



Good News of Grace



February 2026

"Reaching out to all people as Disciples of Christ, we serve God, proclaim our faith and care for all creation."

Grace Lutheran Church
303 Green Bay Road
Thiensville, WI 53092

www.grace53092.org
262-242-1174

February Highlights

February 8 & 22 - Children's Education

Kids, join us for Sunday School and Confirmation on February 8 and 22 at 10:15am following the 9am service.

February 18 - Ash Wednesday Worship

Join us at 7pm for Ash Wednesday worship.



February 22 - Chili Cook-off/Pie Auction

Please stick around following worship on February 22 for the Chili Cook-off/Pie Auction.

(See page 5 for more details)



February 25, 26 - Lenten Book Discussion

Join this book discussion on *"Better Ways to Read the Bible: Transforming a Weapon of Harm Into a Tool of Healing"* on Wednesdays at 10:30am or Thursdays at 6:45pm during Lent. The discussion begins on February 25 & 26.

(See page 5 for details)

A Note from Pastor Bill

Here we are in February 2026, already! The festival season of the Church is moving fast this year. During the month of February, we have two important festivals to keep our eyes on. I just wanted to share a few of my thoughts on them.

The first festival we will encounter is Groundhog Day (February 2). When I was in seminary, a friend of mine and I had jokingly referred to it as the Festival of Groundhog Day!

(cont'd on page 2)

Grace's Welcome Statement

Grace Lutheran Church is a religious community that celebrates the gifts of God that empower us to engage in the struggles of life, to care for each other, and to serve Christ where we work and live. Grace is a "Reconciling in Christ" congregation, which means we welcome the participation of people of all ages, races, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, education backgrounds, and economic conditions – all who want to join us in serving God, proclaiming our faith, and caring for all creation. (est. 2011)

Worship and Education

Worship Schedule:

Sunday at 9am

Tuesday Devotional at 12:10pm

Education:

Bible Study on Thursday at 12pm

Grace Lutheran Staff

Pr. Bill Beyer

Cell: 262-674-4714

Email: wcbeyer1965@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Sandy Luetgen

Email: padmin@grace53092.org

Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-2pm

Music Coordinator: Brian Dearing

Nursery Attendant: Shonda Schaff

Education: Katy Koppa

A Note from Pastor Bill and Other News

(cont'd from page 1)

While not a church festival, in our culture we have often seen this day as a time to focus our attention on spring. Will it be an early spring? Or will we have six more weeks of winter? Your guess is as good as the groundhog's.

The "Festival" of Groundhog Day does remind us that the long dreary days of winter WILL come to an end. After the winter we have had so far, I am sure I can already hear the "AMEN" rising from your heart as I type these words. Scripture reminds us time and time again that whatever adversity we are going through, it will come to an end. One of my favorite scriptures in the King James Version is when it says, "And it came to pass..." Whatever we are going through did not come to stay...it will indeed pass.

The festival we have this month is Ash Wednesday (February 18). Ash Wednesday is the season of repentance and self-examination. It is a time for us to focus on our lives of faith and where we may need to repent of things that hold us back from experiencing God's grace to the fullest extent. Ash Wednesday of course, is the beginning of the Lenten season.

The goal of Ash Wednesday is Easter. Easter is the season of resurrection and new birth. More on that as the weeks progress. Just as Groundhog Day is a reminder that this long dreary winter will come to an end, Ash Wednesday also reminds us of a time of repentance that will culminate with the resurrection. Both seasons are times for us to rest, reflect, and restore our bodies (winter) and our faith (Lent).

While we look forward to spring and Easter with eager anticipation, let us not forget to relax into the season of refreshment we see in these final winter months and in the season of repentance. For both of these will prepare us to gratefully receive the Alleluia of spring and the continued promise of the resurrection.

Blood Drive

Mark your calendars for the February 26 Blood drive in the Fellowship Hall. There are slots available from 1-6pm. Call 877-232-2376.



Renovation Debt Reduction Status

Below is the status of the renovation debt reduction as of December 31, 2025. Please note the Renovation Debt Reduction Fund balance is the amount collected for the renovation and is used to pay renovation expenses and loan payments as needed.

