

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

April 23, 2023

Church Office Phone # 616-534-0805

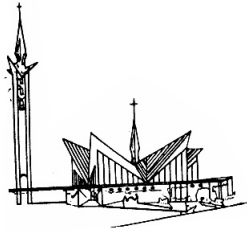
Reverend Zachary Marklevitz

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30p.m.



Third Sunday of Easter

WORDS OF MEDITATION...Easter is the primary feast of the Christian year. It is a season of celebrating rebirth and new life offered in Christ. It starts with the Resurrection of our Lord (Easter Sunday) and concludes on the Day of Pentecost. This time is filled with singing joyful hymns and “resurrecting” the word Alleluia!

Sermon Notes:

Announcements

Upcoming Events

Weekly Schedule

CATECHISM CLASSES...Meet on Sundays at 12:00 noon. However, no catechism class today (Pastor Marklevitz on vacation).

BIBLE STUDY...Join Reverend Scott Benjamin in the Fellowship Hall from 10:45-11:45 this morning. Today we will conclude our look at how St. Paul uses an early Christian hymn in Philippians 2:6-11 to urge the followers of Christ to live in the new reality of the crucified and risen Christ: The confession of Jesus Christ crucified going out from the worshiping body—praise to God and proclamation to the world—but also bringing new converts into the worshiping community as Christ took on man’s humanity.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY...Meets every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come join us as we study “Great Women of the Bible.”

PASTOR’S VACATION...Pastor Marklevitz will be on vacation with his family from Thursday, April 13 through Tuesday, April 25. There will be times that he will not have cellular service. If a situation comes up that you need a pastor (i.e. - individual confession and absolution, pastoral counseling, a medical emergency, a death, etc.), you can either call the office, President Jeff DeYoung, or Head Elder Tom Hoffman (if the office is closed, please call either Jeff or Tom). They will get you in contact with either Pastor Swem (Our Savior, Grand Rapids), Pastor Nuttelman (Hope, Grand Rapids), or Pastor Twietmeyer (Messiah, Grand Rapids). Also, if you have any new prayer requests or updated prayer requests, please call or email the office.

Lastly, we praise God for faithful pastors who will preach the Gospel and administer the Sacrament in Pastor Marklevitz’s absence. We welcome Pastor Miller (St. Paul, Caledonia) on Sunday, the 16th and Pastor Fremer (recently retired) on Sunday, the 23rd.
Jeff DeYoung’s Cell: (616)648-9002
Tom Hoffman’s Cell: (616)745-8900

PRAYER CHAIN...For those who do not have internet access, if you are interested in being a part of a prayer chain to receive phones calls when major church events occur, please contact Diane Long (616-698-9437) or the Church office (616-534-0805).

TRANSPORTATION TEAM...A Transportation Team is being put together to help any members at Grace who need to get to doctor’s appointments and other destinations urgently, but unable to drive. Even with limited availability, volunteers are needed! This is a great way to love your neighbor and it’s a big help for the Church. Let Pastor Marklevitz know if you’re interested.

MEAL TRAIN...We have a newly assembled Meal Train team who has volunteered to help those in need by preparing meals and delivering them. If you know of someone in need of their services, please contact Martha Gottschall.

GREEN THUMB TASK FORCE...We are looking for a group of individuals who would be interested in planning and caring for the flower beds and plants around Grace, working alongside the Buildings and Ground Committee. If interested, or if you have any questions, please contact Gary Doss or Pastor Marklevitz.

YOUNG LADIES OF GRACE LUTHERAN!...Grace Lutheran Church will be starting a youth chapter of the LWML. Details to follow, or contact Dawn Schrader for more information.

SILENT AUCTION...The WinGS Annual Silent Auction will be held on Saturday, May 6 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. Tickets will be available starting April 2 during fellowship or directly from Dawn Schrader (616-550-7949) or Martha Gottschall (616-264-5472). See the flier in your mailbox for ticket prices and more details.

DIAPER SHOWER...For the Pregnancy Resource Center. Donations of diapers will be collected in the Narthex thru May 7. Thank You!



