

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gathering in grace, growing in faith, serving in love

June, 2021

Pastor's Ponderings



"Unraveled"

Have you ever felt like your life was unraveling? This last year has been a time when it's felt like everything was changing, disappearing, and falling apart. All sorts of people watched their "normal" lives unraveling. People lost jobs, businesses, and loved ones. Many had to figure out new ways to do what they needed to do, including teachers and students, health care workers, restaurant workers, people in retail, and so many others. Nearly everyone has had moments of loneliness and isolation, grief, and frustration.

I can relate. Seminary prepares pastors for lots of things, but never was there a class on ministering during a pandemic. But suddenly pastors and church leaders everywhere had to make decisions about how to care for the physical and spiritual health of their congregations. While it felt like the church "closed," the ministry had to continue, amid challenges we'd never dreamed of. We had to find ways to connect with and care for members that we couldn't see in person. We had to navigate technology and social media in ways we never had before. We had to find ways to stay hopeful and to spread the hope and faith during what felt like a dark time. And during all of this, we dealt with a wide variety of attitudes about the pandemic and what we should be doing, in addition with all the other divisive things happening in our world. Have I felt unraveled? Yes indeed.

So when I came upon a sermon series called, "Unraveled: Seeking God when Our Plans Fall Apart," I laughed, realizing how fitting it felt right now. Though it feels like we're living through unprecedented times, experiencing "unraveling" like no one ever has before, there are dozens of stories in the Bible about people whose lives have felt similarly "unraveled." And since we look to the Bible to help us live our lives of faith, this summer we're going to do just that. Starting June 20, we'll explore "stories of unraveling" throughout scripture. This series comes with art for each week, as well as a devotional journal for each Sunday's theme. Feel free to pick up an "Unraveled" Journal, available at worship and outside, in our Little Library all summer. Hopefully, looking at how God helped others persevere through their "unraveling" will help us to seek God in our own times of "unraveling" as well.

In Christ,

+Pastor Jennifer

In-Person Worship open to 75 people

Because COVID numbers continue to decline while vaccinations increase, Grace's Church Council has now opened in-person worship to up to 75 people per service. To worship at any indoor service at Grace, you must sign up ahead of time.

How do I sign up to attend worship in-person?

Online: Go to www.gracelutherancambridge.org, and scroll down until you see the "Sign Up" symbol.

From there, fill in the information, especially how many folks will be coming with you.

By phone or e-mail: Call or e-mail Virginia Becker: (623) 680-3696, (608)423-3135 or gracelutherancambridgewi@gmail.com.

All sign-ups are closed FRIDAYS AT NOON. The following week is then open for signing up. Masks are required.

June Highlights:

Sunday, June 6 9:00 Service & Broadcast – High School Graduate Recognition
9:45 Cupcake Reception in the Parking Lot
10:00 Outdoor Worship

Sunday, June 13 9:00 Service and Broadcast

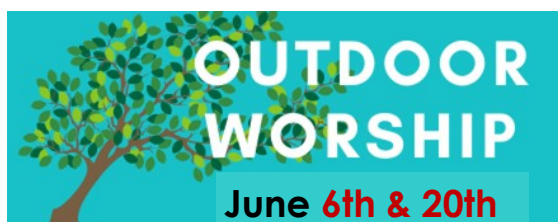
Sunday, June 20 9:00 Service and Broadcast
10:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

Sunday, June 27 9:00 Service and Broadcast

Sunday, July 4 9:00 Service and Broadcast

Graduate Recognition & Cupcake Reception

On **June 6**, we'll recognize our high school graduates at the 9:00 a.m. worship service. Then at 9:45, between the indoor and outdoor services, you're invited to join us in the parking lot for a cupcake reception in their honor.



Outdoor Worship-every other Sunday

Not comfortable worshipping in the Sanctuary yet? Enjoy worshipping outdoors? Then join us for Outdoor Worship in Grace's parking lot every other Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (June 6 and 20). Come and worship from your car or bring lawn chairs to sit outside. Bulletins and communion kits will be provided for you. If the weather looks iffy, an announcement will be made at the 9:00 broadcast and on Facebook about whether the outdoor service will happen. Note: There will not be an outdoor service on July 4.

Communion Practices

During the pandemic, we've had to figure out new ways to safely share communion. In the last 6 months, we've experimented with several pre-packaged communion kits, that include both bread and grape juice. The problem with them is that they can be challenging to open. Our newest kits are a different style – chalice-shaped, with bread sealed at the bottom and grape juice sealed at the top. They don't fit in our communion trays, but we're hoping they help make communion consumption a little easier for you. During indoor and worship, we're now passing out communion kits as worshipers enter, so you can consume them during worship at the same time.



