

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gathering in Grace, growing in Faith, serving in Love

MAY 2022

Pastor's Ponderings



Do you remember having Show & Tell in school when you were young? I do. It was about my favorite thing. I was a very shy and quiet child, but there was something about showing and telling my class about some of my prized possessions that made me chattier. I brought in a favorite rock to show my classmates how it caught the light. I brought in a craft project I was proud of. In 2nd grade, my mom brought in my cat Max so I could show everyone his white feet that made him look

like he had socks on. But no matter what it was, I delighted in the chance to share things that were important to me. And I loved to hear about items others brought in as well.

As humans, we like to show and tell about our experiences, passions, and treasures. And these days, we have so many more ways to share things that we love, things that bring us joy. Where 40+ years ago, we might have invited people over to share a slideshow of our last vacation, now we can show pictures on our phones, computers, and on social media. We love to show and tell others about our children and grandchildren, our hobbies, travels, and projects.

And here at Grace, we have so much to show and tell about as well! Many of us haven't been together much for the last 2 years. We haven't seen all the great things that have continued through COVID and the new things that have started. So on May 1, we're going to take the opportunity to do a Ministry Show & Tell at our Ministry Fair. You'll be able to see, hear, and experience the great ministries that our people have been doing to serve our congregation and far beyond.

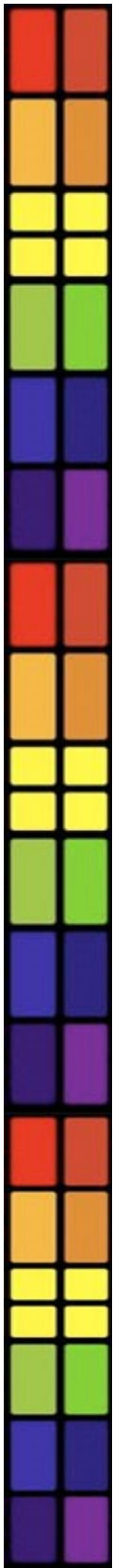


But that's not all. You'll also get to do some sharing of your own. You have gifts and abilities that can help in building up the body of Christ and serving the world. God has given you those gifts and calls you to use them. So we'll ask you to find a way to share your gifts, whether it be helping in worship in some way, shoveling, sewing, writing, organizing, decorating, praying, teaching, or any of the other myriad of ministries that help Grace to thrive and to serve our community.

So join us on Sunday, May 1 for worship and the Ministry Fair, as we show and tell the wonderful things that God is doing through our congregation.

In Christ,

+Pastor Jennifer



Philippians Bible Study

In this Easter season, we celebrate the joy of Jesus' resurrection. Joy is also a central theme in Paul's Letter to the Philippians. So for 4 weeks, we'll explore this letter together in our Monday night study. Please feel free to join us for this "joy-ful" class in-person or over Zoom starting on May 2 at 7:00 p.m.



Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89089896761?pwd=enNvekxhNmRIWDBKUUZtSXkxY0VkUT09>



Kenneth's Recital

Kenneth Hoversten, our wonderful Organist and Director of Music, is completing his Master's Degree in Vocal Performance at the University of Wisconsin. You are cordially invited to attend Kenneth's Master's Recital on the evening of Saturday, May 7 at 6 pm at Morphy recital hall.

Grace Lutheran Rummage Sale August 5 and 6

This year Grace will be participating in the rummage sale along with all of Cambridge during Maxwell Street Days.

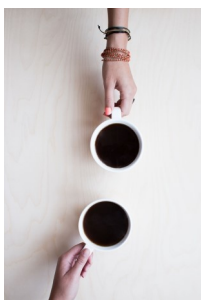
As you spring clean this year, please save any treasures you don't want (but some else would love) and bring them to the church. We will have a spot designated for your treasures in the basement. We are looking for good quality items to sell at our rummage sale. Please no TVs or electronics.



