



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gathering in Grace, Growing in Faith, Serving in Love

May 2024

Pastor's Ponderings

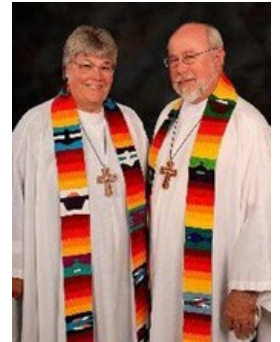


May is such a beautiful, eventful month, and this year at Grace, it's no different. May 5, our Sunday Schoolers will take over and lead worship to celebrate the end of the school year. You won't want to miss it! May 12 is Mother's Day, and May 19 is Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the Christian Church. May 26 will be my last Sunday before Sabbatical, so I invite you to come be a part of my Sending Service.

Thanks to the Lilly Sabbatical Grant I was given, over the summer, I'll get to travel to Italy, New Orleans with our youth, and Iona, Scotland. The sabbatical will be a wonderful way for me to recharge and reenergize for many more years of ministry here at Grace. While I'm gone, Grace will have some special events and activities to help the congregation renew and recharge as well. It'll be an exciting summer here at Grace, and I kinda hate to miss all of it! While on sabbatical, I won't be available over e-mail, text, or phone until the end of August, but you'll have not just 1, but 2 wonderful pastors serving you over the summer. Pastors Loren and Linda will start on Sunday, June 9 and will be available for emergencies.

Introducing your Summer Pastors:

We would like to tell you a little about who we are and where God has led us over our shared years of ministry. We are Pastors Loren and Linda Schumacher. We have been copastors over the past 44 years. We first served as interim Pastors at a two-point parish in Merrimac/Mazomanie, WI. Our first call was at Christ Lutheran in Paddock Lake, WI. From there we served a two-point parish in Curtiss/Medford, WI, a rural congregation in Amery, WI, and finally a congregation in Cloquet, MN. We retired from active ministry in August of 2017 and moved to Madison. We have two children, a daughter in Georgia and a son in Madison. We have always worked together sharing our calling in Ministry. Since moving to Madison we have served as interim pastors at Spring Prairie, Springdale/West Blue Mounds, East Koshkonong, and Rockdale Lutheran. We look forward to our time with Grace while Pastor Jennifer is on Sabbatical.

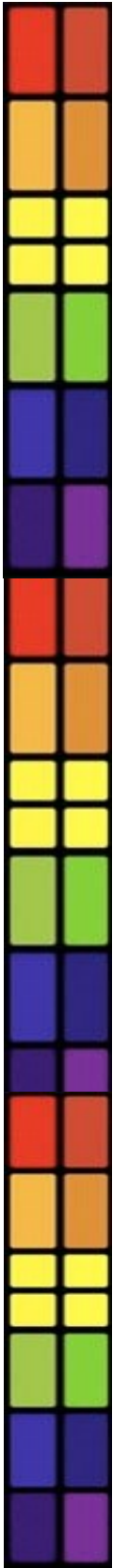


In other Jelinek family news, after 14 years of dealing with lung cancer and various treatments, metastases, and challenges, my husband, Pastor Erik Jelinek, has decided to go on Disability. His last Sunday at Central Lutheran Church will be May 19. It's obviously a bittersweet time for him and for us, but we're trying to focus on the joy of Erik being able to "retire," which is something we never thought he'd live long enough to do. So I invite your prayers during this time of transition for Erik and for our family. Thank you!

In Christ,
+ Pastor Jennifer

Pastor Jennifer's Sabbatical Sending Service

Sunday, May 26 at 9:00 a.m.





Opening Doors to Grace

Our new entryway has been approved and we are putting together a Silent Auction and Raffle to be held over 3 weeks, from May 5 –19, to raise funds for this project. If you have a special talent making jewelry, pillows, quilts, etc., you might consider donating an item or two for this event. Neil & Karen Johnson have already donated beautiful wood furniture made from the old church pews, baskets are being made, even a wine tasting event is in the making! Not great with putting auction baskets together? Donate a gift card! Donations will be accepted until Friday, May 3. Raffle tickets in increments of 5 for \$5, 10 for \$10, or 25 for \$20 will be available for purchase after services on Sundays, May 5 – 19. The Raffle winners will be announced by May 26 .

With your help, we are hoping to raise \$8,000, approximately half of the entryway cost, to avoid depleting our building funds. Monetary donations can also be sent through Venmo, or by check with 'Doors' in the memo. Please contact Connie Kreuser at 262-224-0830 or April Mickelson at 608-225-8955 with questions.

Piano Recitals

Join us on Friday, May 3rd at 6 pm for a piano recital by the talented students of Andante Studio. The students of Patricia Cook will also have a piano recital, on May 22 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend these free recitals.



