

THE CARILLON

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Grace Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



From the Keyboard of Pastor Kate....

Breaking Our Fast from Holy Communion

Dear People of Grace,

As we begin celebrating the Lord's Supper again in modified ways, I would like to share with you an adapted version of a message from Rev. Mark Williamson, Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Dodgeville, who was my former internship supervisor while I was in seminary and continues to be a trusted colleague and mentor. It is with these thoughts in mind that Grace Darlington moves ahead as well.

“One of the hardest things about our suspension of in-person gatherings since [last March] has been the related hiatus on celebrating Holy Communion together. Numerous bishops and teaching theologians of the ELCA counseled early on that we keep a ‘fast’ from the sacrament, a practice not unknown to church tradition during the season of Lent, especially for those preparing to be baptized and those ‘penitents’ long-ing to be restored to fellowship in the church.

“Except for [Christmas Day evening worship and Ash Wednesday this year], this is what we have done at Grace. We have fasted. Are not God's people getting famished by now in the wilderness of Covid?

“In Luke's gospel we hear an account of how the resurrected Jesus ‘made himself known in the breaking of bread’ with two disciples in a home in the village of Emmaus (Luke 24:28-35). Their altar was their kitchen table, and they were only the smallest of groups gathered in one place for the Supper. Meanwhile, as these two learned upon returning to Jerusalem, Jesus had also appeared alive to Simon (24:34) at practically the same time he was ‘in’ Emmaus. We are reminded by this timely word that our physical distancing is no obstacle for the real presence of the risen Christ.

“Consider these words from a treatise of Martin Luther on the sacrament from 1527:

Christ is everywhere and fills all things (Ephes. 1:23). He is bound to no particular place...or external thing, so that all that belongs to his kingdom is free and bound to nothing—the gospel, baptism, the sacrament, and Christians. For the gospel is and must be free in regard to all places and is bound to no particular spot.... So also baptism and the sacrament. For it is not necessary that in the churches alone and nowhere else there be preaching, baptism, and the sacrament. They can be in any place where there is need. It does not follow now that Christ in the sacrament is as if bound to one place, here or there. He and his sacrament are or may be free to be in any place.

“The pandemic presents to us have a unique opportunity now to receive Christ into our home and into our bodies right in the place where many of us are hunkered down. In our [10 am worship on February 28 during the live-stream of our in-person worship service on Facebook Live and Zoom (on-line or dial-in)], I invite you to break the fast and share in the Lord’s Supper together (while apart) with the whole of Grace Church.

How to Prepare and How to Receive

“What you will need to have set out in advance at home is some bread and some wine or grape juice. If you wish to bake from Grace’s communion recipe, [we will provide it in the future,] but any ordinary bread will do. Please use elements that are familiar to you from receiving Communion in the past and will not compromise your sense of reverence around the sacrament. Candles can also be a nice touch.

“Wait to eat and drink until I have spoken the Words of Institution and we have prayed the Lord’s Prayer together. (Do not think of these words as ‘magic words’ going through your computer or phone, but simply Christ’s own words of promise declared to you with a ‘bigger microphone.’) We will all receive together simultaneously, first the bread, then the cup, when I say ‘Given for you’ and ‘Shed for you.’ If you have others in your household for whom you would like to repeat these words and serve, feel free to do so.

“After worship has ended, if you have extra bread and wine from your ‘altar,’ I recommend you consume it. This is a normal practice in many congregations, [though another alternative] is to return it to the earth, e.g. under a tree in your yard. Finally, I would ask that you only participate live during the service proper and not in conjunction with a recording later [though available on Facebook, YouTube, and an email of Zoom]. Ours is a predicament of space, and we have no need to impose further degrees of separation in time.

“As long as so many of us are confined to our homes, on the Lord’s Day we will observe a [twice-a-month pattern for Communion, on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, as well as Easter.]

Is This Real or Just “Virtual” Communion?

“Finally, I am aware that some in the wider conversation in the ELCA at this time have referred to the practice I have described, sometimes pejoratively, as ‘virtual’ Communion. Let’s not call it that. Where God’s Word is present together with the physical eating and drinking, we truly have Christ and the forgiveness of sins.

“At the same time, I expect that in sharing the sacrament, while not all physically together, we will feel both unified by the Spirit and painfully absent from one another. This paradox of presence and absence is always part of the experience of the Supper—we have Christ and yet long more deeply to see him face-to-face. Now we will taste that same paradox in terms of the church, the body of Christ.

