



GLOW

Grace Lutheran Church of Winchester

MAY 2025

Ruth's Pantry

Needs

Canned Peas
Canned Carrots
Shampoo
Body Wash
Bar Soap
Hamburger Helper
Cooking Oil
Sugar
Salt and Pepper
Cereal
Paper & Plastic Bags



From the Desk of Pastor Mark

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep." – St. John 21:15-17 (NRSV)

Brothers and Sisters in Christ;

After two years of building up to this moment, the NFL Draft and all the people who descended upon Green Bay and the Fox Cities over the past week are now on their way home or preparing to go, though they are leaving a lot of spent money behind. The nearly 300 college football players who were drafted over these three days will also be traveling in the coming weeks to their new homes, hoping to make an impact as they begin their professional gridiron careers. As for the fans of these teams, we are all now filled with renewed hope that this draft will finally get us over the hump and that in fewer than nine months the Lombardi Trophy will once again come back home to Green Bay.

An owner of a single (symbolic) stock share of the team can dream, can't he?

In the coming weeks the newly drafted players will be introduced to their new teams' playbooks and culture through orientations and mini-camps. For some of the players, this will be a natural transition for which they've been preparing for some time now. For others, this will be an overwhelming experience which will make this transition much more difficult, and in the end, it may make the difference as to whether they will make the team.

For the disciples, the immediate aftermath of Jesus' resurrection was a time of great transition as well, easier for some, much more challenging for others. On the first Sunday after Easter, we annually hear the story of Doubting Thomas. For him, this was an obviously difficult transition to believe and embrace. But Thomas wasn't alone.

Inside this issue:

From Pastor Mark	1
Rummage Sale	2
Birthdays	3
Elevator Fund	3
Adult Forum	3
Calendar	4
Ushers & Greeters	4
Ruth's Pantry	5
175th Anniversary	5
Cemetery Trivia	6

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

When Jesus appears again to the disciples following the resurrection he confronts Simon Peter in a way that challenges what he believes as well as how he enacts that trust. Three times Jesus asks Peter if he loves him. Three times Peter responds, though by the third time he is hurt because it seems that Jesus doesn't believe him.

But Peter couldn't be any further from the truth. The reality is that Jesus loves him so much and as he sees Peter's life in proclaiming God's love playing out, Jesus knows that it will not be easy for Peter, to the point that Peter himself will be executed in a brutish fashion.

This story is a powerful reminder that while the resurrection grants us hope beyond measure, those moments in this life that lead up to our baptismal promises being fulfilled are not always going to be filled with that same joy. We're all going to go through those moments when we wonder why God is testing us the way that He is; but, like Peter, it is not so much God testing us but rather loving us in a way that we simply can't believe or comprehend.

That's what the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is all about – the unconditional and undefinable presence of God's love in our lives. Through it we learn that pain is covered by hope, that joy is covered by promise, and that our whole lives are covered by God's presence in them. May we always take comfort and hope in these assurances made possible by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

For, He is Risen....He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!!

In Christ,

Pastor Mark

Rummage Sale News

NOTE: This rummage sale is to raise funds for upgrading the elevator. It is for ALL Grace members.

- ♦ Sale dates: June 5, 6, and 7
- ♦ Bring items anytime until May 28. Call Alissa (920-277-7619) to arrange for the former day care office to be unlocked. She is available on most Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays or Sundays.
- ♦ Mark your items before you bring them. Tags can be found in the coat room on the south end of the card rack or in the room where items are being temporarily stored. All items must be marked!
- ♦ Are you a crafter? If you would like to set up a table to sell your items, please call Sherry Olson (920-836-3751) or Kate Christianson (920-379-4937). If we do not hear from you by May 10, craft tables will not be reserved. Crafters will need their own cash box.
- ♦ If you have quality or vintage items, please call Sherry or Kate by May 10, so we can get the information in the town-wide fliers.

REMEMBER – we do want your rummage... even if it is not vintage or upscale. NO CLOTHING or anything that you would not want to purchase if you were doing the shopping.

How can YOU help make this a profitable endeavor for the Elevator Fund?

1. Bring your items to sell;
2. Help set up and/or take down;
3. Work on one or more days of the sale. A sign-up sheet will be on the table in the gathering space during the month of May. Please sign up. We need your help!
4. MEN: We need your help immediately after worship on May 25 to set up the tables in the Blue Room. Tables are located all over the building, so will have to be relocated. Instructions will be available.

GOD is in control of this sale, but He is using you to help make it a success.



Planning an Event???

Sprucing up. Painting. That's what the Building and Grounds group has been doing, in addition to normal upkeep of the church building.

Now we have a lovely facility with rooms to rent for birthday and anniversary parties. The local town hall is kept pretty busy—especially on the holidays. Now there is another option available. Interested? Call Alissa . . .

MAY BIRTHDAYS

The 80+ gang

- 2 Carla Cross
5119 County Road II
Larsen, WI 54947
- 4 Karen Milner
5365 Ann Street
Larsen, WI 54947
- 26 Shirley Zehner
7690 Zehner Lane
Larsen, WI 54947
- 30 Cheryl Gorges
1408 Westcreek Lane
Neenah, WI 54956
- 30 Russell Thorson
3901 Fairview Road
Neenah, WI 54956



Adult Forum



Every Sunday at 10:45 a.m., a Bible study is led by Mark Rieckmann in the LYF room. He has been taking the old testament one book at a time making the stories in each book come alive for attendees. He uses a whiteboard program to illustrate the stories. Everyone is welcome to attend. No adult forum in the summer.

