

GOOD NEWS FROM GRACE

www.gracelutherantomahawk.org

Praising God + Serving Others + Building Friendship

DECEMBER 9 & 10, 2017

WORSHIP SCHEDULE (through Memorial Day)

Sat. – 5:00 pm **Sun.** - 8:30 am - 10:45 am

OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY go out the family of Alice Douglas who died December 3. Alice was the wife of Chuck Douglas. Her funeral was Thursday. May they be comforted with the hope of eternal life.

SINCERE THANKS! The annual Cookie Walk, Lefse, & Craft Sale was once again a complete success. It would not be possible without the many workers, bakers, crafters, donations, cooperation and many other contributions. Stay tuned for final report on profits and distributions. May God bless you all!

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers who worked so hard to make the lefse for the cookie walk! We used 300 lbs. of potatoes and 70 lbs. of flour to make 250 packages of lefse! Thank you also for all the donations of ingredients that were needed for the lefse. You folks always come through! Thank you, thank you! May God bless you now and in the New Year! *Linda Halverson*

DEAR FRIENDS at my favorite place in the world—Grace Lutheran!

This is another thank you from the bottom of my heart for your faithfulness in caring for those of us who have stumbled along the way. I know that I have not missed “mail call” since I’ve been here at Portage County Health Care. I have a couple of cousins who vie for your faithfulness – the rest come straight from Grace. I should have some sort of medical update after Dec. 14. If the docs keep their promise, I’ll pass it along. Once more, I thank all of you for your notes, your kinds words, and especially your prayers. You simply don’t know how much it all means to me. *Jean Huntoon*

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES – St. Mary Catholic Church, 6:00PM, Monday, December 11

Grief can be especially overwhelming this time of year. For health and healing it is important both to attend to our grief and also to encourage and accompany those who have experienced recent loss or continuing to grieve deeply. This ecumenical service is sponsored by Krueger Family Funeral Home with music by Jan Huseby and the Gaedtkes and liturgy and message by Fr. Louis, Rev. Gary Uttech, and Pastor Mark.

CHRISTMAS WORSIP MINISTRIES

Please consider helping with the worship ministries at one of the Christmas services. Your help is very important! You can sign up on the board right outside the church office, call the church office, or you can go to the following website: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094fada72fa2f85-christmas2>

SAVE THIS DATE - DECEMBER 16 - 5:00 PM

The Sunday School children will present their Christmas program on Saturday, December 16 at the 5:00 pm worship! *See the spoiler alert in the upcoming newsletter ☺*

MARTIN LUTHER/REFORMATION BOOKS ARE IN!!!

If you ordered any of the Martin Luther/Reformation 500 books, you can find them in the Library.

QUILT AUCTION – An anonymous donor has donated a beautiful quilt for the Cookie Walk/Craft Sale. This quilt will be displayed in the Gathering Space through December 11 with a sign-up sheet for silent bidding.

Deadline for bidding will be Monday, December 11, 3:30 p.m. The quilt is 71" by 47" and would be a lovely gift for someone - or for yourself!

2018 TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA – July 4-17 Talk to Pastor Mark or Karen Torkelson for current information. Bishop Mansholt is leading this trip for all 125 congregations in our synod. After orientation at the Western Diocese Centre with Bishop Ubane each congregation will spend July 8-15 with their matched parish. Lekubu Parish is Grace’s companion. This is an incredible, immersed experience of faith, life and worship in different culture that provides great insight for seeing our own more clearly. Lekubu and the Western Diocese belong to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Southern Africa.

WILDERNESS TRIP 2018—Planned date for the 2018 Wilderness Trip is Friday, July 21 – Sunday, July 29. The planned destination is the Lake Plateau area of southern Montana. This is a super area for fishing, hiking, mountain climbing and scenery. PLUS Christikon Bible Camp offers a Chalet and programming for OWLs or others who want to come along and be renewed in the mountains. Call the church office to let us know if you are interested.

2018 SPECIAL OFFERING REQUESTS—As you sense God’s call to promote a specific mission at Grace, in Tomahawk, Wisconsin, USA or the world – please consider promoting a Special Monthly Offering at Grace. Pick up a “Special Offering Request Form” from the church office, from our website or the rack in the hallway just off the Gathering Area. In early January, the Grace Lutheran Stewardship Committee will review all requests and assign specific months for Special Offerings. The Church Council receives this Stewardship Committee monthly Special Offering designation in their consent agenda.

DECEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING – GIFT GIVING

During this joyous season of giving, we invite you to consider a gift either to ELCA Good Gifts or locally to Grace. As you search your heart for ways *you* want to give, here are some ideas.

ELCA GOOD GIFTS:

The ELCA Good Gifts catalog offers opportunities to give to a multitude of very important needs and you may give in honor of someone special. Perhaps a perfect gift for someone who has everything.

