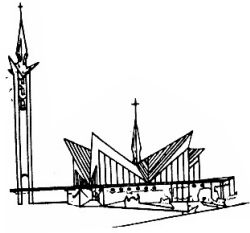


GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)



April 6, 2025

Church Office Phone # 616-534-0805

Reverend Zachary Marklevitz

Pastor's Email: zmarklevitz@gmail.com

Website Address: www.gracelc.net

Office email: gracelc.office@gmail.com

Office Hrs: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sermon Notes:

Announcements

Upcoming Events

Weekly Schedule

HYMN OF THE MONTH...For April: #454, "Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle," is a Latin hymn originally composed by the 6th century poet Venantius Fortunatus, Bishop of Poitiers, as "Pange lingua gloriosi proelium certaminis." It was written to celebrate the arrival of a relic of the True Cross at Queen Radegund's monastery and quickly became a staple of Holy Week devotion in the Western Church. The hymn exalts the mystery of Christ's Passion as the ultimate battle and victory. It was later translated into English by John Mason Neale in the 19th century, preserving its poetic grandeur and theological depth, especially in its focus on the cross as the throne of Christ's glory and the means of our redemption.

MIDWEEK SERVICES...Join us this Wednesday, April 9, at 6:30 p.m. for our final Lenten Midweek Divine Service as we finish our journey through the Minor Prophets. We will hear from the prophet, Zephaniah, with the theme “The Day of the Lord Is Near” (Zephaniah 1:14) as we prepare our hearts this penitential season for the coming Holy Week.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS...Daily Devotions for Lent and Easter - *The Hand of the Lord*, are available on the devotional table (next to the *Portals of Prayer* basket). Please help yourself.

TRE ORE SERVICES...Our Savior Lutheran Church (2900 Burton SE, Grand Rapids) and Immanuel Lutheran Church (2 Michigan St. NE, Grand Rapids) are each hosting a Tre Ore Service on Good Friday (April 18) from noon to 3:00 p.m.

EASTER EGG HUNT...The Easter Egg Hunt will be NEXT Saturday, **April 12** at noon, preceded by a hot dog lunch at 11:30.

EASTER BREAKFAST...We are looking for volunteers to help with the breakfast (April 20) as well as food and beverage donations. Please sign up at the showcase. Thank you!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY...Meets Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m. We are currently in a study of *Ephesians*. There's room for you at the table and we hope you will join us! For a study book see Barb Quist.

THE PASCHAL CANDLE...will be added to the chancel at Grace this Easter! A Paschal Candle is different than the Christ Candle, and both will be used. A Paschal Candle is a large, white candle that represents the light of Christ, risen from the dead, shining in the darkness. It is first lit during the Easter Vigil (Saturday evening), symbolizing Christ’s triumph over death and His presence among His people. Then, throughout the Easter season, the Paschal Candle stands near the altar or font and is lit for all services. After Easter, it is used at baptisms - signifying that the baptized are joined to the light of Christ - and at funerals - reminding us that those who die in Christ live with Him eternally. Its presence is a visual proclamation of the resurrection and the life we have in Him.

SAVE THE DATE!...May 10 will be the WinGS annual silent auction and dinner. NEW this year is a live dessert auction. Tickets on sale now.

ROSIE ANNABELL JAGER...Received the gift of Holy Baptism last Sunday. Our church family is so glad to have Rosie as a member. We pray that Rosie may grow in faith and remain steadfast in Christ all her days.

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH...Grace’s second Church plant, gathers Sundays at 8:00 a.m. for Divine Service. They meet in the building of United Lutheran Church, 15424 Lake Michigan Dr, West Olive, MI 49460. Website: <https://christevangelicallutheran.org>

LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND...If you are looking for a place to keep your money safe and you are a member of the LCMS, check out the LCEF information and rates on the bulletin board just outside the church office. Feel free to contact John Hoover with any questions or for further assistance. John.Hoover@lcef.org.

SCRIP/RAISERIGHT...If you would like to order Scrip you can find order slips as well as a list of all of the RaiseRight retailers on the showcase. Please be sure to turn in payment at the time you place your order. Make checks payable to Grace Beginnings Preschool. Orders are due on the first Monday of each month (next due is TOMORROW, April 7) with delivery Wednesday or Thursday of this week.

PORTALS OF PRAYER, APR–JUN ‘25...*Portals of Prayer* for April through June 2025 is available on the devotional table (to the right of the mailboxes). Please help yourself.

LIBERTAS CHORALE...Will be singing the national anthem at the White Caps game April 15 at 6:35 p.m. All are welcome to come and cheer for the Caps as well as for Libertas.

NEW CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY...It’s time for a new directory! Dates for taking pictures will be TOMORROW & TUESDAY, April 7 and 8 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sign up for an appointment **TODAY** after service in the fellowship hall (see Tom Hoffman), or contact the church office.