“Our physical presence to one another in the Lord’s supper is important, but these extreme times call for an extraordinary means of reception. After this time of isolating has mercifully come to an end, so too will celebrating Communion via the internet or phone.

“For now, however, what must be proclaimed is the compassion of God for the hungry and thirsty. And what does God do for God’s people in the desert? Does he mandate for them a continual fast, until they can arrive at the land of promise? No. The simple truth is *He feeds them.*”

Let these truths be our way as we partake in the Lord’s Supper in these unprecedented times.

Pastor Kate (with blessings from Pastor Mark)

Pastor Kate's office hours

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Pastor Kate's work days are Mondays thru Thursdays and Sundays. It is recommended to call first or set up a time. Non-urgent messages may be left at the church (776-4462 or Pastor.GraceDar@gmail.com), or she can be reached on her cell phone (608/732-9688).

WORSHIP

We continue with the season on Lent throughout the month of March.

Sunday services continue at **10 am** and are accessible **in-person** with safety measures in place, **Facebook Live** (new & improved sound and visuals), **Zoom** (with improving internet and sound), with recordings made available soon after on **YouTube** and through **email**.



Holy Communion is now a part of worship on the **2nd and 4th Sundays** of the month. Those who need to worship from home **who are participating in "real time"** via live stream may gather elements at home and participate. **(See pastor's letter for details.)**



A home kit including a 2021 full-color Lenten devotional, items to create a devotional space at home, and other additions are available for pickup from the church narthex (lobby). We ask people to hold to one kit **per household**, but there are **extra bracelets** available and **devotionals to share** with others!

Though the Darlington churches are foregoing their Wednesday worship service/soup supper rotation this year, **Grace** will be having **vespers** (short, evening contemplative prayer services) during Lent from **6-6:30 pm** during Lent.

Let us know if you **need help** using your computer or phone to access the services. Zoom works with a landline as well.

THANK YOU

- Special thanks to all those who helped prepare the "Lent-in-a-Bag" project and prepare the church for Lenten! Beautiful work!
- Thank you to the Junior High youth for their help preparing and leading Lenten mid-week services.

Hymn Requests

Musician Mary Knellwolf is continuing to take requests for prelude and postlude music for our online worship services. You may contact Mary at mlknellwolf@gmail.com, call or text her at 608.482.01126, or send her a message through Facebook.





IN OUR PRAYERS

We remember in our prayers: **Dottie, Pat, and Kim.**

PRAYER VENTURES

Copies of “Prayer Ventures” for March can be found in the narthex. Prayer Ventures lists daily petitions and guides for prayer for the global, social and out-reach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. We encourage our readers to use this resource daily during their devotional times.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Are you someone who is committed to a faithful prayer life and believes in the power of prayer? Are you trustworthy and committed to respecting others’ desire for confidentiality? We are looking for people who would be interested in serving on a prayer team/prayer chain for communal and personal concerns. Contact Pastor Kate for information.

Prayer requests for the intercessory prayers in worship announcements, the newsletter, or confidential prayer concerns can be given to Pastor Kate or the church office.



Birthdays:

Gary Borcharding 3/03
Catie Blosch 3/11
Eldon Wilson 3/19
Mark Riechers 3/25

Judy Boll 3/09
Shirley Sincox 3/15
Don Leinberger 3/23
Jayla Thomas 3/31

Allyn Gertsch 3/10
Judy Elzen 3/19
Rhonda Roelli 3/24

Anniversary, Birthdates, and Gottcha Dates: Please send us your dates. Just the month and day. The year is not needed. We would like to list them in the newsletter each month, so we can celebrate with you.



Pictures of Grace

We continue to look for pictures of the people of Grace – shots of smiling faces and faith and ministry in action wherever you are – at home, in the community, and at church! Please send your pictures to Pastor Kate and/or the church office email. We’d like to use these for newsletters and outreach. Help us to spread the word!



Grace Lutheran Church Council

Council and Staff Contact Information



Don Barnard, 920-246-9534, barndab@msn.com
Kris Fleming, 608-482-0404, flem1989@gmail.com
Steve Fleming, 608-482-0420, sfleming@investorscommunitybank.com
Barb Schilling, 608-482-2876, bbschillings@gmail.com
Jody White, 608-574-1978, Jodywhite638@gmail.com
Financial Secretary: Laura Barnard, 920-366-4946, barndab@msn.com
Treasurer: Tina Riechers, 608-482-3839, tinariechers@live.com
Technology: Hannah Badertscher, 608-482-0945, hannahfam19@yahoo.com

Staff Contact Information:

Rev. Kate Kieckhafer, 608-732-9688, Pastor.Gracedar@gmail.com

Church Office Staff:

Tiffany Donahoe (office and bulletin)

Judy Elzen (newsletter)

Custodian: JoNell Coats

Musician: Mary Knellwolf mlknellwolf@gmail.com

New members elected to the council at the annual meeting held on January 31 are Barb Schilling and Kris Fleming. **Thank you** to our outgoing members Val Thompson and Bridget Schilling.