PIG Receipts



Those Piggly Wiggly receipts add up! Last month Grace received \$360 cash back from your Cambridge Pig receipts. Please continue to drop receipts off in the designated drawer in the entryway table at church. We appreciate it!



It's Spring Cleaning time! Join us after worship on **Sunday, May 19** for our annual Spring Clean-Up Day. Feel free to bring gardening tools if you'd like to work outside. We'll also be cleaning windows, so if you've got spare Windex and/or a squeegee, please bring them along.

Marriages

Stephanie Kilburg & Robert Kyle – April 20, 2024



Monday Night Study

While Pastor Jennifer is on Sabbatical this summer, we still plan to offer some Bible studies and discussions. On Monday, May 13 at 7:00 p.m., we'll gather to talk about some possibilities. So put on your thinking caps and join us for a lighthearted brainstorming and planning session.



May 19 is Pentecost Sunday, a day when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Christian Church. To celebrate this day, we invite you to **wear RED!** Yes, Badger apparel is acceptable.



Summer Rummage Sale



Please think about the Church Rummage Sale as you're doing your Spring Cleaning. You may bring all great quality items to the designated room in the church basement beginning July 1. The rummage sale will take place the first weekend in August. If you are willing to help with set up or take down, please contact Tami Collin at 920-728-8047.

Holy Humor Sunday!

As we celebrated joy and laughter, laughing at Jesus' defeat of death at his resurrection, kazoo-ing out our joy, thank you to all who shared jokes and participated in our Holy Humor Sunday on April 7th. Shout out to Char Luchterhand, who fully embraced the spirit of the day!



Bell Crazy Spring Concert



Directed by our own Karen Johnson, the Bell Crazy Handbell Choir will hold it's Spring concert at 4 pm on May 18th, at New Life Church on Cottage Grove Road in Madison. All are welcome to attend and admission is free.

Lenten Challenge Update



Thanks to your generosity, Grace raised \$3491 for ELCA's AMMPARO project (Accompanying Migrants with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities). A heartfelt thank you to all who joined the Lenten Challenge!

MAY VOLUNTEERS



- May 5** - Ushers: Gary & Sharon Haberkorn Assisting Minister: Diane Fronek
Reader: Sandy Aston Hall
Communion Servers: Angie Bauer Williams and Judy Heidebrecht
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle
Acolytes: George Albrecht & Cael Klemp
Coffee Hour Hosts: Peggy Punsel and Martins
- May 12** - Ushers: Connie Kreuser & Pat Hall Assisting Minister: Shawn Koebke
Reader: Ann Engelstad
Communion Servers: Tom & Chris Watson
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle
Acolytes: Jack Johnson & Mason Neuenschwander
Coffee Hour Hosts: Koebke & Fronek
- May 19** - Ushers: Richard & Jean Scott Assisting Minister: Jeff Gafner
Reader: Jim Leser
Communion Servers: Bill & Betty Reay
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle
Acolytes: Paxton Koehler & Jackson Rue
Coffee Hour: Grender & Tammy Northey
- May 26** - Ushers: Bob & Janet Koepf Assisting Minister: Andrya Coutts
Reader: Shawn Whitman
Communion Felix Egli and Shawn Whitman
Communion Set Up: Geis Family
Acolytes: William Gottschalk & Gordon Grender
Coffee Hour: Gottschalk & Lovick-Gill

Altar Guild - Pat Hall, Pat Northey & Sharon Erb



Office Hours

The Church Office is open from 9 am – noon, Monday through Friday. Variable additional hours are available; please contact us if you'd like to make an appointment (608)423-3135 or via email at gracelutherancambridgwi@gmail.com

MAY AT GRACE

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<p>28</p> <p>9 am Worship SERVICE Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook 10:10 am Sunday School 10:15 am Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9 am Ruth Circle</p> <p>11am Outreach Committee</p> <p>6:30 pm Confirmation & Pre-Confirmation</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6pm Piano Recital</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9 am Worship SERVICE- Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook 10:10 am Sunday School 10:15 am Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters</p> <p>7pm Chosen Study</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9 am Lydia Circle</p> <p>6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10 am Staff Mtg</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9 am Worship SERVICE- Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook 10:15 am Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters</p> <p>7pm Chosen Study</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7pm Grace Council Mtg</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6 pm Mentorship Potluck</p> <p>Newsletter content due</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9 am Worship SERVICE- Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook 10:15 am Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters</p> <p>7pm Chosen Study</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 pm Piano Recital</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9 am Worship SERVICE-Sabbatical Sending Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook</p>	<p>27</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>

GROWING FAITH-FILLED KIDS



Kids Take Over Worship Service: May 5th

Our students will take the lead in guiding us through a heart-warming and inspirational worship service on May 5th! From scripture readings to prayers and musical performances, every aspect of the service will be crafted and presented by our talented children. Join us at 9am and please bring your spare change for the Noisy Offer-ing! **This will also be the last day of Sunday School for the semester.**



GLC Vacation Bible School: July 15th-18th, 8:30 AM-12:00 PM at Cambridge Elementary School



A crew of deep sea explorers from the Sea Exploration Agency are on a mission to explore the deepest depths of the ocean, in search of knowledge about its Creator — and you're invited too, as a SEA agent in training! As our crew travels deeper and deeper below the surface, experience the wonders of creation, face a few challenges, and discover that knowing our Creator doesn't require a special badge or a submarine. Our faith grows deeper when we spend time with God, spend time with others, use our gifts to serve, and share our stories of faith. Registration will be live on Breeze by the end of May. Stay tuned for updates!

