



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gathering in Grace, Growing in Faith, Serving in Love

OCTOBER 2024

Pastors' Ponderings



"Do not stir." That's what the instructions said on the recipe - "Do not stir." Now, I've cooked many things in my life, and I've stirred a lot, sometimes constantly, for various foods – caramel, risotto, alfredo sauce, etc. But never have I seen the instruction, "Do not stir." Frankly, I had trouble following that particular instruction.

The recipe was for a Tuscan Vegetable Sauce I learned how to cook when I was in Italy this summer. And while I'd chopped the vegetables at our class, our teacher had done the actual cooking as we rolled pasta. So when I later tried making the sauce at home, I was anxious to let the sauce cook without my help. I've made other tomato sauces, and they've been known to stick on the bottom, so I was worried. I picked up that spoon many times, tempted to stir, but then I'd stop short of the pan and force myself to put the spoon down. I didn't understand why I shouldn't stir, but this "do not stir" recipe was centuries-old. And if the recipe said, "Do not stir," then I should trust it and step away from the pan.

Frankly, I think this could be some good life advice for us all. We tend to live lives where we try to control things that we don't need to control. We fixate, we worry, we stew in anxiety rather than trusting the old "recipes." One of my favorite Bible verses comes from Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God." We often struggle with this advice. Being still comes easier to some of us than others. Being still and letting God be in control is difficult for most of us. We often think that we know better, that we should just try this, that we should drop a spoon in for one quick stir, in case God's not paying attention. But Psalm 46 tells us to be still and trust that God is always there for us. So this month, if you're feeling anxious, overwhelmed, or needing to control things, I invite you to take a breath, allow yourself to be still, and trust that God is there, knowing what you need even better than you do.

The Tuscan Vegetable Sauce was a favorite at last month's Post-Sabbatical Dinner, so I share it here. By the way, do not stir.

In Christ,

+ *Pastor Jennifer*

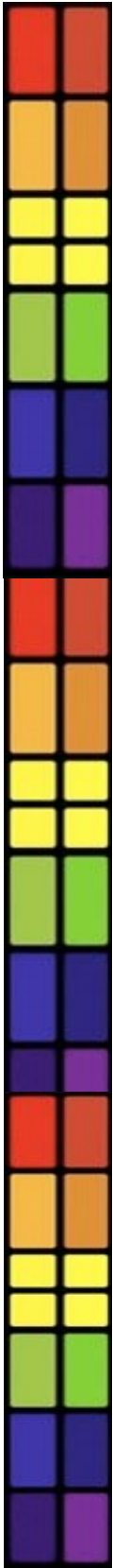
Tuscan Vegetable Sauce

This is a very rustic recipe, which means measurements and even specific ingredients aren't all that important. You can use what you have and what you like. You can add asparagus, eggplant, or whatever you'd like. Buon appetito!

*Extra-virgin Olive oil
2 or more Garlic cloves, minced
1 onion or shallot, chopped
2 small zucchini, diced*

*Cherry tomatoes, quartered
Sweet green peppers, diced
Salt & Pepper
Fresh Basil, torn into small pieces*

(continued on pg. 2)





Member Directory Info: Deadline October 13th



We're updating our member database to eventually create a new church directory to make communication easier between members of the congregation.

You can easily create or update your member profile online by clicking the link or scanning the QR code provided below. For those who prefer to update their profiles in person, Breah Klemp will be available in the fellowship hall after worship services to assist you. Or you can complete the forms available at church by October 13th.

Online Database: <https://gracecambridge.breezechms.com/login/create>

Don't forget to include a family photo! You can upload one of your own or have one taken at church on Sunday mornings.



A few notes:

Within your database profile, you can choose to 'opt in' the directory.

- You will not automatically be included in directory: you must check 'opt in'.
- Options are available for what information you'd like included in directory.

Electronic directory information will ONLY be available to church members.

- No one outside the church has access to your information.

We'll offer a hard copy directory, as well as an electronic one.

Tuscan Vegetable Sauce *(continued from pg.1)*

Cover the bottom of a pan with olive oil over medium heat. Add garlic, onion, zucchini, tomatoes, peppers, salt and pepper, and stir. Cook on high heat for about 15 minutes. Then turn heat to low and cook for about an hour. Do not stir. When finished, add some basil and mash some of the tomatoes. If making pasta, save some pasta water and stir it in to thicken. Mash some more. Serve over your favorite pasta with freshly-grated parmesan cheese.

Office Hours

The Church Office is open from 9 am – noon, Monday - 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



Monday Adult Study

Our Adult Study is underway this month on Mondays at 7 pm, viewing and discussing "The Chosen," now in season 4. If you're new to the series or already a fan, please join us for these enlightening episodes and conversations!