Council Minutes --- February 10, 2021 @ 7:00 PM

Devotion by Pastor Kate

Pastor Kate shares devotional

Meeting called to order by Don Barnard at 7:03 PM

Present: Don Barnard, Steve Fleming, Pastor Kate, Kris Fleming, Hannah Badertscher, Jody White, Barb Schilling, Tina Riechers

Review and approve January minutes

Motion to approve January minutes by Hannah, Second by Barb, Motion Carried

Pastor's Report was presented by Pastor Kate

New Business

- a. **In-Person Church Service Startup and Online Services – Review** Discussion of music not heard well during service. Hannah has a webcam to try this week. Pastor would like to have a cohost—to let people in, answer comments, mute people. It is a work in progress.
- b. **Communion Services** Discussion of having communion/making it accessible to everyone. For Ash Wednesday—communion and imposition of ashes for those in person and have a “drive through” for approximately an hour afterward. Communion at home where congregants gather the elements from home. Release from pews as family units. During pandemic discussion of communion 2x/month

- c. **Building usage** Discussion of policy changes—allowing in-person funerals as long as we are having in-person services with possible change if there is a need to do virtual services again. Allow funeral meals limited to immediate family with the family serving themselves.
- d. **Endowment Fund Allocation** There is \$5000 in endowment checking right now (after using \$5000). The rest is in CDs that come due at various times. Steve motions to increase endowment disbursement up to \$20000 per year to be put in savings as needed, limited to 2021 with no carryover to 2022. Second by Jodi. Motion carried.
- e. **Installation date for Council** February 28, 2021
- f. **Council retreat** Strategic planning—goals for coming year. Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 13 from 3:30 PM to 7:30 PM at Don's house
- g. **Internet and phone issues** Phone service in office is poor. Hannah will bring a phone from work to see if it is the phone or the service. Internet on Sunday was unstable. Right now, Pastor cannot Zoom in her office with video. Hannah will talk to Century Link to determine the issue and have someone come out to check the system.
- h. **Sugar Creek Bible Camp** Pastor reports she has 4 out of the 5 confirmation students who are able to do Confirmation Camp. Pastor would like to do this. There is money for scholarships for campers through a youth account. Kris motions to pay 100% of camperships for Confirmation Camp and \$400 toward camperships for any other campers who belong to the church, Second by Jodi, 5 Ayes, 1 Nay, Motion carried.

Old Business

- i. Annual Congregational Meeting-Sunday January 31st Review—overall everything went well. Big thank you to Hannah for her help in writing out the Zoom directions.

Committee Reports

- j. **Property Committee**
 - 1. Paul fixed the lights, as they needed to be adjusted after the time change. Tim White is getting a bid on getting air conditioner raised up and work on downspouts. Locks were ordered for the front doors and they will 8-12 weeks to get the locks.
- k. **Treasurer Report** Motion by Kris to donate \$100 to the Bunny Hop in Megan Douglas' name, second by Hannah, motion carried. Discussion of yearly audit (Bridget Schilling and Tim White will be doing the audit).
- l. **Education Committee Report** No report at this time
- m. **Worship Committee** Meets tomorrow
- n. **Nominating Committee** Committee consists of Steve, Mary Roelli, Jodi, and Paul Roelli

Adjournment

Motion by Barb, second by Jodi, meeting adjourned at 9:18 PM with the Lord's Prayer

COMMUNITY & CONGREGATIONAL Care



Care Team: We are looking for people to participate in meaningful ways that connect our church to each other, to the wonderful community of Darlington, and to our world. Currently activities are being organized and carried out with minimal to no physical gathering. Fill your cup to overflowing by helping to support and encourage others. If interested contact Jalaine Ruegsegger at 608/432-030 or rugj21@gmail.com.

“GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS”

-COMMUNITY Care-

Meals-On-Wheels



A **huge** thank-you to Les Torstenson and everyone who helped to deliver meals during February! Grace’s next month to deliver will be **July**.



