

Grace Notes

Grace Lutheran Church, 2006 60th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin



February, 2019

Annual Congregational Meeting Scheduled February 24

Grace Lutheran will have its annual meeting immediately after worship on Sunday, February 24. Please join us for this important day where we celebrate all God has done for us in 2018 and pray, dream, and discern where God is leading us in 2019.

Copies of the annual report will be available at the church by February 17.

We are looking to fill council positions this year. A major post that remains open is Worship & Music chair. Please prayerfully consider volunteering; President Jim Brichacek or Pastor Jonathan would be happy to talk with you.



Infant Moses Ministry Served 1,230 in 2018



By Ruth O'Hanlon

Infant Moses Committee would like to thank everyone for contributing to our ministry either with donations of diapers, wipes, or finances. We ended 2018 having given out 14,110 diapers, serving 1,230 infants.

Looking ahead to 2019, if you are able to help, we are in need of size 3, 5 and 6 diapers and pull-ups.

This is an amazing ministry of love. In January, Trudee Hart, who is a member at Holy Nativity and a weekly Grace Welcome Center Volunteer, dropped off a bag of hand-knit baby hats her mom made. What a wonderful start to 2019!

God bless from Infant Moses Ministry.

Lent Returns in March

Please join us at 1:00 or 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, for our Ash Wednesday worship service.

We are also looking for volunteers to bring soup for when we host midweek Lenten soup suppers with St. John's and Holy

Nativity. Please look for a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex presently.

Laurels and More Laurels

Laurel to Dean O’Hanlon for the many hours he spent in January keeping our sidewalk shoveled and mopping the salt that tracked in. Dean, we could not keep our church open in January without you. Thank you!

Laurel to Shane Kennedy for donating the salt needed to clear our eastside sidewalk. He left a full extra bag for us to use on Sunday where needed as well. Thank you so much Shane!

Laurel to Linda and Joyce for working on our 2019 draft budget. God has gifted this team with wisdom around numbers as well as tremendous dedication. Thank you so much Linda and Joyce for doing this hard behind the scenes work that allows us to start 2019 well.



Laurel to Jarlene for running the projector presentation during our special Kindness Week Service. Thanks Jarlene for making this a wonderful service

as well as your work each week that allows worship to be meaningful and welcoming to guests.

Laurel to Ariaiah for acolyting and helping with communion in January. Ariaiah, we are so grateful for the wonderful gifts God has given you and that you are part of our church family!

Laurels to Ruth O’Hanlon for coming in during January’s cold snap and vacuuming the pew cushions in the sanctuary.

Laurel to everyone who filled out a 2019 pledge card. Thank you so much for your continue support—God’s mission here at Grace is possible because of all of us coming together. Thank you!

Laurel to everyone who has brought coffee, creamer, and sugar to help support our Grace Welcome Center. Thanks for helping to make our church a continued place of hospitality.

Synod Seeks Youth Delegate for Churchwide Assembly

By Matthew Brockmeier, Synod Secretary

The Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is asking members to prayerfully consider service as a voting member of the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Due to the resignation of a previously-elected voting member, the synod is seeking someone to serve at the Churchwide Assembly, which is being held in downtown Milwaukee from August 5 through 10 this year. Eligible individuals will be:

- A voting member of a congregation which belongs to the Greater Milwaukee Synod
- No more than 30 years of age on the date on which they are selected to serve
- A person of color or a person whose primary language is other than English

The ELCA covers transportation, housing and other related costs. Voting Members do not pay a registration fee.



Voting Members of the Churchwide Assembly continue in that role until the next Churchwide Assembly, which will take place in the summer of 2022.

Normally this means that service is limited to this year’s Assembly, but they would be called upon for any special Churchwide Assemblies before the next scheduled Assembly.

If you meet the qualifications for this opening, and are considering serving or

simply want more information, please contact Matthew Brockmeier, Synod Secretary, at brockmeier.gms@gmail.com or 920-254-0408 or Mary Romskog, Executive Assistant for Administration and Candidacy, at mary.romskog@gmselca.org or 414-671-1212.

Habitat for Humanity Offers Credit, Foreclosure Workshop

If you are struggling with your foreclosure payments or need help with credit, please attend this educational workshop to learn what your options may be.

