

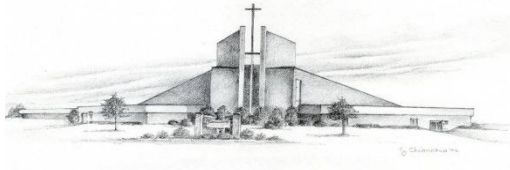
**Grace English Lutheran Church**  
**384 Oak Street, Berlin, WI 54923**  
*A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America*

Rebekah Tarras, Pastor  
Email: [pastortarras@gmail.com](mailto:pastortarras@gmail.com)  
Cellphone: 715-897-5393  
Jessica Fritz – Worship and Music Coordinator  
Jeremy Fritz – Choir Director  
Sandy Peschke – Office Assistant  
Penny Bahn – Office Assistant  
(920) 361-1820  
Web site: [www.gracelutheranberlin.org](http://www.gracelutheranberlin.org)  
Email: [gracelutheranberlin@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheranberlin@gmail.com)

THIS NEWSLETTER PREPARED ESPECIALLY FOR

**Sunday Worship:**  
8:30 AM

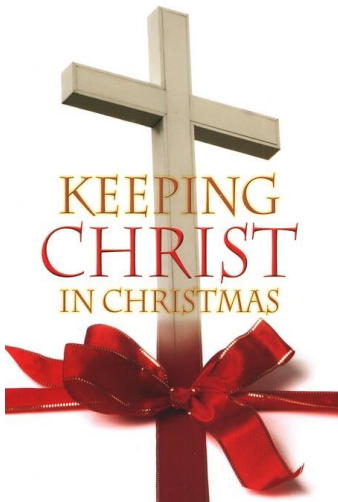
**Office Hours:**  
Monday - Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 noon  
Hometown Broadcasting  
WRPN AM 1600 at 12:00 PM



## *Worship Services*

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/gelcberlin](https://www.facebook.com/gelcberlin)

YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLbOerRk5PMk1QWI9qtZ5\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLbOerRk5PMk1QWI9qtZ5_g)



- December 3 - Worship at 8:30 am (In person and online)
- December 10 - Worship at 8:30 am (In person and online)
- December 17 - Cantata Worship Service at 8:30 am (In person and online)
- December 17 - Blue Christmas Worship at 6:30 pm (In person and online)
- December 20 - Cantata Service at 7:00 pm (In person)
- December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00 pm (In person and online)
- December 31 - 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"**

## From the Pastor:

As the days grow shorter and winter's chill settles in, the season of Advent emerges, ushering in a time of reflection, anticipation, and joy.

Advent marks the beginning of the church liturgical year. It is often thought of as a season of waiting and preparation. So what are we waiting for? For what are we preparing? On the one hand, we are getting ready to celebrate the birth of Christ. And at the same time, Advent reminds us of not just a historical moment, but a new reality, a new encounter. The Isaiah reading for Advent 1 begins with a plea *“O that you would tear open the heavens and come down”* (Isaiah 64:1a, NRSV). God, we know you are present; our faith tells us that you are here. But we need to know it beyond a shadow of a doubt. Shake us up so that we can be certain again. We’ve begun to wonder; we’ve begun to doubt. So, do it again, Lord. Do it again.



Central to the Advent season is the lighting of the Advent wreath. Each candle represents a different aspect of the season - hope, peace, joy, and love. The lighting of these candles, one by one, symbolizes the progression of the season.

Beyond the lighting of candles, many people celebrate Advent with an Advent calendar. Each day leading up to Christmas, a door or compartment is opened, revealing a verse of scripture, or an inspirational quote. This daily ritual fosters a sense of mindfulness, encouraging individuals to savor the present moment and appreciate the beauty in the ordinary. We have calendars available if you don't already have one.

ELCA World Hunger had provided copies of an Advent Study guide. I encourage you to pick up a copy and use it each week throughout the Advent season. The guide is designed to help you notice in scripture, story, and reflection, where and how God is at work.

May the season of Advent be a time of anticipation and joy for you and your family.

Pastor Rebekah Tarras

### Worship Schedule

**December 17** – The Choir will present the Cantata “O Holy Night” at the 8:30 am worship at Grace and the 10:30 am service at First Lutheran.

