

February 2020

The Courier



"Called To Share God's Grace"
215 Gould Street
Beaver Dam, WI 53916
Phone 920/885-3198 • Fax 920/885-3899
www.bdggracechurch.org
Facebook: Grace Church Beaver Dam

▶ Volume 118, Issue 1



CONFIRMED *In Faith*

Big Questions Big God. This was the new curriculum that guided the Confirmation class of 2019/20. Between the months of September through January, we explored the questions asked of those publicly professing faith as Confirmands. "Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its powers in the world?" "Who is your Lord and Savior?" "Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?" "Will you devote yourself to the church's

teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and the prayers?" Our conversations were rich and meaningful, or at least I felt they were!

Within our first meeting - I spoke directly to the young people, "If you are here because your parents are pushing you...have a conversation with them and share your feelings about the process." In other words, I view confirmation as a personal act supported by the congregation. Confirmation is just that, confirming your faith - not your parents faith.



The typical class was structured with a meal - to foster fellowship, a review of previous discussions - to jog memory and emphasize points, overview of theme followed by small group discussion - to provide intimacy and a less threatening environment. If time allowed, which never happened, we would play a fun game, again, just to build community. All that we did had purpose and meaning!

Our class began with 9 students, at the end 7 confirmed their faith. Those who confirmed their faith were Emily Doege, Benjamin Eilbes, Taytum Roberts, Carley Schraufnagel, Oliver Shier, Dana Skare, and Ryan Tietz. Those who acted as mentors were Katie Doege, Todd Dahl, and Jacqueline Davis.

(continued)



What impressed me was the depth at which the young people were willing to go. Those who served as mentors provided a safe environment to allow for such depth. I have great hope that these young people will live into the vows they took and the promises they made. I also have hope that you as a congregation will live into your vows as well-remember that you promised to continue to guide and nurture these young people in their journey of faith.

Unfortunately, the next opportunity for a young person to participate in the Confirmation process will be in two years. Currently, there are no 7th graders to advance into the process.

Peace,
Pr Chris



February 26, 7:00pm

Ash Wednesday. Have you ever wondered what this holy day really is all about? Well, here is a brief excerpt from the PCUSA website. Hope this makes sense and helps in your understanding.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent with a public act of confession and contrition. Acknowledging that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, we stand in solidarity as fellow creatures before our Creator, acutely aware of our mortality. In the face of our transience, we pledge ourselves anew to live unto God's Word in Jesus Christ, the eternal Word that remains forever.

Historically, Ash Wednesday was a time when penitents were presented for church discipline during Lent, culminating in reconciliation on Maundy Thursday. In some traditions, Ash Wednesday is a fast day, beginning the Lenten time of fasting and preparation for the Great Three Days that culminate in Easter.

Join us for worship on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 @ 7:00 pm. We will listen to readings - make time for silence - and receive the imposition of ashes. All are welcome!



Congratulations to member **Mariana Skare** and Joshua Fredericks on the birth of their daughter Teagan Rose, granddaughter of members **Mark and Diana Skare**.

Our Christmas Missions

YOU helped make a difference! Thank You Grace Church!

Update: We were able to purchase a cow for Kenya & a water irrigation system for Nigeria!



A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in the Advent projects in December. The Reverse Advent Calendar resulted in a donation of **1434 pounds of food** to the Dodge County Food Pantry. The pantry was very grateful for our donation to help our families in need. The congregational match for the Cow/Water project far exceeded its goal by raising **\$1,380!** Again, **THANK YOU members of Grace Church for your generosity!**



The Second Tuesday Book club meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9 AM in the conference room at church. For more information, call Ann Peck.

Feb. selection: *Have You Seen Luis Velez* by Catherine Ryan Hyde. The book is a heart-warming tale about two strangers who discover kindness can overcome fear.

Mar. selection: *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger. During the Great Depression, four boys from a school where Native American children are forced to be educated, run away and find their way in the world.

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.



Attention Middle-High School Students and Families!

Mark your Calendars for a Visit to the Dodge County Humane Society and Bring-a-Friend Bowling Party!

