



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gathering in grace, growing in faith, serving in love

May, 2020



Pastor's Ponderings

Dear Friends,

If anybody had told me on Ash Wednesday that I'd be leading Easter worship in an empty Sanctuary, I would've laughed, "No way! Easter's not on April 1 this year!" Yet at 9:00 on Easter morning, I stood in our beautifully-decorated sanctuary, and the echo of my "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" was the only sound I heard when I'd typically be hearing your, "He is risen indeed! Alleluia!" It was indeed so hard to be apart on Easter and the days leading up to it. But please know that I felt your presence and your participation, and I could hear your Alleluias in my heart.

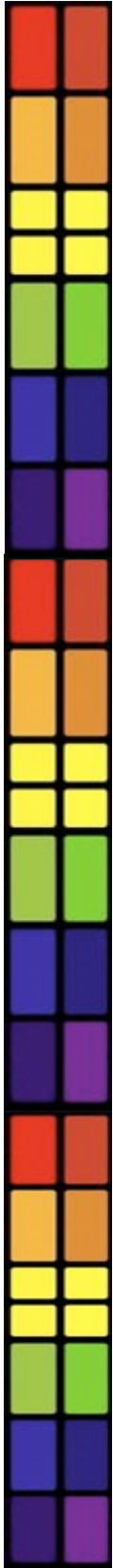
I look forward to the day when you can stand with me in our Sanctuary and shout those words and see our beautiful butterflies in person (Thanks, Michael & Pira)! As Christians, we are Easter People. Every Sunday of the year is "a little Easter," so we will celebrate Easter together sometime this year.

In the meantime, we're staying busy providing opportunities for you to stay connected and engaged. Facebook remains the best avenue to get information and to stay connected. We offer daily devotions, a daily Grace picture puzzle, Sunday School activities, Grace reminders, and posts from Pastor Jennifer. If you aren't on Facebook, this might be a great time to join. We're also offering 2 different classes on Zoom, which ANYBODY can be a part of, whether you have internet or not. And now there's an opportunity to chat with one another on Zoom with Grace Gab. Check out those details inside.

I'm thankful for you – for being compassionate and responsible by staying home and protecting yourself and others from illness. I'm thankful for those of you who are working from home, navigating those challenges and discovering rewards. I'm thankful for you parents who are managing children and their schoolwork without your usual support systems. I'm thankful for those of you who still need to go to work – for the precautions you take, for the courage you have, for the skills and experience you share to make quarantine possible for the rest of us. Thank you.

Please continue to reach out with any news, needs, or questions you might have. We can't be in our church building together, but we are still the Church together, and we still seek to Gather in Grace, Grow in Faith, and Serve in Love.

In Christ,
+Pastor Jennifer



Safer-at-Home

As you've heard, Governor Evers has extended the "Safer-at-Home" order through May 26. Even after the order is lifted, it's likely that we'll have to ease back into regular gatherings, and our "normal" gatherings may look a bit different than they used to. Church Council will continue talking about this in the weeks to come.

Worship

Sunday worship continues to be available live on Sundays on Charter cable channel 987 at 9:00 a.m. as well as live on Facebook. If you can't get the service either of these ways but would be interested in watching/listening via Zoom (with internet or just phone), please contact Pastor Jennifer, and she can make those arrangements. Sermons are posted on Grace's YouTube channel after Sunday worship, as well as on our website. Find the bulletin for our Sunday services on our website by scrolling down on the Home Page. A big thanks to Judy Brandt, Steve Oostdik, Todd Tatlock, and Sierra & Scarlett Jelinek for helping lead worship and handling the AV for our broadcasts.

Giving

We're so grateful for your continued generosity, even in this difficult time. We encourage you to continue giving to Grace as you are able. Feel free to mail in your offering or to give online. If you go to our website – gracelutherancambridge.org, you'll find a button that says "Online Giving." If you click there, you can give once or set up repeated donations. Thank you!

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Our usual Monday night Bible study has now moved to Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. We're studying the **book Acts**. There's no pre-work and no homework, so you're welcome to jump in and join us at any time. Just have your favorite Bible handy.

Even if Bible studies sound boring, or intimidate you, this is the perfect opportunity to check it out. We have great conversations and have fun together.

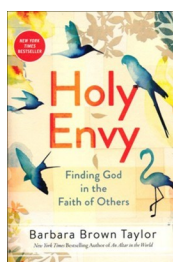
You can access our Zoom Bible Study using this login information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/77830558349?pwd=emtFblZnUXlkNUdYeVRFREpVVEhaQT09>

Meeting ID: 778 3055 8349

Password: 417535

Or call 312-626-6799 and input the ID and password above.