Oct. 7 - Calm Before

Oct. 14 – Sitting, Serving, Scheming

Oct. 21 – NO CLASS

Oct. 28 – Dedication



Do You Enjoy Singing?

There's still time! Grace's Sanctuary Choir is starting up again this fall, and we'd love for you to join us! Choir typically rehearses each Sunday from 10:10 -11:00 in the Sanctuary. No experience required.

Confirmation Corner

This year, our 6th-8th grade Confirmation class is 14 kids strong! Confirmation class is studying the Ten Commandments and what they mean in our lives today. Just a reminder that each student is to take 2 sermon notes a month. Mentorship kicks off this month for mentors and students on October 2 at 6:30 pm. 3rd year confirmands – your 6 mentorship sessions, faith statement, and 5 sermon notes are due by Oct. 23. Confirmation Sunday is November 3.



All Saints' Slideshow

On All Saints' Sunday (Nov. 3), we'll remember those who have passed away in the last year and are now saints in God's kingdom. We'll have a slideshow with names and pictures of those who have died since last All Saints' Sunday. If you have a loved one whose name and picture you'd like to include, please bring or e-mail it to the church office by Oct. 30. gracelutherancambridgewi@gmail.com

Want to worship from home? Here's how!

You may have noticed that there have been broadcast issues on Spectrum cable channel 987 lately. Sunday services are also livestreamed on Grace's Facebook page. Just looking for sermons? Check out our YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdWxSntOyuupFnyLgxSU8aw>

OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS



- Oct 6** - Ushers: Gary & Sharon Haberkorn Assisting Minister: Rich Fronek
Reader: Char Luchterhand
Communion Servers: Randy Luchterhand & Felix Egli
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle
Acolytes: Cael Klemp & Aiden Williams
Coffee Hour Hosts: Kilburg & Koepp
- Oct 13** - Ushers: Pat Hall & Connie Kreuser Assisting Minister: Shawn Koebke
Reader: Lori Jensen
Communion Servers: Judy Heidebrecht & Jean Scott
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle
Acolytes: Jackson Rue & Peter Mabie
Coffee Hour Hosts: Kelly & Kathy Cunningham
- Oct 20** - Ushers: Donna Simdon & Jeanine Thurow Assisting Minister: Diane Fronek
Reader: Brenda Lovick
Communion Servers: Marcia Klemp & Shauna Thayer
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle
Acolytes: Blake Schutte & Jackson Rue
Coffee Hour: Scott & Buonincontro
- Oct 27**- Ushers: Dale & Marcia Klemp Assisting Minister: Shawn Whitman
Reader: Amy Simdon
Communion Servers: Kelly Witte & Tami Collin
Communion Set Up: Geis Family
Acolytes: William Gottschalk & Kinsley Stenjem
Coffee Hour: Leadholm & Witte & Collin



Altar Guild - Andrya Coutts, Wendy Lehr & Betty Reay

OCTOBER AT GRACE

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<p>29</p> <p>FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAY</p> <p>9 am Worship SERVICE- Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook</p> <p>10:15 am Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters</p> <p>7 pm Adult Study</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9 am Ruth Circle</p> <p>11am Outreach Committee</p> <p>6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>9 am Worship SERVICE- Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook</p> <p>10:10 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 am Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters</p> <p>7 pm Adult Study</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7pm Council Mtg</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9 am Lydia Circle</p> <p>6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p>9 am Worship SERVICE- Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook</p> <p>10:10 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 am Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters</p> <p>7 pm Adult Study</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Newsletter content deadline</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10 am Staff Mtg</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>9 am Worship SERVICE- Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook</p> <p>10:10 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 am Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters</p> <p>NO ADULT STUDY</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>9 am Worship SERVICE- Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook</p> <p>10:10 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 am Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters</p> <p>7 pm Adult Study</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Nov 1</p>	<p>2</p>

GROWING FAITH-FILLED KIDS



New Sunday School Year



We're so excited to have our new, refreshed classrooms to kick off our Sunday School year. A HUGE thank you to all that helped make this project come to life with your donations of time, talents, and supplies!

- Neil Johnson
- Becker Family
- Amanda DeMauro
- Robin Marsden
- Shauna Thayer
- Lana Martin
- Neuenschwander Family
- Alicia Koehler
- Bridgette Hermanson
- Julie Trieloff
- Heather Portner
- Kleven Family
- Catherine Elliott
- Confirmation Families
- Koepp Family
- Richard Scott
- Bill and Betty Reay
- Pat Northey
- Judy Heidebrecht
- Zickert Family
- Bernhardt Family
- Rue Family



Outreach and Social Justice



Thank you all for another successful year of collecting kits and quilts for Lutheran World Relief. This year our congregation collected 25 Baby Care Kits, 91 School Kits and our quilters created 100 beautiful quilts. Many thanks to Richard and Jean Scott for safely delivering all these gifts to the train on time!