IT IS THAT TIME AGAIN!...The Easter Season is a perfect time to remember our Homebound members with cards, words of encouragement, and any other special way you may want to celebrate them. You know the routine. The tables are set up in the narthex across from the mailboxes. A list of the Homebound members is on the end of the first table. Please have your cards in the bags by Palm Sunday (**which is next Sunday**) so we can make our deliveries before Easter. Thank you all for participating in this meaningful way of remembering those who are unable to be with us in worship.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TO CATECHISM - “RECITE” AND “RECEIVE”...Any child who has yet to start the Catechism can recite one of these categories to the Pastor at the beginning of Bible Study hour & receive a gift. The goal is for each entering Catechism student to have already received all four gifts. Recitation can be done in any order. Please contact Pastor with any questions.

1. Recite the Lord’s Prayer and receive Luther’s Small Catechism for Kids.
2. Recite the Apostles’ Creed and receive Lutheranism 101 for Kids.
3. Recite the Ten Commandments and receive Luther’s Small Catechism.
4. Recite Old and New Testament books (all at once or separated by Testaments) and receive a Faith Alive Student Bible ESV.

PRIVATE MUSIC LESSON OPPORTUNITIES WITH OSLC!...Our Savior Lutheran Church is connecting families in the Grand Rapids community with quality music education for their children. For more information see the poster on the bulletin board outside the office. If you have any questions please contact Kantor Roberts at croberts@oursavior-gr.org or call the OSLC Office at 616-949-0710.

QUILTERS WORKSHOP...The next work session is planned for Wednesday, April 16 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. We welcome any and all help of those who can tie knots, layer and/or design Quilts. It’s a great way to get to know your fellow Grace members while working on a worthy mission.

THANK YOU...For all your prayers and cards at the passing of my father, Frank Wickham. He will be greatly missed, but we know he is with God.

Thank you. Linda Franks



The Grace Lutheran Church WinGS (Women in God’s Service) group is in the Western Michigan zone of the LWML. As Lutheran women in mission we invite everyone to get involved and help us to support missions in God’s name.

Some of the activities WinGS offers follows:

- Each year, Wings provides the funds to support and feed a Haitian Orphan through the Caribbean Children’s Foundation.
- We serve others during times of grief by hosting funeral luncheons, with help from the caring congregation of Grace Lutheran.
- We host fellowship events such as the annual Christmas Party and the Ladies Tea to get women together in fellowship.
- We host fundraisers that allow us to offer financial support to our chosen missions. Our Dinner/Auction fundraiser is scheduled for May 10.
- We collect mites from the congregation on the last Sunday of the even numbered months. These allow us to fund missions at the local, zone, district and national levels.
- The men and women of the Quilters group provide warmth and show our love to those in nursing homes and throughout the world through World Relief. If you have a couple hours a month and are willing to design, build, or tie a knot you can serve to keep someone warm.

We invite each of you to donate your time, talents and/or treasures by joining us in honoring God by Serving others.

Estate Planning:

Did you know that the LWML offers free estate plan counseling? Your estate plan can enable you to express your Christian faith. Have you ever endeavored to express your faith and desire for your family to remain in the faith, in a short, succinctly written piece that you can share as a lasting testimony even after the Lord calls you home? Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you to initiate this project, including sharing some examples.

It takes only an email to Linda Gage (linda.gage@lfnd.org) or a call to 1-800-741-4138 to receive help thinking through the process. They offer tools that help you have everything you need ready when you meet with an attorney, saving time and legal fees.

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we Joyfully proclaim Christ, Support Missions, and Equip women to honor God by serving others.

GRACE LIFE COMMITTEE

T “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” John 10:10 T



The Poor and Neglected

Almighty and merciful
God, we call to mind
before You all those
whom it would be easy
to forget:
the homeless,
the destitute,
the unborn,
the sick,
the aged,
and all who have none
to care for them.

Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit and to turn their sorrow into joy.

Tracts and donation envelopes are available on the tract table next to the mailboxes



WEST MICHIGAN LUTHERAN

Serving Grades 7 - 12

Christ Centered - Student Focused

Academics.....Activities.....Achievement

† Individual attention so **each student** can achieve
their goals.

† Integration of the Faith in every class
throughout the day!

The Board of Directors met Tuesday, April 1 to review progress on Milestones 3 and 4.
It was with thanks to God that the following information was shared:

Milestone 3: Raise \$250,000 by March 31

This goal was surpassed! With much work by Kristine Angers, Dawn Cook, and Melissa Eastland and a generous grant given by the Michigan District, **God has given WML over \$259,000!** This will continue to grow as donations come in through the end of the school year.

Milestone 4: \$300,000 in Income for 2025-2026

The budget for 2025-26 includes \$71,000 in tuition and tuition support, \$36,000 in Association Fees, and \$167,847 in Donor support, Grants, and Fundraisers **for a total of \$274,847.**

Based on these two milestones and the increased support of the community, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to continue the Lutheran High School. This was ratified by the Delegates immediately following the Board of Directors Meeting.