Book Study

Our "Holy Envy" book study continues this month on Mondays and Thursdays at Noon. If you haven't joined yet but would like to, contact Pastor Jennifer for information about connecting.

Coronavirus Stimulus Sharing

Many people are struggling financially during this time of quarantine, so the U.S. Government is providing stimulus checks to many families to aid them during this difficult time. Fortunately, some families are able to continue working and being paid, so for them, this time may not present the financial struggle presents for others. If you receive stimulus money that you'd like to share with local neighbors who are particularly struggling right now, CART (Cambridge Area Resource Team) would be a good place to send it. CART helps people with rent, utilities, gas, diapers, and grocery gift cards. The Cambridge Food Pantry also welcomes monetary or food donations.

CART
223 Jefferson St.
Cambridge, WI 53523

Cambridge Food Pantry
P.O. Box 54
Cambridge, WI 53523

NEEDED AT CAMBRIDGE FOOD PANTRY:

The Cambridge Food Pantry is in need of the following items cereal, microwavable mac & cheese, Pop Tarts, pancake mix and syrup, flour, tuna, diapers sizes 5 & 6, shampoo & conditioner, Poise pads, women's Large Depends, toilet tissue and paper towel.



Grace Gab

Missing coffee hour and the time to catch up with friends? Next to being in-person, our Zoom Grace Gab is the next best thing! Each Tuesday, Pastor Jennifer is offering Grace Gab, the chance to see and talk to and listen to one another. There's no agenda, no topic – just a chance to check in and chat with others from Grace. Zoom is extremely easy to use with internet, and it can be used with just a phone as well.

Here is the login information :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/76777610565?pwd=SEtzcHJQL00yL1VVENENOWDU3RUJVVdz09>

Meeting ID: 767 7761 0565

Password: 462396

Or call 312- 626-6799 and input ID and Password from above.

Daily Devotions on Facebook



God Pause

We are posting Luther Seminary's devotions daily. Check out our Facebook page!

If You Need Something...

Since our staff is working almost exclusively from home, please feel free to call them on their cell phones rather than at church. If you've got a prayer request, if you have question for the church staff, or if you have a special need, please feel free to call, text, or e-mail Pastor Jennifer – 608-295-7120 pastorjenniferglc@gmail.com or Virginia Becker 623-680-3696 gracelutherancambridge-wi@gmail.com

Sunday School



Although we haven't been able to hold Sunday School in-person for the last month, we've offered families various Sunday School activities, and kids have been invited to Zoom with one another during Sunday School time.

A big thanks to this year's Sunday School teachers – Kristin Rue, Shawnee Sullivan, Shauna Thayer, and helpers Rachel Drotzer, Molly Hellberg, and Sierra Jelinek. A huge thank you to our fantastic Christian Ed Coordinator Teresa Neuenschwander for organizing, equipping, teaching, and supporting our Sunday School all year, and especially during this challenging time.

Confirmation Corner

Confirmation continues via Zoom. We're finishing up our study of the New Testament this month. For those who need more sermon notes, saved sermons are available and easy to find on Grace's YouTube channel.

Calling for Grad Information



If you have a son/daughter who will be graduating from **college** this Spring, please send full name, institution from which he or she matriculated, major, and plans after graduation. Just a short paragraph is great. **Please e-mail it to the office by May 18th.**

If you have a **high school grad**, please e-mail name of high school, child's full name and any future plans, along with a grad picture and a favorite childhood photo. **Please send by May 18th and congratulations to all our grads!**



Mowers and Lawn Maintenance Needed

Spring has come and with that we are in search for volunteers for lawn and garden maintenance at Grace. Mowing takes place once a week, typically near the end of the week (Thursday/Friday/Saturday) and there are two riding lawn mowers for use. We will also need volunteers to help with weeding and edging of the flower beds. If you have interest Tom Kosanda can be easily reached at tkosanda@gmail.com or 312-848-2963 and will be keeping a schedule via a google spreadsheet. Thank you and be safe.

Beware of Scam:

A number of church members in our area have been getting messages, supposedly from their pastors, asking for gift cards or money. These messages are all scams. So if you ever get a message saying that Pastor Jennifer is contacting you asking for gift cards or money, please delete them. She will never ask you for gift cards.