Thanks to Pat Northey and Kathy McCarthy for assembling the baby care kits and Jean Scott for coordinating the school kits with help from the confirmation class, who check bags every year. Also, thanks to our quilting group who continue to meet on Monday mornings. They are starting the next batch of quilts to be sent next September and would welcome more helpers!

Got Sheets or Fabric?

Grace Quilters are in great need of clean, stain-free, cotton sheets. Please consider donating sheets by bringing them to the church office or to the quilter's corner in Fellowship Hall.

Any sewers who have unused fabric around, the quilters could use that too. Monetary donations are also always welcome. All donations can also be dropped off at the church office, with the designation "quilts".



Stewardship: Time, Talents, Treasures

Council has discussed how best to use the money raised (\$1,403) from the very successful summer rummage sale; it will be split between the Sunday school and the needs of the youth program.

As fall arrives, it's time to consider the annual stewardship drive. Our theme this year will be "Tending God's Garden". We share our financial resources and use our time to help our congregation and the wider church. Depending on your interests and talents, there are so many ways to contribute! We'll provide a list of available opportunities and projects and then ask you to complete a brief survey/checklist. Watch for a mailing later this month. Council members and committee chairs will contact you as plans develop.

Thanks to all of you, we've had an amazing year of activities and accomplishments in 2024. Let's carry on and continue the good work into 2025.



**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2024**

(Minutes will be reviewed & approved at next Council meeting)

Call to Order. President Kelly Witte called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Attendance. Present: Pr. Jennifer Jelinek, John Jensen, Connie Kreuser, Charlene Luchterhand, Peggy Punsel, Kristin Rue, Richard Scott, Amy Simdon, Shawn Whitman, Kelly Witte.

Absent: Sandi Aston Hall, Bob Koepp, April Mickelson.

Devotions. Shawn shared devotions.

Approval of Minutes. Amy moved to approve the August meeting minutes. John seconded the motion. Unanimously approved by those who attended the August meeting.

Approval of Agenda. The agenda was amended to clarify that the Insurance Policy topic under Old Business is the cost for Pastor's health insurance for next year. We also added a Property Committee update to New Business. John moved to approve the amended agenda. Peggy seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Correspondence. None

Treasurer's Report. (Amy) The trend from previous months continues, and nothing was unexpected. We had a net loss of \$1,375.50 in August and a net loss of \$2,949 for the year. Our year-to-date (YTD) General Giving at the end of August was \$5,302 higher than 2023 and \$1,816 over the YTD budget. YTD Special Giving was \$6,377 more than last year and \$4,782 more than budget. Our YTD expenses were \$67,774 more than last year. If we didn't include our one-time expenses of the sabbatical, Youth Gathering and the door project our expenses would be \$2,452 more than last year. We are \$27,361 over our budget due to those same one-time expenses. We would have a \$4,294 loss if the sabbatical grant and expenses were not included. This is about \$14,820 less than last year at the end of June. The checking balance was \$1,278 less than the end of July with the general fund balance approximately \$8,863 more. John moved to approve this treasurer's report and send it to audit. Kristin seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Pastor's Report.

- Pastor's flights to Italy for her sabbatical trip were cancelled, and she booked on another airline. The initial airline automatically rebooked her, despite diligent attempts to cancel. She then was considered a "no show" and ineligible for a refund. Travel insurance also rejected covering this expense. While she planned to cover this expense personally, she was encouraged to use any remaining sabbatical funds to cover this additional expense.
- Fall programming has started. Thirteen seventh and eighth graders are enrolled in confirmation classes. On November 3, six ninth graders will be confirmed.
- A deadline will be announced for members to update their contact information in the church's online database. Assistance will be provided to anyone uncomfortable with doing this on their own. The database will be used to develop an updated church directory in the future.

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

Education. (Kristin) All classrooms were painted and ready for the first day of Sunday School (SS). Rooms not being used for SS need painting yet. Thanks to Property Committee for moving the dehumidifier. While painting, teachers noticed other maintenance issues, which they referred to the property committee. The first day of SS was Sept. 8. Confirmation students and families had an orientation meeting on Sept. 4. Classes start on Sept. 11. Students will receive Bibles during the Sept.15 church service. First Communion for fifth graders will be on Sept. 29.