**December 17** – A Blue Christmas Service will be held at Grace at 6:30 pm.

**December 20** – The Choir will present the Cantata at 6:30 pm at Grace.

**December 24** – There will not be a morning worship service at Grace. Join us at 4:00 pm for Christmas Eve worship.

**December 24** – Join with the folks at First Lutheran in Poy Sippi for morning worship at 10:30 am or the 6:30 pm Christmas Eve worship. There will also be a breakfast served before the 10:30 am worship at First.

### Save The Date

**January 28, 2024** – Worship Service with the Puppets.

**February 3, 2024** – Bingo Fundraiser for Food Pantries. Bingo prizes and raffle baskets needed. More information to follow in January.

**February 4, 2024** – Congregation Annual Meeting following worship.

**GRACE ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
10.9.23**

Council members present; Heidi Schramer, De Anna Lueptow, Cindy Wallace, Becky Olsen, Pastor Rebekah, Sue Shemanski, Jody Ziemann, Bob Prellwitz, Craig Chovanec. Absent Gene Hess. President Heidi Schramer called the meeting to order at 7:15pm. Vice President De Anna Lueptow gave the opening prayer.

**Approval of the Agenda.** Heidi Schramer requested the Damascus Road Project be added and Sue Shemanski requested the nominating committee be added to the agenda. Motion made by Sue Shemanski to approve the agenda with the additions, seconded by Cindy Wallace, motion carried.

**Concerns from the audience.** None

**Secretary's Report.** September Secretary's Report circulated via email for review. Motion made by Cindy Wallace to accept the report as written, seconded by Jody Ziemann, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report.** September Treasurer's Report and check detail circulated via email and paper copies. Investment profile not available at the time of the meeting, will plan to review at the November meeting. Motion made by Sue Shemanski to accept reports as written, seconded by De Anna Lueptow, motion carried.

**Unfinished Business.**

**Extending Soul Food Type Events.** Discussion held on planning future events. Ideas included hosting an event prior to a less attended high school event, such as a wrestling match. Suggestion made to check the school calendar prior to planning an event. Will table items until the next meeting for further discussion.

**Holy Conversation Document.** Discussion held on the question, What is your dream for your church?.

**Inactive Members.** Discussion held on responses received from contacting inactive members prior to the Drawn to the Word Service. Council members agreed to continue to reach out to inactive members at a minimum of yearly. Members will reach out to members again prior to our Christmas Service. Planning an updated directory was also an idea shared to include our inactive membership. Pastor Rebekah encouraged council members to pray for those inactive members on our lists.

**Roy Chadwick Memorial Plaque.** Tabled until the next meeting to allow for additional information.

**Drawn to the Word Service.** Thank you cards received and read. Members in agreement with the suggested placement of painting.

**Ecumenical Service.** Service is 11.21.23 at 7pm. Council members will serve as greeters, Fellowship & Caring committee will provide fellowship following service.

**Shared Ministry Covenant.** Tabled until December Joint Council meeting.

**Puppet Service.** Service planned for 1.28.24

**Winter Bingo.** Event planned for 2.3.24. Members from both Grace and First Lutheran will create a committee for the event.

**New Business.**

**Oshkosh Conference.** Heidi Schramer and De Anna Lueptow will attend the conference assembly, representing our congregation. The event will be at Grace Church in Ripon on 10.22.23.

**Synod Webinar on 10.10.23.** Webinar topic will include church finances and stewardship. Pastor Rebekah will send a link to members.

**Annual Meeting.** Discussion on scheduling the meeting. Date set for 2.4.24, following service.

**Christmas Services Survey.** Results from the survey include, holding an 8:30 am on Christmas Eve Day (1), holding both Christmas Eve Day 8:30 am service and 4:00 pm evening service (14) and holding only a Christmas Eve Service at 4:00 pm (23). Per results of the survey, we will have one service on Christmas Eve, 12.24.23 at 4:00 pm.

**Damascus Road Project.** Discussion held on potential support of this project. Will table this item until our next meeting to allow time for members to review the information, and seek congregational input.

**Nominating Committee.** Discussion held on upcoming council member elections on 2.4.24. A total of six offices will be up for re-election in 2024, including the executive offices of the President, Vice President, and Treasurer. Non-officer positions up for re-election include a representative from Mission and Outreach, Christian Education, and a Music and Worship Liaison. Bill Bartlett, Linda Reetz, Michelle Klawitter and Ken Peschke are the members of the nominating committee. Pastor Rebekah also voiced a suggestion of nominating and electing two people to attend the synod assembly and two people for the conference assembly.