Pastor Prebbinow Anniversary

Pastor Jerry Pribbenow served as pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in the 1960s, when the current building was being planned and built. He returned to preach for our 125th anniversary as well. And at 87 years old, Pastor Jerry still serves as part-time Visitation Pastor at Central Lutheran Church in Edgerton. This June, Pastor Jerry will be celebrating 60 years of ordained ministry. The hope was to have a **surprise** celebration at Central Lutheran on June 7, but of course, those plans are currently up in the air. If you knew Pastor Jerry and would like to send a card of congratulations, you're invited to send them to:



Pastor Jerry Pribbenow
Central Lutheran Church
100 W. Rollin St.
Edgerton, WI 53534

Covid Frontliners...thank you!

From Amy Day of Piggly Wiggly:

It has been an interesting couple of weeks.; things have settled down somewhat from that 1st crazy week. We'd like to say it is a new normal, but things are still constantly changing and we are constantly adapting to another new normal. We keep informed of new rules and regulations from the Wisconsin Grocer's Association and our warehouse. We have had to apply many new practices and procedures. We have added new services like curbside pickup. Some of it can be challenging. Sometimes just getting from the front of the store to the back can be a challenge because you are respecting the social distancing guidelines. And all of this, while we have been busier than normal. We have been short staffed because many of our employees have chosen to stay home and self quarantine, but blessed to have been able to hire a few new people, and most of the employees that we have left have really stepped up. We have a wonderful staff! It is a difficult time to be an essential worker. You are grateful to still have a job, while at the same time, you are worried that you could become exposed while working with the public. There is also concern that if too many people get sick, that we may not be able to stay open. While right now things are going well, it would not take much for that to quickly change. It really helps to have a wonderful, supportive community. While we have seen some negativity, for the most part customers have been patient, kind and understanding. The community has really stepped up, too. For example, we have had customers buy over 400 gallons of milk to be given to those in need. We have had many in the community volunteer to stock shelves for us, or to deliver groceries to the elderly and at-risk. One customer gave our full-time employees gift cards & the Cambridge Market brought soup in for the employees one day. Grace Quilters sewed masks so we have them available for customers & employees and Dancing Goat Distillery brought us a 5 gallon jug of hand sanitizer. One customer cut out paper hearts with all the employees' names. To see the community come together like this is really heartwarming! I guess if there is anything that we want people to know, it is how much we appreciate kindness, understanding and prayers for the continued health of our staff and community!

From Traci Becker, RN, working for Fort Healthcare: <https://www.forthhealthcare.com/covid-19-information/>

A request from the frontline...Please, please do your part! Stay home. Avoid unnecessary trips out of the home and stay away from those outside of your immediate family. You CAN have Covid and spread the virus even without symptoms! If you do have any sort of cold/flu symptoms, you should quarantine yourself at home for at least two weeks. No exceptions. Have others grocery shop for you and drop off at front door. Wipe groceries/packages down. When you absolutely must leave the home when healthy, wear a mask, don't touch your face (eyes, mouth, nose) and wash/use hand sanitizer frequently.

"Due to the highly contagious nature of this disease, it is not advised that you seek care at a hospital emergency department, unless you are advised to do so by your healthcare provider."

*Or, call the Covid triage hotline: 920-648-7696 and they can provide guidance on testing.

*"Drive through" Covid testing at Fort Hospital (order has to be placed by the primary doctor or through the Covid hotline prior. You cannot just show up to get tested)

*Temporary urgent care at 1520 Madison Ave Monday-Friday 8a-5pm. This allows people to avoid coming to the hospital for urgent care needs.

Outreach & Social Justice News

Thank you for your generosity!



In March, our Outreach Committee challenged us to raise money for this year's Lenten Challenge, which was buying goats for those in need around the world. Our goal was \$2000 (40 goats), and we surpassed our goal, raising \$2,326, which will buy 46 goats! Thank you for your generosity. This will help numerous people develop sustainable incomes for their families.

Grace Quilters Stitch for our Safety



The following GLC quilters have sewn over 500 masks!

Barb Gregory, Pira Mueller, Pat Hall, Yvonne Fosdick, Tianna Borchardt, Janet Koepp, Jean Scott, and Judy Heidebrecht.

Masks have been distributed to Cambridge EMS/Fire dept, a few doctors & nurses, Piggly Wiggly employees & customers, 3 assisted living homes, Meals on Wheels, CART, a construction company, an apartment building, many area residents, personal family members and relatives.

We have a few masks available. If anyone is in the health field or in need of a fabric face mask, please call Barb Gregory 423-2220.



Times have changed for Grace's missionaries too!

Pastor Zachary Courter and his wife, Rachel, and his little daughter, Dorothy, are experiencing many changes during the pandemic. They are still in Budapest, Hungary, where they are sheltering in place.

