



GLOW

Grace Lutheran Church of Winchester



From the Desk of Pastor Mark

NOVEMBER

“Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God’” -- St. John 11:40 (NRSV)

2024



Ruth's Pantry

Needs

Canned vegetables and fruit, peanut butter and jelly, boxed potatoes, hamburger helper, spaghetti sauce, toilet paper, syrup, paper and plastic grocery bags. Garden produce and money donations are also very much appreciated.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I have been told that I am a naïve person, and I wear it like a badge of honor. Whereas some people are drawn into commiserating about the state of the world, I am filled with joy about the stories and people who make a difference in everyday lives. I believe that our future is in good hands, because the youth of today are much more adept at responding to outside influences than we were a generation or two ago. Kids in our schools today must have a plan for if an active shooter enters the building, the reality of cyberbullying, and being compromised on their social media platforms and navigating through busy schedules that include work and extracurricular activities on top of staying up on their studies. When I was a kid the only things I worried about were which football team I'd be on at recess or if there'd be seconds at lunch. I believe that all God's people, no matter where they are from, what their skin color is, and what they identify as in their sexual orientation, are inherently good, and that the great majority of people want nothing more than to live joyful and productive lives and want the very same for their fellow humans.

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Maybe I'm a dreamer, but I believe that dreams are seeds of hope, and that is what I am going to cling to. It's worked for me so far.

I also think that there must be a certain naivety when it comes to the Festival of All Saints as well. On this festival, celebrated the first Sunday of November, we remember all who have completed their earthly journey and now reside in the promises of their baptism. At face value it seems rather fanciful to believe that after we take our last breath that we are transformed to another plane where we will live forever. We are asked to believe in that which is framed by our worldly standards as unbelievable. In a world which dwells within finite boundaries, we are given the opportunity to believe that we can transcend those boundaries after we breathe our last. What would drive us to believe that this is possible?

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I believe that the answer is not believing in what is unbelievable, but, rather, believing in what we witness. Historical narrative informs us that 2000 years ago Jesus Christ defied the laws of nature by rising from the dead, in essence, bringing the kingdom of Heaven to earth. As people of faith, we cling to this two millennia old event; but if we're willing to open our eyes and witness our contemporary world through this same lens, we still get to see glimpses of heaven all around us.

Whether they know him or not, the love of Christ dwells within all God's people, and it's our choice as to whether we see Christ in them. Our sinful behavior makes it easy to get bogged down in labeling others, judging them by their actions or behaviors which differ from our own, or simply not trusting them based on what we think we know about them. But, when we do this, we are essentially closing that window—that glimpse into heaven. When we cut ourselves off from seeing Christ in the other, we are cutting ourselves off from relationship with Christ. We are choosing to believe in what we want to believe, a belief limited to the constraints of a mortal world, instead of belief

in the immortality that exists beyond what we know or what we think we know even though it is clearly visible to us.

Like I said, I may be naïve. I may be a dreamer. But I can also say with utmost certainty that I know joy in choosing to see Christ alive in the other, and I wouldn't trade that joy for anything. Why would anyone want anything less?

In Christ,
Pastor Mark

Thank You

Thank you to the Women of Grace for the Off the Wolf Supper Club and Barnes and Noble gift cards, as well as the incredibly touching card for Pastor Appreciation Month. I am so blessed to feel the love and appreciation from Grace's members, leadership, and staff every single day. It continues to be such an honor to be your called pastor.

Pastor Mark

Annual Meeting

The 2024 Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 8, following Worship. Upon completion of the meeting, we will have a potluck lunch in the dining room. Please mark your calendars and consider joining us!

P.S. The Green Bay Packers do not play that day. We planned accordingly!