Summer Sermon Series—beginning June 20th

On June 20, we'll begin exploring "stories of unraveling" throughout scripture.

This 12 week series comes with art for each week, as well as a devotional journal for each Sunday's theme. Feel free to pick up an "Unraveled" Journal, available after June 14th at worship and outside, in our Little Library all summer.

June 20 - Sarah Laughs: Unexpected Joy and Surprise

June 27 - Rizpah Mourns her Sons: Public Grief that Inspires Action

July 4 - Peter Sinks in the Water: Unraveled by Uncertainty

Opportunities to Serve

After a year of very few of us being able to help out at church, we're starting to have areas where we could use more volunteers. We're grateful for those who have helped to get us through the pandemic. While we're thankful for everything they've done, we want to give them some support and relief. If you don't know how to do these things, no worries – we'll teach you! **We really do need more helpers.** If you're willing to help in any of these ways, please contact the Church Office.

Volunteers Needed



- ◆ **Ushers** (9:00 in the Sanctuary) – Check in worshipers, pass out bulletins & communion kits, wipe down surfaces
- ◆ **Ushers** (10:00 Outdoor worship, every other Sunday) – Arrive by 9:45 to pass out bulletins and communion kits outside in the parking lot as people arrive
- ◆ **Readers** – Read the lesson for either indoor or outdoor worship
- ◆ **Outdoor Worship set-up** – Arrive before 9:00 a.m. to help set up risers decorations, and sound equipment in church yard (with direction)
- ◆ **Audio/Visual Crew** – Learn how to operate our A/V equipment to eventually join the team of folks who make broadcasting worship possible

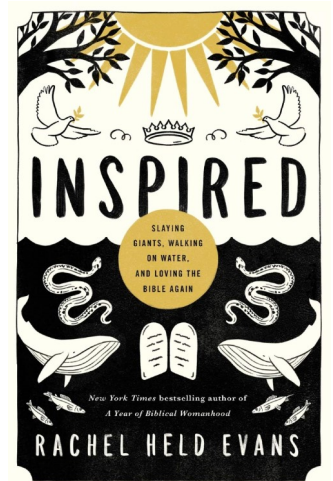
Summer Book Study

Looking for some reading material this summer? How about **Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again** by the late Christian author Rachel Held Evans?

In July and August, you're invited to be part of a book discussion on this book.

A summary: "If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, then what is it? What do people mean when they say the Bible is inspired? When Rachel Held Evans found herself asking these questions, she began a quest to better understand what the Bible is and how it is meant to be read. What she discovered changed her and it will change you too."

This study will **begin on July 12**, so you have a **month to pick up the book**. Want us to order a copy for you? (\$13.96 on Amazon) Contact Pastor Jennifer.



Worship Broadcasts

Sunday worship services are live broadcast on Charter channel 987 and on Grace's Facebook page. Sermons are posted on Grace's YouTube channel after Sunday worship, as well.

Grace Office Hours

In the last month, Grace staff has begun to resume **office hours- 9:00 a.m. to Noon Monday through Friday**. There are additional office hours, but those will vary more. Please contact us if you'd like to make an appointment. Contact information is on pg.12.

Worship Updates from Grace Council

With many of us now vaccinated, we are finally seeing improving conditions and fewer Covid infections. At the Council meeting this month, we discussed how we might make changes to in-person worship to slowly move in a direction of 'back-to-normal'.

Here are the things we decided effective immediately:

- ◆ We will all be able to sing together during the closing hymn.
- ◆ Bread/grape juice will be handed out as we enter the sanctuary so that we can commune together during the service.
- ◆ We will move a few more pews into the sanctuary and increase our capacity to 75. Sign-up will still be required for now, however.
- ◆ Outdoor services will be mask-optional and no limits on singing.

We will likely make more changes each month assuming conditions continue to improve. It will be important for all of us to know the procedures and be flexible and patient as these changes take place. We will likely print some of these procedures in the weekly bulletin to make them easy to find. No one wants to be the rules enforcer, so please take the time to read and follow these instructions.

As we welcome more of our members back to worship, it's important that they know what to expect. Our goal has always been to protect our members and our neighbors. I think we can all respect the fact that each of us has a different level of risk tolerance and we all realize that some people cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons.

