

# GOOD NEWS FROM GRACE

January 30 & 31, 2016

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday – 5:00 pm Sunday - 8:30 am & 10:45 am

**OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY** go out the families of:

**Stephan “Jethro” Bremer** who died on January 22. Stephan was the husband of Jackie, and father of Chelsea (Joshua) Marten and Stephan (Calli) Bremer Jr. Stephan’s funeral was Sat. (1/30) here at Grace Lutheran. May they be comforted with the hope of eternal life.

**Emil Krueger** who died January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Emil was the father of John (Kari) Krueger, and grandfather of Katherine (John) Hirt, Karen (Chad) Gauerke, and Karolyn (Steve) Schrammel. May they be comforted with the hope of eternal life.

**Dennis Burcalow**, age 45, who died unexpectedly on January 23. Dennis was the son of Bill (Corrine) Burcalow. May they be comforted with the hope of eternal life.

**HAPPY HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY** to Darlene and Red Wurl from their family!!! A donation was made to the automatic door opener fund in celebration of their birthdays.

### FIRST COMMUNION

We celebrate and lift up Chentelle and Riely Geiger, and Nick Arnott, who are receiving their First Communion this weekend!

**THANK YOU** to all of you who have turned in material for the **Lenten Devotional Booklet**. The pieces submitted are truly beautiful, all very well done, and surprisingly varied in nature. Unfortunately, there were too few of you. As of the "deadline" of January 25, exactly half enough pieces were received to cover the days of Lent. However, be patient! The articles received have been typed, adjusted as necessary to fit a consistent format, and will be held until next year, when the invitation to submit material will be repeated prior to Lent 2017. You are invited to submit additional material at that time (or at any time between now and then), and please do encourage others to do so as well. We look forward to having enough material to cover the Season of Lent next year!

**CAMP FOREST SPRINGS annual Winter Community Day trip THIS SUNDAY January 31<sup>st</sup>**. Youth and adults of all ages, come and enjoy a day of downhill skiing, snowboarding, tubing, cross country skiing and ice skating at Camp Forest Springs. Rentals are available for all equipment or bring your own. Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup> is “Help a Neighbor Day” at Camp Forest Springs. Bring a non-perishable food item to help those in need. Don’t like the cold? Neal Lodge offers a game room featuring ping pong, foosball, air hockey and carpet ball. Lodge Café offers a variety of snacks plus hot and cold beverages. We will be leaving from the church at noon.

### COUNCIL MEETING MOVED TO FEBRUARY 4

For this month only the church council will meet on February 4. Copies of the Council Agenda are in the Gathering Area.

### COMPANION BREAKFAST – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Join Us – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Wilderness Companion Breakfast – February 7<sup>th</sup> after the 8:30 AM worship service. Pancakes, French toast, egg bakes, fruit and a whole lot of companionship. The breakfast will be made and served by the 9<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation youth planning for the Wilderness Trip in Absaroka-Beartooth in Montana. Thanks for your support!

### OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE – CROSSWAYS ANNUAL MEETING

Crossways holds their Annual Meeting on February 13, St. Marks, Neenah. Grace may have three voting members.

### LENTEN SOUP MEALS

**HOW can you help?** . . . Please check the SOUP MEAL charts in the Gathering Area and see if you can fill in a blank square. Help in the kitchen? Make soup? Donate an item? Any help you can provide will be greatly appreciated. Please sign up at the table in the Gathering Area and please *include your telephone number*. **A special need is to have Coordinators for the evening meal – please don’t wait – sign up today.** Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a delicious meal. Thank you from the Fellowship Committee.

### SNOW REMOVAL

Grace is in need of more volunteers for snow removal. This includes all the sidewalks around Grace (half a block) and the entry ways into the building. Grace has been blessed that this service has been handled by volunteers. Volunteering can be to cover a week or by day of the week or morning or evening. Call the church office, at (715) 453-4066, Ken Kincaid (715) 612-0992, or Dar Clements (715) 453-5615 with questions or interest.

**CHRISTMAS WITH FRIENDS COMMUNITY DINNER** experienced great success again this year due to the wonderful hearts of all of you in the congregation and community. Fifty-five people came together to help in so many ways to reach out to those people who would have otherwise been alone. We were able to serve about 120 people at church and delivered about 90 dinners out into the community. Thank you to all who prayed for this ministry, donated money, or volunteered time out of your Christmas Day to cook, serve, clean, or deliver. We appreciate all that you did to make this day special and meaningful to so many!

**Romans 1:8** ... *I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you ...* (NLT)

**OFFICE HOURS**—Effective February 5, the church office hours are: Monday – Thursday 8:00 am to 3:30 pm (closed between noon and 1:00 pm), Friday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Monday – Thursday hours remain the same, Friday hours have been changed. The church council approved this change at the January council meeting.

