November 2016

The Courier

GRACE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
"Called To Share God's Grace"
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Thanksgiving Community Meal

Grace Presbyterian Church, a partner in the Beaver Dam Community Meal Coalition, will be sharing the spirit of Thanksgiving through home delivery of free, fully-prepared turkey dinners to families and individuals in the Beaver Dam community. Meals will be delivered between 11:00 A.M. and 12:15 P.M. on Thanksgiving Day, November 24. Meals will be provided to individuals usually served by Meals -on-Wheels (meals are not provided by this service on Thanksgiving Day), residents of PAVE, the Dodge County Homeless Shelter, individuals/families who access the Beaver Dam Food Bank, and families who have attended the bimonthly Coalition meals. It is anticipated that over 300 meals will be served!

Beacon of Grace Fund for Thanksgiving Meal Mission Needs Support

The Beaver Dam community has this great resource that serves those in need with a meal on Thanksgiving. Many lives have been touched by this mission of Grace Presbyterian Church over the past few years - both those who receive and those who provide. Few opportunities exist such as this to share God's grace and the blessings that we all have received, with those less fortunate in our local community. Since we believe that this mission opportunity is vital to both the community AND the spiritual growth of our members, we are appealing to you directly for contributions to the *Beacon of Grace* fund which helps finance the Thanksgiving meal. Please prayerfully consider making a contribution to the *Beacon of Grace* fund that does so much to directly help your local community. Every gift is appreciated and no amount is too small to make a difference. Help make this Thanksgiving season a time of sharing the bounty that we've been given. Thank you!

Each month I try to reflect upon the many ways I've witnessed God's presence within the Grace community.

Our recent Outdoor Worship and Communion Service on September 21 was moved indoors. This was due in large part to stormy weather. What intrigued me was that folks still attended. Even though the number of worshippers was small, God still called us together. We checked in with each other, we listened to God's still and quiet voice and we celebrated around the communion table. I believe there is a hunger to worship together. I also believe there is a desire to worship aside from Sunday evenings. As a result, the Worship Committee of Grace Church is extending the Outdoor Worship and Communion service to year round. Rather than calling this service an outdoor service we are calling it 3rd WEDNESDAY WORSHIP. We will gather at 6:00 in the Chapel and end at 6:30. God has been promoting this service. What we've been waiting for is the right time!

On September 27th, Ruth Meylink, Peg Stousland, and a guest joined me in attending the annual Meeting of the Presbytery of Milwaukee which was held at the Milwaukee Art Museum. Nadia Bolz Weber was the keynote speaker. To say the least, she is a presence! Rev. Bolz-Weber is adorned with various tattoos and a punk style hair-cut. She even wore jeans and a jean jacket!!! Her presentation is salty! Yet, her message was spot on and inspiring. Bolz-Weber encouraged those listening to dream about the future of both our own journeys of faith as well as our congregations. Her presentation was entitled, "What are you looking for?" After a wonderful meal in which I spoke with our mission liaison to Ghana, we were led in worship and communion. I smiled as we struggled our way through communion by intinction - we didn't know when to go or which station to be served from! Kinda sounds like our communion Sundays! God spoke to me that day! Spending time with Ruth and Peg was wonderful in that we smiled frequently. I enjoyed catching up with colleagues and friends. I welcomed a firm handshake from Rev. Gary Kammerling - former pastor here at Grace! My soul was nourished.

On October 1, I experienced a first in my ministry! I was asked to bless two new pieces of equipment to the fleet of the Beaver Dam Fire Department. After a short presentation, I was invited to pray over the new equipment. Along with praying, I had those in attendance lay hands upon the vehicles. Upon completing the prayer, we then "wet down" or blessed with fire hoses the new ambulance and the new brush truck! The cherry on the top, was when each engine truck "blew" its siren! What a sight and what sounds!

And finally, God's presence has been very real and very tangible by the volunteer work completed by our elders and deacons! I am humbled by the tireless hours each of these folks devote to our church. I am humbled when they give up time after a long day at work to attend meetings or events at church. We are the body of Christ - each and every one of us - yet these leaders are truly the hands, feet and heart of the living Christ! Friends, God is so present and so very tangible! Be still and seek God's presence!

May God's peace be with you all!
Pr Chris Davis

New Members Class – Still time to be part of the class!

Become Part of Our Church Family

If you are interested in joining Grace Presbyterian Church, or know of someone that may be interested, mark your calendar for **Thursday, November 3rd from 6-7p.m.** for a new members class. Come and learn more about what it means to be a member of the Grace Presbyterian Church Family. Contact Jennifer Smith at 920-210-9986 or Therese at 920-356-9806 if you're interested or have questions. We look forward to seeing you there.

