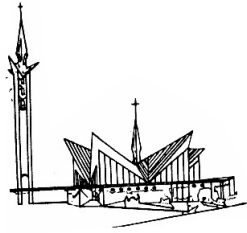


GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)



May 18, 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 of Easter

Sermon Notes:

Announcements

Upcoming Events

Weekly Schedule

HYMN OF THE MONTH...For May: #466 - *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia*.

Bernard Kyamanywa (1938–2021), author of *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia* (LSB 466), was a Lutheran pastor and bishop in Tanzania. Orphaned as a child, he was raised by a German deaconess at the Lutheran Bethel Mission, where he received both his early education and Christian formation. Trained first as a teacher and later in theology at the Lutheran Theological College in Makumira, Kyamanywa wrote *Mfurahini, Haleluya* in 1966 while still a seminary student. The hymn was composed in the African call-and-response tradition, rooted in the joyful Easter faith of his Haya people. Kyamanywa also helped translate the Bible into the Haya language and devoted his life to pastoral ministry and church leadership. His hymn continues to bring the vibrant proclamation of Christ's resurrection to the global Church.

THE PASCHAL CANDLE... was added to the chancel at Grace this Easter. A Paschal candle is different than the Christ candle. 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 of God and is lit for all services. After the Easter season, 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.

BIBLE STUDY IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL...Join us as we continue (on June 1) *A Study on Exodus* after Fellowship Hour!

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!

CATECHISM CLASSES...For the 2025–2026 year will begin this Fall. Students in 5th grade and older are invited to enroll in this two-year course of instruction in the Christian faith. To sign up or learn more, please see Pastor Marklevitz.

FAMILY DEVOTIONS AT GRACE...This summer, Pastor will host a new monthly event called Family Devotions, designed for families with children and single adults at home. Join us for a simple, one-hour evening gathering from 5:30–6:30 p.m., featuring a casual “paper-plate dinner” (pizza, potluck, or other easy meals) followed by a devotion. Whether your household already practices family devotions or you’re unsure where to begin, this is intended to encourage, equip, and support teaching your faith at home. Family Devotions will meet on Thursdays: June 12, July 17, and August 14.

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>

...and the church office. Please contact Pastor Marklevitz at (616) 891-1111 or via email at marklevitz@gracebeginnings.org or gracebeginnings@gracebeginnings.org (mailboxes).

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.

NEW CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY...Thanks to all who had pictures taken on April 7 and 8. An additional date for pictures will be THIS Tuesday, May 20. To sign up for an appointment see Tom Hoffman or contact the church office.

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.

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 June 2) with delivery Wednesday or Thursday of that week.

QUILTERS WORKSHOP...The next work session is planned for THIS Wednesday, May 21 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.

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...The Grace Lutheran Church Picnic will be Sunday, September 7.

OPPORTUNITY TO MEET LUTHERAN AUTHORS...Please join us at Our Savior Lutheran Church (2900 Burton Ave SE, Grand Rapids) on Wednesday, June 11 at 5:30 p.m. for a unique opportunity to meet Lutheran authors, Katie Schuermann and Christy Rivers. These ladies are excited to share their latest fiction books featuring Kloria Publishing's new fiction line inspired by Luther's Small Catechism. Anyone interested in the faithful catechesis of our children should plan to attend - church leaders, grandparents, parents, and CHILDREN of all ages. Katie and Christy will read from their new books based on The Creed and The Commandments. Attendees will be able to purchase copies and have them signed. Light refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the program.

THANK YOU...For all the love, prayers and support you have shown to Abby and James Gottschall over the years. You are invited to an open house to celebrate their graduation. Saturday, May 31 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Gottschall home. Please park at Saint Paul's UMC at 3334 Breton Rd.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY...Thank you so much to all for the nice cards and the wonderful Easter candy. God blessed me with so much love, I am very grateful to all. I hope everyone had a blessed Easter. He is risen, He is risen indeed. Hallelujah! Amen.
Love and hugs in Christ, Elfie Koehler.



Are you a Lutheran Woman?
Do you have a heart to honor God by serving others?
There are many ways to serve:

- Join us at the WinGS meetings on the 2nd Monday of every month from August through May. At these meetings we share devotions, plan fellowship get-togethers, plan fundraisers to support missions, choose the missions to support, and enjoy each other's company.
- Join us at the Spring Rally to be held at Epiphany on May 17 at 9:00a.m. Kaitlyn Ramirez, Deaconess program of South America will be speaking. **Can't attend?** You can still support the mission by supplying items for the Good Shepherd Group Home – Dominican Republic:
 - Men's small, medium, and/or large briefs (not boxer briefs)
 - Men's small, medium, and/or large athletic shorts
 - *Large Bandana bibs (Lovjoy) – (Amazon Links)* <https://a.co/d/9mKr5hc> and <https://a.co/d/dH4eBdS>
 - *Jiuguva 8 Pack Adults Drool Bandana Bibs Paisley Large* - <https://a.co/d/cDTWXRb>
 - Underwear – Girls size 14 or Women's Large or size 7 brief (not bikini or high-waisted)
- Attend the 2026 English District Convention (May 1-3, 2026) to be held in Milwaukee to hear mission speakers and enjoy Bible studies and fellowship with others from our non-geographical district.
- Attend the 2025 National LWML convention in Omaha, Nebraska with 3,500-4,000 women from around the country. The pageantry and inspirational speakers at these events are awesome! With 25% of the mites collected from each of the 40 districts we supported 31 mission organizations during the last biennium with \$2,350,000 in grant money.
- **Not a joiner?** There are still many opportunities to get involved and serve others:
 - Make up a basket (or a wrapped box) full of items of your choice to be auctioned off to support our May 10 dinner/auction fundraiser.
 - Generously fill your mite boxes or our Noisy offering cans on the last Sunday in April (and other even-numbered months).
 - Contribute a dish or purchased item for a funeral luncheon to show your love for the bereaved.
 - In Nov/Dec purchase a Christmas gift for area families in need.

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

GRACE LIFE COMMITTEE

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

Diaper Shower



FOR A PRO-LIFE PREGNANCY CENTER May 11 to June 15

Urgent need for the following items:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| NEW Receiving blankets | NEW onesies in sizes NB to 6 mos. |
| NEW baby hooded towels | Baby Bottles |
| Baby lotion | Baby Toys |
| Diaper rash cream | Diapers sizes NB, 5, 6 |
| Similac advance (blue can) | Baby food (fruits and vegetables) |
| Girls’ Summer Clothes and Boys’ Summer Clothes sizes 12 & 18 mos. and 2T (new or used) | |



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!

NOW ENROLLING...West Michigan Lutheran School is now enrolling for the 2025-2026 school year. For more information, contact the school office by emailing office@wmlhs.org or call 616-455-2200.

WML MUSTANG GOLF CHALLENGE...The annual WML Mustang Golf Challenge will be Saturday, July 19 at Yankee Springs Golf Club. Register to sponsor or golf at <https://wmlhsgolf.square.site/> or call the school office at 616-455-2200.

IN SEARCH OF CLARINETS...West Michigan Lutheran has two band students interested in playing the clarinet. We are looking for anyone who may have a used clarinet they would be willing to donate. Please call the school office at 616-455-2200.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WITH HEALTH CONCERNS & OTHER NEEDS:

Anna Barber; Debra Barber; Rev. Ryan Beffrey; Mae Conkright; Hailey Cutler; Jeanne Edwards; (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); 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); Shanna Kuiper (Hoffman); 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); Julie Rop (Long); Reid School (Gunnnett); Bonnie Seher (Kamradt); Katie Stevenson (Schrader); Ty Tanis (Kutschinski); Donna TePastte (TePastte); Vicky Thompson (Hoffman); **the Walker family** (Grace); 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 Mahlburg.

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, May 20 - Albert TePastte

Thursday, May 22 - Janet Dykstra

Happy Anniversary this week to:


Tuesday, May 20 - Roger & Amy Woods - 36 years

TOGETHER AS A CHURCH FAMILY IN WORD AND STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, May 11, 2025 9:00 a.m. Worship Attendance: 101 Communion: 84

Sunday, May 11, 2025 Offering & Joyful Response: \$2,715.00

Those serving this week and next at Grace:

	5/18/2025 9:00 a.m.	5/25/2025 9:00 a.m.
Communion Assistants:	Keith Eastland	Dan DenBraber
Deaconess/Deacon:	Martha Robach	Kathy Helak
Altar Guild:	Diane Long	Linda Franks
Acolytes:	Connor Reynolds Molly DenBraber	James Gottschall Elizabeth Reynolds
Sound:	Doug Klein	Gray Ferguson
Fellowship:	Gottschall	Larson

Sanctuary Choir and Handbell Ensemble Director: Diane Long
Organist: Charles Gottschall
Finance Team May: Norm Long, Phyllis Neitzel, Linda Franks
Altar Flowers: In thanksgiving to God on the occasion of Randy and Linda Franks’
49th wedding anniversary. Happy Anniversary Randy & Linda!

THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, May 18, 2025 **(Fifth Sunday of Easter)**
Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
Sanctuary Choir
Fellowship following Worship
Voter’s Meeting. 10:45 a.m.

Monday, May 19, 2025

Tuesday, May 20, 2025
Women’s Bible Study 9:15 a.m.
Directory Pictures. 2:00–8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 21, 2025
Quilters Workshop 9:00–11:30 a.m.
Sanctuary Choir 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 22, 2025
Pastoral Care 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Friday, May 23, 2025

Saturday, May 24, 2025

Sunday, May 25, 2025 **(Sixth Sunday of Easter)**
Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
Children’s Choir
Noisy Offering (Grace Missions)
Fellowship following Worship
Bible Study/Sunday School. 10:45 a.m.