ELCA Good Gift Catalogs are available in the Gathering Space. You pick what you give: farm animals, fish farm, water wells, filters, irrigation, sending children to school, school supplies, refugee support, blankets, health care, mosquito nets, and others.

GRACE:

There are many ways to give at Grace to a specific cause:

- Grace’s Gift Catalog includes a Security System
- Items are needed to refresh and upgrade our Sunday School rooms (bulletin boards, book cases, shelving, etc.) See details in a separate insert in this bulletin.
- ELW Hymnals – These may be sponsored in honor or memory of someone or an event.
- Grace’s Building Fund – This year we passed the half-way point on the mortgage for our building addition. A gift to the Building Fund will help pay this down sooner.
- Gift to Grace’s General Fund – an additional boost at the end of the year can encourage more ministries for 2018

Please designate where you want your gift to be directed. Any undesignated gifts will be applied to Grace’s General Fund. Thank you for your extravagant generosity.

STEWARDSHIP WEEKLY— Christmas is a time for giving and receiving gifts. After all, Christmas is when God gave the greatest gift you will ever receive: the gift of His Son. While that gift remains uppermost in your mind, you still enjoy receiving and giving other gifts to your family and friends. Sometimes, with limited funds, it’s difficult to make your money stretch so you can give to all you love. Some of the greatest gifts cannot be bought with money. What’s easier: to take \$20.00 to the mall and find a tie for your dad or sit down and ask him what it was like when he was a teenager? What’s easier: to buy your wife a sweater or treat her and your family to a special dinner that you cook? What’s easier: to find the latest toy for your son or daughter or to coach them in soccer in the back yard? Jesus said, *“It is more blessed to give than to receive”* (Acts 20:35).

OUR FINANCIAL PICTURE
2017

	Sept. 2017	Needed for	RECEIPTS	ACTUAL	RECEIPTS
SEPTEMBER	Receipts	Budget	vs BUDGET	SPENDING	vs SPENDING
General Fund	\$30,909	\$31,357	(\$448)	\$30,786	\$123
Building Fund	\$4,852	\$5,076	(\$224)	\$5,076	(\$224)
Total	\$35,761	\$36,433	(\$672)	\$35,862	(\$101)
		YTD		YTD	YTD
YEAR-TO-DATE	Receipts	Needed for	DIFFERENCE	ACTUAL	RECEIPTS
General Fund	\$276,107	\$313,573	(\$37,466)	\$281,996	(\$5,889)
Building Fund	\$49,162	\$50,758	(\$1,596)	\$50,758	(\$1,596)
Total	\$325,269	\$364,331	(\$39,062)	\$332,754	(\$7,485)

Weekly Financial News
<u>General Fund</u> \$12,735.29
<u>Noisy Collection</u> \$60.52
<u>Attendance</u> 252

Dec. 9/10	5:00 pm	8:30 am	10:45 am
Acolytes	Garrett Nelson	Halle Derleth	Haley Liebelt
Greeters	Dan/Kay Salewske	Stromberg Family Pete/Lynn Wurl	Jody/Emily Decker
Readers	Karen Olson	Eric Anderson	Nancy Herbison
Ushers	Ed/Chris Raasch	Brett Beaumier Steve Kahle Bill Erickson John Krueger	Greg/Steve Heikkinen
Nursery		Child of God	Child of God
Assisting Ministers	Mark Gaedtke	Shirley Derleth	Nancy Herbison
Communion Assistants		Whitney Osero Marie Stark	
Projection	Jason Mielke	Brynn Beaumier	Kam Olson
Altar Guild Sara Volz Stephanie Pellitteri Peggy Winter	Counters Jack Lauder Corky Burcalow Julie Dentler	Video Delivery Al Overhaug ----- Organist: 5:00 & 10:45 Marcia Sattelberg	Projection Paula Norman

Dec. 16 & 17	5:00 pm (S.S. X-mas)	8:30 am	10:45 am
Acolytes	Sam Kurth	Cayden Johnson	Eli Mullen
Greeters	Sherry Thompson Dar Clements	Zastrow Family	Mary Wilke
Readers	Nona Arthur	Marie Stark	Jeannie Gudgeon
Ushers	Jeanette Lovsletten Peggy Price	George/Lynn Derleth Jim VanNorman Jack Lauder	Bill Martinson Dan Schuller
Nursery		Child of God	Child of God
Assisting Ministers	Gail Wilson	Paul Kurth	Al Overhaug
Communion Assistants		Megan Marcks Joe Story	
Projection	Sue Mielke	Mike Wick (Karen Torkelson)	Betty Hudson
Altar Guild Sara Volz Stephanie Pellitteri Peggy Winter	Counters Jack Lauder Corky Burcalow Julie Dentler	Video Delivery Nancy Bronsted ----- Organist: Marcia Sattelberg	Projection Karen Torkelson