BUILDING CAMBODIA, INC.

Ruth Meylink & Pat Lyon's Mission Trip to Cambodia: – Can you help?

Cambodia First Aid and Personal Hygiene Supplies
Needed by November 6 (the last Sunday before we leave).

- Neosporin or Bacitracin 1 oz. container (a healing antibacterial salve)
- 50-100 tablets of acetaminophen, 500 mg. original container, trial/travel size or small size
- 20 Pepto-Bismol tablets (in original vacuum sealed wrap)
- dressing sponges, 4"x4" and gauze pads, 3"x3"
- adhesive bandages - band aids of various sizes, mostly 3/4" and 1" widths.
- roll of first aid waterproof tape, 1/2" or 1" wide, length 5 yards minimum
- small scissors with blunt end, like for young child
- tweezers
- disposable latex gloves
- toothbrushes & toothpaste (trial/travel size paste), dental floss
- Shampoo, trial/travel size, bar soap, travel or small size
- body/hand lotion, trail/travel size
- bath/body gel, trial/travel size

These items are given to churches and primary schools. Thank you!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

BOOK CLUB

SECOND TUESDAY BOOK CLUB will meet Tuesday, November 8th at 9 AM. We will discuss the book, *Waiting for Snow in Havana* by Carlos Eire. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Ann Peck.

Future titles are:
December - *Greek Treasure* by Irving Stone
January - *Without You There is No Us* by Suki Kim
February - *The Lady with An Ostrich Feather Fan* by Frederick R. Andresen
For more information, call Ann Peck.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER (Meditation) meets Wednesday mornings from 8:45-9:45 in the chapel. Join this group that meets to nurture and sustain spiritual vitality in contemporary life. New faces are always welcome.

THANK YOU

to Scott Miller and Family for hosting another wonderful Hayride! We enjoyed an amazing sunset adventure on your farm! Additional thanks to Ann Walter & Family for the Hot Dogs & Hot Cocoa and to the Youth Ministry Committee for planning a successful event for Grace Youth, Families, & Friends!

THE GIVING TREE will be up again this year,

starting 11/20 (in time for your Black Friday shopping deals!). If you choose to donate gifts to families in need, please drop them off to Grace (unwrapped) by 12/18. We will gather to wrap the gifts together on 12/18 following Worship in the Social Hall. Gift cards purchased through SCRIP are encouraged!

Deacon Request

The Deacons would like to help members Bryan and Stacy Beaudry (Bryan has ALS and Stacy works full time and takes care of Bryan) by making some meals for them. Here is a meal train website where you can sign up to help them. https://mealtrain.com/w7r7wq If you have questions or need help, please call Brenda Propst, at 920-296-4360.

Mission News

For the month of November, **PAVE** wishes for **toilet paper, hand soap, disinfecting wipes.**

Beaver Dam Food Pantry - Non-perishable and unexpired food items including canned goods, boxed meals, e.g., macaroni and cheese, Hamburger Helper, canned and boxed juices, baking items and pancake mixes.

PAVE and Food Pantry bins are located next to the main parking lot entrance at the Church.

Property News - We have been busy with several projects recently and are continuing to look at making Grace maintenance free. We have had our kitchen professionally cleaned so let's try and keep it that way. All users can help. We have several projects that hopefully can be completed this fall, finish the roofing on the eastern portion, as well as soffit and fascia to the exterior wood surfaces. Since the burglary we have had the door locks replaced, rekeyed and had office doors repaired (metal guards). We will be having new doors installed at the parking lot entrance to match the narthex doors.

Mark Your Calendars for Grace Blood Drive, November 3, 2016

GIVE Blood

The BloodCenter of Wisconsin (BCW) invites you to give a gift of health and life to families and friends in Dodge County at the Grace Church Blood Drive, Thursday, November 3, 1 PM-6 PM in the Social Hall. Please consider donating blood and/or volunteering to assist in:

- greeting and registration
- snack service
- dropping off a dozen cookies or bars in the kitchen before noon on November 3

Blood donated to BCW serves area patients in providing 100 plus units of blood every month at the Beaver Dam, Waupun and Watertown hospitals. To make an appointment to donate, or if you have any questions, please call 877-BE-A-HERO (877-232-4376). Or, you may register to donate online at www.bcw.edu/GraceBD. Walk-in donors are always welcome. If you are able to volunteer as a Grace greeter, snack server or goodie baker, please sign up in the Church office or contact Patrice Vossekuil, 920/858-9468, pvossekuil@iirp.edu, or Penny Pohle, 608/963-7527, pohlefam@charter.net

Quarter Auction

Friday November 4th @ Grace Presbyterian Church

Auctions start at 6:30p, Doors open at 5:45pm

Come and help raise money for a worthy cause while enjoying a fun-filled event!
Invite your friends! Something for everyone!
Bring a roll of quarters and bid 1 to 5 quarters on a wide variety of items.

