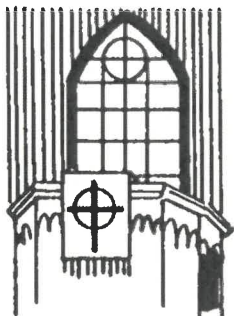


May
2025
Edition

The Lamp

Grace Lutheran Church

Making Christ known to all through Worship, Service, and Fellowship



From the
PASTOR

There is a humorous story about a young woman who went away to college in the fall, leaving her plants and her goldfish in the care of her mother, who had a tendency to be forgetful. Some of us may know somebody with a "brown thumb." This mother had one. The plants that the daughter left behind in the care of her mother died at the end of the month. The mother dutifully broke the bad news to her.

When the young woman called home a week later, her mother informed her that the goldfish had died too. There was a long pause, then in a fearful voice the girl asked, "How's Dad?"

I am aware that this month we celebrate Mother's Day. When I think of mothers and what is celebrated, I come up with the gift of parenting, unconditional love. That love is made known and felt in her caring for not only pets and plants and dad, but the warmth and caring way her love nourishes and cares for her children and family.

That love must often extend beyond just family to friends, neighbors and even strangers. This mothering love can be in many situations, a teaching moment of how we might learn to love. This parenting love from mom, from dad, from grandparents, from a favorite aunt, can and often is a learning opportunity as to how we too may enrich the world with the gifts of love. Christ calls on the "church" to exhibit this love in an inclusive fashion to all God's children.

But where did such love originate? As "Easter People" with a faith view of the empty grave, know it is our creator God, our unconditionally loving heavenly Mother God and heavenly Father God who is the source of such unconditional love. We love because God first loved us.

How grateful we are this month (and perhaps every month) to all mothering figures in our lives that provide for us a vision and inspiration of God's amazing grace.

May you know the power of God's love in your life, and may you faithfully share it,

Pastor Paul



The Red Carpet Corridor Rt 66 Festival is

Saturday May 3rd—9a.m.—4p.m.

Please help!! Be a part of the team covering time slots to work Grace Lutheran's booth at the festival in downtown Wilmington. At the outreach booth, we will have our traditional Grace "fishing" game, face painting, and temporary tattoos and a prayer submission jar. At the roof fundraising booth, we will have make and take kids crafts for sale. Brochures will also be available to pass out to share information about Grace Lutheran and the Preschool. Along side this, will be a booth with "Make it take it " Kid's Crafts and Rt 66 items for purchase with profits supporting the Roof Fund. Time slots for working will be 9-11:30, 11:30-2, and 2-4. If you would like to help us plan and prepare for the event or if you already know which time slot would work best for you, let Paula Webb or Cindy Filas know so that we can get you in. Mark 1:17 - "And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men."

Volunteer slots are still open for adults and middle/high school teens. Contact Paula Webb 815-214-0523 or Cindy Filas at 815-955-6422 to offer your support and help.

Preschool News



The Easter Egg Hunt Event went great!! The weather cooperated and everyone enjoyed it. Thank you to all of you that made donations to help make this event so successful. Also a thank you to everyone that helped fill the eggs. It is greatly appreciated and we couldn't do it without you!

It's hard to believe we are in our last month of school! We are loving the weather and enjoying the playground. This month we are celebrating our Moms with a special day for them.

Our graduation will be on Wednesday, May 22nd at 6:00p.m. Everyone is invited to attend!

We are taking registrations for the upcoming school year. Please pass this along to all your family and friends. Forms are available in the school hallway or in the church office.

Our learning concepts for May are:

Alphabet—Q and review

Colors—black & white

Number- 10

Shape—a review of all of them

Opposites—a review

Value—Kindness

Emphasis this month: Mother's Day, Beach and Summer

RAISING THE ROOF!!

Thanks to your giving, the total raised stands at:

\$6,652.25

Batter Up! Grab your family and friends and join us in a fun, end of the school year event! Game time is 6:35 at SLAMMERS stadium. Grace has a block of seats reserved. This means that as long as you buy through this link, your seats will be near friends and family of Grace. If you would like to be guaranteed a seat next to a friend, be sure to book tickets together. As always, the faster you book your seats, the better choice you get. Grace will receive a portion of each ticket with proceeds going to the roof fund. Follow the link and get your tickets now for an evening you won't want to miss. [Grace Lutheran Church](#)

SHOUT OUT

A big thanks to John and Cindy for repairing the old pews, and putting them back into service!
We appreciate all you do!!

Grace will be holding a rummage sale on June 5th, 6th and 7th to benefit the “Raise the Roof Fund”. Clean out your closets, garages and basements. Get rid of your unwanted items while support Grace!



In Our Prayers

Members: Sharon Folkestad, Arlene Hankins, Cindy Filas, Andy Nielsen, David Kirstein

Home-bound: Norma Siebring (at home), Ruth Chew (at home), Marie Christian (at home), Doris Dickey (Riverside Senior Living, Kankakee), Jean Goodwin (Bickford House, Bourbonnais, Joann House (Sunny Hill, Joliet), John Muday, (Arcadia Care, Morris)

Friends and Family of Grace: Larry Trimby (brother to Susan Trimby), Cynthia Marvollo (great aunt to Christy Ziller), Kathy Schwiesow (sister of Dan Bell), Judy Michael (friend of Grace Lutheran), Harry Bond (friend of Janelle Reents), Sandy Carlson (Pr. Paul's wife), Carrie Francis (friend of Jackie Danalewich), Mary Ellen Webb (sister of John Filas), Al Zlomie Sr. (our custodian), Candy Marshall (Jim Hankins' sister), Sarah (Jean Petersen's granddaughter), Karen (Jean Petersen's daughter), Bobby Schamonski (friend of Grace Lutheran), Robert Cooper (friend of Dan Bell), Jeanie (sister to Bonnie Hill), Linda Wilder (daughter of Marie Christian), Yaniv (grandson of Ruth Chew), April Highbaugh (friend of the Folkestads), Brian (son of Marie Christian), Lucy Cranmer (great granddaughter of Helen Warke), Edward McCarthy (son of Barbara Kirstein), Rita Francis (friend of Jackie D.), Chris Thompson (grandson of JoAnn Thompson), Brenda (daughter of Norma Siebring), John Pick (nephew of Helen Warke), Christopher Warke (son of Helen Warke), Roger Gundersen (son-in-law of Helen Warke), Reese Wyers (granddaughter of Cindy & John Filas), Catherine Conger (daughter of Karen Nielsen), Matt Prodehl (son-in-law of Dan Bell)

Missionary for a Day ~ May 2025

05/01	Jim & Arlene Hankins	In Celebration of Tracy Christensen's Birthday
05/11	Graceful Ladies	In Celebration of Mother's Day
05/19	Gary Gruhn	Forgive as you are forgiven
05/27	Jackie Danalewich	In Celebration of Noah's Birthday
05/30	Kevin & Paula Webb	In Celebration of their Wedding Anniversary

BIRTHDAYS FOR MAY

05/02	Doris Dickey	05/03	Maryann Ricken	05/19	Scott Christian
05/19	Marcia Mandac	05/21	Jackie Danalewich	05/24	Marsha Keller

Anniversaries ~ May 2025

05/30 *Kevin & Paula Webb*