### **Committee Reports.**

**Pastor's Report.** Pastor Rebekah initiated her report by expressing her Thanks to everyone for the Pastor Appreciation Day cards, she stated she was brought to tears by the outpouring of gratitude given by the congregation. Her regular report included in the official acts, communion for June Lubbert. The many ongoing activities at Grace included; weekly sermon preparations, weekly text study, weekly confirmation preparations and teachings, and Soul Food devotions. Wrote the newsletter article, wrote letters for All Saints Sunday, the quarterly giving statements and the Christmas services survey. Participated in webinars on the Gospel of Mark, and the Storytelling of the Seasons; Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. Attended council meetings. Met weekly with staff, including Jessica to reformat the bulletins, researched administrative software, met with the worship committee, researched Advent candle lighting liturgies and music.

**Buildings and Grounds.** Bob Prellwitz reported that work completed includes; lawn and shrub maintenance, furnace filter maintenance, picture hanging in Jessica's office, toilet repair, and Pickleball courts outlining. Upcoming work includes; lawn maintenance and fall clean-up, the hanging of the Drawn to the Word painting, the repair of choir loft ceiling cracks, and paint touch up as needed. Winter prep work includes; weather stripping, entryway radiator service, snowblower servicing, and lot snow plowing will be completed by Scott Dutcher. Also looking at blacktop seal coating next year. Next meeting 12.11.23.

**Christian Education.** Sue Shemanski reported that the October 15th Community Tailgate Party Event is set. The event will run from 3-5pm and includes food, games of pickleball, ball toss, pumpkin bowling and cornhole. There will be pumpkin painting and a selfie booth, along with devotions. Another upcoming event planned by the group is the Advent Family Event on November 29th from 5:30-7pm. The next meeting is 11.6.23.

**Fellowship and Caring.** Jody Ziemann reported that the group met yesterday, following service. The committee will provide fellowship following the Ecumenical Service. Tricia Prellwitz has coordinated volunteers for homebound visitations, with volunteers reporting concerns to Pastor. De Anna continues to work on creating a welcoming 'protocol and practice' for new members. Our committee has been made aware of members that are in need due to medical crises. As written in the church constitution, it is one of the committee's responsibilities "to provide and solicit assistance for members in need". Committee members spoke to a family representative of one member, they encouraged the committee to wait for intervention until more definitive information is known about the crisis. We spoke directly to the other member afflicted with a health crisis, we requested the individual to create a list of items needed to better meet their needs. Individual committee members offered to purchase gift cards for immediate needs. Discussion held on creating a place within the church to store essential household and hygiene items for church families in need. This designated storage place will be known as 'Grace's Caring Closet.' We will also reach out to the congregation, seeking help, and to join with us in this new Fellowship and Caring endeavor. Our group will provide fellowship following the Cantata Service on December 17th. We will also make treats for homebound members on December 17th and have our December meeting that day. The next meeting will be 11.12.23 following service.

**Worship and Music.** Pastor Rebekah reported that the group is planning for a Blue Christmas Service on December 17th at 6:30pm. The group is looking to plan for the Lenten Season with Ash Wednesday on February 14th. Pastor also reported that the group is working to solve technical difficulties with Facebook live streaming of services. The radio ministry broadcast recording is also completed through Facebook. The group is looking to Utube live and other web channels to update and ensure the best coverage. Congregational members are able to access live streaming of services on Grace's website.

**Mission and Outreach.** Craig Chovanec reported that the mission cause for October is Lutheran Social Services (LSS). Lutheran Social Services traces its roots back to 1882 when Pastor E.J.Homme founded a home for orphaned children in Wittenberg, WI. In 1963 Homme Home merged with Martin Luther social services, a

Lutheran Welfare Society. The agency has grown to be one of the largest faith based human service providers in the Midwest. LSS offers a variety of services throughout Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. They provide services that address a variety of conditions for children, families, adults, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Services are available to all regardless of religious affiliation. LSS offers services in 614 communities, touching 20,000 lives annually. Thank You for your generous support of this worthy cause.

Motion made by Jody Ziemann to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Cindy Wallace, motion carried.