Habitat for Humanity will host a foreclosure prevention and credit seminar at Grace Lutheran on Saturday, March 2 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. The event is free, but interested persons are asked to call Fran Hansen at 262-925-0360 to register.

With government assistance decreasing, it is important to know how to protect yourself and to prevent foreclosure and credit debt. Habitat for

Humanity of Kenosha believes that everyone deserves a decent place to live, so let them help you learn how to stay in your home.

Newsletter Opt-Out

Some people prefer to receive our church newsletter only through email. If this is the case for you, please sign up in the narthex to opt out of us mailing it to you. That saves us money on postage (which just went up 10% in January). Thanks.

Group Notes

Group J Bible study meets in the library on the first Tuesday of the month. Fitting for the new year we read about God's abundance at the Wedding Feast of Cana. We read this from *Gather Magazine*: "The biblical writers often use the image of abundant wine as a sign of God's goodness, and as a sign of fulfillment of their hopes for redemption and renewal when the Messiah came. The prophet Amos proclaimed, 'The time is surely coming, says the Lord, when...the mountains will drip sweet wine,

and all the hills shall row with it". May God bless our Group J with great abundance in 2019!

Altar Guild will meet at church at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 12.

Dorcas quilting circle meets at 9:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month.



February Worship Assistants

	Altar Guild	Communion Asst.	Readers	Flowers
Feb. 3	D. Cristiano, N. Brichacek	B. Felland, L. Hollingsworth	open	open
Feb. 10	E. Gapko, J. Knoedler	A. Hill	open	open
Feb. 17	K. Knapp, D. Cristiano, E. Gapko	open	open	open
Feb. 24	K. Knapp, N. Brichacek	open	open	L. Hollingsworth
Mar. 3	tbd	open	open	open
Wed. Mar. 6	tbd	open	open	No flowers



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Mark & Laura Sturino, Feb. 14 (27)
 Debra Dreger, Feb. 15
 Adrienne Hix, Feb. 16
 Lorraine Hollingsworth, Feb. 27



Proclaiming the Year of the Lord's Favor

I have been at many church events through my life that pose a question something like this, "What would happen if we really listened to Jesus?" In fact, when I was a teenager the WWJD (What Would Jesus Do) bracelets were very popular and a few years ago I started seeing books and conferences titled, "A year of living biblically."

On Sunday, January 27, our lectionary had us read Luke 4:18-19, which lays out what Jesus saw as his mission for himself and for his church, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Although maybe not as marketable as WWJD our reading lays out with crystal clarity what Jesus did and what Jesus hopes for his church. I want us to think about each part of this mission briefly:

"Bring good news to the poor" is a broad statement about the main group to whom Jesus brought his message. There are many ways Jesus lived this out, but what's key in the opening phrase is that the poor are included in his ministry. In the parable of the heavenly banquet feast in Luke 14:15-24 we see this in such vivid terms as the poor are welcomed at God's heavenly feast.

"Release to the captives" & **"let the oppressed go free"** are two phrases linked to the exile and oppression the Jews felt at

the hands of Assyrians, Babylonians, Greeks, and Romans. For the 600 years leading up to the ministry of



Jesus one superpower after another came crashing through the land. Jesus's ministry created a new reality of freedom by welcoming in Romans, Canaanites, Syrophoenicians, and Samaritans, signaling the long awaited day when the gentiles would come streaming to God's Holy Hill (Isaiah 2:2-4). The early church seen in the Book of Acts continues on this mission Jesus laid out as churches spread throughout the whole Roman Empire.

"Recovery of sight to the blind" refers both to Jesus's work healing those suffering from blindness as well as Jesus's work to heal those suffering from deafness, paralysis, muteness, leprosy, and other illnesses. The early church continued Jesus's work of healing in the book of Acts and the church has provided medical care through hospitals to this very day.

"Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" refers to the

Jubilee year laid out in Leviticus 25. Every 50 years God's people were supposed to have all their debt wiped away. For example, if a family had to sell their farm because they needed to buy food, on the 50th year it would be restored to them.

Jesus lived out Jubilee by calling on the rich young man to sell all his possessions (Luke 18:18-30) and Zacchaeus being called to return what he had defrauded people (Luke 19:1-10). And then we see the Jubilee most significantly lived out in the book of Acts, when the disciples share all their possessions and there isn't a needy person in their midst (Acts 2:44-45 & 4:32-37).