Vendors: *Origami Owl, L'Bri, Magnolia & Vine, Avon, Paparazzi, Woodworking, Jewelry in a Candle, Quilters, Norwex, Young Living Essential Oils, Thirty One, Pampered Chef, possibly Wildtree.* Questions, please contact Julie Roberts, cell: 920-210-7434 (call or text).

Quarter Auction Tentative Schedule:

The time line:
4:30 doors open for vendors
5:45 doors open for public to get paddles and shop vendors
6:30 Auctions start
7:45 break to shop and get a snack
8pm start second round of auctions

At the end of Auctions, you will be able to Shop Vendors, ask Questions, etc.
This is a great way to get some Christmas Shopping done, all in one place! ☺

A portion of the funds will be going towards the Grace Church outdoor play area.

Grace Sponsored Thanksgiving Meal Needs Volunteers!

Watch for Signup Sheets in the Narthex in November

Volunteers are needed to assist with this event in food preparation (November 22 & 23) and delivery (on Thanksgiving Day). If you are not able to help with preparation or delivery we would be happy to accept donations of money or food items. Please contact Helen Glewen at 920-887-2547 if you are interested in helping with this holiday meal, or sign up in the narthex.

*Needed:

- ✓ Turkey preparation and deboning
- ✓ Pumpkin pies
- ✓ Potatoes peeled
- ✓ Food package assemblers
- ✓ Delivery people
- ✓ Cleanup crew

"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." Colossians 3:17

After assembling and delivering meals we will share a special dinner together as volunteers and church family. If you would like to join us for dinner please sign up in the church office. Please plan on bringing an item to share for the meal if you plan on attending. Looking forward to spending this special time together!

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." Matthew 18:20

Please save your Rechek's turkey points for the Thanksgiving Meal! They can be turned in to the church office.

Grace frequently uses images from church activities and events on our website, Facebook page, in the newsletter, and for promotional purposes. If you do not wish for us to use your image please contact the office.

INCOME & EXPENSES:

	September - Income		September – Expenses
Offering Envelopes	$ 16,225.00	Missions	$ 700.04
Loose Offerings	$ 337.00	Session	$ 377.38
Per Capita	$ 0.00	Worship	$ 1,701.88
Interest	$ 0.00	Christian Education	$ 3,382.05
Housing Allowance	$ 500.00	Administration	$ 6,403.63
Building Rental	$ 300.00	Property	$ 2,066.99
Fellowship	$ 48.00	Deacon	$ 14.01
Peace Making	$ 150.00	Pastoral	$ 7,135.06
Interest	$ 6.26		
TOTAL INCOME	**$ 17,566.26**	**EXPENSES**	**$21,781.04**

Stewardship is a rewarding way of life in which your personal relationship with Jesus is enriched and deepened every day.

Scrip Profit Report

Support our church throughout the year!

January	$ 408.10	April	$390.89	July	$97.21
March	$276.28	May	$338.64	August	$138.26
February	$ 395.67	June	$289.06	Sept.	$303.92

We encourage families to shop with Scrip and help support Grace Presbyterian Church in the process.

Everyone needs gas and groceries, why not order a Scrip card to use for these purchases? There are many local and non-local businesses that offer Scrip, so check out our Scrip order form at church or on-line on our web page www.bdgracechurch.org.

Thank you to all who support Grace Presbyterian Church by purchasing Scrip!

You're invited!

You are invited to join the members and friends of Grace Presbyterian Church who are **"Called to Share God's Grace"**

We have **35%** returned leaving **65%** still out.

The 2017 Time & Talent and Pledge cards were mailed out last month. The Stewardship Committee is inviting you to join us by giving of your time, talents and your financial resources to Grace Church. If you have not pledged in the past – Now is the time to do so!

Please fill out and return your Time & Talent sheet and pledge cards to the church today!

An easy way to fulfill your financial pledge is to sign up for our "Direct Contribution Plan". Please call the church office and ask for our bookkeeper, Paula Bartelt, to get started.

Thank you to those who have already returned your Pledge and Time & Talent Sheets!

stewardship

Why Pledge?

Pledging gives the church a priority in our lives. It is part of our covenant of faith. Since, as Christians, we believe that God gave us the greatest gift possible in God's Son, Jesus, our response to God should be first, not last.