If you have any questions or would like to help, please call Tami Collin @ 920-728-8047.

AED & Emergency Training

Grace has a new AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) in case of cardiac emergencies in the building. Cambridge EMS has kindly agreed to lead a training on how to use the AED, as well as other emergency procedures. The date is pending. If you're interested in attending such a training, please watch Facebook, listen to worship announcements, or contact Pastor Jennifer to be notified when a date is scheduled.



Coffee Hour Date Changes?

Coffee Hour is such an important time of Fellowship and Welcome for our congregation. We so appreciate that so many of you are willing to host once a year. The Coffee Hour schedule came out earlier this year. If you need to switch dates with somebody, please feel free, but then let the Church Office know so we can change it on the schedule and in the newsletter. Instructions for hosting Coffee Hour are posted in the kitchen.

Masks Optional

Following a sharp decrease in COVID numbers and the end of the Dane County Mask Mandate, Grace Council has decided to make masks optional in the building. People who are unvaccinated or are high-risk are still encouraged to wear masks. We appreciate your care for your neighbors.

Want to worship from home? Here's how!

Grace's Sunday services continue to be broadcast on Charter cable channel 987 Sundays at 9:00 a.m., 1:00 & 10:30 p.m. Sunday and midweek Lenten services are also livestreamed on Grace's Facebook page.

Just looking for sermons? Check out our YouTube Channel, which has dozens of past sermons (with Bible readings):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdWxSntOyuupFnyLgxSU8aw>

Eastern Europe Crisis Response

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine on Feb. 24, nearly 3 million people have fled the country and are seeking refuge in neighboring countries including Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Moldova. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees. Many of these Ukrainians fleeing their homes need shelter and such basic necessities as food, water and toiletries. Care for people also includes pastoral and psychological support to address the trauma they've endured.

Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, to provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. Gifts designated to "Eastern Europe Crisis" will be used in full (100%) for direct response to assist those affected. Visit <https://community.elca.org/eastern-europe-crisis-response>.



Piggly Wiggly Receipts

Did you know that if you bring your Piggly Wiggly receipts to church, Grace gets back 1% of what you spent? It's an easy and wonderful way to help support a local business and your congregation. Receipts can be left in the drawer of the table in the front entryway.

Enrich Your Life through Volunteering

Volunteering brings many benefits—meeting new friends, staying active and the satisfaction of knowing that you are making a difference. If you'd like to get involved, The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) can help you find an opportunity that fits your interests and schedule. Whether you want to share the skills you've developed over a lifetime or try something totally new, our personal placement coordinators can guide you in choosing from countless opportunities to serve in the Madison area. To learn more, visit <https://www.rsvpdane.org/volunteer>

May Volunteers

May 1 - Ushers: April Mickelson & Judy Heidebrecht **Assisting Minister: Jeff Gafner**
Reader: April Mickelson
Communion Set up: Ruth Circle
Coffee Hour Hosts: Wolfgram - Koehler/Olson
Acolyte: Miranda Borshardt

May 8 - Ushers: Bob & Janet Koepf **Assisting Minister: Shawn Whitman**
Reader: Janet Koepf
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle
Coffee Hour Hosts: Holmens & Hellbergs
Acolyte: Marissa Schneider

May 15 - Ushers: Pat Northey & Shelley Key **Assisting Minister: Kelly Witte**
Reader: Shawn Koebke
Communion Set Up: Pat Northey
Coffee Hour Hosts: Wendricks - Koebke

May 22 - Ushers: Amy Simdon & Marlene Evenson **Assisting Minister: Shawn Koebke**
Reader: Amy Simdon
Communion Set Up: Geis Family
Coffee Hour Hosts: Cheryl Mittlestedt & Spindlers

May 29 - Ushers: Jeanine Thurow & Randy Share **Assisting Minister: Erik Olsen**
Reader: Shawn Whitman
Communion Set Up: Ruth Circle
Coffee Hour Hosts: Michelle Gottschalk & Lovick-Gill

Altar Guild - Donna Simdon & Alice Wolfgram



Thank You!

