

Grace English Lutheran Church,
384 Oak Street, Berlin, WI 54923
*A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America*

Rebekah Tarras, Pastor

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Jessica Fritz – Worship and Music Coordinator

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THIS NEWSLETTER PREPARED ESPECIALLY FOR

Sunday Worship:

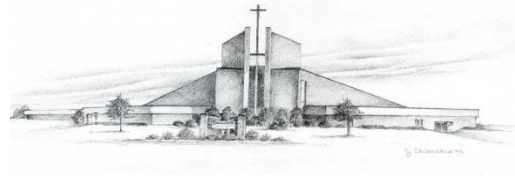
8:30 AM

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Hometown Broadcasting

WRPN AM 1600 at 12:00 PM



Worship Services

Facebook: www.facebook.com/gelcberlin

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLbOerRk5PMk1QWI9qtZ5_g

- | | | | | |
|---------|----|---|--------------------|------------------------|
| October | 2 | - | Worship at 8:30 am | (In person and online) |
| October | 9 | - | Worship at 8:30 am | (In person and online) |
| October | 16 | - | Worship at 8:30 am | (In person and online) |
| October | 23 | - | Worship at 8:30 am | (In person and online) |
| October | 30 | - | Worship at 8:30 am | (In person and online) |



**Grace Lutheran's Mission: We Gather to Worship, Grow, Care, and Share
"All Are Welcome In This Place"**

Transitions and Purpose

by Intern Pastor Kathy



As I come near to the end of my second month serving you, I realize how quickly this time has passed, and know the remainder of my year with you will continue to move just as rapidly. This time together has already provided me with a better awareness of why God called me to pastoral ministry, and yet, a realization of how much more I can learn in the months ahead.

Our lives are all full of many transitions. From children to adults; from students to experts in our vocations of life. We transition into spouses, parents, grandparents, as siblings, teachers, mentors, co-workers, bosses, empty nesters, retirees, widowers and as members of our communities, families and work places. We establish many relationships and attempt to balance life and livelihood for a satisfying purpose in life.

Within transitions, our sense of purpose may be altered, so sometimes it takes us a while to search and find how our purpose adjusts into a transition. Our prior purpose may have been consuming us, so our constraints may lessen, or a new purpose may increase our constraints. So, transitions may feel like we are in a boat sitting on stagnant water and our purpose is not clear. Or perhaps a tug boat has taken our attention toward someone else's purpose, and we are now along for the ride. Or a storm has sent us wavering on rough waters, and has challenged us to have to fight for our purpose. A sense of yearning or longing may suddenly need to be filled. Our yearning is the Spirit prompting us to seek our calling from God, longing to gain a realization of the various missions God has planned for us as a member of the body of Christ. A rebirth and revitalization of our talent yet to be shared for God's intentions.

The apostle Paul writes within Romans 8:28 "*We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose.*" The ability to realize and live out our called purpose comes with a sense of great joy, and an understanding of our passion for the talent God gifted us. Paul also wrote in his letter to the Ephesians 1:17-19 "*I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know God, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which God has called you, and what is the immeasurable greatness of God's power for us who believe.*" The deeper our knowledge and relationship becomes with God, the more likely we will realize our called purpose. And, knowing the great power that raised Jesus from the dead, is the power the Spirit brings within us through our trust in God.

I frequently remind myself that God is not done with me yet. Not done loving me, forgiving me, teaching me, guiding me and using me for the good of God's kingdom. With immeasurable grace and love, God is teaching me beyond my human failures, guiding me through my growth, and using me within the capacity of the limits I am placing upon myself. These are good transitions to experience while establishing purpose on our life, knowing God is always at your side. My head song for these thoughts is "Through All of It" sung by Colton Dixon and written by Ben Glover and Molly Reed. Lyrically it says, "*I have won and I have lost. I got it right sometimes, but sometimes I did not. Life's been a journey; I've seen joy, I've seen regret. Oh, and you have been my God through all of it.*" I pray we can all come to know the hope that is within us through God's enlightenment of our hearts.

Blessings, peace and wisdom on your journey.