Loan Balance:	\$414,861
Interest Paid:	\$55,843
Principal Paid:	\$38,510
Renovation/Debt Reduction Fund Balance:	\$93,798

Memorial Fund Activity for December

Income:	\$0
Expenditures:	<u>\$1,359.33</u>
Balance:	\$4,714
(Designated:	\$2,890)
(Available:	\$1,824)

Growing in Grace

Families involved in our children's education ministry, don't forget to check our ministry website for updates on events, Education classes, and volunteer opportunities! You can also email Katy Koppa for updates at kathrynkoppa@gmail.com.

Call 877-232-2376 or use the QR code here.



Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge

If you have any new or gently used coats, boots, or other cold weather clothing you would like to donate, please consider dropping them off at the church to be donated to Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge. There is a box near the Luther room for these items.



Worship Leaders, Birthdays and Other News

February Worship Leaders

2/1

Greeter: JoAnn Holdmann
Reader: Bev Leidel
Wine: Skip Blick, Dan Driewer
Usher: TBD
Communion Setup: Bev Leidel
Coffee Fellowship: TBD

2/8

Greeter: TBD
Reader: Dawn Omernik
Wine: JoAnn Holdmann, Pam Johnson
Usher: TBD
Communion Setup: TBD
Coffee Fellowship: Krause Funeral Home

2/15

Greeter: TBD
Reader: JoAnn Holdmann
Wine: TBD, TBD
Usher: TBD
Communion Setup: JoAnn Holdmann
Coffee Fellowship: Congregational Council

2/18 Ash Wednesday

Greeter: TBD
Reader: Pam Johnson
Wine: Nancy Perez, TBD
Usher: TBD
Communion Setup: TBD



2/22

Greeter: TBD
Reader: Skip Blick
Wine: JoAnn Holdmann, Michelle Hogan
Usher: TBD
Communion Setup: TBD
Coffee Fellowship: TBD

Food Pantry Update

Donations to the food pantry are appreciated more than ever as the need continues to increase. You can place food and hygiene items in the bins just outside the Luther room.



February Birthdays

Name	Date
Randy Radiske	4
Wendy Blank	5
Sylvia Sampe	5
Kim Nagel	6
Sam Rockwood	6
Chris Cunningham	8
Beverly Smiley	11
Michael Johnson, Jr.	13
Elliot Nimmer	16
Karen Martin	19
Terry Young	19
Steve Karthauser	20
Edna Steitz	20
James Laabs	21
Jim Nutter	24
Grace Bartz	26
Gary Plotkin	27
Theresa Schanke	27
Ralph Buchweitz	28
Diane Weber	28
Alice Sedgwick	29

If you have a birthday this month and your name is not listed, we apologize. Please call the church office so that we update our records. Thank you!



Guest House Sandwiches

We assemble sandwiches for the guests at the Guest House twice each month, on the first and third Wednesdays, at 9am. Join us for this opportunity to serve and enjoy fellowship on **February 4 and 18**.



Tables of Eight

Tables of Eight is a great way to get to know members of our church community in a smaller more intimate setting. You will be invited to share some food and conversation with other members of the community for fellowship and connection. If you are interested in being a guest at one of these meals, please sign up on the sheet on the welcome center or call the church office. (Times and dates will vary depending on the availability of the host and the attendees. Please keep an eye on your email for information.)