Thank you to all of those who helped make our Holy Week special - Shawn Whitman, for setting up the service in the park and outdoor Easter service, our fantastic AV crew - Steve Oostdik, Todd Tatlock, Kris Tobias, and Steve Geis. Thanks to our marvelous Music Director - Kenneth Hoversten, to Brenda Lovick for bringing trumpet back for Easter, and to the Sanctuary Choir. Thanks to Cindy Hartman for always being here to make sure things flow smoothly. And thanks to Jill Jensen and the many others who decorated the Sanctuary so beautifully for Easter.

MAY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 9 am Worship SERVICE -Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook 10 am Ministry Fair 10 am LAST Sunday School	2 9:30 am Quilters 7 pm Philippians Study	3	4 9 am Ruth Circle 11 am Outreach Committee mtg 6:30 pm Confirmation & Pre-Confirmation	5	6	7 6 pm Kenneth's Masters Recital
8 MOTHERS' DAY 9 am Worship SERVICE -Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook	9 9:30 am Quilters 7 pm Philippians Study	10 7:30 pm Grace Council Mtg.	11 9:30 am Lydia Circle 6:30 pm Confirmation & Pre-Confirmation	12	13	14
15 9 am Worship SERVICE -Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook	16 Newsletter articles due 9:30 am Quilters 7 pm Philippians Study	17	18	19	20	21
22 9 am Worship SERVICE -Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook 7 pm Stewardship Cmte Mtg	23 9:30 am Quilters 7 pm Philippians Study	24	25	26	27	28
29 9 am Worship SERVICE -Also on Cable Channel 987 & Facebook	30 MEMORIAL DAY	31	1 9 am Ruth Circle 11 am Outreach Committee Mtg	2	3	4



Grace Office Hours

The Church Office is open from 9:00 am – noon, Monday through Friday. There are additional hours, but those vary. Please contact us if you'd like to make an appointment.
 (608) 423-3135 or gracelutherancambridgewi@gmail.com

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



May 1st is the last day for Sunday School



**THANK YOU TO OUR
SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHERS**

As another year of Sunday School comes to a close, I just wanted to express my appreciation to teachers, families, and kids. We had a great year; the best part was being together and seeing everyone's smiles in person!

I wanted to say **a special and BIG thank you** to all the teachers. Without you, your time, commitment and showing how much you care, Sunday School would not have been possible! We are all very lucky to have you!

Teachers:

4K & Kindergarten: Kristin Rue; Helpers: Kyla Tobias, Rachel Drotzer

1st & 2nd Grade: Maddy Buonincontro and Sierra Jelinek

3rd & 4th Grade: Bill Becker

5th Grade: Shauna Thayer

Thank You To You All!

Teresa Neuenschwander

**Please watch your emails and the Sunday School Facebook page.
We will be planning a couple of youth and family events this summer!**

A Big Sunday School Thank you

After not being able to have "normal" Sunday School for over a year, we're so pleased that we've been able to have a reasonably "normal" year of Sunday School this year. A big thank you to our teachers and helpers. And a big continuing thanks to our Christian Ed Coordinator, Teresa Neuenschwander, who keeps doing such a great job of working, innovating, and pivoting our Sunday School through these challenging times. Thanks, Teresa!

Confirmation Corner

Confirmation wraps up this month as we finish our study of the New Testament. We have regular class on May 4, then on May 11, we'll have a Confirmation Mentorship Celebration, with dinner starting at 6:00 p.m. All Mentorship Booklets are due at that time, unless you've spoken with Pastor Jennifer to make other arrangements.

Outreach and Social Justice

A huge thank you to the congregation for your donations to our Lenten Challenge! **Thanks to your generosity, we reached and exceeded our goal, raising over \$2300!**

Our donation will help the people of Afghanistan who continue to suffer from lack of food and medical supplies after years of war. 8.7 million people are on the verge of starvation. Afghanistan has one of the least developed health care systems in the world. Through Lutheran Disaster Relief, our money will go directly to help them, not to the government.