Intern Pastor Kathy

**REGULAR GRACE ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING – FELLOWSHIP HALL
Monday, August 8, 2022**

Present: Bill Bartlett, Cindy Wallace, Becky Guden, Tricia Prellwitz, Sue Shemanski, Linda Reetz, Intern Kathy Cartwright and Pastor Rebekah Tarras. Matt Dretske, Craig Chovanec and Jody Ziemann were absent.

President Bill Bartlett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Linda Reetz led us in opening prayer.

The July Council minutes were presented. Cindy Wallace made a motion to accept the minutes; Linda Reetz seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Ministry Reports:

Pastor Rebekah's report listed her activities in July which included 1 funeral, 2 baptisms and 1 wedding along with home visits. She reminded the council of her vacation August 29 to September 5.

July Treasurer's report was handed out by Cindy Wallace. Tricia Prellwitz made a motion to accept this report as presented; Sue Shemanski seconded. Motion approved. The July Check Detail was reviewed; Linda Reetz made a motion to approve all checks as written; Becky Guden seconded. Motion approved.

Bill Bartlett presented the July update on all investments. He advised that the funds show a gain over the previous month and to get back to where the balances were before would take patience.

No report from Buildings & Grounds Committee

Sue Shemanski advised the Christian Education Committee did not meet. No report for council.

Fellowship & Caring committee report was presented by Tricia Prellwitz. Polka & Pie Sunday will be August 28 and confirmed that council members will provide 2 pies each along with ice cream, plates, forks, spoons, etc. The committee put together a Welcome Basket for Intern Kathy and they are still discussing bringing back Ding Dong Dinners.

Tricia Prellwitz handed out the Worship & Music Committee report and it was highlighted that the Joint Summer Worship at the Riverside Park went well; Pastor Rebekah will be on vacation at the end of August and Intern Kathy will lead the service; in September, First will host worship in the PoySippi park; in October, the option to take communion at the rail will be offered; Greeters have started in August and a sign-up sheet for September will be posted. As a reminder, September 18, Sunday School will start and on September 25, will be Bible Sunday to hand out a bible to youth. Cantata this year will be December 18; Christmas Eve service will be Saturday, December 24 at 4:30p.m. and Christmas Day is Sunday with service at 8:30 a.m.

Craig Chovanec will give his Mission Report during the upcoming Sunday service.

No concerns from the audience.

Old Business:

Results from the congregation survey were handed out again and reviewed by council. It was recommended that we prioritize the results and form a sub-committee for this job with non-council members. Announcement will be made to this affect. Council wants to acknowledge the responses and address them as needed. Some recommendations have already started especially with the youth but still in need of volunteers to carry out suggestions and/or events.

With some of the survey responses and to implement them, it showed more the need of a Ministries Assistant position/volunteer coordinator. The list of duties for this job and salary were then reviewed again and approved. An announcement will be made to encourage member(s) to apply for this part time job with hope to get this position going soon.

Linda Reetz gave an update on the building cleaning position. She did interview a candidate and that person is very interested in the job. A job application and background check application has been sent and once the paperwork is cleared, council hopes to offer the job with a starting hourly wage. Grace would continue to supply cleaning equipment and supplies.

Bill Bartlett reminded the council of the Annual Full Joint Parish Council Meeting on Monday, September 19 at 6:30p.m. at Grace Fellowship Hall. This is a requirement according to the parish covenant that all members from both councils meet once a year. The idea of supplying refreshments for the meeting was briefly discussed.

New Business:

Bill Bartlett advised that the Berlin Lions Club has requested the use of the Fellowship Hall and Parking Lot for Tuesday, October 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00p.m. for their Assisted Technology for the Visually Impaired seminar. Cindy Wallace made a motion to approve the Berlin Lions Club to use our facility for this event; Sue Shemanski seconded. Motion approved.

As a concern, Pastor Rebekah brought up the Nominating Committee for the 2023 Annual Meeting and possibly contacting them to start talking to other congregation members on filling the upcoming positions as the majority whose terms are up have served their term limit.

Pastor Rebekah led us in Closing Prayer.