February 2026

Grace Lutheran Church Sandy's Calendar Holidays in United States

Feb 2026 (Central Time - Chicago)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:15am - Men's Chorus 9am - Worship - Men's 10:15am - Chancel Choir 10:15am - Comm. Life	2 12:10pm - Dev. Svc. 5:30pm - Scouts 6:30pm - Women's Choir 7:30pm - Men's Chorus	3 12:10pm - Dev. Svc. 5:30pm - Violin Lesson 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7:30pm - Scouts	4 9am - Guest House 6:30pm - SBG Singers	5 12pm - Bible Study	6 10:30am - SBG Band	7
8 8:15am - SBG Band Reh. 9am - Worship - SBG Ban 10:15am - Chancel Choir 10:15am - Children's 10:15am - Krause Funeral	9 2pm - Violin Lesson - 6pm - Scouts Den Meeting	10 12:10pm - Dev. Svc. 3:30pm - Violin Lesson 5:30pm - Scouts 6:30pm - Council	11 3:30pm - Violin Lessons 6:30pm - Bell Choir	12 12pm - Bible Study	13 12pm - Bible Study	14 Valentine's Day
15 9am - Worship - Bells, 10:15am - Faith 10:15am - GG Team	16 Presidents' Day 2pm - Violin Lesson -	17 12:10pm - Dev. Svc. 3:30pm - Violin Lesson 5:30pm - Scouts	18 9am - Guest House 3:30pm - Violin Lessons 6:30pm - SBG Vocals 7pm - Ash Worship	19 12pm - Bible Study	20 6pm - Scout ceremony set	21 9am - SBG Band 10am - Scouts Blue &
22 8:15am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship - Chancel 10:15am - Children's 10:15am - Chili Cook	23 2pm - Violin Lesson - 6pm - Scouts	24 12:10pm - Dev. Svc. 3:30pm - Violin Lesson 5:30pm - Scouts	25 10:30am - Lenten Book 3:30pm - Violin Lessons 6:30pm - Bell Choir	26 12pm - Lenten Book	27 1pm - Blood Drive 6:45pm - Lenten Book	28

Current & Upcoming Events

(cont'd from page 1)

Lenten Book Discussion

Our Congregational Constitution states that scripture is "...the authoritative source and norm of (the congregation's) proclamation, faith, and life." Our congregation has always trusted in the Word of God and the Word of God for its direction and faith. In our world today (as is the history of humanity), people have taken the scriptures and used them to harm, dominate, and oppress others. Zach Lambert has written a great book entitled, ***Better Ways to Read the Bible: Transforming a Weapon of Harm Into a Tool of Healing***. This Lent we will be offering a discussion on this book and its material. If you wish to purchase the book, you are welcome to, but the book will not be needed for the study. This study will meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:30am (2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, and 3/25) and Thursday evenings at 6:45pm (2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, and 3/26). You are free to attend either Wednesday or Thursday. The same material will be covered at both sessions each week. Also, if you can only attend a few of these sessions, that is okay. There will be lots to talk about and learn as we grow to use the scriptures for good.



Pastor's Patio Ponderings Topics?

Pastor Bill will once again be offering his summer program, Pastor's Patio Ponderings. The dates and times for these one night, one topic studies will be set at a later moment. Right now, Pastor is looking for topics for the Pastor's Patio Ponderings. Perhaps there is a certain book of the Bible you would like to know more about. Perhaps you have a question about faith and life? If you have a suggestion for PPP, please let the pastor know by the end of February.



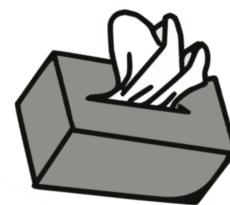
Chili Cook-off/Pie Auction

Make and bring your favorite homemade chili and/or pie. Please bring a list of the ingredients in the chili for our gluten free friends to choose safely. The Cook-off and pie auction will take place on February 22 following worship. Our own Brian Karthauser will be the auctioneer and String-A-Long will be providing the entertainment! Please sign up at the Communication Desk. See the Community Life Team with questions.



Kleenex Offering

It is that time of year again! Every six or seven years we do a Kleenex offering, which has been a huge success, and an important ministry in our congregation. These boxes of Kleenex have been a blessing to many. We are down to our last few boxes since we did this the last time in 2020, so we are having another Kleenex offering to replenish our supply. When you are out and about, please consider purchasing some extra Kleenex and donating it to the church. You can bring them with you if you come for worship, or you can drop them off at any time during the day. Thank you for your help and participation in this important ministry.



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Online Giving Option
Open your phone's camera
app and hold over the
QR code

February 2026 GOOD NEWS OF GRACE

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Worship with Holy Communion:

Sundays at 9am

Tuesday Devotional at 12:10pm

Bible Study

Thursdays at 12pm

*"At Grace, we strive to Guide and nurture all
individuals to be Resilient, Accepting Children of
God rooted in the Enrichment of God's word."*



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

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