Pastor Zach writes:

"Overall, we find ourselves healthy and well, for which we give thanks to God. Throughout the past few weeks, there have been hours that have felt like days, days that have felt like weeks, and weeks that have felt like months. In mid-March, the decision was made for all their YAGM volunteers (Young Adults in Global Mission) across the globe to return to their homes in the United States. Though we are confident that ending the service year early was the right thing to do, it has still left us grieving the lost time with friends and colleagues, as well as the community experiences that were awaiting each of our missionaries. I would like to ask that you pray for my family and me and our YAGM volunteers these days ahead."

They may not be able to return to the states this summer. Pastor Zach is from Verona and was looking forward to visiting his family and congregations in the area. Please pray for their safety.



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2020 Via Zoom from Home during Quarantine

Meeting called to order by President Steve Geis at 7:30 p.m.

Attendees: Steve Geis, Kris Tobias, Tim Neuenschwander, Lori Jensen, Amy Simdon, Amanda Kosanda, Tom Kosanda, Jean Scott, Mary Behling, Ann Engelstad, and Jennifer Jelinek. Erik Olson was absent.

Devotions:

Amanda Kosanda presented devotions.

Consent Agenda:

Jean Scott reported that the Lenten Challenge had raised enough money to buy 43 goats. Pastor Jennifer stated that another donation had just been made that would bring it to 44. There were no other committee reports. Tim Neuenschwander moved to approve all committee reports. Jean Scott seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Property Report:

Tom Kosanda stated he did not have anything new to report, but he will be putting something together soon to get volunteers lined up for lawn mowing. He noted that one of the temperature/humidity sensors went off this afternoon, but when he checked the church, everything seemed to be fine. He asked if we want to do mulch this year like we usually do this time of year. Under the quarantine circumstances, we agreed to do nothing yet and revisit the question in the next couple of weeks or so.

Treasurer's Report:

Tim Neuenschwander presented the Treasurer's Report. **(a)**General giving was down over January and February, but still shows a positive trend in 2020. Expenses were down, too, partly because we weren't in church most of the month. **(b)**The application for a PPP loan was approved in the amount of \$35,000. Tim explained the basis for the program and stated they had made a conservative request so that most, if not all, of the loan would be forgiven. Mary Behling moved to accept the loan and get documents signed as quickly as necessary. Ann Engelstad seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously. **(c)**Tim reported that he had talked to Church Mutual and received a letter discussing different uses of the church property and how each category would affect our insurance rates. It was not clear exactly where the adult respite program would fall, but, as there is no rush at this time, Lori Jensen moved to table this issue for a month. Ann Engelstad seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. **(d)**The loan principal for Renewing Grace is currently \$98,405.86. Tim indicated he and Diane are working on reconciling all donations to make sure the coding was correctly entered for all. Jean Scott moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Amy Simdon seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Pastor's Report:

Lew Behn died this past week. Plans for any services are on hold due to the quarantine restrictions. Next Sunday will be Holy Humor Sunday and she is looking for any humorous input. Confirmation class is resuming through the use of Zoom tomorrow. She is moving Bible Study from Monday to Wednesday for scheduling reasons. The feedback she has received regarding services online and on the TV broadcast has been mainly positive. We all agreed that that has worked well under the circumstances.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

The only new business was COVID-19 planning and we felt that we had discussed that in other parts of the meeting so nothing further needed to be discussed at this point.

Adjournment:

Next meeting will be May 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Grace if possible and, if not, by Zoom again.

There being no further business, Lori Jensen moved to adjourn. Amy Simdon seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Report submitted by Mary Behling, *Council Secretary*

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

Place stamp
here

Place address sticker here;

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		(608) 423-3135	gracelutherancambridgewi@gmail.com
<u>Financial Secretary:</u>	Diane Russo		(608) 423-3135	gracelutheranfinance@gmail.com
<u>Music Director:</u>	Judy Brandt		(608) 239-6948	judithbrandt@gmail.com
<u>Handbell Choir Director:</u>	Ann Engelstad			gaengelstad@charter.net
<u>Christian Education Coordinator:</u>	Teresa Neuenschwander		(608) 658-7844	teresa478@hotmail.com
<u>High School Youth Coordinator:</u>	Jaci Brovont		(608)217-2453	jcb8184@gmail.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>	Amy Simdon	
<u>Hospitality:</u>	Lori Jensen	
<u>Evangelism:</u>	Erik Olsen	
<u>Worship:</u>	Ann Engelstad	
<u>Property:</u>	Tom Kosanda	