Please keep in mind we are not overlooking the obvious needs of the Ukrainian people. They too are our brothers and sisters in need. Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying companion churches and ecumenical partners as they respond to the crisis in Ukraine and Eastern Europe. For more information and to donate, use the flyer in the pews or visit ELCA.org/disaster.

Thank you for giving and Easter Blessings.
Respectfully submitted by Marcia Sivesind

Stewardship Made Easy!

Don't forget you can make your Grace giving easy with the Venmo app. Use this QR code for quick and easy donating. If you are asked for a cell security code, enter #0131.



venmo



Please Keep our Less Fortunate Neighbors in Mind!

The Cambridge Food Pantry wish list for donations includes coffee, cereal, cookies, crackers, laundry detergent, body wash, and granola bars.

For more information, visit the Cambridge Food Pantry website at <https://cambridgecap.net/programs/nutrition/food-pantry/>

Thank you for your continued support of your Cambridge neighbors!

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
April 12, 2022, Via Zoom from Home
(Minutes below not approved until next Council meeting)**

Call to Order and Attendance. Meeting called to order by President Kris Tobias at 7:04 p.m. **Present:** Kris Tobias, Mary Behling, Shawn Whitman, Tim Neuenschwander, Ann Engelstad, Kelly Witte, Bill Becker, Jim Jermain, April Mickelson, Bill Reay, Jen Hellberg, and Pastor Jennifer Jelinek. **Absent:** None

Devotions. Ann Engelstad shared her faith story and Pastor Jennifer offered a prayer to start the meeting.

Approval of March Minutes. Jim Jermain moved to approve the Minutes, Ann Engelstad seconded the motion, and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

Approval of Agenda. The Agenda was unanimously approved as set.

Correspondence. None.

Treasurer's Report. Tim Neuenschwander provided his reports and summary. He noted that March revenue was very strong. Both General and Special Giving were up month-over-month, with General Giving up roughly 125% and Special Giving up over 500%, mainly due to the Lenten Challenge and other activities. Expenses were essentially flat month-over-month, although utility costs were up. There was a net income of about \$20,355 for the month resulting in net income for the first quarter of just over \$32,500. This is significantly higher than 2021, but similar to the first quarter of 2020. He stated that a Finance Committee meeting had been set, but had to be cancelled and will be rescheduled. Finally, he noted that he received a notice from the Mission Investment Fund stating that a note was coming due on the account set aside for the pastor's housing allowance. This was renewed for one year at 0.50%. The signers were updated to reflect Tim and Diane Russo. Jen Hellberg moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Kelly Witte seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Pastor's Report. Pastor Jennifer noted that preparations for Holy Week are going well. She could still use some volunteers to help up the outdoor service on Easter Sunday. She stated that she will be going away for 4 days the week after Easter then. She is delaying her sabbatical until 2023 because there is not enough preparation time for 2022. She will set up a committee for this in the summer or fall and the sabbatical can then be voted on at the Annual Meeting. She noted that there will be a new member gathering following service on April 24th. Finally she noted that last week's broadcast problems were due to a Charter issue which will hopefully be fixed shortly.

Committee Reports. Jim Jermain (Hospitality) reported that the Lenten soup suppers went very well and he appreciate the great help. They are turning now to the Ministry Fair and Mother's Day preparations. Ann Engelstad (Worship) reported that all Easter plans have been finalized. They are intending to return to communion at the rail in May while still offering a hybrid model for those who wish to remain seated. They are planning on some outdoor services during the summer and working on final details. Jen Hellberg (Stewardship) reported that they are preparing for the Ministry Fair. They are also planning to move the annual garage sale to July and then have a Bingo event to kick off the stewardship campaign in October. They will need to obtain a new Bingo license and will renew the church's Class B raffle license as well.

