



# Good News of Grace



## December 2024

Grace Lutheran Church  
303 Green Bay Road  
Thiensville, WI 53092

[www.grace53092.org](http://www.grace53092.org)  
262-242-1174

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

### December Highlights

#### **December 2, 9, 16 - Advent Book Study**

You may still join the study group on the amazing book, *The Pursuit of God*. The group meets to discuss different aspects of this book on Mondays in Advent at 10:30am and 6:30pm on December 9, and 16. Perhaps this might be a good advent discipline for you in your preparations for the season of Immanuel, God with us? **If you don't want to read the book you may still participate in the discussion.**

#### **December 14, 9am - Cookie Sale**



Don't forget to stop by on Saturday, December 14 (9am until noon) for the Cookie Sale to support the Grateful Giving projects. You may still sign up to bake Cookies and to help! Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

#### **December 15, 9am - Christmas Program**

This year's program is titled "The Most Wonderful Time of the year" by <sup>children's</sup> Bill Beyer and will take place on December 15 during 9am worship. Be sure to bring your friends!



### Christmas Worship Services

#### **December 24, 4pm and 6pm - Christmas Eve**

Join us for a festive family-friendly Eucharist service at 4pm or 6pm on Tuesday, December 24, complete with candlelight.



#### **December 25 - Christmas Day**

Join us for a family-friendly Eucharist service at 10am on Wednesday, December 25.

### Worship and Education

#### Worship Schedule:

**Sunday at 9am**

**Tuesday Devotional at 12:10pm**

#### Education:

**Bible Study on Thursday at 12pm**

### 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)

### **Grace Lutheran Staff**

Tel: 262-242-1174

Website: [www.grace53092.org](http://www.grace53092.org)

**Pr. Bill Beyer**

Cell: 262-674-4714

Email: [wcbeyer1965@gmail.com](mailto:wcbeyer1965@gmail.com)

**Administrative Assistant: Sandy Luetzgen**

Email: [padmin@grace53092.org](mailto:padmin@grace53092.org)

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

**Music Coordinator: Brian Dearing**

**Nursery Attendant: Shonda Schaff**

**Custodian: Fred Lynk**

# A Note from Pastor Bill and Other News

## A Note from Pastor Bill

We are beginning a new liturgical year. As I write this, the blue paraments are starting to appear in our worship area. Conversations are happening about where the tree will go, choirs are practicing, and soon the children's program will proclaim the greatness of this holiday season.

For many this holiday season will be a tough one. People all over our nation are struggling with their relationships with family and friends. Conflict, struggle and chaos, while being against God's ways, have become the new "way in which we do things." All of this brings division to our families and can even cause struggles in our worshipping congregations.

In the midst of all this chaos, I have been called to preach peace on earth during this season. But, peace this season will be a difficult commodity to come by. It will be difficult because peace is more than just a slogan for our holiday greeting cards, it will require real work on our part as disciples of Jesus.

Our Hebrew siblings have a term called "tikkun olam". Tikkun Olam is Hebrew that translates roughly as "healing the world." There is a whole theology in Judaism that calls for the healing of the world. But words like 'healing' and 'peace' are difficult because we are the ones called to bring peace and healing. And much of that goes contrary to our human nature.

The peace on earth that we talk about during this time of season is a peace that we are in control of. We humans are the ones who create division among each other. We humans are the ones whose arrogance creates separation. We humans are the sinful creatures that beg our opinion be heard while ignoring the opinions of others. We create the chaos. And since we are the cause, we call in Jesus to give us the grace and mercy to bring the healing and peace.

For peace to happen...for the healing of the world to take place...we have a responsibility to see in all humans the image of God. When we see each other through the eyes of Jesus, we will find it hard to allow the chaos to continue and will seek to build a stronger human family.

During this holiday season some may feel the need to take a break from family and friends. That is ok. Sometimes peace is a natural by-product of taking time and space from things

that cause us to be unbalanced. There is nothing wrong with taking time to breathe, heal, and once again find our peace.

When we take the time to learn the ways of Jesus, then we will be able to help bring peace and healing to the world we live in. Then we will indeed be able to celebrate the truest understanding of this season and every season. We will show in whom we place our trust, Jesus, Immanuel, God is with us.

## 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 it 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.



## Poinsettias

Poinsettia orders are due on **December 9**. Designations will be printed in the Christmas bulletins. Plants are \$10 each. Forms are on the welcome desk and sent out with Grace Notes. You may order online from the website as well.