QUILTERS WORKSHOP...The quilters meet monthly, typically on the third Wednesday of the month from 9:00 a.m. to noon. They always welcome extra help and are very thankful for the donations of full and queen size sheets. And yes, we could always use more! Thank you very much. The quilters meet next on Thursday, May 4 and then on Wednesday, May 17.

ATTENTION ALL YOUNG-AT-HEARTS!!...(Remember that title has nothing to do with age). All are welcome to join us for our May fellowship opportunity. We will meet on Thursday, May 11 at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy a potluck. Ham and beverages will be furnished so you may bring either a dessert or a side dish. There is a sign-up sheet at the show case so you can let us know that you will be joining us and what you would like to bring. Following our meal we will enjoy the talents of the West Michigan Lutheran High School Music department as they return to perform for us. We hope that many will join us for this wonderful afternoon as we enjoy the food, the fellowship, and the music.

YOUTH GRILL NIGHT...Will be Thursday, May 25 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. (dinner included). This is for any youth 8th grade through High School, who want to discuss hot topic items and “grill” the pastor with questions!

BULLETIN BOARDS...On your way to the Fellowship Hall, make sure you check out the updated Sunday School Bulletin Board! Also, check out the new and updated Grace Beginnings Preschool Bulletin Board!

DEAR FRIENDS OF ISSUES, ETC...The 2023 Issues, Etc. “Making the Case” Conference, the premier conference for Lutheran laity, is Friday, June 16 and Saturday, June 17 at Concordia University Chicago. The conference includes an on-campus singles event (ages 21-40) after the Divine Service on Saturday. The “Making the Case” speaking line-up includes: Journalists Mark and Mollie Hemingway, LCMS President Matt Harrison, San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone, Kyle Mann of The Babylon Bee, Pastor Peter Bender of the Concordia Catechetical Academy and Pastor Will Weedon of The Word of the Lord Endures Forever. Visit issuesetc.org/2023-conference/ for a conference schedule and to register or call (618) 223-8385. Todd Wilken, Host Issues, Etc.

ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP...Please be sure to sign up for altar flowers throughout the year! You may sign up using the sign up sheets located just outside the narthex. The cost is \$20 per arrangement.

EASTER LILIES...If you ordered an Easter lily, please take it with you after the worship service this morning. Thank you!

THANK YOU SO MUCH...For embracing my Mom, Sylvia Tumath after she moved into Vista Springs Assisted Living there in Wyoming, MI. Your thoughts, prayers, cards, gifts, and devotion meant so much to her and to our family!
Most sincerely, Beth (Tumath) Ufford

THANK YOU...A belated but heartfelt thank you to everyone who has sent me cards and gifts over the past few months as I undergo continuing rehab. They are deeply appreciated and real spirit lifters.
Debra Barber

DEAR GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH FAMILY...I am now home from my prenatal surgery on April 11th! My only thought leading up to the surgery, including the morning of, was I wanted to know ASAP how Josiah tolerated the surgery. Once it was over, as I was waking up, all I remember is my nurse telling me over & over how well Josiah did. God really does answer all of our prayers, even the ones we keep in the secret places of our heart. Thank you so very much for the generous check! What a blessing this is, as our entire world has been shifted—all under God’s loving care, for these next few months. I can’t wait for you to meet him!

All my love, Maggie Whitley
James 4:8

Grace Supported Missionaries

GET TO KNOW WHO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH SUPPORTS...

Rev. Steven & Martha Mahlburg...serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) as missionaries in Sri Lanka. Steven partners with the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC) in Sri Lanka to share the hope we have in Jesus Christ. He provides administrative support, Christian education and mentoring for the pastors, evangelists and laypeople of the CELC. He travels to the CELC congregations around Sri Lanka to encourage a bold witness to Jesus Christ. Steven also assists Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Colombo by conducting the English service and providing English-language pastoral care. Steven grew up in the suburbs of Detroit. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, Mich., in 1991, and his Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1995. He served for 20 years as a parish pastor before beginning his service as an international missionary. Martha also grew up in the Detroit suburbs and earned a bachelor’s degree from Central Michigan University.

