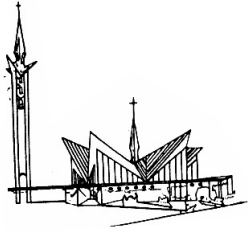


GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)



January 5, 2025

Church Office Phone # 616-534-0805

Reverend Zachary Marklevitz

Pastor's Email: zmarklevitz@gmail.com

Website Address: www.gracelc.net

Office~email: gracelc.office@gmail.com

Office Hrs: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Second Sunday after Christmas

Sermon Notes:

Announcements

Upcoming Events

Weekly Schedule

HYMN OF THE MONTH...We will sing hymn 403 - "O Savior of Our Fallen Race" Gilbert E. Doan was ed-u-cat-ed at Har-vard Un-i-ver-si-ty (BA 1942); Lu-ther-an The-o-lo-gi-cal Sem-in-a-ry (BD 1955); the Un-i-ver-si-ty of Penn-syl-van-ia (MA 1962, though he re-turned it to the school to pro-test their po-lic-ies); and Wag-ner Col-lege (DD, late 1970s). He served as a cam-pus pas-tor in Phil-a-del-phia, Penn-syl-van-ia (1955-61); North-east-ern Di-rect-or of the Na-tion-al Lu-ther-an Cam-pus Min-is-try; and pastor of the Lu-ther-an Church of the Ho-ly Com-mun-ion, Phil-a-del-phia (1984-95). His works in-clude:

The Preach-ing of Fred-er-ick W. Ro-bert-son (ed-it-or), 1964; Renewal in the Pul-pit, 1966; Sermons on Peace and War; Preaching to Col-lege Stu-dents; Worship in Cam-pus Min-is-try.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY....Resumes this Tuesday, January 7 at 9:15 a.m. with the study of *Jonah*. In this Old Testament book God displays His power, patience and relentless grace, showing how He works out His purposes and how nothing can thwart His determination to save. Each lesson helps us understand God's compassion, mercy, patience and sovereignty, ultimately encouraging us to trust God through every circumstance. There's room for you at the table and we hope you will join us. For a study book see Barb Quist.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY...Will meet with others from Hope, Epiphany & Christ Evangelical as well as their pastors and will rotate as to location. The next men's Bible study will be here at Grace on Saturday, January 18 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

HIGHER THINGS REGISTRATION...Higher Things Conference will be held in Grand Rapids at Calvin University from July 29 to August 1, 2025.

DOXOLOGY...Now that Pastor Marklevitz is a Doxology graduate, we are invited to attend future conferences! There is an annual conference called "Doxology: Encore," in which lay members are invited to attend. This is a unique opportunity to travel, getaway, and receive professional insight into church ministry and its impact. The next Encore Conference will be in Middleton, WI, from May 30 to June 1, 2025. Please contact Pastor Marklevitz, Tom Hoffman, or Jeff DeYoung with any interest or questions.

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH...Grace's second Church plant, gathers Sundays at 8:00 a.m. for Divine Service. They meet in the building of United

MESSIAH'S ANNUAL SPIRITUAL GROWTH SEMINAR...Make plans now to join us Saturday, February 8, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. as we welcome Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Leininger and explore *Callings for Life; God's Plan, Your Purpose*. Pastor Leininger will combine insights from Scripture, the Church's history and heritage of prayer and song, with decades of experience in congregational life and campus ministry to explore this deeply personal topic. There is no charge for this Seminar, and continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Registration will open on Monday, January 6. Please RSVP online at www.messiahgr.org or by calling 616-363-2553. Messiah is located at 2727 Five Mile Road NE, Grand Rapids, MI.

LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND...If you are looking for a place to keep your money safe and you are a member of the LCMS, check out the LCEF information and rates on the bulletin board just outside the church office. Feel free to contact John Hoover with any questions or further assistance. John.Hoover@lcef.org.

PORTALS OF PRAYER, JAN–MAR '25...The *Portals of Prayer* for January through March 2025 are available on the devotional table (to the right of the mailboxes). Please help yourself.

PRIVATE MUSIC LESSON OPPORTUNITIES WITH OSLC!...Our Savior Lutheran Church is connecting families in the Grand Rapids community with quality music education for their children. For more information see the poster on the bulletin board outside the office. If you have any questions please contact Kantor Roberts at croberts@oursavior-gr.org or call the OSLC Office at 616-949-0710.

SCRIP/RAISERIGHT...If you would like to order Scrip you can find order slips as well as a list of all of the RaiseRight retailers on the showcase. Please be sure to turn in payment at the time you place your order. Make checks payable to Grace Beginnings Preschool. Orders are due on the first Monday of each month (next due is TOMORROW, January 6) with delivery Wednesday or Thursday of this week.

Please bring one of these categories to the Pastor at the beginning of Bible Study hour & receive a gift. The goal is for each entering Catechism student to have already received all four gifts. Recitation can be done in any order. Please contact Pastor with any questions.