Closing prayer given by Pastor Rebekah.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Becky Olsen, Secretary  
 10.14.23

Heidi Schramer – President	920-361-4097	schramer@charter.net
DeAnna Lueptow – Vice President	920-229-4857	delueptow@gmail.com
Cindy Wallace – Treasurer	920-229-3772	cindy_wallace@charter.net
Becky Olsen – Secretary	920-290-4485	olsenfamilyshorthorns@gmail.com
Gene Hess– Music/Worship	920-290-2023	gene2023@outlook.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
Bob Prellwitz – Building/Grounds	920-361-0669	bobprellwitz@yahoo.com

## Angel Tree

Grace will participate in Green Lake County’s Angel Tree Program again this year. The Angel Tree program is a program that helps make the holiday season a little brighter for individuals and families who are experiencing financial difficulties.



Each Angel contains the age of the participant and a gift suggestion. Once you have chosen an angel, shop for the participant, attach the angel to the gift, and place the **unwrapped** gift back under the tree by December 8<sup>th</sup>.

## December Mission of the Month - Good Gifts

Our December undesignated mission funds will be directed to ELCA Good Gifts. As people of God, we are called to share in God’s work, which includes caring for those living within hunger and poverty conditions around the world. ELCA Good Gifts offers a multitude of ways to reach those in need at a global level, including some individual items from \$10 to \$500, from baby chicks, blankets, mosquito nets to a cow. Unique gifts of farm animals, water jugs, school supplies, fees and textbooks, health and dental care, and vaccinations are just a sampling of what can be provided

A donation to “God’s global barnyard,” allows the ELCA to decide where it is needed most, whether supporting livestock, agriculture or other sustainable development projects that help families have maintainable sources of food, and potential sources of income for survival. A donation to “where needed most” provides funds to the ELCA to respond where and when needed most, reaching globally to share God’s love through ministry. Any of these wonderful gifts can save lives, and ELCA Good Gifts can truly make a global difference while providing critical support to many.

Please support our December mission effort toward ELCA Good Gifts

## Constitution Corner

Our congregation has a constitution, that in addition to the Bible, serves to guide our life together as a church. This constitution reflects the theology and polity of this church as it organizes itself to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, share the sacraments, reach out to the neighbor with good news, and share the love of God in the world. Each month we plan to highlight a part of our constitution. The full constitution is found under resources on the website.

In addition to the church council, there are several committees that carry out various functions of the congregation. These are described in chapter 13 of the constitution and include the following:

***Nominating Committee*** of four to six voting members of this congregation, two of whom, if possible, shall be outgoing members of the Congregation Council, shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. The Pastor(s) shall not be a part of the Nominating Committee. The responsibilities of the Nominating Committee shall include: Assist in discovering and enlisting members to fill leadership positions within the church. Present the names of volunteers to be elected by church voting members to the Congregation Council. Coordinate the filling of any vacancies of volunteers and leaders that may occur during the year.

***Audit Committee*** of three voting members shall be elected by the Congregation Council. Audit Committee members shall not be members of the Congregation Council. Term of office shall be three years, with one member elected each year. Members shall be eligible for re-election.

***Finance Committee*** with a minimum of 4 members, plus council treasurer work to monitor and evaluate the financial condition and operations of Grace English Lutheran Church and to bring to the Church Council's attention any identified areas for improvement or concern.

***Investment Committee*** a minimum of 4 members, plus council representative manage investments on behalf of this congregation.

***Mission and Outreach Committee*** a minimum of 4 members, plus council representative coordinate local, national, and international mission work by providing information and resources and to oversee and coordinate Church-wide mission work.

***Fellowship and Caring Committee*** a minimum of 4 members, plus council representative work to build a caring community that will help and support each of our members as we experience the events, stages and transitions of life.

***Building and Grounds Committee*** a minimum of 4 members, plus council representative oversee all activities associated with the operation, maintenance, safety and security of all buildings, grounds, furnishings and equipment owned by the church, except items expressly the responsibility of another committee.

***Christian Education Committee*** a minimum of 4 members, plus council representative guide the educational ministry of the church by providing and supporting the children's Sunday School, confirmands, youth group, adult education, and intergenerational activities.

***The Endowment Ministry Committee*** consists of five elected members with staggered three-year terms. The EMC manages the endowment fund which is a restricted segregated bookkeeping account of this congregation.

