

**February 2024**



# GRACE MESSENGER

## WORSHIP:

*Sunday— 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.*

*Monday —7:00 p.m.*

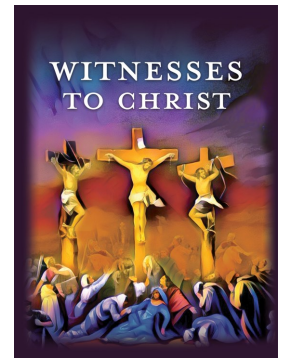
*Sunday School & Bible Study—9:15 a.m.*

## PASTOR WITTES' MESSAGE

In January 2024 we have been spending time in our Sunday morning Bible Study on the topic of “Witness”. Our Evangelism team has been doing a wonderful job leading a study called “Every One His Witness” which seeks to accomplish exactly what the title says. That every one of us would be witness to Jesus Christ and the good news of His love for us.

It only seemed fitting to continue this theme of witness into our Lenten series for 2024. This series will cover the topic of witness from the perspective of those who encountered Jesus face-to-face throughout his life and ministry. We will hear the eyewitness accounts of their witness. The series will focus especially on those witness accounts from the gospel of St. John. The ultimate goal will be as John himself writes in chapter 20 of his gospel, “that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name. (Jn 20:30-31)”

John’s Gospel does an especially good job painting for us the picture of Jesus as the Son of God on His path to the cross. John gives us a deeper look at the Passion (suffering) of Jesus than any of the other gospel writers. This series will give us a diverse set of witnesses from familiar and less familiar individuals who encountered Jesus. We will hear from close followers of Jesus like Peter and Mary Magdalene. We will hear from the betrayer of Jesus in Judas Iscariot. We will even hear from some of the so-called villains including Barabbas and Pontius Pilate.



## “IN THE BEGINNING”

*(Continued on page 2)*

Grace is planning a trip to Kentucky to tour the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter on **April 20th & 21st**. The trip includes bus transportation, overnight stay, and entrance to both attractions. We reserved a block of rooms, but individual will make their own hotel reservations. We would leave early Saturday and return Sunday evening. At this stage, we are asking for those families interested to sign up in the narthex or with Sarah. A deposit of \$25/person will be due February 26th to Sarah. If you have any questions, please speak with a member of the committee: Sarah Witte, Ike Smith, Chris Zarecki, Kristin Zarecki, Kris Crammond, and Dawn Rafko.



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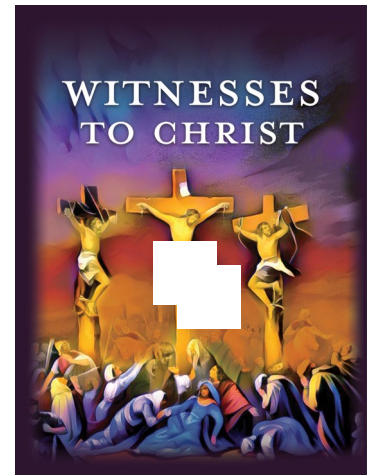
During such an important time of year like the season of Lent would you consider joining us for these extra worship opportunities. I think you will find that the joy of Easter will be all the more genuine and amazing when this time is spent with the Lord and the witnesses of His passion in the weeks of Lent that come before.

The Lent services will be every Wednesday at 11am and 7pm. Lunch will be served following the 11am services. Below you'll see the themes of each special service:

- Feb. 14 (Ash Wednesday)**     *John the Baptist*
- Feb. 21 (Midweek)**             *Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha*
- Feb. 28 (Midweek)**             *Malchus*
- Mar. 6 (Midweek)**                *Peter*
- Mar. 13 (Midweek)**              *Barabbas*
- Mar. 20 (Midweek)**              *Pontius Pilate*

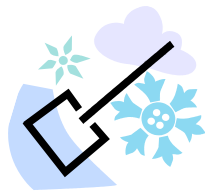
### Holy Week

- Mar. 28 (Maundy Thursday) (7pm)**     *Judas Iscariot*
- Mar. 29 (Good Friday)(1p/7:30pm)**     *John the Gospel Writer*
- Mar. 31 (Easter Sunday)(7a/10:30a)**     *Mary Magdalene*



## WINTER WEATHER

If Monroe Public Schools is cancelled due to weather, Weekday School, Ladies Society, and Thursday Bible Study will not meet. Other groups and Church Boards should check with their leaders during any weather event to see if their meetings are still on. If the office is closed due to weather a notice will be posted on the Grace Facebook page or the church website. The office will be working remotely on those days.



## ONLINE GIVING

Please help us grow through electronic giving. Giving online is fast, easy, and secure. Never worry about bringing your checkbook or cash again—you can set up recurring payments, so your donations continue even when you forget or are on vacation.