Making a commitment in the form of a pledge helps us to be regular and systematic in our giving and lets our congregation know that it can count on our financial support barring any unusual circumstances. Our commitment becomes planned and not just a part of what is left over after all our other pledges have been met.

All Saints Day, November 1

For All Saints Day, we remember members and friends of Grace Church that have passed since last year at this time:

(* denotes member of Grace)

*Ernestine W. Kindy	Nov. 29, 2015	*Darlene Schmitt	Apr. 22, 2016
*Veda M. Frinak	Dec. 10, 2015	*Joyce Crinion	Apr. 22, 2016
*Faye M. Schultz	Dec. 19, 2015	*Barbara L. Oakford	May 6, 2016
*Charlotte L. Reifsnider	Mar. 20, 2016	*Buehl Cuff	June 11, 2016
*Sylvia L. Lifke	Mar. 25, 2016	*Jean Sheskey	July 25, 2016
Twyilla J. Young	Apr. 16, 2016	Richard Martin	Aug. 27, 2016

Memorial Gifts consisted of: Memorial donations toward the Sanctuary Renovation Fund, Sanctuary Roof, Music Fund, Olson Scholarship Fund, Margaret Propst Scholarship Fund, undesignated monetary gifts. Grace Presbyterian Church is grateful for all these memorials in honor and memory of loved ones.

November Birthdays

1 - Sandy Hautamaki
3 - Susie Cloyd
4 – Jana Adams
5 – Ethan Hilliard
8 – Trudy Miller
10 – Carol Hicks, Shannon Johnson
11 – Darlene Welch
12 – Kyle Gebhardt, James Schreiber
13 – Mark Braun, Russ Krause, Sue Reifsnider
15 – Al Hamilton
16 – Nathan Uhrich
17 – Libby Bilke
18 – Fred Bird, Scott Grenon
20 – Matt Noordhof, Katherine Schneider
21 – Cameran Schraufnagel
24 – Calvin Wernimont
27 – Henry Fairman, Craig Ganske, Collin Kikkert
28 – Gail Kastein

If your birthday is not listed here, please let us know and we'll include it next time!

BLOOD DRIVE

Beaver Dam Community Blood Drive

Sponsored by: Grace Presbyterian Church

Thursday, November 3
1:00 pm–6:00 pm

Location: Grace Presbyterian Church:
215 Gould St., Beaver Dam

Call 877-232-4376 or visit bcw.edu/GraceBD to make an appointment.

Refreshments provided.
Appointments encouraged.

bcw.edu
Please bring a photo ID with your birth date

facebook/bloodcenterofwisconsin
twitter/bloodcenterwi

#ImAHero
Post your selfie on BloodCenter of Wisconsin's facebook page or twitter with #ImAHero

Be a Hero, Donate Blood

BLOODCENTER of WISCONSIN™
PART OF VERSITI

Next Courier: **Deadline for articles is Monday November 21st, for the December newsletter.**

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER

Mon				Fri	Sat
		1 All Saints' Day 9:00a Mom's Group 9:30a Senior Coffee	**2** 8:45a Meditation 5:30p Stewardship Committee	**3** **1 – 6p Blood Drive at Grace** 7:00p Choir Rehearsal **6-7p New Members Class** 6:30p Quarter Auction Prep	**4** Quarter Auction 5:45p Doors Open 6:30p Auction Starts Office Closed	**5**
6 Daylight SAVING Time Ends 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship – Communion 10:30a Christian Ed	**7** 6:00p Worship Committee Scholarship Committee Meeting	**8** 9:00a 2nd Tuesday Book Club 9:00a Mom's Group 9:30a Senior Coffee *Election Day*	**9** 8:45a Meditation 6:00p Session	**10** 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	**11** VETERANS DAY Office Closed	**12**
13 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 10:30a Christian Ed	**14** 6:30p Deacon Meeting	**15** 9:00a Mom's Group 9:30a Senior Coffee 6:00p Personnel Committee	**16** 8:45a Meditation 6:00-6:30p Worship & Communion	**17** 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	**18** Office Closed	**19**
20 8:30a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship – *New Members Received* 10:30a Christian Ed *Begin Giving Tree Project*	**21** **Newsletter deadline** 1:30p Hillside Manor Communion	**22** 9:00a Mom's Group 9:30a Senior Coffee	**23** 8:45a Meditation	**24** Thanksgiving DAY **Community Meal** Office Closed	**25** Office Closed	**26**
27 1st Sunday of Advent No Choir 9:30a Worship 10:30a Christian Ed	**28**	**Courier** **29** 9:00a Mom's Group 9:30a Senior Coffee	**30** 8:45a Meditation			2016