Linda Reetz made a motion to adjourn; Becky Guden seconded. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Guden
Council Secretary

Church Council

Bill Bartlett – President	920-229-9155	wlbartlett54923@bmail.com
Linda Reetz – Vice President	920-361-2845	linda.reetz0726@gmail.com
Cindy Wallace – Treasurer	920-229-3772	cindy_wallace@charter.net
Becky Guden – Secretary	920-361-0364	bguden@live.com
Tricia Prellwitz – Music/Worship	920-572-7521	goodrich@vbe.com
Sue Shemanski – Christian Education	920-361-4506	Shemanski5@yahoo.com
Jody Ziemann – Fellowship/Caring	920-361-1326	lajirafa@hotmail.com
Craig Chovanec – Missions/Outreach	920-361-3727	craigfchovanec@centurytel.net
Matt Dretske – Building/Grounds	920-229-8653	md3boys@charter.net

Special Worship Service at Poy Sippi

October 2 - First Lutheran is hosting the Mel Albright Band for worship with polka music at 10:30 am. A pot luck will follow. Everyone is invited.

Grace Book Club

The Grace Book Club is off and running. We've met, chosen our first book and our initial members are busy reading! However, new members are always welcome, if you are interested in joining the Grace Book Club, please contact Cindy Wallace at cindy_wallace@charter.net.

“Bad Girls of the Bible” by Liz Curtis Higgs is the title we have chosen as our first read. We all know the stories of Sarah, Mary, Esther, and other “good girls” of the Bible, but do we know about Potiphar’s wife? or Delilah? or Sapphira? These are just a few of the ten women of the Bible featured in this book. The author combines a humorous, contemporary retelling of these bad women of the Bible with a solid, verse-by-verse study of their lives and what we can learn from them. These Bad Girls will show you that studying the Bible has never been more fun!

We would love to have you join us October 11th at 1:00 pm in the Church Library when we will meet to discuss our thoughts on the book. If you would like to read “Bad Girls of the Bible”, please contact Cindy Wallace for a copy. If you have already read this title, please consider joining us to discuss it on the 11th. Happy Reading!

Maggie The Church Mouse

Soundly sleeping, I'm wakened abruptly by the honking of geese. It takes me a moment to wipe my beady eyes, and by then it sounds as if the birds must be right on top of the church roof! Now I'm totally awake, thanks to the symphony of the geese! I crawl out of my cozy nest, stretch my furry limbs, and scamper down the hallway to greet the bright October morning. The furnace comes on with a rumble, another sign of changes in the weather. Surely I'm not the only furry creature who notices a thickening of my winter coat. Now I can scoot outside without having to brace myself against the colder gusts of wind.

In the church yard, leaves are drifting downward and skittering across the sidewalks, soon to be raked and removed by willing volunteers. I wish I could stand on two legs and help! The planters will need to be emptied of their glorious flowers and stored for the winter. I've admired them all summer! Even the wreaths on the church doors change with the seasons, signaling special upcoming traditions and holidays. If only I had dexterous fingers and an artistic talent to be shared for the enjoyment of others! Because of people making special efforts, Grace is a well-tended and welcoming place to enter and come to worship.

One big change that occurs at Grace in the fall is the return of Thursday Soul Food lunches in our Fellowship Hall. If you think migrating geese are noisy, you should help in the kitchen when Grace takes its turn feeding nearly one hundred high school students! They go through so much food that it's tough for a church mouse to find enough leftovers to constitute a healthy snack! Maybe I could convince a few more of you to bake some cookies or bars to share with this amazing turnout of kids who have been served by Grace and other churches in recent weeks. I promise to be sure that the crumbs don't go to waste!

All around us, the signs of fall are stirring our senses. They're reminding us that we must be ready for what is to come, whether it's colder weather, a hoard of hungry young people, or any changes that face our families and our church. We work together because God intended for us to help one another. He watches over us. He leads us through changes and challenges. He is with us through all seasons



Community Blood Drive

Tuesday, October 25, 2022

10:30 am to 5:30 pm

Grace Lutheran Church

Walk-ins Are Welcome

Free Seminar - Funeral Pre-Planning Wednesday October 12, 1:30 at First Lutheran

Do you know your loved ones wishes? Do they know yours? What might be favorite Bible passages? Hymns? Any special requests for a service? How about your faith legacy – what would you like people to most know about your faith? These are all important details to think about and write down. It will be helpful for you and your loved ones when the time comes.