Confirmation Corner



Confirmation wraps up this month, as we complete our study of the New Testament. We'll finish up the year with a Mentor Night Potluck on Wed. May 15 at 6:00 p.m. Then at 7:30, we invite 8th grade parents to join us for 3rd year Orientation.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 16, 2024

(Minutes below reviewed & approved at next Council meeting)

Call to Order. Vice President Bob Koepp called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Attendance. Present: Sandi Aston Hall, Pr. Jennifer Jelinek, John Jensen, Bob Koepp, Connie Kreuser, Charlene Luchterhand, April Mickelson, Peggy Punsel, Kristin Rue, Richard Scott, Amy Simon, Shawn Whitman. **Absent:** Kelly Witte

Devotions. April shared devotions.

Approval of Minutes. Amy moved to approve the minutes from the special congregational meeting held on April 7. John seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. April moved to approve the March meeting minutes. Shawn seconded the motion. Approved with abstentions from those not present in March.

Approval of Agenda. Sandi moved to approve the agenda. Kristin seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Correspondence.

Lutherdale invites us to participate in their 80th year celebration on Saturday, April 20th. UW-Madison Lutheran Campus Ministry is hosting an Open House on Sunday afternoon, April 21st.

Treasurer's Report. (Amy) We had a net gain of \$12,926.94 in March. Our year-to-date General Giving at the end of March was \$10,484 higher than 2023 and \$13,363 over the YTD budget. Year-to-date Special Giving was \$962 more than last year and over \$3,000 more than budget. Our year-to-date expenses were \$12,753 more than last year (due to sabbatical & youth gathering expenses) however we are almost \$4,500 under our budget. Year-to-date net ordinary income would be about \$22,831 if the sabbatical grant and expenses are not included. This is about \$8,500 more than last year at the end of March. The checking balance increased by about \$460 with the general fund balance decreasing by approximately \$4,000. The ELCA Mission Investment Fund (pastoral housing allowance) was moved to a five-year rather than annual renewal, which will increase interest amounts.

Pastor's Report. (Pr. Jennifer) Lent and Easter services went well. There will be a wedding this coming Saturday—the Kilburg family. Pastor will post a sign-up sheet for people who have keys to open and lock the church on Sundays during her sabbatical this summer.

Committee Reports. (Provided in writing and/or discussed in the meeting as needed.)

Education. (Kristin) Sunday School students will lead the worship service on May 5th. This will also be the last day of Sunday School for the semester. Vacation Bible School will be held July 15-19 at Cambridge Elementary School. Volunteers are needed to help with planning.

Those interested should contact Breah Klemp. Planning is underway to paint the downstairs Sunday School area this summer. Quilters will be asked if interested in sewing new valances for the classrooms.

Property. (Richard and John) See "Front Door Project" in Old Business.

Stewardship. (Connie) See "Pollinator Garden" in Old Business.

Old Business.

Front Door Project. Final front door measurements were taken one week ago. It will be a two-day project. It is four-to-five weeks out. Council determined about half of the financing will come from the budget and the other half from fund-raising. A variety of fund-raising options were discussed. Connie, April, and Kristin will coordinate fund-raising efforts.

Pollinator Garden. Diggers Hotline has checked the proposed planting area. Appropriate plants are being identified. The goal is to prepare the ground and plant sometime in May. Connie secured a \$250 Thrivent Grant, which will be used for mulch and/or plants.

Insurance Policy. Topic tabled. Policy will renew automatically.

New Business.

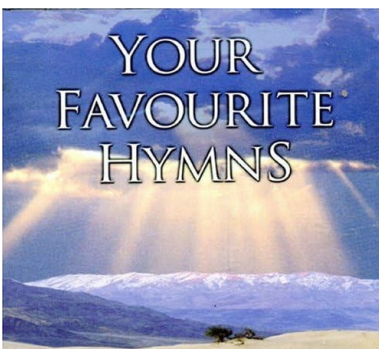
Sabbatical. Bob and Pastor Jennifer shared draft plans for congregational renewal activities this summer using the same themes as Pastor will follow: Recreation, Engagement, and Reflection. Pastor's send-off will be Sunday, May 26, and her first Sunday back August 25. A celebratory evening dinner is planned for the week after Labor Day.