Nora Leon...is the director and founder of Caribbean Children’s Foundation (CCF) which was founded to help children living in the countries of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. CCF now works to obtain the education of children and young adults, and the care of critically ill children. We are also working in a remote community to construct a school, an orphanage and a medical facility. We are a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible organization.

GRACE BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL



GRACE BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL

SCHOLASTIC BOOK SPONSORS... Thank you to all who signed up to sponsor a child this year! Your gift will benefit each child in the preschool this year with 10 brand new books for their own book collection!

SCRIP! NEXT ORDER DUE...Monday, May 1st. You can find order slips as well as a list of all of the Scrip retailers on the devotional table in the narthex. If you would like to order Scrip or see what we have on hand please reach out to Ms. Christianson at the church office anytime by phone or email: gracelc.office@gmail.com. You can connect to the preschool's Scrip account directly online as well by using the following code: **A9BC49F25L3** Or place your order using the paper order form. Please be sure to turn in payment at the time you place your order. Make checks payable to Grace Beginnings Preschool. Happy Shopping!



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!

THANK YOU!!!...A huge thank you to all who participated in the West Michigan Lutheran School 2023 Celebrate Online Auction. Your donations are a blessing to our Tuition Assistance Program.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED... WMLHS has foreign exchange students interested in attending school for the 2023/24 school year. Host families receive a monthly stipend from the students. Students also provide for all their own personal expenses and insurance. Host families provide room and board and transportation for school related activities. If you have plans that do not allow the inclusion of your exchange student, care can be provided for your student during that time frame. Already driving a student to WMLHS? Why not make it two!?

HANGING FLOWER BASKET SALE... West Michigan Lutheran High School is having its annual hanging flower basket sale, just in time for Mother's Day! If you would like to order one of these beautiful baskets from Bos Greenhouse & Farms (a listing of available plants can be viewed on the showcase), check with one of your WMLHS students or stop in or call the WML office at 616-455-2200. Orders are due by Friday, April 28 and will be available for pick up at WML on Tuesday, May 9.

MUSTANG GOLF OUTING... Mark your calendars! The West Michigan Lutheran High School golf outing will be Saturday, July 15 at Yankee Springs Golf Course in Wayland. Check-in is at 8 a.m. Shotgun start is at 9 a.m. To sign up visit wmlhsgolf.square.site or email events@wmlhs.org.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR NEEDED... WMLHS has been blessed with having Matthew Diener as our Athletic Director over the past two years. However, with other commitments right now he is no longer able to hold this position. We are looking for someone interested in filling this role. For more information, email kangers@wmlhs.org

WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE PRAYERS:
Anna Barber, Debra Barber, Alice Barnes (sister-in-law of Tim & Althea Barnes), Dawsyn Bates (friend of Star Schrader), Rev. Ryan Beffrey, Debbie Burrows (sister-in-law of Jim Caro), Danielle Campbell, Douglas Christensen (Scott Christensen’s uncle), Diann Cisler, Mae Conkright, Ken & Kathy Dehaan (friends of Caroline Zwiers), Vicky Drougl (friend of Tim & Althea Barnes), Phil Edgerton (friend of Tori Cutler), Anna and Timothy Fanco (friends of Brian and Dawn Klein’s grandson), Christopher Ferguson (son of Dawn Schrader), Tim Fischer (brother of Cheryl Vodry), Randy Franks, Barb Hoffman, Liz Hoffman (sister-in-law of Tom Hoffman), Jayce Holtzlander (grandson of Dawn Schrader), Sarah Holtzlander (daughter of Dawn Schrader), John Hume (son-in-law of Barb Quist), Beverly Karel (cousin of Paula DeYoung), Vicki Kik, Dawn Klein, Lois Klooster, Elfie Koehler, Cathy Kutschinski, Faith LaHaine (sister-in-law of Karen Gorman), Maria Licari (niece of Terry and Carol Larson), Al & Kay Miiller, Richard Ohse (former member), Dalton Palmer (friend of Jan Kutschinski), Ronan Pogue (great-grandson of Ed and Karen Gorman), Holly Poling (family member of Tori Cutler), Charlene Prince (sister of Iris Kamradt), Richard (friend of Tori Cutler), Mark Schrader, Bonnie Seher (daughter of Iris Kamradt), Ty Tanis (friend of Richard & Jan Kutschinski), Al TePastte, Terry Thompson (cousin of Tom Hoffman), Vicky Thompson (aunt of Tom Hoffman), Maggie Whitley (daughter of Dave & Kathy Helak), Josiah Whitley (pre-born son of Maggie Whitley).