Your Council is trying hard to find the right balance that works for most members. By the way, if you were waiting on your vaccine to avoid the rush, now is the time! There are plenty of shots available and I hear that some places don't even require an appointment.

Your input is always welcome. Thank you all, and stay tuned.

Steve Geis, Council President

June Grace Volunteers

June 6th- 9 a.m. Greeters/ushers: Bill & Betty Reay Reader: Betty Reay
10 a.m. Outdoor worship: Marcia Sivesind, Kelly Witte, & Tami Collin

June 13th - Greeter/Usher: April Mickelson Reader: April Mickelson

June 20th- 9 a.m. Greeters./Ushers: Al & Pat Northey Reader: Lori Jensen
10 a.m. Outdoor worship: Judy Heidebrecht, Randy & Char Luchterhand

June 27th- Greeters:/Ushers: Michael R. & Pira Mueller Reader: Michael Rehak

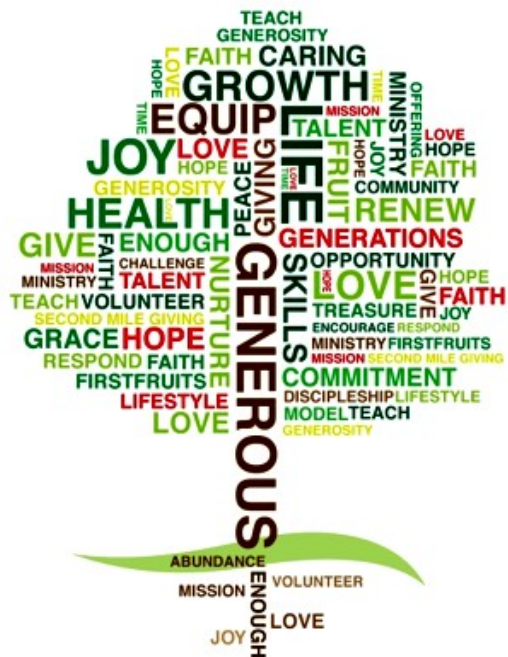
June Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	MEMORIAL DAY	1	2 9 a.m. Ruth Circle at Grace 4 p.m. Outreach Meeting at Grace	3	4	5
6 Graduate Recognition Sunday 9 a.m. Worship SERVICE-Cable Channel 987, Facebook, & limited in-person by sign up 10:00-10:45 a.m. Outdoor Worship Service	7 9:00 a.m. Quilters Meals on Wheels deliveries all week	8 10:30 a.m. Grace Gab 7:30 p.m. Grace Council Mtg.	9	10	11	12
13 9 a.m. Worship SERVICE-Cable Channel 987, Facebook, & limited in-person by sign up 7 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting	14 9:30 a.m. Quilters Meals on Wheels deliveries all week	15 10:30 a.m. Grace Gab	16	17	18	19
20 Fathers' Day 9 a.m. Worship SERVICE-Cable Channel 987, Facebook, & limited in-person by sign up 10:00-10:45 a.m. Outdoor Worship Service	21 9:00 a.m. Quilters	22 10:30 a.m. Grace Gab	23	24 6:30-8:30 p.m. Family Tie Dye Event	25	26
27 9 a.m. Worship SERVICE-Cable Channel 987, Facebook, & limited in-person by sign up	28 9:00 a.m. Quilters	29 10:30 a.m. Grace Gab	30			



MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS NEEDED:

Please contact Marlene Hussey if you are able to help with deliveries of Meals on Wheels the week of June 7th and/or 14th. (608) 423-3773 or (608) 513-6461



Introducing the Stewardship Committee

A new group of members met via Zoom in March and April to get acquainted with each other. We discussed lots of ideas for making stewardship a year-round celebration of giving back to God. Some of you will associate stewardship with a fall campaign seeking pledges of financial support for the church and possibly filling out a “time and talents” inventory. It is so much more! Our hope is to raise your awareness of God’s daily gifts to us and the many ways (large and small) we can show our appreciation and devotion in return.

Stewardship is a perfect opportunity for everyone—all ages—in the congregation to get involved. You’re probably practicing stewardship already in several forms, even if you don’t call it that by name. The committee plans to be guided by scripture and to

communicate through the newsletter and informal talks and conversation. Be prepared for fun events, practical ideas, and challenges along the way.

Jennifer Hellberg is the liaison to council. Other members are Ben Becker, Bill Becker, Tami Collin, Janet Koepp, Amy Simdon, Kelly Witte, and Pastor Jennifer Jelinek. At our May meeting we welcomed two new members, high school students Emma Hellberg and Kendra Tobias. Please let us know your thoughts and ideas at any time.