Lafayette County Food Pantry

The **Lafayette County Food Pantry** is currently accepting donations. Particular needs right now are **canned pasta**, **canned beans** (pork and beans, pinto, kidney, chili, etc.), family-friendly **non-cream soups** (such as tomato, chicken noodle; NO CREAM OF MUSHROOM), Hamburger Helper, peanut butter, non-sugared cereals such as Chex, Cheerios, corn flakes etc., **personal care products** (tooth paste, tooth brushes, shampoo, crème rinse, lotion, etc.). **Toilet paper, paper towels** and **empty egg cartons** are always needed!



Donations can be dropped off at Grace in the shopping cart located near the fellowship area.

The pantry is also in need of volunteers. If you are under the age of 70, able-bodied, have no underlying health conditions, and are not going home to someone with any, please contact Amanda or Liz at the pantry number (608/776-3500).



BLOOD DRIVE

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 from 12:30 to 5:30 PM at the American Legion.

Thank You!



- Thank you so much for your donation of winter gear. It is greatly appreciated!

Thanks, Angie Davis, DEMS Guidance Counselor

- Thank you so much for my Valentine box and my Ash Wednesday kit. Love my Ash Wednesday little table decoration and trying to “Walk My Walk” with the Reflections (devotions).

Billie Ferger

FARMER ANGEL NETWORK

This website is a “neighbors helping neighbors” model designed for farmers who are overwhelmed with the stressors borne from Covid-19. It is designed to work with farmers to keep them informed of the services and programs available to assist them. For more information, visit: www.projectrecoverywi.org. An information poster is on the bulletin board in the narthex.



Faith Formation

Sunday School 9:00 – 9:35 AM

In person preschool - 4th grades

Contact: Hannah Badertscher

Jr. High Youth Group/Confirmation

Wednesdays 4:30 – 6:30 PM

In person 5th-8th grades

Contact: Pr. Kate

Sr. High Youth Group

4th Wednesdays 6:30 – 8:00 PM

In person 9th-12th grades

Contact: Pr. Kate



Taking Faith Home

Our weekly bulletin insert based on the Revised Common Lectionary (our weekly worship texts). It includes:

--examples for each of the Four Key faith practices (*caring conversations, devotions, service, and rituals and traditions*);

--Includes a weekly prayer, Bible verse, mealtime prayer and blessing;

--offers suggested daily Bible readings and hymn for the week;

--designed for all ages and across generations;

--great for household devotions, family time, church groups, and more!

You will find this resource in your weekly worship bulletin/announcement email. Check it out!



Sugar Creek Bible Camp

“Where all generations encounter Christ, experience God’s grace, and are empowered by the Holy Spirit to go forth in faith.”

2021 Brochures are now available in the church lobby. Opportunities abound for families, students K-12, and adults. Check out the opportunities! www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org. Free t-shirts are given if registration is received by March 15. Registrations can be online.

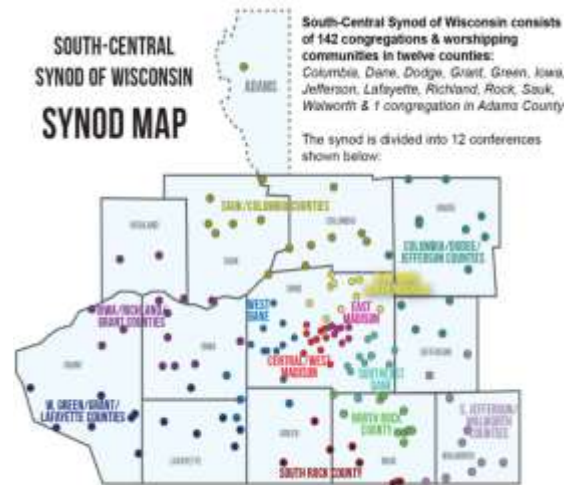
Grace Lutheran is offering **scholarships** of \$200.00 per student for the half-week sessions and \$400.00 per student for full-week sessions. Contact pastor if you have questions.