### **Proposed Bylaw for Constitution**

The church council is recommending the adoption of the following bylaw to our constitution. **This will be voted on at the annual meeting February 4, 2024.**

**C12.01.04** In the event Grace English Lutheran Church is serving as a teaching congregation, the purpose of the learning experience is for the intern pastor to grow and develop their overall pastoral identity and experience all of the roles of being a pastor including participation in Congregation Council meetings. The intern pastor is expected to ask questions, offer input, and engage in discussion with council members. While the intern pastor has voice privileges, the intern does not have the ability to vote.

## Maggie the Church Mouse

“You’re an angel!” I heard one friend exclaim to another. I witnessed this lovely exchange in a corner of the church kitchen. I’ll admit, I momentarily felt a little envious – for no one has ever called me an angel. Ordinarily when someone sees me, the next thing I hear is a scream!

In the world of humans, I’ve learned that one definition of an angel is someone who does kind things for others. And recently I’ve been hearing that one woman who was regarded as an angel in the Grace congregation was June Lubbert. More than once I’ve overheard that she demonstrated a special knack for securing volunteers, simply because her kindness and sincere interest in others made everyone want to be one of her recruits. I’ve run out of claws when counting how many times members have said, “It was impossible to say no to June!”

I still hear June’s name when the quilters meet in Fellowship Hall, sewing and organizing important supplies to share with others through Lutheran World Relief. It was June’s personal mission to knit baby sweaters, and over the years she contributed more than a thousand of them for needy families. One woman remembers June’s joy at finding just the right kind of yarn, in rich and bright colors, for her continuing mission. Clearly June was a woman with the heart of an angel. Her family and friends will celebrate her life on December 16th at Grace. How appropriate that her memorial service will take place during the Christmas season when we are reminded that angels are messengers of the glory of God!

Soon we’ll be worshipping amid Christmas lights and decorations adorning our church. We’ll be celebrating Jesus’ birth, some of us feeling joy and some of us feeling melancholy. But for all of us there will be thoughts and memories of those who have shown us the way of the angels. I look forward to worshipping during this special season with my church family. Together it will be a blessing to rejoice in the good news of Christmas, and to hear and repeat the words of the angels:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth!



The Grace Book Club has chosen “**Skipping Christmas**” by John Grisham for their December read. Luther & Nora Krank decide that they will skip celebrating the Christmas holiday and set sail on a Caribbean Cruise instead. Theirs will be the only house on their street without a rooftop Frosty, they won’t be hosting their annual Christmas Eve bash, they aren’t even going to have a tree! They spend their time getting ready for their cruise and are very excited to set sail on December 25<sup>th</sup>. But, as they discover, skipping Christmas brings enormous consequences – and it isn’t half as easy as they’d imagined. John Grisham offers a hilarious look at the chaos and frenzy that have become part of our holiday tradition.

We will meet to discuss this book on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon in the Grace Church Library. In addition to our book discussion, we will watch the movie based on the book: “**Christmas with the Kranks**” and enjoy a simple potluck lunch. If you would like to read “**Skipping Christmas**”, please contact Cindy Wallace for a copy.

If you have already read this book and would like to discuss it, or, if you would like to see the movie and enjoy a potluck lunch, please join us on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

*The Grace Lutheran Church Choir Presents:*



# *“O Holy Light”*

*A Christmas Cantata by Mary McDonald*

*Sunday, December 17, 2023 at 8:30 am*  
*Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm*  
*Grace Lutheran Church*  
*384 Oak St. Berlin, WI*

## *Blue Christmas Service*

a time of reflection for those who are  
grieving, sad, or lonely this holiday season

Sunday, December 17, 2023 6:30pm

Grace Lutheran Church  
384 Oak St. Berlin  
live-streamed at  
[www.gracelutheranberlin.org](http://www.gracelutheranberlin.org)



While Advent is a season of hope and Christmas is a season of joy, not everyone feels hopeful or like celebrating. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and loss are magnified.

Even those who are not struggling with losses may feel the stress of preparations and expectations around Christmas time. The Blue Christmas service is a time and place of solace during the often-frenetic days surrounding the celebration of Christmas.

We come together seeking healing and room to share grief, sadness, loneliness, or confusion when these emotions often feel out of place during the holidays.



## A Member In Need - GoFundMe

Kelly Boening, a young mother of three, has been diagnosed with stage 2 pancreatic cancer. As this has been found in the early stage it can be beaten but the treatment is super aggressive and has taken a toll on her physically, mentally, and financially. She had to stop working as the chemo takes every ounce of energy from her. In the first month she has lost 50 pounds.