WE PRAY FOR THOSE DURING THE RECOVERY PROCESS:
Tim & Althea Barnes, Adelyn Caro (granddaughter of Dawn Schrader), Candice Cutler, Jack Edwards, Ella Cathlee Ennis (great-granddaughter of Phyllis Neitzel), Bruce & Ruth Harder (brother & sister-in-law of Vicki Kik), Theresa Holzhausen, Donald Karel (cousin of Paula DeYoung), Jenn Peterman, Donald Schaub (nephew of Richard & Jan Kutschinski), Cassie Schlaf (daughter of Diann Cisler).

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WITH ON GOING HEALTH CONCERNS:
Chet Arndt, Cindy Carlisle, Jeanne DeMeester, Mike Dykstra, Bob Johnston, Iris Kamradt, Terry Larson, Norm Long (Parkinsons), Marge Morgan, Violet Redner, Doc Wendt, Marigold Whitley (chronic kidney disease).

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS:
Military: Jackson Miller, Austin Vincent (Member), Christopher Ferguson & Alex Gaunt (Schrader’s son & cousin), LT Adam Toepp (nephew of Dave & Kathy Helak), Nick Payne & Katie Collins (Navy - Gorman family), Travis Knapp & Mr. Britten (Jeanne DeMeester’s friends), Robert Barber (stationed in Hawaii, USA).
All Military people and their families and for peace among all mankind.

WE PRAY FOR OUR GRACE SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES...Rev. Steven & Martha Mahlburg, Nora Leon.

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:	Happy Anniversary this week to:
Tuesday, April 25: Jackie Morse	Terry & Carol Larson - 42 years

TOGETHER AS A CHURCH FAMILY IN WORD AND STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, April 16, 2023 9:00 a.m. Worship Attendance: 102 Communion: 80

Sunday, April 16, 2023 Offering & Joyful Response: \$5,570.00

Those serving this week and next at Grace:

	Third Sunday of Easter	Fourth Sunday of Easter
	4/23/2023 9:00 a.m.	4/30/2023 9:00 a.m.
Communion Assistants:	Dan DenBraber	Hugh Eisen
Deaconess/Deacon	Dave Helak	Tonya Blomeling
Altar Guild:	Linda Franks Barb Edwards	Janet Dykstra Martha Gottschall
Acolytes:	Taylor Blomeling Hailey Morse	Connor Reynolds James Gottschall
Sound:	Doug Klein	Gray Ferguson
Fellowship:	Thrivent	Gorman

Sanctuary Choir and Handbell Director: Diane Long
Children’s Choir: Jill Reyers
Organist: Charles Gottschall
Finance Team April: Doug & Carol Klein
Altar Flowers: No flowers.

THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, April 23, 2023	(Third Sunday of Easter)
Divine Service	9:00 a.m.
Sanctuary Choir	
Fellowship following Worship	
Sunday School/Bible Study	10:45 a.m.
Diaper Shower Donations (all week - thru May 7)	
Monday, April 24, 2023	
Preschool Classes all week.	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, April 25, 2023	(St. Mark, Evangelist)
Women’s Bible Study	9:00 a.m.
Wednesday, April 26, 2023	
Preschool Chapel	9:05 a.m.
Handbell Ensemble	5:45 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 27, 2023	
Preschool Chapel	9:05 a.m. & 12:35 p.m.
Friday, April 28, 2023	
Saturday, April 29, 2023	
Sunday, April 30, 2023	(Fourth Sunday of Easter)
Divine Service	9:00 a.m.
Preschool Sunday	
LWML Noisy Offering	
Fellowship following Worship	
Sunday School/Bible Study	10:45 a.m.
Catechism Class	12:00 p.m.