1. Visit our website at: [www.gracelutheranmonroe.org](http://www.gracelutheranmonroe.org)
2. Locate the Give Online button.
3. Donate

To learn more about giving online or through our GivePlus mobile app, contact our church office.

## LENTEN LUNCHES

Lenten Worship this year will be *Wed., February 14 to March 20* and we are looking for volunteers to help prepare one of the six Lenten Lunches. We are still looking for anyone/group who might be interested in helping with a meal on *February 21, March 6* and/or *March 13*. The lunch is immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. It is a good time to enjoy fellowship with your church family. The meal should be something simple that would take a small amount of time to put together so that the workers would be able to join in the worship service. For example, the lunch could be sloppy joes, sandwiches & chips, soups, anything that you and your group would like to put together.

If you have a group of friends and would like to help with one of the luncheons, your help would be greatly appreciated. There is a sign-up sheet in the church office, if you would wish to help with a meal(s). If you have any questions, please contact Margaret in the church office at [mroebke@gracelutheranmonroe.org](mailto:mroebke@gracelutheranmonroe.org) or call the church office at 734-242-1401.



## SAVE THE DATE

The Ladies of Grace and guests are cordially invited to the Spring Tea!

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for a lovely afternoon on

**Saturday, April 13th** from **1:00 pm-3:00 pm** in the gym.



## BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday Morning Bible Study starting at 9:15 am

Sunday School Sunday School meets at 9:15 am. Preschool- 5th grade meet in the Fellowship Hall, 6th thru 12th grade meet in the Youth Room.

Thursday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:30 am in the Classroom. Will meet through March 7, then will resume on April 11.

## EASTER EGG HUNT

The annual egg hunt sponsored by IMPACT will be held Saturday, March 30, at 10:00 a.m. Children 0-6th grade are welcome to hunt eggs. Join us for games, devotions and everyone's favorite eggs!



## PRAYER CHAIN



Have a prayer concern?

Please contact Kristin Zarecki at (734) 770-6743 or [czarecki@comcast.net](mailto:czarecki@comcast.net) with prayers concerns or to be added to the chain.

## News about Our Members

November 16, 2023-February 7, 2024

### Profession of Faith:

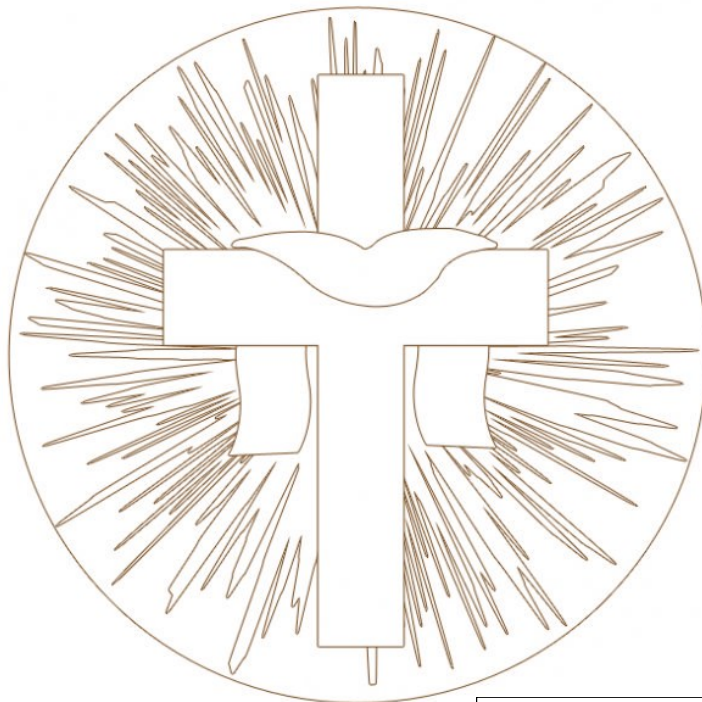
Carl Duetscher Feb. 4

### Funeral:

Arthur Miller Feb. 6



# February 2024



*Please help us by notifying us of address,  
phone number or email changes.  
Thank you.*



Proclaiming God's  
*Grace* through faith  
and love.

## **GRACE'S UPCOMING EVENTS:**

February 14, 21, 28 and March 6, 13, 20 ~  
Lenten Services (11 a.m. & 7 p.m.)

February 24—Movie Night  
“Showing Me the Father” (6:00 p.m.)

March 9—Impact Youth Trivia Night

March 28—Maundy Thursday Service  
w/ communion (7:00 p.m.)

March 29 ~ Good Friday (1:00 p.m.)

March 29 ~ Tenebrae (7:30 p.m.)

March 30—Easter Egg Hunt (10:00 a.m.)

March 31—Easter w/communion  
(7:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.)

March 31—Easter breakfast  
(between services)