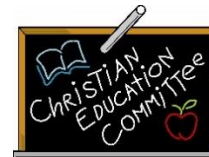


Middle-High School youth will visit Dodge County Humane Society (DCHS) **February 1 at 1 p.m.**, to learn about needs of shelter animals and meet with them and staff! A donation drive at Grace will take place **February 2-21** with delivery of donations and Bring-a-Friend Bowling Party at Tower Lanes, **February 22** (at no charge). We are also looking for drivers on February 1 and 22 to head from Grace to the DCHS.

Please contact Patrice at cedirector@bdgracechurch.org, 920-858-9468 if you plan to attend or are able to drive for either/both visits and Bowling Party.



Please join your Christian Education Committee as Subcommittee Members



As we look forward to an exciting new year for our Christian Education programs and special events, we are presently seeking subcommittee members in parent advisory and youth and adult Christian education. For more info, contact Patrice at 920-858-9468; cedirector@bdgracechurch.org.

Next CE Committee Meeting: February 4 at 4:15 p.m., in the Conference Room.

Come Share a Special Presentation from Michelle Miller!

Sunday, February 9 following worship

Michelle will share her experiences and answer questions as she recently returned from Mozambique, serving with the Peace Corps. A Grace Church no-miss for youth and adults!



FAT TUESDAY POTLUCK

(ON A SUNDAY!)

Come join us for a
"FAT TUESDAY"

Style brunch Potluck, Sunday February 23

Come join in the Fun & Fellowship of Mardi Gras at Grace Church. Fellowship Committee will provide the pancakes, syrup, beverages, and King cake.

Open to everyone!

Bring a dish to pass and join in the fun!!!!



Beaver Dam United Family Ministry, Feb. 12, 6 p.m. at St. Katharine Drexel School Gymnasium

As a coalition consisting of Grace Church, Trinity Methodist, First Lutheran and St. Katharine's, the first of a series of family-focused presentations will take place February 12, 6 p.m., with Patrice presenting on child-family conflict prevention and resolution.

Gracie's Closet & Second Harvest Food Pantry: Saturday February 8



Gracie's Closet is open to the public 8:30-11:00 a.m., at the east end room in the CE wing featuring our winter/spring selection of no-cost clothing. Second Harvest food distribution is managed at Moraine Park Technical College 8:00-11:00 a.m. Volunteers at

both sites always welcome! ***Donations of spring clothing for all sizes and ages very much appreciated.***

February Community Meals Mondays, February 3 and 17, 5-6 p.m. at the Watermark



Community
Meal
Coalition

Join Beaver Dam-area friends and neighbors of all ages in this time of friendship, fellowship and yummy home-made food!

Help Support Our Missions

PAVE Wish List: For the month of **February**, PAVE wishes for face cloths & towel, combs & brushes, makeup, paper towels.

Beaver Dam Food Pantry welcomes donations of non-perishable food items for our community friends and neighbors in need.

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

WINE AT 5 ANYONE?

*Had a busy day? Looking for some soft music
& casual conversation in a relaxing environment?*

*Join us downtown Beaver Dam at the **Riverfront Wine Bar and Gift shop.***

*When: **Any time after 5pm** (5-7:30pm)*

Wednesday February 26th at 227 Front Street

Questions?...Contact your Fellowship Committee Elder Tracy Hauke at (920) 296-0568



Stewardship
Update

INCOME & EXPENSES:

December Income

Offering Envelopes	\$ 33,891.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 806.77
Per Capita	\$ 400.00
Building Rental	\$ 0.00
Interest Earned	\$ 333.71
Housing Allowance	\$ 500.00
Scrip Program	\$ 437.96
Fellowship	\$ 93.00
Water/Cow Mission	\$ 830.00
Christmas Joy	\$ 690.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 37,982.44

December Expenses

Missions	\$ 2,653.37
Session	\$ 732.23
Worship	\$ 2,480.05
Christian Education	\$ 2,006.27
Administration	\$10,129.30
Property	\$ 2,787.84
Deacon	\$ 9.87
Pastoral	\$ 7,618.22

TOTAL EXPENSES \$28,417.15

2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES



Your 2020 Offering envelopes are now available for you to pick up. Please be sure to start using your new envelopes in 2020! For those who are on our Direct Contribution Plan or (EFT), there will not be a box of envelopes with your name on it since your offerings are paid electronically. Thank you!