As I have reflected on this mission of Jesus and the mission universal church, what has been so moving to me is how we at Grace Lutheran take Jesus's words seriously. We include the poor in Jesus's good news daily here at Grace. We are a church not in bondage to empire because we have members from so many different backgrounds. We bring healing to those who suffer from exposure to the elements with dry clothing and foot powder. We share the abundance God gave us and practice jubilee by giving extra blankets away through our Dorcas Quilting Circle, giving diapers through Infant Moses, and giving meals and clothes away through Grace Welcome Center.

Grace Lutheran is a very special and unique church with the passion in which we seek to live out Jesus's mission as laid out in Scripture. Thank you so much for the tremendous privilege of getting to serve as Pastor of our church.

—Pastor Jonathan

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3 St. Ansgar 8:30 am Choir rehearsal 9:30 am Worship service 7:00 pm NA</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 1:00 pm Group J Bible study</p>	<p>6 4:30 pm Shalom Center soup kitchen 5:30 pm Prayer group 6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer</p>	<p>7 7:00 - 10:30 am Grace Welcome Center 2:00 pm Infant Moses ministry group</p>	<p>1 7:00 - 10:30 am Grace Welcome Center 6:00 pm Outreach Ctr. Fund raiser, Carthage 6:30 pm NA</p>	<p>2 Candelaria</p>
<p>10 8:30 am Choir rehearsal 9:30 am Worship service 7:00 pm NA</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 10:00 am Church council 1:00 pm Altar Guild</p>	<p>13 9:00 am Dorcas quilters 4:30 pm Shalom Center soup kitchen 5:30 pm Prayer group 6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer</p>	<p>14 Valentines Day 7:00 - 10:30 am Grace Welcome Center 2:00 pm Infant Moses ministry group</p>	<p>15 7:00 - 10:30 am Grace Welcome Center 6:30 pm NA</p>	<p>16 9:00 am Together In Mission, St. John's LC, Brookfield</p>
<p>17 (No choir rehearsal) 9:30 am Worship service 7:00 pm NA</p>	<p>18 Presidents' Day</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 4:30 pm Shalom Center soup kitchen 5:30 pm Prayer group 6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer</p>	<p>21 7:00 - 10:30 am Grace Welcome Center 2:00 pm Infant Moses ministry group</p>	<p>22 7:00 - 10:30 am Grace Welcome Center 6:30 pm NA</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 8:30 am Choir rehearsal 9:30 am Worship service 10:30 am Congregation annual meeting 7:00 pm NA</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 9:00 am Dorcas quilters 4:30 pm Shalom Center soup kitchen 5:30 pm Prayer group 6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer</p>	<p>28 7:00 - 10:30 am Grace Welcome Center 2:00 pm Infant Moses ministry group</p>	<p>March 1 <i>St. David</i> 7:00 - 10:30 am Grace Welcome Center 6:30 pm NA</p>	<p>2 9:00 am Habitat for Humanity seminar</p>



Outreach Center Holds Fund Raiser at Carthage

The ELCA Outreach Center invites you to take the chill out of winter 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday, February 1 at the Carthage College Science Center. Sample craft beers, taste wines, enjoy delicious comfort food, and hear live music by the Lonely Ninjas. Reserve your spot with a \$55 donation, on line at www.elcaoutreachcenter.org or call 262-652-5545.

Lutefisk, O Lutefisk

After a one-year hiatus for a construction project, Norway Lutheran Church in Wind Lake resumes its Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner on Saturday, February 9. Servings are at 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30 and 4:30 p.m.


The cost is \$19.00 for adults, \$17.50 for seniors, \$9.00 for children under 10, and free for children able to fit in a high chair. Reservations are required. Call Joanne Jacobson at 262-534-6867 or Donna Hanson at 262-634-3862.

Assault Survivors Group Meets at Horizons

Women and Children's Horizons announces S.A.N.D.: From Sexual Assault to New Destinations, a support group for survivors of sexual assault. S.A.N.D. will meet Friday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., February 22 to April 12. To sign up for the eight free closed sessions, email Gloria Salts-Davis or Hope Wesley-Early at signupwch@gmail.com or call 262-237-8529.