In addition to the busy summer schedule, Sugar Creek is planning an **adult bus trip** to Branson (Missouri) for the Christmas shows November 8-12, 2021. Check out the brochure on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Mission Moment



LUAD
LUTHERANS UNITED ASSISTING AFTER DISASTERS



To learn more about LUAD: Check out the website, facebook page and watch this 2-minute Mission Moment [Video](#) [My Movie 1 - YouTube](#)

Lutherans United Assisting after Disasters (LUAD) remains committed to our Vision of being a spiritual partner in assisting disaster survivors in the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin-ELCA through the initial stages of disaster recovery. Our Mission is to help disaster survivors bridge the gap between the emergency of disaster and long-term recovery by rendering the necessary services, donated items, supplies, assistance, and the social, emotional, and spiritual support to help them return as quickly **as possible to a state where they can again safely carry out ‘the business of family/individuals’.**

Although our Synod area was blessed to not experience any natural disasters, the COVID19 pandemic created a different type of disaster for which **LUAD could be of help. The LUAD Council elected to use our “disaster fund” to provide grants for applicants needing assistance with their food pantries and related services.** We coordinated our efforts through the synod office and provided nearly \$12,000 in grant funds for those churches/missions with the greatest need. LUAD considers it a great blessing to offer this financial relief for the pandemic disaster throughout our Synod. Our LUAD Council offers sincere thanks to all the Synod churches that donated to our mission in 2020.

The LUAD team continues to work hard in recruiting Council representation from each of the 12 SCSW-ELCA Conferences. We still have work to do with representation from just over half of these conferences. Recruiting conference representation remains critical for the conferences of East Madison, South Jefferson/Walworth, Southeast Dane, Iowa/Richland/Grant, and W Green/Grant/Lafayette. LUAD is also looking for more women to bring their unique gifts who are willing to volunteer.

LUAD also initiated a quarterly newsletter to build awareness and inform our Synod area of our mission, efforts, and activities. More information about LUAD can also be found at www.LUAD.org.

Please contact us at info@luad.org for more information on how to become a part of this wonderful ministry or to schedule a team visit/videochat with your church. Our response number is 888-237-0433.

God’s Peace,

Rob Malewicki Tom Irwin
2020 LUAD President 2021 President-Elect & Past Treasurer

If you wish to make a special offering to support ministries such as this, you may make an offering through the **synod’s on-line giving platform.** Choose **“Synod Ministries Where Needed Most.”** First time giving through

Tithe.ly? Creating an account is easy...just follow the simple steps. We are grateful!

[Make a Donation \(tithe.ly\)](http://tithe.ly)



CHURCH CALENDAR

March



Wednesday	March 3	Jr. High Youth, 4:30 pm Lenten Vespers 6:00 pm Council Executive Committee, 7:00 pm
Sunday	March 7	Third Sunday in Lent * Sunday School, 9:00 am * Worship, 10:00 am
Wednesday	March 10	Jr. High Youth, 4:30 pm Lenten Vespers 6:00 PM Grace Council, 7:00 pm
Thursday	March 11	Worship Committee, 9:00 am
Sunday	March 14	Fourth Sunday in Lent * Sunday School, 9:00 am * Worship w/Holy Communion, 10:00 am
Wednesday	March 17	Jr. High Youth, 4:30 pm Lenten Vespers 6:00 pm
Sunday	March 21	Fifth Sunday in Lent * Sunday School, 9:00 am * Worship, 10:00 am
Wednesday	March 24	Jr. High Youth, 4:30 pm Lenten Vespers 6:00 pm Sr. High Youth, 6:30-8:00 PM
Sunday	March 28	Palm Sunday * Sunday School, 9:00 am * Worship w/Holy Communion, 10:00 am
Wednesday	March 31	Jr. High Youth 4:30 pm (via Zoom)
Thursday	April 1	Maundy Thursday Worship, 7:00 pm
Friday	April 2	Good Friday Worship, 7:00 pm
Sunday	April 4	Easter Worship (time TBA)



Name _____ Phone _____

I would like to order _____ Easter Lily ('s) for the Easter Season at Grace Lutheran Church.

I would like this in honor of _____
(Any Living Person)

And/or in memory of _____
(Any deceased person)

The cost of the Easter Lilies is \$10 per plant this year. The final deadline to order will be Monday, March 22. Please make checks payable to: Grace Lutheran Church. If you wish to bring other flowers or plants to help decorate the sanctuary they will be more than welcome. Contact the Church Office at 776-4462 or GraceDar@centurytel.net with any questions.

1. Submit the order form and \$10/ plant in a clearly marked envelope to the collection plate or church office by Monday, March 22.
2. Your order will be filled and delivered to the church by Natures Gifts on April 3.

Additional "In honor of" Names
In honor of _____

Additional "In memory of" Names
In memory of _____

Toilet paper challenge RESULTS



A **big thanks** to everyone who helped with creating our toilet paper tree for the food pantry! A special thank you to **the White kids (Blaze, Brynn, and Brax)** for creating, adding to, and demolishing the tree! 269 rolls of toilet paper were collected!





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



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Newsletter Deadline
 Items need to be submitted for April
 Carillon March 24.