Join us on Wednesday, October 12 at 1:30 pm for a funeral pre-planning seminar presented by Barbola Funeral Chapel. Let's begin the conversation as a gift to our loved ones. Feel free to invite anyone to come.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

With the help of everyone that shopped, donated, sewed, and assembled the personal care kits, school kits, baby kits, and quilts our final numbers were:

Personal Care Kits: 50

School Kits: 65

Baby Care Kits: 61

Quilts: 75 and 5 blankets

Thank you to Bev Chadwick for leading this mission and to the volunteers that work on Tuesday sewing days. This mission would not be successful without all the donations.

Many, Many Thanks!!

Assistive Technology Fair For The Visually Impaired



Tuesday, October 4, 2022

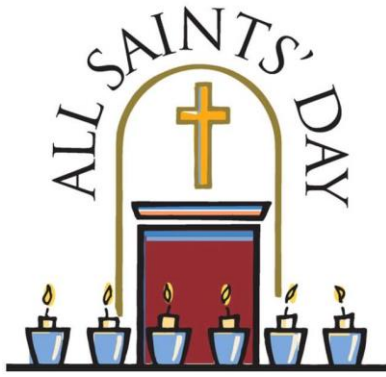
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Grace English Lutheran Church

Free Admission - Open to the Public

Sponsored by the Berlin Lions Club

Experience hands-on exposure to the newest and latest technology for the visually impaired which may improve their quality of life.



All Saints' Day Sunday, November 6, 2022

All members of Grace that have died this past year will be honored on All Saints' Sunday.

If you have a special friend, relative, or neighbor that you would like for them to be remembered at this service, please let the office staff know.

Mission of the Month - Lutheran Social Services



2022 Commemorates 140 Years of Servant Leadership for LSS.

It's a celebration of vision, faith, courage, growth, innovation, partnership and impact.

Our Vision

Healthy communities filled with people using their God-given gifts to serve.

Our Mission

Act compassionately. Serve humbly. Lead courageously.

LSS empowers people to live their best lives by offering a path to recovery from addiction or mental illness, a home that's safe and affordable, chances to thrive and live independent lives.

Your continued faithful support provides hope and peace. When we come together again and again, and in numerous different ways, you impact lives and the greater good. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to creating healthy communities filled with people using their God-given gifts to serve!

Grace Puzzle Swap

A jigsaw puzzle swap exchange is starting at Grace and will be located in the library. Just look for the designated area where you can bring a puzzle to swap with one on the shelf to take home and work on.

We just ask that puzzles are not missing any pieces and will be on the honor system. There is a small start to our collection for you to look through already; take one home to complete but don't forget to bring it back.

With the cold weather coming up, this is a great way to spend quiet time; family time; or expand your selection. Any size puzzle will be welcome.

Take one!
Leave one!



Flowers

- October 2 - In Honor of Doug & Bonnie Kline and Bill & Sue Bartlett's Wedding Anniversaries....On the Choir Rail in honor of Hillary Kline's Birthday
- October 9 - In Honor of Tom & Carrie McCarthy's 22nd Wedding Anniversary
- October 16 - Open
- October 23 - In Honor of Ryan and Grace Dobb's Wedding Anniversary by Jeff and Anita Lind
- October 30 - In Memory of Dr. and Mrs. Erwin Ludwig by the Kline Family

Bulletins

- October 2 - In Honor of Doug and Bonnie Kline's Wedding Anniversary
- October 9 - In Honor of Bill and Sue Bartlett's 43rd Wedding Anniversary
- October 16 - In Honor of Bev Tarras's Birthday
- October 23 - Open
- October 30 - In Memory of Lavern and Mary Pomplun's 60th Wedding Anniversary

Radio Ministry

- October 2 - Sponsored by the Goettl Family
- October 9 - In Honor of Bill and Sue Bartlett's 43rd Wedding Anniversary
- October 16 - With Gratitude for their Grace Family by Bill & Sue Bartlett
- October 23 - Open
- October 30 - Open

Fellowship

- October 2 - Falk's
- October 9 - Open
- October 16 - Diane Toraason
- October 23 - Open
- October 30 - Penny Bahn



Communion at the Rail



Beginning the first Sunday of October, the option of going forward to the communion rail will be offered in worship on the first Sunday of each month. For those who prefer to commune in their seats or have difficulty going up front, individual communion elements will still be provided.



