



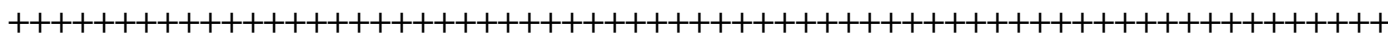
December 2022

# THE CARILLON



Grace Lutheran Church

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



The NEW Church Year Begins with ADVENT!!



Advent 1: November 27

Advent 2: December 4

Advent 3: December 11

Advent 4: December 18

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**Sunday, December 18: Worship Featuring A Christmas to Believe In**

**10:30 AM Gospel** presented by the Sunday School children

Followed by:

**Special Fellowship** in Fellowship hall, (Bring an appetizer/ finger food (hot or cold) to share. Beverages, paper products, and birthday cake will be provided!)

Followed by:

**Christmas Caroling to the Homebound**

Lafayette Manor, Sienna Crest, a few homes



**Saturday, December 24: Christmas Eve**

**6:00 PM** at Hope in Mineral Point

**8:00 PM** at Grace in Darlington

**Sunday, December 25: Christmas Day**

**9:30 AM** at Grace in Darlington

**Featuring hymns with organ by guest organist, Mary Baehler**

**Sunday, January 1: New Year's Day**

**8:30 AM** at Hope

**10:30 AM** at Grace



## Advent is....

### Penitential, but...

It's like looking at how your housekeeping got away from you, and you want to **get it ready in hospitality and love** for your best friends who are coming to visit.

### Yearning for God

It would be great if God would **show up and set things to** right for all people. Anytime, now, God, anytime now...

### Tuning our hearts to resonate with the suffering

There is much that is broken. **Who suffers?** Who needs compassion? Where does truth need to be spoken?

### Trusting God's promise

God is with us in this physical world, and God is yet to come to this physical world.



During the **Advent/Christmas S\season**, the money collected in our **“noisy offering”** collection jug in worship will go to support *Bright Stars of Bethlehem*.

Feel free to add monetary contributions other than change.

*“Our mission is to raise awareness and support for Dar al-Kalima University, the first and only university of arts and culture in all of Palestine. Our vision is for all people of Palestine to have life in abundance.”*

To learn more, check out their website: [brightstarsbethlehem.com](http://brightstarsbethlehem.com)

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



## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for December

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 25
Altar Care	Jalaine Ruegsegger Sheila Carrington	Pat Roelli Mary Roelli	Marilyn Johns	Diane Bredeson Linda Considine
Reader	Steve Kottke	Don Barnard	Brynn White	Linda Considine
Greeter	Bill & Barb Schilling	Don & Laura Barnard	White Family	
Ushers	Don Leinberger Jax Schilling	Don Leinberger Serenedy Opland	Don Leinberger Blaze White	Don Leinberger
Acolytes	Jax Schilling	Serenedy Opland	Brax White	
Communion	Jalaine Ruegsegger	Mary Roelli	Marilyn Johns	Linda Considine
Bread	Pat Roelli	-----	Laura Barnard	-----
Counters	December 10-14 Steve Kottke December 24-30 Don and Laura Barnard			

*\*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](mailto: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).



### December

- 4 – Vicki Johnston
- 11 – Renae Johnson/Mary Roelli
- 18 – Pat Roelli/Heather Blosch
- 25 – Worship Team

### January

- 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

## Grace Lutheran Church Council



President: Don Barnard  
Vice President: Pastor 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:

- Christmas eve services at Grace will be at 8:00 PM
- Council is working on the spending plan for the coming year. If you have any thoughts, please let a council member know
- It's that time of the year again--if you are interested in serving on Council, please let Council President, Don Barnard, or a current council member know. We are looking for 3 new members for the upcoming 3-year term.

### “NOISY” OFFERING

The September/October “Noisy” offering was for Lutheran World Relief shipping fund. The total amount received was \$48.06.