APPLETON CONFERENCE PRESENTS:

**BONHOEFFER:
PASTOR. SPY. ASSASSIN.**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
SHOWTIME 1PM, DOORS OPEN @12:30PM
ENTRY \$10 | FREE DRINK | FREE POPCORN
MARCUS HOLLYWOOD CINEMA
513 N WESTHILL BLVD APPLETON**

Reservation required. Registration closes November 24, 2024. Limited Tickets.
Bonhoeffer Movie Rated PG-13 Run Time 2H12M
Discussion to follow at Tom's Drive-In
Questions: Rev. Tauna Roth 920-442-0347

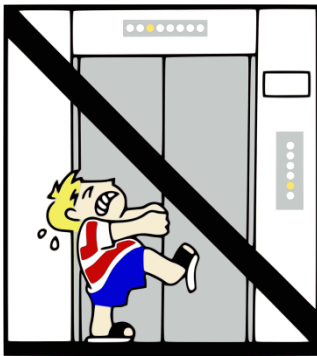


THIS EVENT SPONSORED BY A GRANT FROM THE APPLETON CONFERENCE

ELEVATOR *Fundraising*

We are still raising funds for our Elevator updates. After many generous donations we have successfully crossed the \$100,000 mark in our fundraising efforts! We are working to get updated estimates as we continue on the road to retrofitting.

Please keep an eye on the new Elevator Fund bulletin board in the hallway near the bathrooms for the latest on this project and our progress towards our goal. Also, as a reminder, donations can be made at any time. Simply label your donation with the words "Elevator Fund" and we will apply it accordingly. Thank you for your continued support of Grace.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

The 80+ gang

- 1 Shirley Olson
900 Meadow Lane, Rm. 32
Neenah, WI 54986
- 2 Marilyn Pagel
1110 W. Murdock
Menasha, WI 54952
- 9 Floyd Hanson
5336 County Road II
Larsen, WI 54947
- 14 Leon Harder
3307 W. Larsen Road
Neenah, WI 54956
- 14 Elayne Emmons
Box 253
Dale, WI 54931
- 23 Carol Reichert
1505 E. Willis Rd., #1107
Gilbert, AZ 85297
- 30 Kay Peterson
218 S. 1st Avenue
Winneconne, WI 54986



Grace Lutheran Church of Winchester

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The Congregation Council

David Bork	920-428-3420	gpa.dave.bork@gmail.com
Steve Harrison, President	920-585-8350	stevie.h@live.com
Karla Holl	920-836-9508	karlah@new.rr.com
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Eric Johnson, Secretary	920-279-5965	itserock@msn.com
Patti Nelson, Vice President	920-858-6394	sewthegardener@hotmail.com
David Wisnefske, Treasurer	920-470-1711	dwisnefske@yahoo.com
Pastor Mark Laatsch	906-424-0003	gracewinchesterpastor@gmail.com


Other Key Contacts

Building and Grounds	920-470-2574	Rob Nelson, Chairperson
Business Manager: Alissa Olson	920-277-7619	graceofwinchester@gmail.com
Music: Todd Repp, Jessica McGinnis, Carol Reichert		
Custodian — Gene Walter		
Power Point Master — Patti Nelson		

Love flows from Grace

May you have the power to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ!

November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Sunday services will be live streamed when staff is available. </div>					1	2
3 All Saints Sunday PANCAKE Sunday for the Pantry 9:30 a.m. Worship with Rail Communion 10:45 a.m. Adult Forum	4 9:00-11:00 a.m. Ruth's Pantry 4:00-5:00 p.m. Ruth's Pantry	5	6 9:00 a.m. Women of Grace 5:30 p.m. Service of the Word in the Gathering Space 6:15 p.m. Confirmation	7	8	9
10 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Adult Forum	11 9:00-11:00 a.m. Ruth's Pantry 4:00-5:00 p.m. Ruth's Pantry	12	13 8:30 a.m. Sewing Circle 5:30 p.m. Service of the Word in the Gathering Space 6:15 p.m. Confirmation	14 1:00 p.m. Leah Circle	15	16
17 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Adult Forum	18 9:00-11:00 a.m. Ruth's Pantry 4:00-5:00 p.m. Ruth's Pantry	19 8:25 a.m. Property Team	20 9:00 a.m. Women of Grace 5:30 p.m. Full Service in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion 6:15 p.m. Confirmation	21 5:30 p.m. Congregation Council	22	23
24 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Adult Forum	25 9:00-11:00 a.m. Ruth's Pantry 4:00-5:00 p.m. Ruth's Pantry	26	27 5:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service	28 	29	30

Keeping in Touch

General email address:

graceofwinchester@gmail.com

Grace Web site: glcw.org

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

Ruth's Pantry: ruthspantrygrace@gmail.com

Ruth's Pantry: [Facebook.com/glcw.ruths.pantry](https://www.facebook.com/glcw.ruths.pantry)

The email Prayer Chain.