Happy Birthday

October Birthdays

- 1 Scott Zabel
- 3 Londynn Pibnow
- 4 Joshua Strebelski
- 5 Roy Chadwick
- 10 Patrice Magdanz
- 11 Roger Emerson
- 11 Mary Fredrickson
- 12 Cynthia Laudolff
- 12 Colton Schenk
- 14 Donald Peschke
- 16 Victor Dretske
- 16 Dylan Gravunder
- 16 Denise Krentz
- 16 Brooks Paulsen
- 20 Joan Emerson
- 20 Jill Jahn
- 20 Roderick Krause
- 20 Jan Krebs
- 20 Beverly Tarras
- 21 Sophia Lehr
- 22 Barb Bellmer
- 23 Katie Malson
- 25 Sara Evans
- 26 Zander Beck
- 31 Alexandria Borland

Happy Anniversary



October Anniversaries

- 1 Robert & Jill Jahn
- 4 Doug & Bonnie Kline
- 6 David & Becky Olsen
- 6 Bill and Sue Bartlett
- 11 Mark & Kristine Labbus
- 11 Dale & Emma Schroeder – 25th
- 13 John & Mary Lou Neubauer
- 14 Tom & Carrie McCarthy
- 15 Jon & Sabrina Pierstorff
- 18 Karl & Sarah Guenther
- 21 Scott & Kelly Zabel
- 24 Scott & Darlene Wolfe – 35th
- 25 Ryan & Grace Dobbs
- 25 Roger & Joan Emerson

If any birthdays or anniversaries were missed, please let the office staff know.



Soul Food has begun again starting the second week of September. This year All Saints and Rivershore Churches are alternating weeks with Grace.

The average attendance is 90 students a week and we are in need of anyone that could apply for a **Thrivent Action Card** to use for purchasing food.

If you could help with an Action Card or making cookies, please contact the office.



2022

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:30 am Worship with Communion and Sunday School	3 1:30 pm Bible Study at First Lutheran	4 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:00 – 2:00 Lions event 1:00 -3:00pm Grief Share Group at Grace	5 5:30 pm Crafters Group 6:00 pm Joyful Noise 6:30 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir Practice	6 Soul Food Grace Hosts 6:30pm Bible Study at Grace Lutheran	7	8 8:00 am Men's Breakfast at Grace Lutheran
9 8:30 am Worship with Communion and Sunday School	10 1:30 pm Bible Study at First Lutheran 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	11 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:00 am LWR Sewing Day 1:00 -3:00pm Grief Share Group at Grace	12 6:00 pm Joyful Noise 6:30 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir Practice	13 Soul Food All Saints Hosts 6:30pm Bible Study at Grace Lutheran	14	15
16 8:30 am Worship with Communion and Sunday School	17 1:30 pm Bible Study at First Lutheran	18 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:00 am LWR Sewing Day 1:00 -3:00pm Grief Share Group at Grace	19 5:30 pm Crafters Group 6:00 pm Joyful Noise 6:30 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir Practice	20 Soul Food River Shores Hosts 1:00 pm Caregiver Group 6:30pm Bible Study at Grace Lutheran	21	22
23 8:30 am Worship with Communion – no Sunday School	24 1:30 pm Bible Study at First Lutheran	25 9:00 am Staff Meeting 10:30 – 5:30 pm Blood drive 1:00 -3:00pm Grief Share Group at Grace	26 6:00 pm Joyful Noise 6:30 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir Practice	27 6:30pm Bible Study at Grace Lutheran	28	29
30 8:30 am Worship with Communion and Sunday School	31 1:30 pm Bible Study at First Lutheran					