



# THE MESSENGER

A Monthly Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church  
Monroe, Michigan 48162

MARCH 2017

## The Lord's Servants at Grace

### •Church Council

President ..... Bill Sisk

V. President ..... Tony Castiglione

Secretary ..... Prudy Fairchild

Treasurer ..... *Larry Smith*

Finance Chairman ..... George Krueger

Finance Secretary ..... *Sue Sisk*

### Board of Elders

Hal Schmidt, Isac Smith,  
Bryan Weber, Chris Zarecki

### Board of Trustees

Steve Evans, Rod Foshag, John Giarmo,  
Jim Rivet, Don Wigman, Jr., Kristin Zarecki

### Board of Christian Education

Tammy Castiglione, Rosemarie Mikrees,  
Heidi Nolan, Brenda Rivet, Deb Schmidt,

### Board of Evangelism

JoAnne Bunge, Ron Lymond,  
Susan Miller, Mary Webb

### Board of Parish Life

Bev Gessner, Sheila Lambert, Darlene Rililing,  
Lisa Schubargo, Sue Sisk, Ileene Smith

### Board of Youth

Donita Auxter, Kim Kruger, Kate Matthes  
Melissa Roocroft, Lisa Sowatsky, Julie Waldecker

### •Staff

Pastor: Rev. Mark Witte

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Margaret Roebke

Youth Director: Mrs. Sarah Witte

### •Prayer Chain

Rose..... (734) 289-3894

### •Office Hours

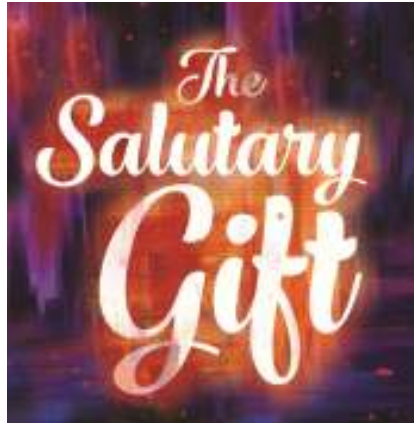
Monday - Thursday.....9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Friday .....9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Phone ..... (734) 242-1401

email: church@gracelutheranmonroe.org

web site: www.gracelutheranmonroe.org



Truly, we as Christians could benefit from spending more time thinking on the gifts given to us in the Lord's Supper. How often does our sinful nature get the best of us and when we contemplate a Sunday morning with Communion the only

thought that comes is "Ah geez, the service is going to be long today."

This Lent season we will prayerfully seek to slow these busy lives down and take time on every Wednesday to contemplate the eternal blessings, which are many, that the Lord has designed and given to us in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. I think your eyes will be opened and your heart pleasantly surprised at the myriad of amazing gifts God has in store for you.

Our worship will be at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. each Wednesday, as usual, and we will invite you to join us for lunch after the 11:00 a.m. services if you are able. In case you're not hooked just yet, I want you to see for yourself just what wonderful themes we will be studying and hearing about in the weeks to come. Here is a brief look at the upcoming schedule:

(Continued on page 3)

## Grace Ladies Society



The Ladies Society will celebrate their 86<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on **Thursday, March 2**, in the Fellowship Hall, with a potluck dinner starting at 12:00 p.m. (noon). All Ladies of Grace are most welcome to join us and each one attending is asked to bring a dish for the potluck. The officers will be hostesses.

Paula from Paula's House will be our speaker. Ladies are asked to bring items for Paula's House. There are copies of the list on the narthex bulletin board. Household items are need and items for the children.

## LWML

Thank you to everyone who donated mite boxes or contributed to Lutheran Women's Missionary League Missions. Your generosity is appreciated.



## March Birthdays

*Friends of Grace celebrating birthdays this month.*

*If yours isn't listed, we may not have it in our records. Contact the Church Office and we will gladly include it.*

***God's blessings and happy birthday!***

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| 1 Anne Schwab-Gensler<br>Larry Simmons           |   | 17 Nina Collum                                       |   |
| 2 Sue Sisk<br>Julie Waldecker<br>Matt Libstorff  | ★ | 18 Deb Ellison<br>Millie Daniels<br>Kayla Lockmiller | ★ |
| 3 Lloyd Sorter<br>Benjamin Miller<br>Doris Karle | ★ | 19 Bill Sisk<br>Kirk Wehner                          |   |
| 4 Marvin McKibben<br>Rhonda Libstorff            |   | 20 Kate Wigman<br>Richard Corns<br>Kelly Castiglione | ★ |
| 5 Kim Sachs, Sr.                                 |   | 21 Marlyn Smith<br>Thor Bartholomew                  |   |
| 7 Gaylord Bayer<br>Robin Schmidt                 | ★ | 22 Andrew Rafko                                      |   |
| 8 Robert Roocroft                                |   | 27 Mark Libstorff                                    |   |
| 11 Daniel Jambor<br>Kellie Moore                 |   | 25 Elizabeth Siterlet                                |   |
| 13 Larry Smith                                   |   | 28 Dawn Witmer                                       |   |
| 15 Dean Castiglione                              | ★ | 30 Lance Schmidt                                     | ★ |
| 16 Andy Wigman<br>Susan Miller                   | ★ | 31 Josh Wehner                                       |   |