As mentioned, Kelly is a mother of three. She has been raising Allison for the past 9 years. Allison was abandoned when Kelly took her in caring for her, loving her, and buying everything she needed. In December of 2022, Kelly opened up her home and heart to two of Allison's half siblings, a 19-month old girl and a first grade boy. They came with only the clothes on their backs. Little Hazel was undernourished, couldn't talk or walk and Kelly has nurtured her, bringing out a bubble, happy little girl who likes to be silly and is walking and starting to talk. Kelly made sure MJ was enrolled in school and bought him school supplies and winter clothing to get him through first grade. He is thriving in school and is doing well. Kelly had been able to work and care for them until this devastating diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

Some financial help is coming for the children but in the meantime every bill has fallen behind. Every ounce of energy Kelly has is used to make sure the kids have what they need from day to day. So far the GoFundMe page has helped pay her lot rent, so she did not lose her place in the trailer park.

She can't even begin to think of a happy holiday season for the children as day-to-day financial woes take precedence. Would you consider helping Kelly and her family?

Kelly's sister Robin has set up a GoFundMe page but if you would like to help Kelly without going through the GoFundMe site, please contact the office or send directly to Kelly. Her address is W1002 State Road 23/49 Lot 23, Green Lake, WI 54941. Email: [tigger\\_14\\_77@yahoo.com](mailto:tigger_14_77@yahoo.com)

## Another Way To Help Kelly

On Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> Kelly's sister Robin is organizing a work day at Kelly's house. She has gotten a Thrivent card and is looking for groups of people willing to help. Some will be washing and sorting all of the kids clothing, others will be cleaning the trailer home, decorating for Christmas and another group will be taking the kids shopping for a few Christmas gifts for each other. Details are still in the works, but she will take any help available.

Robin's contact information is cellphone number 920-290-0396 or email [navymon336@gmail.com](mailto:navymon336@gmail.com)

## Grace Church Is Hosting The Next Blood Drive On Tuesday, January 2, 2024



Don't know what to do with your leftover Christmas goodies, bring them to the canteen for the Blood Drive or sign up to bake a sweet treat.

Would you rather help out in the kitchen? Watch for the sign-up sheets on the kiosk. Baked goods can be dropped off in the kitchen on Sunday, December 31 or Tuesday, January 2 between 8:00 am – 10:00 am.

Contact information is Tammy at 920-290-1145 or [tlondowski@yahoo.com](mailto:tlondowski@yahoo.com).

Goettl Crew

### Radio Ministry

- December 3 - Open
- December 10 - In Honor of Brian's Birthday by Selma Ceman
- December 17 - In Honor of Jeff Tarras's Birthday
- December 24 - Sponsored by Goettl Family
- December 31 - Open

### Flowers

- December 3 - In Honor of Kline Kids' Birthdays by Doug & Bonnie Kline
- December 10 - In Honor of Drew's Birthday by Terry & Cindy Wallace
- December 17 - Poinsettias
- December 24 - Poinsettias
- December 31 - Poinsettias

### Bulletins

- December 3 - Open
- December 10 - In Honor of Wesley's Birthday by Sue Shemanski
- December 17 - In Honor of Kaden and Kara's 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday by Aunt Jess
- December 24 - Sponsored by the Goettl Family
- December 31 - In Memory of our parents, brother Lloyd, and son-in-law Michael by Ken and Sandy Peschke

### Fellowship

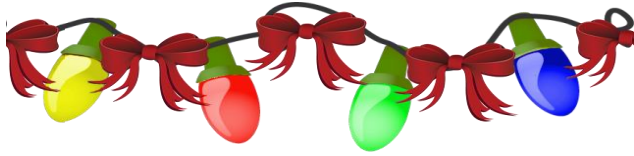
- December 3 - Women of Grace
- December 10 - Michelle Klawitter
- December 17 - Fellowship and Caring
- December 24 - No Fellowship
- December 31 - Penny Bahn

### Greeters

- December 3 - Open
- December 10 - Open
- December 17 - Open
- December 24 - Open
- December 31 - Open

The **2024 sign-up sheets** are posted on the kiosk for radio ministry, bulletins, altar flowers, greeters, and fellowship.