2019 Year-End Contribution Statements

The year-end contribution statements have been mailed out to those who have given to the church in 2019. Any offerings received in 2020 will be applied to your 2020 pledge/contributions.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your statement, please call or email the bookkeeper, Paula, at the church office.

Supporting the church is a way to put Christian values and your faith into action. Your personal contributions make a difference and are greatly appreciated!

2020 PER CAPITA

\$40.00 per confirmed member

A letter and your envelope was mailed to you in early January and we are beginning to see some returned. The amount is **\$40.00 per confirmed member**. Remember, this includes both spouses and your confirmed children in your family.

Once your child is confirmed into the church, they are full members and would need to fulfill the per capita apportionment. Presbyterians have used per capita apportionment for over 150 years to help cover both local and global administrative expenses of our denomination. We mutually share the costs of coming together to discern where God is leading us.

Thank you to those who have already returned their per capita!

Memorials Received



Gifts to the church are a wonderful way of honoring the memory of those we love and cherish. The family may direct these gifts to a specific or unrestricted fund.

Grace Presbyterian Church recently received cash memorial gifts in Memory of **James Campbell**. We are very grateful for these gifts in memory of loved ones.



We encourage families to shop with Scrip and help support Grace Presbyterian Church in the process. Order forms are at church or on-line on our web page www.bdgracechurch.org.

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



- From **PAVE**: We are so grateful for your recent gift of hygiene products—Thank you! Thank you for your continued faithful support of our programs and our mission to empower those affected by violence. Your generosity inspires us; we know we couldn't do it without you.
- **Beaver Dam Food Pantry** thanks Grace Church for the donation of 1434 pounds of food in December!

Next newsletter deadline is Monday February 17 for the March issue.

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.



Grace Church Beaver Dam on facebook !!

Please be attentive to your weekly email announcements for updated & new information!



- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 - Nancy Jung, Ana Miller | 15 - Kathleen Mason |
| 2 - Justin Rake | 16 - Sofia Infalt |
| 3 - Barbara Gregg, Brenda Propst | 17 - Jim Olson |
| 4 - Ramona Ehrhardt | 19 - Jack Bartholmai |
| 5 - Andrea Eilbes | 20 - Pat Kroeze, Marla Noordhof, |
| 6 - Peyton Apel | Penny Pohle, Lauren Wernimont |
| 7 - Todd Janssen | 21 - Aaron Ganske, Tim Spinler |
| 8 - Mason Janssen | 22 - Maya Puleo, Ollie Shier |
| 9 - Delores Ellcey, Kasey Klug, Lowell Peck | 24 - Will Koepsell |
| 11 - Tami Mohammed, Carol Timm | 25 - Scott Miller |
| 12 - Ann Peck | 27 - Henry Westergaard |
| 14 - Cody Freber-Infalt | 28 - Victoria Merrill |