1. Recite the Lord's Prayer and receive Luther's Small Catechism for Kids.
2. Recite the Apostles' Creed and receive Lutheranism 101 for Kids.
3. Recite the Ten Commandments and receive Luther's Small Catechism.
4. Recite Old and New Testament books (all at once or separated by Testaments) and receive a Faith Alive Student Bible ESV.

QUILTERS WORKSHOP...The next work session is planned for Wednesday, January 15 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. We welcome any and all help of those who can tie knots, layer and/or design Quilts. It's a great way to get to know your fellow Grace members while working on a worthy mission.

SNOW REMOVAL...We are looking for volunteers to remove the snow from our sidewalks & entryways throughout the winter season for Sundays and also for Wednesdays during Lent (and for any special services). There is a sign-up board in the hallway, across from Pastor's office. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help.

LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTIONS...If you would like to subscribe or renew your current subscription to Lutheran Witness magazine, please sign up on the clipboard at the showcase. The subscription cost is \$21.00 for the year. Please make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church (payment envelopes available on the showcase). Payment can be placed thru the mail slot in the office door. The deadline to subscribe or renew is January 26, 2025.

THANK YOU...I thank God for my Grace Church family and for all the beautiful Christmas cards you have sent me. They certainly make a room festive for the season. A special thanks to those who visit too. A blessed Christmas and New Year to all.
Debra Barber

DEAR MEMBERS OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH I am very thankful for all the greetings and prayers that my recovering was so very much giving my heart a very good feeling. Please forgive me that I will not send Christmas cards to you. I will continue saying prayers day and night. Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.
Your friend in Jesus, Allen Miiller.

DEAR GRACE FAMILY...Thank you all so much for the kind words, prayers and cards during my foot surgery and recovery. The dr. says everything was a success and it will just take some time for the pain to reside. So thankful to have a church family that truly cares about its members.
Thanks again - Janet Dykstra

THANK YOU ALL...Al and I thank Pastor for all his prayers and concern for us. It means so very much. We really miss not being able to come to church. To all of our many friends at Grace, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for remembering us with so many get well cards, anniversary cards for our 65 years of marriage. God has really blessed us. To receive so many Christmas cards made me cry. They were beautiful. We apologize to all of you for not doing cards this year. We feel so bad. I just was not feeling well. We are so lucky to have so many friends who love us. Thanks for being so sweet. God Bless All of You.
Love, Al & Mary TePaste



WINGS HAS APPLE PIES AVAILABLE



Impress your friends by baking a home-made apple pie! If anyone would like to purchase a frozen pie, please see Carol Klein, Diane Long or Linda Franks. The price is \$13 per pie, and there are order forms, if needed, on the showcase.

God Bless all our workers, buyers and sellers
Women in God's Service

GRACE LIFE COMMITTEE

† “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” John 10:10 †



Now they were bringing even infants to Him that He might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to Him, saying, “Let the children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall

not enter it.”

Luke 18:15-17 ESV

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE 2025 MICHIGAN ESSAY CONTEST:

Lutherans for Life and Lutherans for Life of Michigan are holding their annual Life Essay Contests for 6th - 8th grade students and for high school students. For the LFL of MI contest there are awards of \$150 for 1st place and \$100 for 2nd place for each of the two grade levels. First place winner's essays in the LFL of MI contests are entered in the National LFL contest where the 1st and 2nd place winners receive additional awards and benefits as described in the Essay Contest Guidelines. Each LCMS school or congregation may submit one essay for each of the two grade levels as explained in the contest guidelines. If you are interested in reviewing these guidelines, please contact Norm Long at 616-698-9437 to receive a copy. Essays must be received by our contest coordinator by February 28, 2025. In recent years very few essays have been received, but those received were well written and reflected a good deal of research done by the students. With all the false information that is being presented to young people, it is important to encourage them to sort out the lies and find the truth and we believe that participating in the Life Essay Contest is one way to encourage them. The Board of LFL of MI ask that you seriously consider asking students to participate in the contest and offer them your assistance or direct them to another person that can do so. If you have any questions or would like to receive a copy of the guidelines, please feel free to contact Norm Long; 616-698-9437.



WEST MICHIGAN LUTHERAN
Serving Grades 7 - 12

Christ Centered - Student Focused

Academics.....Activities.....Achievement

† Individual attention so **each student** can achieve their goals;

† Integration of the **Faith in every class** throughout the day!

ENROLL TODAY!...Looking for an affordable and exemplary Christ-centered education? Then check out West Michigan Lutheran High School. Contact the WML office at 616-455-2200 or email office@wmlhs.org to get the simple and easy enrollment paperwork.

SAVE THE DATE!...Youth Trivia Night - Sunday, January 26. West Michigan Lutheran will be hosting a youth trivia night on Sunday, January 26 from 5-7 p.m. for 7th through 12th grade (601 36th Street SW, Wyoming). Pizza and snacks provided. For questions contact the school office at 616-455-2200.



IN OUR PRAYERS...