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

Our 2022 Campaign is 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!** Please check out the display in the gathering area for commitment cards/envelopes. Please consider giving toward this important project. Thank you to those who have contributed so far! Contributions to this date is \$1,075.00



### POINSETTIAS



It's time to think about ordering poinsettias for Christmas! Order forms are available in the narthex. The cost is \$11.00 per plant this year. The last day to order will be **Sunday, December 11**. Please make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church. You are welcome to bring other flowers or plants to help decorate the sanctuary as well. You may also stop out at Nature's Gifts and order directly. Contact the church office at 776-4462 with any questions.

## WORDS OF GRATITUDE

### A big thank you to:



- Dick Anderson for putting up the outdoor nativity scene
- Care Team for Thanksgiving cards to homebound
- Those who served at the funeral/luncheon for Vernon Johnson
- Offering counters in November
- Jalaine and Bob Ruegsegger for taking down and cleaning up the harvest decorations
- Donation of new sanctuary Christmas tree from Bill and Barb Schilling
- Our Council leadership
- Decorators for Advent – Members of the Humble Choir and Jalaine Ruegsegger
- Fellowship hosts for November: Jalaine Rugsegger, Sheila Carrington, Val Thompson, Linda Considine, Tiffany Meyers, Sheila Andrews, Alana Black, Marilyn Johns, and Wendy Johns.

### Thank You(s) Received

“Our family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the members of Grace that helped at our Dad’s funeral luncheon. Words cannot express how grateful we are for our Grace Family. We appreciate all the work and time you gave that day to serve our friends and family. We are so blessed to have you all in our life.” ----Jalaine and Sheila

“To My Friends and Family at Grace: Thank you so much for the cards, prayers, flowers and calls since my fall and broken arm. Special thanks to Judy Elzen for getting the bulletin done and “other” duties as assigned!” Tana



## Celebration!



### Birthdays:

**Conrad Blosch (12/02)**

**Wiley Zasada (12/0)**

**Billie Ferger (12/15)**

**Jennifer Kottke (12/24)**

**Curtis Blosch (12/02)**

**Dave Zasada (12/11)**

**Debbie Golackson (12/16)**

**Carol Kammes (12/26)**

**Steve Kottke (12/2)**

**Diane Bredeson (12/12)**

**Stu Vamstad (12/20)**

**Ever Schilling (12/29)**

### NO Anniversaries

**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.**



## IN OUR PRAYERS

### We remember in our prayers:



**Congregation:** (*for comfort and health*): Jack Leu, Tana Risseeuw, Billie Ferger, **Friends and Family:** Sue Korinek (Dave Kickhafer's), Harold Colbeck, Mark Mal-lard (Paul Roelli brother-in-law), Jenna Gill and family, Joe Leu, Gene and Emily Wilson, Devin, Lorraine Riechers, Duane Jorgenson and all those suffering from quiet struggles.

**Deaths:** Family and friends of Sam Riechers (brother of Mark)

## CARE COMMITTEE

The committee would like to thank **Linda Considine, Diane Bredeson, and Sheila Carrington** for helping to sign all the Thank-giving cards for Sienna Crest, the Manor and our homebound people. Your helping hands are so appreciated!



The **Care Committee** will be putting together Christmas packages for all homebound people on **Tuesday, December 20 at 9:00 AM**. There will be a box in the fellowship area if you would like to donate items such as: little Kleenex packages, little notepads, candy, small ornaments, hot cocoa, etc. **Due date** for these items is **Sunday, December 18**. Thank you for your generosity and being Santa's helpers! Jalaine

## Faith Formation

### REFLECTIONS on the CHRISTMAS STORY (from Matthew's gospel)

#### Mondays in Mineral Point at the Pointer Café

December 5 & 19 at 11:00-noon (optional lunch following)

#### Thursdays from 11:15-12:30 – Grace Fellowship Hall

December 1 & 22 – Devotions of Gratitude

December 8 & 15 – Reflections on the Christmas Story

Bring Your Own Lunch (BYOL) or items to share



### CONFIRMATION CLASSES

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

November 30, December 7 & 14 **NO CLASS** December 21, 28 & January 4

### 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. Each devotion features a scripture reading, accompanied by a photo, a quote to ponder, a reflection, and a prayer.