**VIA DE CRISTO – MARCH 17-20, 2016**

Do you feel God calling you to a deeper relationship with Him? Do you want to be energized in your faith life? If so, consider attending the next **Via de Cristo** weekend, **March 17-20, 2016**. Over 35 people from Grace (and others from Tomahawk) have attended this event, and come back with a new vision of how they can make a difference in their environments. The cost of the weekend (all meals and lodging included) is \$75, and a sponsor will drive you to and from Camp Forest Springs near Westboro. The weekend starts Thursday evening after supper and ends Sunday afternoon. Please take a brochure from the welcome wall rack and fill out an application. (Give it to Debbie with your payment or put in VDC mailbox **by February 21**.) Married couples are encouraged to attend together if possible. Scholarships are available-see Pastor Mark. If you have questions, contact Nancy Kind at (715) 612-6034 or check out the website: [www.northernlightvdc.com](http://www.northernlightvdc.com).

**GRACE’S GIFT CATALOG** – An immediate identified need is a riding tractor for snow plowing (mower for the spring). Estimated cost is \$4,500. Donations can be given in memory/honor of someone or a special donation. We all appreciate the work our PPP men do for us. Let’s help give them the tools they need. Thank you

**2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available in the Gathering space. Please take yours home and encourage others who have not picked theirs up to do so. Thank you!

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** have been mailed.

**JANUARY SPECIAL OFFERING—HAVEN**

HAVEN, Inc., located in Merrill, serves victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault, child abuse, stalking, elder abuse, and human trafficking. The services available include a 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter, counseling, support groups, community education, and information and referrals. We are able to shelter six families and have a 24-bed shelter. The length of sheltering depends on each individual’s situation. Funding sources include grants, foundations, and private and corporate donations. We host numerous fundraising events to supplement the budget. Thank you for your support!

<b>Our Financial Picture 2015</b>			
<b>December</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>
Budgeted Expenses per month	\$28,817.07	\$5,977.92	\$34,794.99
Offerings received for month	\$40,653.38	\$5,246.00	\$45,899.38
Actual Budget Expenditures	\$32,426.63	\$5,977.99	\$38,404.62
Surplus (Deficit)	8,226.75	(\$731.99)	\$7,494.76

**Weekly Financial News**  
 General Fund: \$5,802.00  
 Noisy Collection: \$44.59  
 Attendance: 295

<b>Year-to-Date 2015</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>
Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$345,804.86	\$71,735.00	\$417,539.86
Offerings received YTD	\$351,738.18	\$55,265.34	\$407,003.52
Actual Budget Expenditures YTD	\$336,542.13	\$71,734.78	\$408,276.91
Surplus (Deficit) YTD	\$15,196.05	(\$16,469.44)	(\$1,273.39)

**Tomahawk Food Pantry needs:**  
 Pancake Mix - Tomato soup  
 Beef Stew (*in a can*)  
 Cooking Oil  
 Sugar  
 Spam  
 Drop off anytime in the box in the Gathering Space.

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER**—In Ephesians 2:10 the Apostle Paul wrote, *“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”* The word “workmanship” means that we are God’s formed masterpieces. We are His handiwork. God shapes and forms us into His new creations. *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come”* (2 Corinthians 5:17). United with Jesus, we go forward as forgiven, restored, and priceless treasures of God. As new creations, God works through us to fulfill His purposes.

**THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS – ATTENTION THRIVENT ACCOUNT HOLDERS**

If you own a Thrivent account/product you are most likely entitled to Thrivent Choice Dollars. This means you can designate your Choice Dollars to Grace Lutheran or other any registered organization. You may do this online when you log into your Thrivent account or you can call 1-800-547-4836. There is a deadline of March 31<sup>st</sup> to designate your Dollars. Other registered organizations are: Our Sisters’ House, Lincoln Humane Society and more. Just ask the operator to read them to you. **If you choose Grace Lutheran as the recipient of your Dollars** and you would like your Dollars to go to a specific ministry you must call the office and tell us: **1)** the amount of your Dollars, **2)** the ministry you would like your Dollars to go to. When we receive the Dollars from Thrivent it is a lump sum; it is not an itemized list.

**LUTHERLAND TOUR**—The Tomorrow River Conference invites members of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin to participate in a tour of Lutherland, which they are sponsoring. The tour will be July 5-15, 2016, during the “Decade of Luther,” which leads up to the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. The cost is \$3225 per person from Chicago. The reservation deadline is March 1, 2016. Brochures, with full information and a registration form, may be obtained by contacting Rev. Jon Sachs at [jonsachs@charter.net](mailto:jonsachs@charter.net) or (715) 258-9788.



