church email: darlinglutherans@gmail.com
 Facebook: [Facebook.comGraceLutheran.Darlington](https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheran.Darlington)
 Website: GraceLutheranDarlington.net
 Pastor's email: Pastor.GraceDar@gmail.com
 Pastor's phone: 608.732.9688

Newsletter Deadline
 Items need to be submitted for the
 February Newsletter by January 25

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