## FAMILIES CELEBRATE ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2022-2023

“Families Celebrate Advent & Christmas” is a colorful deck of cards that is full of rituals, prayers and reflections. Endlessly flexible for busy schedules, you can create a new after-meal ritual, use them as decorations, or carry them on the go.



## HAND CHIME CHOIR



Hope Lutheran has organized a handchime choir and would love for people of Grace to join! The choir plans to enhance worship services at both churches when they have music prepared. If you have ever played any type of instrument, please consider joining this fun group. They rehearse on **Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM** at Hope.

## SPECIAL EVENTS BEYOND

### SUGAR CREEK ADVENT DRIVE-THRU EVENT: *Road to Bethlehem* Saturday December 3

Begin your journey any time from 2:00-5:00 PM. Journey through the Advent story by visiting different live action worship stations offering carols, scripture, prayer, and the chance to visit a live nativity. Refreshments at the end. There is no cost, but we invite you to consider a free will offering to benefit the ministry and mission of Sugar Creek Bible Camp. Check the flyer in the narthex.

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

*Lessons and Carols* service hosted by Trinity Episcopal Church in Mineral Point will be held on Sunday, December 11 at 7:00 PM.

## 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.

## GRACE HAPPENINGS IN PICTURES All Saints Sunday – November 6



## COMMUNITY



### GIVING TREE

Please bring back gifts wrapped by December 4. Please tape the tag to the gift. Thank you for being a little elf in someone's life.



### MITTEN TREE

Grace is collecting new hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, neck gaiters, and socks again this year. Help fill the Mitten Tree inside the narthex entrance through December and early January. All donations are for the needs of our area school children. Contact the church office with any **questions**.



### SALVATION ARMY BELL-RINGING

Grace Lutheran's assignment date is Friday, December 23 at Piggly Wiggly. Sign up outside the church office. Call Marilyn Johns (608/776482-1771) for questions.

### DARLINGTON COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

The Bloodmobile will be at the American Legion on Tuesday, December 27 from 12:30-5:30 PM. For an appointment call 1-800/Red Cross (1/800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter Sponsor Code: DarlingtonWI.



### 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 68#. Our total for the year so far is 776.**





# December 2022

**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	2	3						
				11:15-12:30 Devotions of Gratitude @ Grace (BYOL)	Pastor attending monthly prayer retreat							
8:30 AM Worship/Hope 9:30 Sun Sch. 10:30 AM Worship/Grace	4	11:00-12:00 Reflections/ Christmas Story Pointer Café Min Pt.  7:00 PM Council Exec.	5	9:30 Worship	6	5:30-6:45 PM Confirmation	7	11:15-12:30 Christmas Bible Study @ Grace (BYOL)	8	9	10	
8:30 AM Worship/Hope 9:30 Sun Sch. 10:30 AM Worship/Grace	11	12	13	14	5:30-6:45 PM Confirmation  7:00 PM Council	15	16	17	11:15-12:30 Christmas Bible Study @ Grace (BYOL)			
9:30 Sun Sch. 10:30 AM Worship/Grace SS Program Fellowship & Caroling to Follow	18	11:00-12:00 Reflections/ Christmas Story Pointer Café Min Pt.	19	20	9:00 AM Christmas Pkg. Assembly	No Confirmation	21	11:15-12:30 Devotions of Gratitude @ Grace (BYOL)  Newsletter articles due	22	23	24	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> 6:00 PM Worship/Hope 8:00 PM Worship/Grace
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> 9:30 AM Worship/Grace  ----- Pastor gone after worship- -Christmas holiday -----	25	26	27	28	10:30 AM Worship at Laf. Manor  No Confirmation	29	30	31	<b>NEW YEARS EVE</b>  			



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

Newsletter Deadline  
Items need to be submitted for the  
January Newsletter by December 22

### Inside

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