April Mickelson (Outreach) reported that they are close to the \$2,000 Lenten challenge goal and are also preparing for the Ministry Fair. Bill Reay (Property) reported that there have been no meetings recently, but we are in need of a new vacuum cleaner.

Old Business. (a) Covid Updates and Protocols. Signage seems to be working and things are just being monitored at this time. **(b) Funeral Policy.** Pastor Jennifer presented a proposed statement of funeral policies and fees for certain services when a funeral home is not involved with a funeral. After some discussion, it was agreed to change the language regarding services such as flowers, display tables, etc., to clarify that that the church does not provide these matters and if the family wishes to have such things, they will need to arrange for them themselves. Jim Jermain voted to approve the statement with the above change, Ann Engelstad seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. **(c) Sabbatical Policy.** See Pastor's Report. In addition, the sabbatical committee to be set up will work on putting together a proposal to bring to council and then will begin introducing the concept and plan to the congregation in late summer or early fall. **(d) AED Training.** The training session was cancelled due to the death of a fire department officer and will be rescheduled. **(e) Fellowship Hall Lighting Project.** Pastor Jennifer talked to an electrician about installing better lighting over the quilting tables and he will be getting some ideas together since there is no attic space for wiring and a bid to us soon. **(f) Sanctuary Windows.** April Mickelson spoke to Jill Jensen who is going to try to get old numbers updated. An ad hoc committee will also be set up to determine congregational interest in proceeding with this idea. **(g) Energy Costs.** Jim Jermain spoke to Focus on Energy group, but they don't do energy audits. They mentioned using LED lights in the parking lots – 2 are already LED. Also, looking into different programmable thermostats that would allow more precise and varied settings. Jim indicated he would be willing to meet with the boiler people when they come to do their inspection on April 20 and he will keep Dale Klemp in mind as well. He will also see about contacting Alliant Energy for an energy audit. **(h) Ministry Fair.** Pastor Jennifer noted that she had ordered easel boards and anyone is welcome to pick them up as needed. She also encouraged each committee to have clipboards available for people to sign up regarding their interest.

New Business. (a) Vacuum Cleaner. As noted above, we will need a new vacuum cleaner shortly. Pastor Jennifer obtained information regarding a good commercial brand and it appears the price will be about \$900. Ann Engelstad moved to proceed with such purchase promptly, Tim Neuschwander seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Adjournment. There being no further business, Bill Reay moved to adjourn the meeting, Jim Jermain seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Next meeting will be May 10, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom. Kelly Witte will share her faith story with us. The meeting was adjourned, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Report submitted by Mary Behling, Council Secretary



Sunday School Milestone Program Link

Our Sunday Schoolers did a great job sharing what they learned in their Faith Milestone unit on April 10. Unfortunately, we had cable issues and technical difficulties with Facebook as well. If you'd like to see their delightful presentation, you can find it on Grace's YouTube channel (as well as many sermons).

Here's the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3YyJbVs1uHg>

And if the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders look a bit surprised when "God" speaks, it's because they weren't expecting the booming voice of our wonderful Erik Olsen. Thanks, Erik!



Easter at Grace He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!





STAFF

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Organist Kenneth Hoversten kenneth.hoversten@gmail.com

Handbell Choir Director Ann Engelstad gaengelstad@charter.net

Christian Ed Coordinator Teresa Neuenschwander (608) 658-7844 teresa478@hotmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator Cindy Hartman cindyh1029@msn.com

COUNCIL

President Kris Tobias

Vice President Kelly Witte

Secretary Mary Behling

Treasurer Tim Neuenschwander

Outreach April Mickelson

Education Bill Becker

Stewardship Jennifer Hellberg

Hospitality Jim Jermain

Evangelism Shawn Whitman

Worship Ann Engelstad

Property Bill Reay



Grace Lutheran Church
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