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WITH HEALTH CONCERNS & OTHER NEEDS:

Anna Barber; Debra Barber; Rev. Ryan Beffrey; Mae Conkright; Hailey Cutler; Jeanne DeMeester; Jeffrey (Jeff) DeYoung; Michael (Mike) Dykstra; Willis (Jack) Edwards; Hubert and Virginia Eisen; Marilyn Franks; Ronald (Ron) Hansen; Barbara (Barb) Hoffman; Cindy Johnston; Iris Kamradt; Vicki Kik; Lois Klooster; Elfriede (Elfie) Koehler; Terry Larson; Norman (Norm) Long; Sandra (Sandy) Melville; Allen (Al) Miiller; Margaret (Marge) Morgan; Carol Pellerito; James (Jim) Pellerito; Mark Schrader; Albert (Al) TePastte; Joseph (Joe) Theuerkauf; Sharon Theuerkauf.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS IN NEED:

Amber (Key); Anacaletto Ayala (Gorman); Alice Barnes (Barnes); Timothy (Tim) Barnes (former member); Dawsyn Bates (Schrader); David & Jane Boedecker (Marklevitz); Barb Castle (Franks); Douglas Christensen (Christensen); Shannon Crisman (Larson); Vicky Drougl (Barnes); Margaret Eastland (Keith's mother); Phil Edgerton (Cutler); Nicole Girth (Gorman); Brian Hague (Larson); Bruce & Ruth Harder (Kik); Jim Hoard (Larson); Theresa Holzhausen; Ginny Huizenga (Klooster family); John Hume (Quist); the Johnson family (Eisens); Donald Karel (DeYoung); Robert Key (Key); Duane Kimle (Diener); Bridget Kimmel (Gorman); Brian & Dawn Klein (Larson); Laura Kooienga (Zwar); Cathy Kutschinski; Tom Murrphy (Larson); Richard Ohse (former member); Carrie Pattok (Hoffman); Dalton Palmer (Kutschinski); Violet Redner (Marklevitz); Carissa Richmond (Pellerito); Julie Rop (Long); Bonnie Seher (Kamradt); Aaron Spratling (Hoffman); Katie Stevenson (Schrader); Ty Tanis (Kutschinski); Donna TePastte (TePastte); Vicky Thompson (Hoffman); Gary Weber (Reynolds); Maggie and Josiah Whitley (Helak).

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR:

Janet Dykstra for successful foot surgery.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES:

Robert Barber (Barber); Klorissa Brown, Katie Collins & Nick Payne (Gorman); Skylar Eriks (Kamradt); Christopher Ferguson & Alex Gaunt (Schrader); Blake Hoffman & Austin Spratling (Hoffman).

PRAYERS FOR OUR GRACE SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES.

Nora Leon; Rev. Steven & Martha Mahlborg.

PRAYERS FOR OUR GRACE SUPPORTED SEMINARIANS:

Nathan Bublitz; Noah Dunsmore.

WE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO WILL BE CELEBRATING birthdays and anniversaries this coming week that their celebrations would lead to rejoicing in God's goodness once again this year and to give Him thanksgiving for all His blessings.

Happy Birthday this week to:

Monday, January 6 - Cheryl Marklevitz

Tuesday, January 7 - Connor Reynolds

Tuesday, January 7 - Vernon Wynsma

Friday, January 10 - Brittany Doss

No Anniversaries this week

TOGETHER AS A CHURCH FAMILY IN WORD AND STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, December 29, 2024 9:00 a.m. Worship Attendance: 83 Communion: 69

Sunday, December 29, 2024 Offering & Joyful Response: \$2,749.00

Tuesday, December 31, 2024 3:00 p.m. Worship Attendance: 41 Communion: 34

Tuesday, December 31, 2024 Offering & Joyful Response: \$240.00

Those serving this week and next at Grace:

	Second Sunday after Christmas	Baptism of Our Lord
	1/5/2025 9:00 a.m.	1/12/2025 9:00 a.m.
Communion Assistants:	Ed Gorman	Tom Hoffman
Deaconess/Deacon:	Jill Reyers	Kathy Helak
Altar Guild:	Jeff & Paula DeYoung	Barb Edwards Linda Franks
Acolytes:	Molly DenBraber John Gottschall	Leah Morse James Gottschall
Sound:	Scott Christensen	Gray Ferguson
Fellowship:	Gorman	Gottschall

Sanctuary Choir and Handbell Ensemble Director: Diane Long

Organist: Charles Gottschall

Finance Team January: Doug & Carol Klein.

Altar Flowers: Poinsettia Tree.

THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, January 5, 2025 (Second Sunday after Christmas)

Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
 Fellowship following Worship
 Bible Study/Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Monday, January 6, 2025 (The Epiphany of Our Lord)

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Women's Bible Study 9:15 a.m.
 Church Council 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

Handbell Ensemble 5:45 p.m.
 Sanctuary Choir 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 9, 2025

Pastoral Care 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Friday, January 10, 2025

Yarn Benders 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 11, 2025

Sunday, January 12, 2025 (The Baptism of Our Lord)

Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
 Fellowship following Worship
 Bible Study/Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
 Elder's Meeting 12:00 p.m.