Evangelism

Greetings from the Grace Evangelism Committee! Pastor Jennifer recommended I read Michael Frost's book [Surprise the World! The Five Habits of Highly Missional People](#). Think of the subtitle as lessons from the field that we can apply in our lives, whether we travel and minister around the world, or we just want to know how to better share the good news of Jesus with those in our own community.

He summarizes the habits in the acronym “BELLS”— Bless, Eat, Listen, Learn, Sent. These actions are positive in others’ lives, and in our own. Mindfully incorporating these habits into our lives lets us evangelize to all those we encounter by our example of Christ-like living. Most of the BELLS are ones we already “ring” in some way, if you will, but the author provides practical insight, amplifies the Christian values associated with each habit, and he writes of the experience of others, as illustrative examples.

We all receive blessings, and we have the power to give them with our kindness, compliments and gifts; accepting a dinner invitation or offering one, quietly and actively listening for the Holy Spirit; learning about Jesus in the Word, and journaling the ways we see the Lord working in and through us, all to discover that maybe we have already been sent to share the good news! We can find inspiration in books like this, and all around us, as we seek to keep our faith strong, growing, and flourishing!

Best Regards, Shawn Whitman



Outreach & Social Justice News

The Outreach Committee will meet Wed., June 2nd at 4:00 p.m. at Grace.

Urgent need for Personal Care Kits

Lutheran Worlds Relief has sent out an urgent request for Personal Care Kits.

They meet peoples' most basic needs. Imagine your life without soap, a toothbrush, a towel, a comb.

Un-imaginable, right? If you can help, please consider putting a kit together, or two or three. Cost per kit is \$8-\$10. The fastest way to help, would be to make a financial gift; please make checks out to Grace Lutheran Church and write

"Personal Care Kits" in the memo line.

The **final collection will be June 30th**. You can bring your gift to outdoor worship or bring it to Grace during office hours (Mon-Fri 9am-noon). There is a collection bin in the narthex.

Your generosity is always so very much appreciated!

Include the following in each Personal Care Kit

ONE light-weight bath-size towel - dark color recommended (min 20" x 40" and max 52" x 27")

TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping

ONE adult-size toothbrush in it's original packaging*

ONE sturdy comb, remove packaging

ONE metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

* Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap

Some important guidelines to remember

- Be sure to shop for **light- or medium-weight** towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.

Please give **new items** only.

Please **do not** donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.

Please **do not** donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.

P.S.: A big **Thank You** to folks who have donated to the Baby Care Kits. If that is your particular passion, donations are welcome year-round, but we will focus on these kits during Advent. Please be aware that we have an **overabundance of hats**. Most years, we end up shy of T-shirts (not Onsies!), so maybe you can concentrate on those for now. We can only use sizes 6-24 months. We also need more hand-towels and **4-oz** bars of mild soap, as well as \$\$ for diapers. (Note "Baby Care Kits" in the memo line of your check).

Teresa Neuenschwander, Christian Education Coordinator
teresa478@hotmail.com 608-658-7844



SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, June 24th • 6:30-8:30pm
For a Tie-Dye Family Event!

In replace of VBS this summer we will be having a couple of family events.

First up, is a Tie-Dye party! More information and a chance to sign up will be sent by email.

Bring an item* to tie-dye, t-shirt, socks, bag, scarf, pillowcase are just a few examples. We will supply everything else!

Women's Group Meeting at Grace– June 2nd

Ruth Circle ladies will meet at Grace this month on **June 2nd at 9:00am.**

The Food Pantry is now open for in-person shopping on Monday evenings from 5:30-7:00.

Items on the food pantry wish-list include:

- ◆ **Laundry Soap**
- ◆ **Dish Soap**
- ◆ **Pineapple (canned)**
- ◆ **Ranch Dressing**
- ◆ **Canned Spam**
- ◆ **Strawberries**



The food pantry is so grateful to Grace Lutheran for all of your help and support.

Cambridge Senior Luncheons are returning! Luncheons for **June 9** and **June 23** will be held at the **Keystone Grille** in Cambridge. Cost is **\$5 per person** which includes lunch and entertainment!