**Many, many thanks** to everyone for your very generous sponsorships in 2023.



## *Happy Birthday*

### **December Birthdays**

- 1 Susan Carpenter
- 2 Leighton Cox
- 3 Jeremie Schmidt
- 4 Andrew Rozek
- 6 Jeremy Fritz
- 8 Eric Krebs
- 8 Megan Roehl
- 11 Ann Dehn
- 11 Grace Dobbs
- 11 Tayler Peschke
- 12 Kean Hermanson
- 12 Gene Hess
- 12 Kristine Labbus
- 12 Drew Wallace
- 12 Darlene Wilkes
- 13 Alaina Labbus
- 13 Kaden Fritz
- 13 Kara Fritz
- 14 Heather Schmidt
- 15 Allan Janes
- 17 Roland Bahr
- 17 Destiney Krebs
- 19 Tammy Greening
- 19 Jeff Tarras
- 20 Edmund Roehl, Jr.
- 21 Bonnie Kline
- 25 Scott Wolfe
- 26 Susan Bartlett
- 26 Kristen Hermanson
- 26 Ryan Retzlaff
- 28 Joshua Koscher
- 29 Gracie Pence
- 29 Edmund Roehl, Sr
- 30 Conrad Falk
- 30 Elias Klawitter
- 30 Tom McCarthy
- 31 Rachelle Pribnow

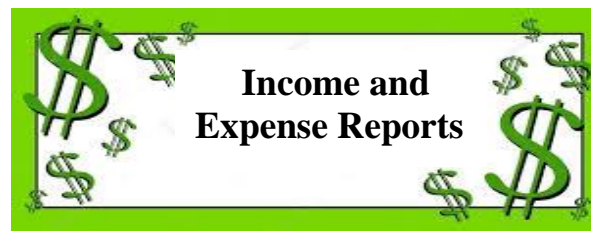


## *Happy Anniversary*

### **December Anniversaries**

- 3 Phil & Karen Pik
- 6 Matthew & Alissa Gies
- 12 Michael & Kristine McElligott
- 22 Vern & Barbara Tollakson - 40<sup>th</sup>
- 30 Scott & Amber Dutcher
- 30 Frank & Cindy Laudolff

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




Copies of monthly financial summaries will be made available on the table near the bulletins following the council meeting each month.

Food Pantry Sunday is the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. Please bring an item and put it in the shopping cart.



## 2023

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:00 am <i>Decorate the Church</i>  2:00 pm <i>Surviving the Holidays</i>
3  8:30 am <i>Worship with Communion and Sunday School</i>  11:30 am <i>Ladies Advent Dinner</i>  1:00 pm <i>Christmas Recital</i>	4  1:30 pm <i>Bible Study at First Lutheran</i>	5  9:00 am <i>Staff Meeting</i>	6  5:30 pm <i>Crafters Group</i>  6:30 pm <i>Confirmation Class</i>	7  12:40 pm <i>Soul Food All Saints Hosts</i>  7:00 pm <i>Choir Practice</i>	8	9  <i>No Men's Breakfast</i>
10  8:30 am <i>Worship with Communion and Sunday School</i>	11  1:30 pm <i>Bible Study at First Lutheran</i>  7:00 pm <i>Congregation Council Meeting</i>	12  9:00 am <i>No Staff Meeting</i>  12:00 noon <i>Book Club meets at Grace</i>	13  6:30 pm <i>Confirmation Class</i>  7:00 pm <i>Choir Practice</i>	14  12:40 pm <i>Soul Food River Shores Hosts</i>  6:30 pm <i>Parish Council Meeting at First</i>	15	16  11:00 am <i>June Lubbert Funeral</i>
17  8:30 am <i>Cantata Worship Service</i>  6:30 pm <i>Blue Christmas Service</i>	18  1:30 pm <i>Bible Study at First Lutheran</i>	19  9:00 am <i>Staff Meeting</i>	20  6:30 pm <i>Cantata Service</i>	21  12:40 pm <i>Soul Food Grace Hosts</i>	22	23
24  8:30 am <i>No Worship</i>  4:00 pm <i>Christmas Eve Service with Communion</i>	25  <i>Christmas Day</i>  	26  <i>No Staff Meeting</i>	27  <i>No Confirmation</i>  <i>No Choir Practice</i>	28  <i>No Soul Food</i>	29	30
31  8:30 am <i>Worship with Communion - no Sunday School</i>						