Grace Lutheran Church of Winchester

8396 Steeple Hill Drive, Larsen, WI 54947

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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!

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Pantry Challenge: Canned peas and canned carrots 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Adult Forum	5 9:00-11:00 a.m. Ruth's Pantry 4:00-5:00 p.m. Ruth's Pantry	6	7 9:00 a.m. Women of Grace 5:30 p.m. Worship Service of the word in the Gathering Space 6:15 p.m. Confirmation	8 1:00 p.m. Leah Circle	9	10
11 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Adult Forum	12 9:00-11:00 a.m. Ruth's Pantry 4:00-5:00 p.m. Ruth's Pantry	13	14 8:30 a.m. Sewing Circle 5:30 p.m. Worship Service of the word in the Gathering Space	15	16	17
18 9:30 a.m. Worship with Praise Band Confirmation and Graduate Recognition 10:45 a.m. Adult Forum	19 9:00-11:00 a.m. Ruth's Pantry 4:00-5:00 p.m. Ruth's Pantry	20 8:30 a.m. Property Team	21 9:00 a.m. Women of Grace 5:30 p.m. Worship Service of the word in the Gathering Space	<div>Notice: On Sunday, May 25, following the service, much help will be needed in getting everything set up and arranged for the Rummage Sale on June 5, 6, and 7. Can you help??</div> <div>Notice: On Monday, May 26, the Pantry will be closed for the holiday. But the Winneconne American Legion members will again present a Memorial Day observation at the Grace cemetery. Bring your lawn chair and join us for the 9:00 a.m. program.</div>		
25 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Adult Forum (last meeting)	26 9:00 a.m. Memorial Day Observation at the Grace Lutheran Cemetery	27	28 8:30 a.m. Sewing Circle 5:30 p.m. Full service with Holy communion			

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.

May	
Ushers	Greeters
May 4 — Team 4	Team 4
May 11 — Team 5	Team 5
May 18 — Team 6	Team 6
May 25 — Team 1	Team 1

Ruth's Pantry "Collection Challenge"

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, **May 4**, please bring **canned peas** and **canned carrots**.

"Early" Notice: The challenge for the first Sunday in **June** will be bar soap and shampoo.



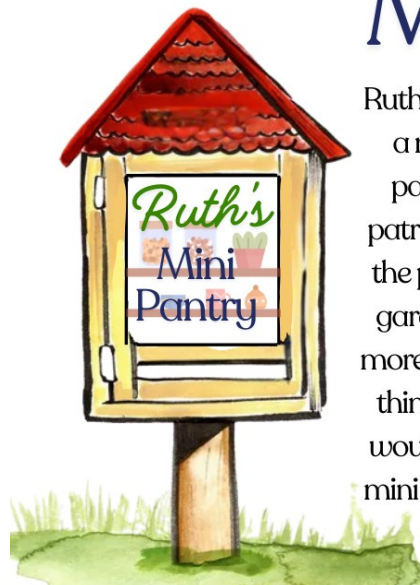
Building & Grounds

The Building and Grounds team (also known as the Property Team) works constantly to keep our Grace building and the surrounding area in the best possible condition.

Technically, the members of the team are tasked with leading projects, not doing all of the work themselves. They mostly don't ask for help. However, the group has some big projects coming up this spring and could use some extra manpower.

If you would like to help, please contact Alissa to let the church know of your availability.

Introducing... *Ruth's* Mini Pantry



Ruth's Pantry is getting a little addition.... a mini pantry! Each month the mini pantry will offer specialty items that patrons wouldn't normally receive from the pantry. Things like, seed packets for gardening, books, school supplies, and more. This will be a fun way to offer extra things to our patrons that they maybe wouldn't have access to otherwise. The mini pantry will officially be open in May so stay tuned for more details!

Grace Lutheran Church of Winchester

www.graceofwinchester@gmail.com

glcw.org

8396 Steeple Hill Drive

Larsen, WI 54947



2025



Grace Historical Dates

11-15-1996 Four new highway church signs installed

1996 Our congregation adopted a new constitution

6-8-1997 The Colorado Blue Spruce planted at the west end of our outdoor worship area is in memory of granddaughter, Amy Elizabeth Peterson, from Earl and Betty Nelson

6-20-1997 Fire started in boiler room burning unit. Mostly smoke. Gas explosion in Winneconne happened at the same time.

5-22-1998 Highway signs redesigned and installed.

6-13-1998 Installed roof over part of the outdoor worship platform.

10-1-1998 Archives room finished.

10-6-1998 Installed new wooden cross in south stairwell.

10-17-1998 1903 corner stone opened. No box found.

10-21-1998 1952 corner stone opened. Found box. Contents examined on Sunday, 10-25-1998.

10-23-1998 Three new toilets installed in lower bathrooms by Olson Plumbing.

11-14-1998 Two corner stones reset by Jay Olson.

—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.