Sabbatical Team Report. Tabled until Bob is present.

Old Business. Ideas for Realigning Duties. Pastor will consider the list of tasks generated by staff to determine if there is anything that would be helpful for others to do. Discussed locking of doors on Sundays following the service.

Health Insurance for Pastor. Erik Jelinek has been approved for social security disability. It is unclear yet what the family's cost for health insurance will be in 2025.

New Business.

- **Rummage Sale Fundraiser Distribution.** John moved to divide this income between the SS and the Middle and High School Youth Fund. Amy seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
- **SS New Requests.** Referred noted maintenance issues to Property Committee as well as the removal of heavy items no longer needed that are stored in the basement.
- **Property Committee Update.** Scott Simdon has retired from snow-plowing. The committee has chosen Matt Frey as his replacement. Cost will range from \$150 - \$225 per time based on the amount of snowfall. The committee will work with SS staff regarding the dehumidifier, which is mostly needed in the summer. Food for thought: our air conditioner is about 20 years old and will need replacement soon.

Adjournment. Amy moved to adjourn the meeting. Char seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:01pm. We ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 8 at 7:00 PM. Kristin is scheduled to present devotions.

Submitted by Charlene Luchterhand, Council Secretary

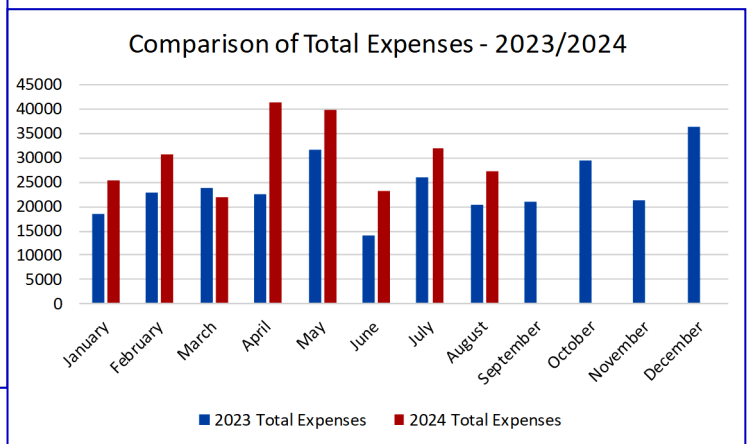
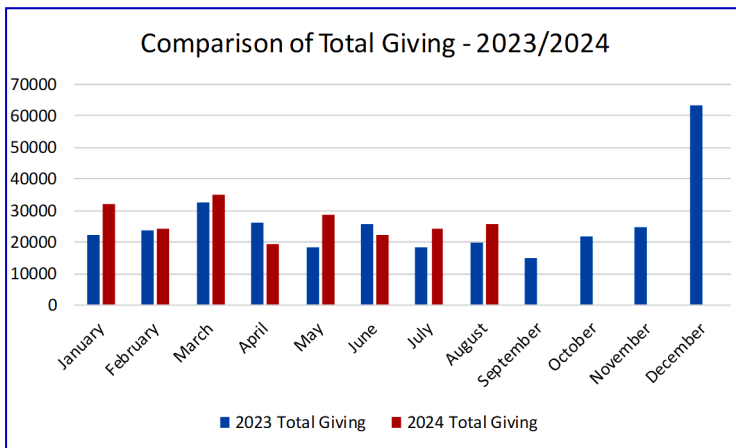


From the Treasurer

August 2024 Financial Snapshot

Income	Year-to-date August 2024 Actual	Year-to-date 2024 Monthly Budget	Over/(under) budget
General Giving	185,817	184,000	1,817
Special Giving	18,115	13,333	4,782
Sabbatical Giving	37,983	30,950	7,033
Misc Income	2,664	2,200	464
Total Income	244,578	230,483	14,095
Expenses			
Administrative	79,654	71,578	8,076
Mission	36,873	28,667	8,206
Pastoral	125,791	112,975	12,817
Program	5,209	6,947	(1,738)
Other	-	-	-
Total Expenses	247,527	220,166	27,361
Total Net Income	(2,949)	10,317	(13,266)

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





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 Koeppe

Secretary Char Luchterhand

Treasurer Amy Simdon

Outreach April Mickelson

Education Kristin Rue

Stewardship Connie Kreuser

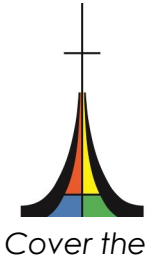
Hospitality Peggy Punsel

Evangelism Shawn Whitman

Worship Sandi Aston Hall

Property John Jensen &

Richard Scott



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