Uptown Group Sponsors Community Vision Event

The city of Kenosha is placing renewed focus on the Uptown Neighborhood with the goal of improving its vibrancy and quality of life. The City has hired the consultant team of Kimley-Horn and Prism to help



TOGETHER IN MISSION

A Synod Event for ALL



February 16
9 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran Church, Brookfield
Registration only \$12/person before January 25 (includes lunch!)

On Saturday, February 16, congregational leaders from across our synod will gather at **St. John's Lutheran Church in Brookfield** (20275 Davidson Rd.) for our second Together in Mission event. This day offers opportunity for mission conversation, learning, and fellowship with other people who are excited and challenged in the ministry we share in Jesus Christ. **All laypeople in our synod are invited to come, learn, share and grow in communion with others.**

Each participant can choose two workshops to attend, one in the morning and one in the afternoon! Workshop topics include:

Congregational Life	God's People	God's Mission
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church Councils • Staffing • Stewardship • Communication • Reconciling in Christ • Family Systems understanding • Social Media • Leading with Congregation's Spirituality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGBTQIAA+ - What do the letters mean? • Young Adults • Millennials • FAITH5 all generations • Older Adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synod Mission, Vision, and Values • Reimagining Church • Outreach for Hope and Partnerships • We are All Immigrants • The Bible and Racial Reconciliation Conversations • Prison Ministry

For descriptions of all workshops and to register visit:
milwaukee-synod.org/event/2019-together-in-mission
or call the Synod office at 414-671-1212

develop a vision for the 22nd Avenue corridor between 60th and 64th Streets.

The Uptown Neighborhood Streetscape Design Project invites the input of everyone who lives, works, shops, dines, or worships in the area. Share your vision for the neighborhood at the Design & Input Center, 6204 22nd Avenue, any time Thursday, February 7 from 11:00 a.m to 7:00 p.m., or Saturday, February 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Refreshments and coloring and design activities for children will be available.

For more information, visit <http://tiny.cc/kenoshauptown>.

2019 Estimate of Giving Card for Grace Lutheran Church

In grateful response to God's love and mercy, I/We estimate my/our giving will be:

week

\$ _____ per month Current \$ _____ Benevolence \$ _____

year

Name _____ Date _____/2019

Address _____

Best phone _____ Envelope number _____

Email address _____

Church copy

✂ -----

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In grateful response to God's love and mercy, I/We estimate my/our giving will be:


week

\$ _____ per month Current \$ _____ Benevolence \$ _____

year

Name _____ Date _____/2019

Please keep this copy for your records



Spend. Save. Give.

A free vigeoXchange account, linked to Grace Lutheran Church, will be created for you on vigeoXchange.com. You will then be emailed instructions on accessing your new account. vigeoXchange is a convenient, year-round fundraiser that turns the purchases you make at participating local businesses into meaningful Sponsorship for Grace Lutheran, while earning Cash Back for yourself! By entering your information below, you agree to vigeoXchange Terms and Conditions; please refer to vigeoXchange.com to review.

First & Last Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number*: _____ Zip Code: _____

School or Organization: Grace Lutheran Church

*This will be your Vigeo Rewards 'ID' when visiting businesses



Grace Lutheran Church
2006 60th Street
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140-3893

Carmyn and Aria help out at the Wednesday Night soup kitchen

Follow us at www.facebook.com/GraceELCAKenosha

Pastor Jonathan Barker: joathan.w.barker17@gmail.com 626-864-6404

Church office: graceoffice@wi.rr.com 262-654-9143

Office hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday

Grace Hosts Kindness Week Event

The Poor People's Campaign issued a call for action against poverty and racism January 24 at Grace Lutheran Church. A presentation recognized the work of volunteers at the Welcome Center, represented by Pastor Jonathan Barker and Karen Kempinen.

Others recognized that evening were Kenosha activist Solo Emiliano Littlejohn, Carl J. Fields of Racine, Barbara Jones Mosley of Milwaukee, Michael Dickman of Madison, and Grace Episcopal Church of Madison.

Speakers described poverty's effects on affordable housing. Kenosha Education Association Executive Director Kendra Keoppen Mulwana said that approximately 44% of households fall below the threshold of being able to afford basic needs.