## Memorial Fund Activity for November

<b>Income:</b>	<b>\$3,710</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
<b>Balance:</b>	<b>\$11,770</b>
	(Designated: \$7,811)
	(Available: \$3,959)

## Tuesday Devotional Service Schedule

Please note there will be no Tuesday Devotional Worship on Christmas Eve (12/24) or New Years Eve (12/31).

# Birthdays and Other News

## December Worship Leaders

12/1

**Greeter:** TBD  
**Reader:** Dawn Omernik  
**Wine:** Nancy Perez, Liz Streubel  
**Usher:** Elliot Nimmer  
**Communion Setup:** JoAnn Holdmann  
**Coffee Fellowship:** TBD

12/8

**Greeter:** TBD  
**Reader:** TBD  
**Wine:** JoAnn Holdmann, Beth Buczynski  
**Usher:** Trina Brown  
**Communion Setup:** Beth Buczynski  
**Coffee Fellowship:** TBD

12/15

**Greeter:** Christmas Program Kids  
**Reader:** Christmas Program Kids  
**Wine:** TBD, TBD  
**Usher:** Christmas Program Kids  
**Communion Setup:** JoAnn Holdmann  
**Coffee Fellowship:** Christmas Program Kids

12/22

**Greeter:** TBD  
**Reader:** Dawn Omernik  
**Wine:** Liz Streubel, TBD  
**Usher:** Trina Brown  
**Communion Setup:** TBD  
**Coffee Fellowship:** RBD

12/24 4pm

**Greeter:** TBD  
**Reader:** TBD  
**Wine:** TBD, TBD  
**Usher:** TBD  
**Communion Setup:** TBD

12/24 6pm Christmas Eve

**Greeter:** TBD  
**Reader:** TBD  
**Wine:** TBD, TBD  
**Usher:** TBD  
**Communion Setup:** TBD

12/25 10am Christmas

**Greeter:** TBD  
**Reader:** Bev Leidel  
**Wine:** Kim Nagel, Janie Robbins  
**Usher:** TBD  
**Communion Setup:** Bev Leidel

12/29am

**Greeter:** TBD  
**Reader:** TBD  
**Wine:** TBD, TBD  
**Usher:** TBD  
**Communion Setup:** TBD  
**Coffee Fellowship:** TBD

## Birthdays

Name	Date
Dieter Bruhnke	2
Dee Christofferson-Robar	5
Bill Luebke	6
Erich Nemcek	7
Kari Gilhams	9
Haley Carney	10
Aalia Dighe	12
McKenzie Krogstad	12
Tom Leidel	12
Steve Smiley	16
John Junker	17
Aaron Zenke	18
Becca Laabs	19
Karen Larsen	20
Laurie Plotkin	23
Tony Ferguson	25
Kevin Sibley	25
Sophie Biggin	30
Emily James	30
Jennifer Hamm	31

*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 to enjoy fellowship with one another on Wednesdays, **December 4 and 18**.



## Poinsettias

Poinsettia orders are due December 9. Forms are on the welcome desk. Only \$10/plant!



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

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**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**Worship with Holy Communion:**  
Sundays at 9am  
Tuesday Devotional at 12:10pm

**Education:**  
Thursday Bible Study at 12pm  
Monday Advent Book Study at  
10:30am & 6:30pm



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

**December Calendar**

**Recurring Events**

**Sundays**

9am Worship/Comm.  
10:15am Community Life Team (1st Sun.)  
10:15am GG Team (3rd Sun. every 2 mo.)  
10:15am Choir Rehearsals  
11am Choir Rehearsals

**Mondays in Advent (Dec 2, 9, 16)**

10:30am Advent Book Study  
6:30pm Advent Book Study

**Tuesdays**

12:10pm Devotional Service (**not 12/24  
or 12/31**)

6:30pm Council (2nd Tuesday)

**Wednesdays**

9am Guest House Sandwiches, F. Hall  
(1st and 3rd Wednesday)  
6:30pm SBG Singer Rehearsal  
(Every other Wed.)

**Thursdays**

12pm Bible Study

**Saturdays**

9am SBG Band Practice (Every other Sat.)

**Other Events & Meetings**

**December 7 (Saturday)**

9am Christmas Program Rehearsal

**December 8 (Sunday)**

10:15am Christmas Program Rehearsal

**December 14 (Saturday)**

9am-12pm Cookie Sale  
9am Christmas Program Rehearsal

**December 15 (Sunday)**

9am Christmas Program  
10:15am Faith Formation w/ Brian Dearing

**December 24 (Tuesday)**

4pm Christmas Eve Worship  
6pm Christmas Eve Worship

**December 25 (Wednesday)**

10am Christmas Day Worship