Adjournment. Amy moved to adjourn the meeting. Sandi seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM. We ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 PM. Kelly is scheduled to present devotions.

Submitted by Charlene Luchterhand, Council Secretary

Coming in June



What hymn brings tears to your eyes or inspires you? Is there a hymn that takes you back to an important time in your life? What hymn really speaks to you, and why? Music is one of the many ways that God speaks to us and works in our lives. And music helps us to express our faith in special ways. On June 2 in worship, we'll ask a few people to share that special hymn and share the meaning it has for them (and we'll sing it as well). If you're willing to share, please contact Pastor Jennifer or Bob

Koepp - rkoepp@gmail.com

From the Treasurer

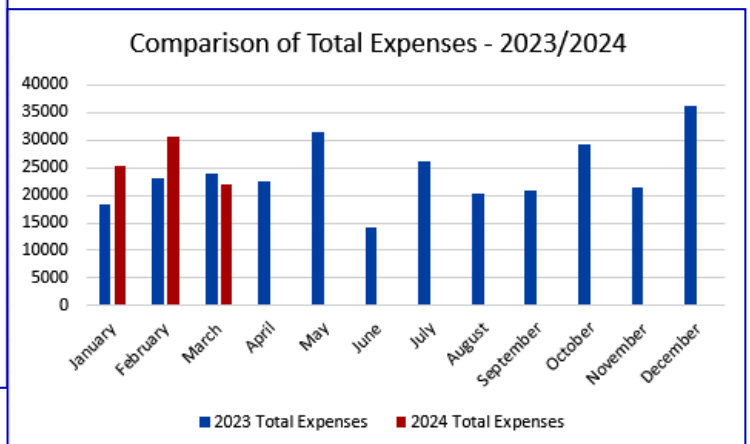
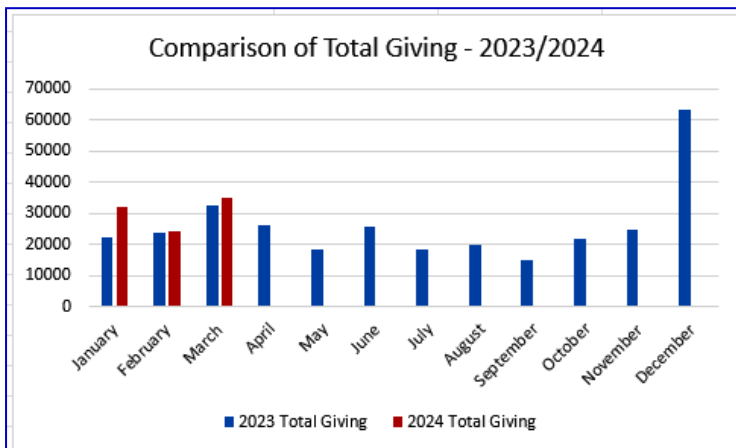
March 2024 Financial Snapshot

Income	Year-to-date March 2024 Actual	Year-to-date 2024 Monthly Budget	Over/(under) budget
General Giving	82,363	69,000	13,363
Special Giving	8,059	5,000	3,059
Sabbatical Giving	30,950	30,950	-
Misc Income	1,202	825	377
Total Income	122,574	105,775	16,799
Expenses			
Administrative	23,064	26,842	(3,778)
Mission	10,880	10,750	130
Pastoral	41,317	42,366	(1,049)
Program	2,822	2,605	217
Other	-	-	-
Total Expenses	78,083	82,562	(4,480)
Total Net Income (Loss)	44,491	23,213	21,278

Thank you for your generous giving. Please remember that in addition to the Sunday service, you can give online through Vanco <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YYN7> or through Venmo, using the QR code.



venmo





Staff and Council



STAFF

Pastor Jennifer Jelinek Home: 423-2329 Cell: (608) 295-7120 pastorjenniferglc@gmail.com

Admin Assistant Catherine Elliott (608) 423-3135 gracelutherancambridgewi@gmail.com

Christian Ed Coordinator Breah Klemp christianedu.glc@gmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator Cindy Hartman cindyh1029@msn.com

Financial Secretary Diane Russo Cell: (847) 826-0131 gracelutheranfinance@gmail.com

Organist Kenneth Hoversten kenneth.hoversten@gmail.com

Handbell Choir Director Ann Engelstad gaengelstad@charter.net

COUNCIL

President Kelly Witte

Vice President Bob Koepf

Secretary Char Luchterhand

Treasurer Amy Simdon

Outreach April Mickelson

Education Kristin Rue

Stewardship Connie Kreuser

Hospitality Peggy Punsel

Evangelism Shawn Whitman

Worship Sandi Aston Hall

Property John Jensen &

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 on Channel
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