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS - January 2020

- Remove member Jim Schraufnagel (#2590), who withdrew membership.
- Restore Valerie (#2834), Elizabeth Paige (#2893) and Elora (#2927) White at their request.
- Add Confirmation class members; Emily Doege (#2983), Benjamin Eilbes (#2984), Taytum Roberts (#2985), Carley Schraufnagel (#2986), Oliver Shier (#2987), Dana Skare (#2988), Ryan Tietz (#2989).
- Communion Report: 12/1/19 worship – 132; Charleston House on 12/11/19 – 5 were served with Amy Rochester assisting. Hillside Manor on 12/16/19 – 5 were served with Amy Rochester assisting.
- Middle/High school youth prepared Christmas cookies on December 21 for Jesus' birthday party following worship December 22.
- Adult book study "Illuminating Advent" concluded on December 22 with between 8 and 14 members attending over each of the four weeks.
- Seven youth confirmed their faith at the January 12 worship service.
- Middle/High school youth are invited to visit Dodge County Humane Society on February 1. A donation drive will take place at Grace from February 2 – 21. Donations will be delivered by youth February 22, with a bowling party to follow.
- The first of a series of family focused presentations with Trinity, St. Katherine and First Lutheran will take place February 12 at 6:00 pm at St. Katherine's with Patrice presenting on family conflict prevention and resolution.
- The reverse advent calendar resulted in 1434 pounds of food being donated.
- The Cow/Water project raised \$1,380 in donations to supplement a Thrivent Grant donation from a congregational member, which allowed for a cow to be purchased for Kenya and a water irrigation system to be purchased in Nigeria.
- Discussion of the Holy Cow survey via phone conversation with Ann Gibbs, Presbytery of Milwaukee.
- Next regular meeting of the session: Wednesday February 12, 2020 at 6:00 pm.



Community News & Events

Have a for Charity



Shop for Valentine's Day!
Fight Sex Trafficking.

February 7th @ 4-7:30 pm

Harvest Church, W7444 Hwy 33, Beaver Dam

local artisans and wares. live entertainment. refreshments.
enjoy a sweet evening with friends!

BECOME AWARE. GET INVOLVED. FIGHT THE INJUSTICE.



St Katharine Drexel School Cafeteria

408 S Spring Street, Beaver Dam, WI

Saturday, February 8, 2020

Soup Supper - 4-7pm

*Potato and Chicken Soups, homemade breads, cheese and sausage
Bars, Cookies, and Beverage Cost \$5.00 (6yrs - Adult)*

BAKERY and CRAFT SALE

and Free Religious Articles

BOTH DAYS!



Sunday, February 9, 2020

COUNTRY BRUNCH - 8:30-11:30AM

\$10.00 adults, \$4.00 - 5 to 10 yrs old, under 5 free,

\$25.00 family

featured items:

Cheese and Sausages, Cheesy baked eggs,
Baked French toast, Country breakfast eggs with
broccoli and ham, Dairy hash-brown casserole,
Veggie breakfast pizza,
Coffee cakes, fruit cup,
coffee, milk, juice and water










A huge thanks to Catholic Financial Life, who is matching the total fundraiser amount up to \$1000.



FEBRUARY



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					 1:00p Youth to Dodge County Humane Society	1
2 9:30a Worship – Communion/Children’s Choir 10:40a Christian Education	3	4 9:30a Senior Coffee 4:15p CE Committee Meeting 6:00p Worship Committee Presbytery at Janesville	5 8:45a Meditation 6:00p Fellowship Committee	6 1:00p Men’s Study Group 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	7 Office Closed	8 8:30 – 11:00a Gracie’s Closet 
9 8:45a Choir 9:30a Worship 10:30a Michelle Miller Presentation 10:40a Christian Education	10 5:00p Stewardship	11 9:00a Second Tuesday Book Club 9:30a Senior Coffee 11:00a Ministerium Meeting	12 8:45a Meditation 1:30p Charleston House Communion 6:00p Session Meeting 6:00p United Family Ministry @ St. Katharine Drexel	13 9:30a Makers Meeting 1:00p Men’s Study Group 5:00p Personnel Committee 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	14  Office Closed	15
16 8:45a Choir 9:30a Worship 10:40a Christian Education	17 Newsletter Deadline 1:30p Hillside Manor Communion 	18 Spring Primary at Grace 9:30a Senior Coffee	19 8:45a Meditation	20 1:00p Men’s Study Group 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	21 Office Closed	22 1:00p Youth Deliver Donations to Dodge County Humane Society & BOWLING PARTY! 
23  8:45a Choir 9:30a Worship 10:40a Christian Education Fat Tuesday Potluck!	24	<i>Courier</i> 25 9:30a Senior Coffee	26  8:45a Meditation 7:00p Worship	27 1:00p Men’s Study Group 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	28 Office Closed	29 <div>2020</div>