Please **contact Heather Morgan at 608.423.8045** for details

OUR HOMEBOUND

Jon Bakken
309 Oriole Lane
Cambridge, WI 53523

Mary Ellen Smith
912 Monroe St., Apt. 11
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Shirley Engelstad
Home Again Assisted Living
110 Stuart St.
Columbus, WI 53925

Char Kenseth
555 W. Madison #5
Cambridge, WI 53523

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2021 Via Zoom from Home (*Minutes below aren't approved until next month's meeting*)

Call to Order. Meeting called to order by President Steve Geis at 7:35 p.m.

Attendance. Steve Geis, Amanda Kosanda, Tom Kosanda, Jean Scott, Mary Behling, Jennifer Hellberg, Shawn Whitman, Kris Tobias, Tim Neuenschwander, Ann Engelstad, Kari Jermain and Pastor Jennifer Jelinek. Absent: None.

Devotions. Jennifer Hellberg offered devotions to open the meeting.

Approval of April Minutes. Jean Scott moved to approve the Minutes, Jennifer Hellberg seconded the motion, and they were unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda. Jean Scott (Outreach) indicated that they have completed the Lenten Challenge and exceeded the goal by over \$600. They are now working on personal care kits through June 30 and donations of supplies or funds are welcome. Kris Tobias (Tech) reported that they met recently to discuss next steps and discuss budgets and funding. They are having some issues with live streaming the service on Facebook but are getting close to completing that with instructions for all users. Jennifer Hellberg (Stewardship) reported that she and Ben Becker have been working on ways for visitors to give online (similar to Venmo but for non-profits). No other committee reports.

Property Report. Tommy Kosanda reported that the committee met in April and scheduled a church clean-up day for this Sunday, May 16, after service. Jennifer Hellberg suggested we could try tapping into the High School's Silver Cord program and get some additional volunteers that way. Tommy fixed the hole by the Little Library and did some other general clean-up already. The dishwasher and the garbage disposal are both having some issues. It was agreed the committee should go ahead with replacing the garbage disposal but should hold off on looking into a new dishwasher for the time being.

Treasurer's Report. Tim Neuenschwander presented the financial reports and summary. Total income was down a little in April month-over-month, although general giving was a bit up. The trend has been slightly downward since February. In "normal" years, this would be a big time of the year due to Easter. Expenditures were up a little, but profit/loss is still positive for the year (including the PPP loan funds). After tax season ends, Tim and Diane will review the Renewing Grace pledges. He believes most of them have been fulfilled, however, and we are about \$13,000 short of the loan pay-off amount so discussion may need to be held as to how to complete repayment. Jean Scott moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Kris Tobias seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Pastor's Report. Pastor Jennifer reported that she is 4 weeks into the Revelation study. She obtained a variety of glasses from a church that has closed to help reduce our use of paper cups. She will be gone June 9-18 for vacation. For the summer, she is looking at a new sermon series called "Unraveled". It has visual components as well as spoken and should be interesting. Drive-thru Communion is ending and Outdoor Services will be starting every other weekend. The Deerfield vicar's internship has started and she will be meeting with her as supervisor weekly. It is an 18-month internship ending August of 2022. Pastor reported that she will be unavailable to lead the service on July 4, and different options were discussed. It was agreed that she should try to arrange for a lay-person to lead that service. Pastor will be working with Diane Russo to move some files and/or destroy old records to free up space in the office file cabinet. The 2021 graduates will be recognized at the June 6th in-person service and there will be a table outside with cupcakes for them and other attendees to enjoy.

New Business. None.

Old Business.

Music Director Update. No update. The Personnel Committee is continuing to work on job descriptions and the organist job is listed on a website for church musicians. Personnel is meeting again on Thursday.

Return to Worship Planning: Much discussion was held and the following decisions were made: Singing of the last hymn will now be allowed. Masks will still be required. Communion will be handed out as people enter the sanctuary so that they can commune together in the pews during service. Capacity will be increased to 75 people/service. Sign-up will remain in place for the time being to allow pews to be appropriately placed. Cindy Hartman will be asked to schedule 2 ushers/service.

Adjournment. There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting and it was approved. Next meeting will be June 8, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., via Zoom. Ann Engelstad volunteered for devotions. The meeting was adjourned, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Report submitted by Mary Behling, Council Secretary.

Organist Position



Grace is looking to hire an organist to play during Sunday worship and for other worship services. If you know someone who might be interested, please contact Pastor Jennifer to get a job description and more information.