## Concordia Choir Ensemble

On **March 5**, at the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services, the Concordia Choir Ensemble will be singing at Grace. The Ensemble will be going on a performance tour to Germany, Poland & Czech Republic in May. A free will offering will be taken



*("A Salutory Gift" continued from page 1)*

Ash Wednesday, March 1

### **Life-Giving Fruit**

This week's topic draws a contrast between the death that resulted from eating the forbidden fruit in the garden and the life that results from eating the fruit of the cross, our Lord's body and blood.

Wednesday, March 8

### **Bread from Heaven**

Just as God gave manna in the wilderness to feed His people, now God has given us the true bread from heaven in His Son Jesus.

Wednesday, March 15

### **Healing Medicine**

This week's topic explores the healing benefits of the Lord's Supper. The prophet Isaiah hinted at this long ago "by His wounds we are healed" (Is. 53:5)

Wednesday, March 22

### **Blest Communion**

This week's topic explores one of the oft-forgotten manifold blessings of the Lord's Supper, and that is the union we have with Christ, with one another, and with the whole company of heaven.

Wednesday, March 29

### **Rest for the Weary**

Rest has been a part of God's creation and order for our lives since He rested on the 7th day. Now we will see in Christ how He has become our Sabbath rest.

Wednesday, April 5

### **Nuptial Feast**

Throughout the Scriptures God's relationship to His people has been depicted in marital terms. We are taught to view the Lord's Supper as a foretaste of the eternal wedding feast to which God has invited us as guests.

## Holy Week Worship Schedule

April 9-Palm Sunday  
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

April 13-Maundy Thursday  
7:00 p.m. - Communion

April 14-Good Friday 1:00 p.m. &  
Tenebrae at 7:30 p.m.

April 16-Easter Sunday  
7:00 & 10:30 a.m.

*-Communion at both services*

*Easter Breakfast "Potluck" (see page 5) will be served after 7:00 a.m. service*

## News about Our Members

January 16-February 15, 2017

### Baptisms

Cody Kraner Jan. 15

### Funerals

Florence Ridner Jan. 23

### Transfers Out

Dawn Breitenbach to St. Paul's  
Lutheran, Hale, MI Jan. 20



## Easter Breakfast “Potluck”

The Board of Parish Life is sponsoring an Easter Breakfast “Potluck” from after the 7:00 a.m. service till 10:00 a.m.

The Board is asking members to bring breakfast or brunch items like egg bakes, french toast bake, coffee cakes, fruit, etc. Coffee and juice will be provided. There will be a sign up sheet in the church office starting March 26.

### Coming Soon

**Grace Youth  
GARAGE SALE  
SATURDAY, APRIL 22  
8 A.M.—1 P.M.**



*Drop-off days: April 18-21  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ~ Gym  
(Assistance provided  
Tues.-Friday, 3-6 p.m.)*

**Early Bird Sale  
Members only!  
Friday, April 21  
6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.**



## Baptism Birthdays

*Friends of Grace celebrating Baptism Birthdays this month. If yours isn't listed, we may not have it in our records. Contact the Church Office and we will gladly include it!*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Rosanne Pritchett<br>Wayne Waldecker<br>Kameron O'Leary | 19 Matthew Berry  |
| 2 Noah Harmon   | 20 Dawn Witmer  |
| 6 Conrad Mutter   | 22 Tammy Castiglione<br>Arnette Gahlau<br>Sue Sisk<br>Emily Miller<br>Jennifer Miller<br>Jennifer Lambert<br>Adam Lambert<br>Olivia Marsai<br>Beverly Gessner |
| 7 Janet Giarmo  | 24 Jaida Graves   |
| 8 Opal Kohler   | 26 Dale Haman<br>Janet Patterson  |
| 9 Diane Kuehnlein<br>Stephanie Simmons                    | 27 Nina Collum  |
| 10 Abbigayle Cunningham                                   | 28 Helen Dowler   |
| 11 Lorri Wehner   | 29 Amanda Sharp<br>Owen Sharp   |
| 12 Jane Kruger<br>Daniel Jambor                           | 30 Anne Schwab-Gensler  |
| 13 Armond Schoof<br>Noah Marsai                           | 31 Elizabeth Siterlet   |
| 17 Julie Waldecker  |   |
| 18 Marvin McKibben<br>Joanna MacKinnon                    |   |

### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations and prayers for Gods' continued blessings on those celebrating anniversaries this month:

- March 5 Wayne & Donna Libstorff
- March 8 Fred A. & Deborah Bastianelli
- March 12 Robert & Donita Auxter (35 years)
- March 13 Gene & Bonnie Swatek



“What God has joined together, let not man separate”

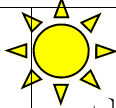
**Grace Lutheran Church**  
**630 N. Monroe St. ~ Monroe, MI 48162**  
**(734) 242-1401**  
**E-mail: church@gracelutheranmonroe.org**  
**www.gracelutheranmonroe.org**

# March 2017

## Grace to You

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>5</b> 8:00 a Worship/Communion 9:15 a S.School/Bible Study 10:30 a Worship 6:00 p Praise Band 7:00 p Demolishing Strongholds	<b>6</b> 1:00 p <i>Ladies Study</i> * 5:00 p Men's BBall 6:00 p Evangelism 7:00 p Advocates 7:00 p Worship 8:00 p IMPACT	<b>7</b> 6:30 p Youth Board 7:00 p SS teachers 7:30 p Trustees	<b>1 Ash Wednesday</b> 11:00 a Worship 12:00 p Luncheon 5:30 p Weekday Schl 6:00 p Cub Scouts 7:00 p Worship 7:00 p Boy Scouts	<b>2</b> 12:00 p Ladies Society 5-7 p Men's BBall 5:45 p Handbells 7:30 p Choir	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>12</b> 8:00 a Worship 9:15 a S.School/Bible Study 10:30 a Worship/Communion 6:00 p Praise Band	<b>13</b> 1:00 p <i>Ladies Study</i> * 5:00 p Men's BBall 7:00 p Worship/Comm 8:00 p IMPACT	<b>14</b> 6:00 p Men's Club	<b>8 Lent 2</b> 11:00 a Worship 12:00 p Luncheon 5:30 p Weekday Schl 6:00 p Parish Life 6:00 p Cub Scouts 7:00 p Worship 7:00 p Boy Scouts	<b>9</b> 5-7 p Men's BBall 5:45 p Handbells 7:30 p Choir	<b>10</b> 7:00 p Super Youth (Gr. 6-8)	<b>11</b> 9:30 a LWML  <i>Daylight Savings Time</i> —set clocks ahead
<b>19</b> 8:00 a Worship/Communion 9:15 a S.School/Bible Study 10:30 a Worship 1-3 p PCM Distribute 6:00 p Praise Band	<b>20</b> 1:00 p <i>Ladies Study</i> * 5:00 p Men's BBall 7:00 p Worship 8:00 p IMPACT	<b>21</b> 7:00 p Church Council	<b>15 Lent 3</b> 11:00 a Worship 12:00 p Luncheon 5:30 p Weekday Schl 6:00 p Cub Scouts 7:00 p Worship	<b>16</b> 5-7 p Men's BBall 5:45 p Handbells 6:30 p Elders 7:30 p Choir	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>26</b> 8:00 a Worship 9:15 a S.School/Bible Study 10:30 a Worship/Comm 6:00 p Praise Band	<b>27</b> 1:00 p <i>Ladies Study</i> * 5:00 p Men's BBall 7:00 p Worship/Comm 8:00 p IMPACT	<b>28</b> 7:00 p Board of Ed	<b>22 Lent 4</b> 11:00 a Worship 12:00 p Luncheon 5:30 p Weekday Schl 6:00 p Cub Scouts 7:00 p Worship	<b>23</b> 5-7 p Men's BBall 5:45 p Handbells 7:30 p Choir	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6:00 p IMPACT Tacky Prom
			<b>29 Lent 5</b> 11:00 a Worship 12:00 p Luncheon 5:30 p Weekday Schl 6:00 p Cub Scouts 7:00 p Worship	<b>30</b> 5:00 p Men's BBall 5:45 p Handbells 7:30 p Choir	<b>31</b>	

Grace Lutheran Church  
630 N. Monroe Street  
Monroe, MI 48162-2935

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ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
MONROE, MI

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Requested delivery date: February 27, 2017

*Please help us save mailing costs by  
notifying us of address changes.*

**Lenten Services  
starting March 1:  
Wednesdays  
at 11:00 a.m. &  
7:00 p.m.**

To guarantee articles for "The Messenger" can be included, please have them into the Church Office by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month at noon.



# THE MESSENGER

A Monthly Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church

630 N. Monroe Street \* Monroe, MI 48162 \* (734) 242-1401

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CONCORDIA CHOIR, LWML
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MEMBERS
- 4 BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS, EASTER BREAKFAST,  
GARAGE SALE, MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- MARCH 1 ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES W/COMM.  
MARCH 11 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS  
MARCH 25 TACKY PROM

## WORSHIP SERVICES

- SUNDAY 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.  
MONDAY 7:00 P.M.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

- SUNDAY 9:15 A.M.

Online calendar available at [www.gracelutheranmonroe.org](http://www.gracelutheranmonroe.org). Click on the link to Grace Lutheran Church calendar.