A letter from Mrs. Angers announcing this good news to the families was sent to them last night and can be viewed at the WMLHS Bulletin Board in the hall outside the church office.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WITH HEALTH CONCERNS & OTHER NEEDS:

James (Jim) DeYoung; Michael (Mike) Dykstra; Willis (Jack) Edwards; Hubert (Hugh) and Virginia Eisen; Marilyn Franks; Ronald (Ron) Hansen; Barbara (Barb) Hoffman; Iris Kamradt; Vicki Kik; Lois Klooster; Elfriede (Elfie) Koehler; Norman (Norm) Long; Sandra (Sandy) Melville; Allen (Al) Miiller; Margaret (Marge) Morgan; Carol Pellerito; James (Jim) Pellerito; Mark Schrader; Albert (Al) TePastte; Joseph (Joe) Theuerkauf; Sharon Theuerkauf.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS IN NEED:

Dawsyn Bates (Schrader); Barb Castle (Franks); Shannon Crisman (Larson); Margaret (Peg) Eastland (Eastland); Phil Edgerton (Cutler); Brian Hague (Larson); Bruce & Ruth Harder (Kik); Jim Hoard (Larson); Newell Hoback (Gorman); Theresa Holzhausen; Ginny Huizenga (Klooster family); John Hume (Quist); Donald Karel (DeYoung); Bridget Kimmel (Gorman); Brian & Dawn Klein (Larson); Laura Kooienga (Zwar); Cathy Kutschinski; Kelly LaHaine (Gorman); Tom Murrphy (Larson); Richard Ohse (former member); Carrie Pattok (Hoffman); Dalton Palmer (Kutschinski); Violet Redner (Marklevitz); Gary Reinking (father of Ashley Beffrey); Carissa Richmond (Pellerito); Megan Rockrohr (Marklevitz); Hudson Rockrohr (Marklevitz); Julie Rop (Long); Bonnie Seher (Kamradt); Aaron Spratling (Hoffman); Katie Stevenson (Schrader); Ty Tanis (Kutschinski); Donna TePastte (TePastte); Vicky Thompson (Hoffman); Gary Weber (Reynolds); Maggie and Josiah Whitley (Helak).

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES:

Robert Barber (Barber); Klorissa Brown, Katie Collins & Nick Payne (Gorman); Skylar Eriks (Kamradt); Christopher Ferguson & Alex Gaunt (Schrader); Blake Hoffman & Austin Spratling (Hoffman).

PRAYERS FOR OUR GRACE SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES:

Nora Leon; Rev. Steven & Martha Mahlborg.

PRAYERS FOR OUR GRACE SUPPORTED SEMINARIANS:

Nathan Bublitz; Noah Dunsmore.

WE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO WILL BE CELEBRATING birthdays and anniversaries this coming week that their celebrations would lead to rejoicing in God’s goodness once again this year and to give Him thanksgiving for all His blessings.


Happy Birthday this week to:

Tuesday, April 8 - Hailey Morse

No Anniversaries this week

TOGETHER AS A CHURCH FAMILY IN WORD AND STEWARDSHIP			
Sunday, March 30, 2025	9:00 a.m. Worship	Attendance: 110	Communion: 85
Sunday, March 30, 2025	Offering & Joyful Response:	\$5,075.00	
Sunday, March 30, 2025	Noisy Offering:	\$89.82	
Midweek, April 2, 2025	6:30 p.m. Worship	Attendance: 49	Communion: 42
Midweek, April 2, 2025	Offering:	\$1,065.00	

Those serving this week and next at Grace:

	Lent in Lent 4/6/2025 9:00 a.m.	Midweek Worship 4/9/2025 6:30 p.m.	Palm Sunday 4/13/2025 9:00 a.m.
Communion Assistants:	Tom Hoffman	Keith Eastland	Dan DenBraber
Deaconess/Deacon:	Norm Long	Diane Long	Jill Reyers
Altar Guild:	Jeff & Paula DeYoung	Diane Long Janet Dykstra	Janet Dykstra Martha Gottschall
Acolytes:	James Gottschall Elizabeth Reynolds	Molly DenBraber John Gottschall	Hailey Morse Connor Reynolds
Sound:	Scott Christensen	Any Available	Gray Ferguson
Fellowship:	Kendall	X	Gorman

Sanctuary Choir and Handbell Ensemble Director: Diane Long
Organist: Charles Gottschall
Finance Team April: Doug & Carol Klein
Altar Flowers: No flowers during Lent

THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, April 6, 2025 **(Fifth Sunday in Lent)**
Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
Children’s Choir
Directory Picture Appointment Sign-Up (following Worship)
Fellowship (following Worship)
Bible Study/Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Elder’s Meeting 12:00 p.m.

Monday, April 7, 2025
Directory Pictures 2:00-8:00 p.m.
WinGS 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 8, 2025
Women’s Bible Study 9:15 a.m.
Directory Pictures 2:00-8:00 p.m.
Special Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 9, 2025
Handbell Ensemble 5:30 p.m.
Midweek Lenten Divine Service 6:30 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, April 10, 2025
Pastoral Care 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Friday, April 11, 2025
Yarn Benders 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 12, 2025
Hot Dog Lunch 11:30 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 13, 2025 **(Palm Sunday)**
Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
Sanctuary Choir
Fellowship (following Worship)
Bible Study/Sunday School 10:45 a.m.