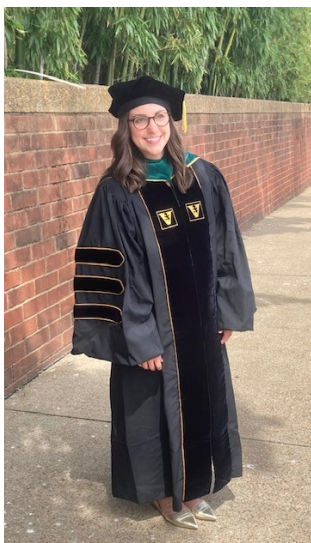
Grace Gab

It's time to gab outdoors! Grace Gab is moving outside for the summer. Join us in the back parking lot Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. for Grace Gab. It's just a great time to chat and catch up with others from Grace.

Congratulations TO OUR GRADUATES!



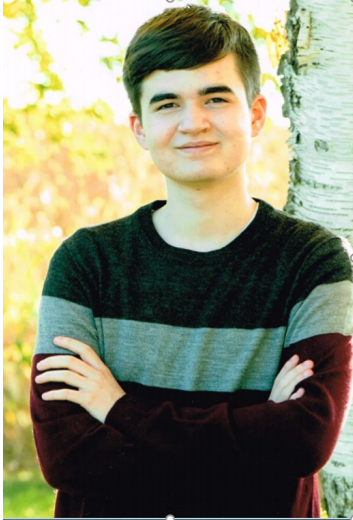
Grace Carpenter, daughter of Karen and Craig Carpenter, graduated from Edgewood College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Marketing and Business Management. On June 1st, she will start her new job as a Marketing Analyst at the Sub-Zero Company.



Dr. Allie Williams, daughter of Virginia & Richard Becker and granddaughter of Louise Eastland, graduated from Vanderbilt University Medical School in Nashville. She will do a residency at the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital in pediatrics, pursuing further study as a Pediatric Cardiologist. She received the prestigious Richard B. Johnson, Jr. award from the Vanderbilt School of Medicine for "the highest professional standards of the physician scientist." Her recent research in cardiology complications in Sudden Infant Death Syndrome will be published soon.



Congratulations, High School Grads!



**COLE
BAKKEN**

Cambridge High School

**Fall Plans:
UW Madison
Political Science**



**RACHEL
DROTZER**

Cambridge High School
**Next year's plans:
part-time jobs milking
cows & working at an
assisted living facility**



**SUMMER
HAUSZ**

Cambridge High School

**Fall Plans:
UW Milwaukee
Hospital
Administration**



**DEREK
GLESINGER**

Cambridge High School

**Fall Plans:
UW Madison
Engineering major**



**KRISTOFER
HOLMEN**

Cambridge High School

**Fall Plans:
UW Madison
Engineering major**



**JACK
NIKOLAY**

Cambridge High School

**Fall Plans:
UW Madison
Economics or Journalism
Major**



Grace Lutheran Church
 E.L.C.A.
 501 Skogen Road
 Cambridge, WI 53523

Place
 stamp
 here

Place address sticker here;
 not any higher

Gathering in grace, Growing in faith, Serving in love.

www.gracelutherancambridge.org

“Like Us” on Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-
 ELCA Cambridge, WI

Please note:
 We broadcast
 on Channel 987

Staff & Council Contacts

<u>Pastor:</u>	Jennifer Jelinek	Home: 423-2329	Cell: (608) 295-7120	pastorjenniferglc@gmail.com
<u>Administrative Assistant</u>	Virginia Becker	Church Office: (608) 423-3135	Cell: (623) 680-3696	gracelutherancambridgewi@gmail.com
<u>Financial Secretary:</u>	Diane Russo		Cell: (847) 826-0131	gracelutheranfinance@gmail.com
<u>Music Director:</u>				
<u>Handbell Choir Director:</u>	Ann Engelstad			gaengelstad@charter.net
<u>Christian Education Coordinator:</u>	Teresa Neuenschwander		Cell: (608) 658-7844	teresa478@hotmail.com
<u>Volunteer Coordinator:</u>	Cindy Hartman			cindyh1029@msn.com

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

<u>President :</u>	Steve Geis	swgeis@yahoo.com
<u>Vice President</u>	Kris Tobias	
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mary Behling	
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Tim Neuenschwander	
<u>Outreach:</u>	Jean Scott	
<u>Education:</u>	Amanda Kosanda	
<u>Stewardship</u>	Jennifer Hellberg	
<u>Hospitality:</u>	Kari Jermain	
<u>Evangelism:</u>	Shawn Whitman	
<u>Worship:</u>	Ann Engelstad	
<u>Property:</u>	Tom Kosanda	