November	
Ushers	Greeters
November 3 — Team 3	Team 3
November 10 — Team 4	Team 4
November 17 — Team 5	Team 5
November 24 — Team 6	Team 6
November 27 — Team 1	Team 1

Ruth's Pantry "Collection Challenge"

Pancake Items. Many of Ruth's Pantry shelves are empty. The first Sunday of every month will be a Ruth's Pantry Collection Challenge Sunday where the congregation members will be challenged to bring a particular kind of food item to help stock the shelves. When you come to Church on Sunday, **November 3**, please bring **pancake breakfast items**.

"Early" Notice: The challenge for the first Sunday in **December** will be some kind of **boxed potatoes** or **hamburger helper**. Let's come together and make a difference!

Rummage Sale News

June 5, 6 and 7, 2025

Quality and Vintage Rummage Sale

A quality rummage sale is just one step above the normal rummage sale. If it has a broken piece, is stained, or is something that you would not want to buy yourself, it is not a quality piece. If it has a lot of wear left in it, and you could put a price of at least \$1.00 on it, please keep it for the sale.

Items that are in fairly good shape and are from the 50s, 60s, 70s or later are in demand right now (and hopefully will be in June 2025).

Please do not bring clothing items. They do not sell well and take a lot of room, for very little return on the dollar. Clothing also takes a lot of volunteer time to organize and manage.

If you are handy with making crafts, those items would be welcome as well.

Plan ahead and think about what YOU can contribute to the sale.

REMEMBER: All the profits go to the Elevator Fund



Thank You

Dear Quilting Group: Thank you for the gift of the quilt. It means a lot knowing I have a whole community behind my back as I move on to the next chapter of my life.

—Garrett Marks

Fall Giving Tree



Each year around Christmas time, Ruth's Pantry collaborates with the members of Grace on a Giving Tree. However, in an attempt to focus efforts on ministering to immediate food needs, Ruth's Pantry has decided to do something a little different this year.

In the Gathering Space you will find a fall tree with specific grocery items on the leaves. Feel free to take a leaf or two and pick up the items on your next shopping trip to donate to Ruth's Pantry. The Fall Giving Tree will be up until Advent. As always, we appreciate your continued support of Ruth's Pantry and all those in need in our community.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Lutheran World Relief

This year we donated 176 quilts (a record for us), 123 school kits, and 35 personal care kits to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) to be distributed by aid workers wherever and whenever they are needed.

LWR has made an epic change in their distribution rules. Formerly, the kits we prepared were only distributed by world relief partners in other countries. Now LWR kits and quilts will be distributed as needed in our country as well as in the foreign lands. Your generosity can now be shared world wide. Thank you for how you have helped in ANY way!

Grace Lutheran Church of Winchester

www.graceofwinchester@gmail.com

glcw.org

8396 Steeple Hill Drive

Larsen, WI 54947



November
2024



Grace Historical Dates

10-1-1987 to 4-6-1988 Nave, narthex, bell tower, and balcony painted. Bell tower window removed and repaired. New ceiling fans installed.

1-31-1988 Goals for 1988: Purchase and implement computer system for church. Feasibility study for blacktopping of the south parking lot.

2-9-1988 A light switch was installed in the cemetery shed, instead of turning on lights from the church building.

4-19-1988 Prayer and Share began as a midweek mini series.

5-10-1988 Garden cart purchased for use by custodian.

5-10-1988 Telephone underground cable installed through cemetery. Route was approved by the cemetery board. (The route is unknown.)

7-12-1988 South sign unit is repaired by Dave McNamee.

7-12-1988 Voted to replace main entry doors (\$1000 from Eggers)

8-9-1988 Building of new entrance doors progressing. They will be shipped to glass company on 9-6-1988 and should be ready for installation in early November.

—Facts are assembled and submitted by David Christianson, with the help of several people who went through historical materials and pulled out data of note.

