



GOOD NEWS

FROM THE GRACE VINE

August
2026

Praising God + Serving Others + Building Relationships + Growing Faith



The Grace Wilderness Trip Group Blessing

The Grace Wilderness Group is eagerly anticipating an unforgettable adventure to Glacier National Park! This year's group includes 9 youth, 10 adults, and 6 OWLs (Older Wiser Lutherans). The youth and adult participants will meet up with our OWLs at Glacier National Park, where we will share adventures.

Our journey begins on July 18, with our first overnight stop in Medora, North Dakota, before continuing on to the breathtaking beauty of Glacier National Park. During our stay, participants will experience a variety of activities, including a historic Red Bus Tour, horseback riding, a scenic boat tour, hiking, fishing, and plenty of opportunities to explore one of our nation's most spectacular national parks.

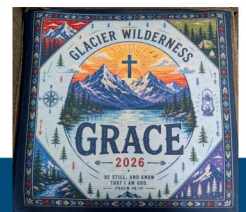
The group will begin the return trip on July 25, with an overnight stop in Bismarck, North Dakota, before arriving home.

This trip is more than just sightseeing. One of the primary goals is to help develop leadership skills in our youth while giving adults the opportunity to encourage and witness the unique gifts, talents, and abilities each young person brings to the group. Equally important is building meaningful relationships across generations. By traveling, learning, and serving together, youth, adults, and OWLs strengthen the bonds that make Grace Lutheran Church such a special community of faith.

If you see members of the Wilderness Group watch for our specially designed trip bandanas!

We look forward to sharing stories, photos, and the many ways God blesses our journey. Please join us on Sunday, August 30, during the 8:30 a.m. worship service, for a special presentation as we reflect on our experiences and celebrate this remarkable adventure together.

Pictured along with the Wilderness Group is one of the youth attending Fortune Lake Camp in Michigan.



Pastor's Pondering August 2026

*1 I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help
come?*

*2 My help comes from the
LORD, who made heaven and
earth. (Psalm 121)*



As I write this article, we are packing for the Wilderness trip to Glacier National Park since we leave in 3 days. This is the part of traveling that can be worrisome. We don't know for sure how things will be so there's uncertainty. We do our best to plan and yet we go into the adventure knowing we can ask for help if we need it.

That's true with our life plan too. We go into events in our lives with a plan and yet we never know how things will actually work out. It is unexpected situations where we feel that we are not in control. That's really a good thing even though it doesn't seem like it! When we encounter uncertainty, we have faith to know that we have help from God to work things out. Often it is family and friends who show us God's love and grace in our lives, but sometimes there are people like medical staff or counselors who help us also.

Most importantly, we know that there is nothing that can separate us from the love of Jesus. The unexpected adventures of life help us realize that our trust is in God. We need only lift our eyes from our own worries and look to God trusting in our Creator's help.

One of my favorite prayers for guidance:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen! (ELW p. 304)

Blessings,

Pastor Julie

Grace Lutheran Church has maintained a faithful and meaningful partnership with Lekubu Lutheran Parish in South Africa for many years. This covenant relationship reflects our commitment to sharing Christ's love across cultures, supporting communities in need, and building lasting friendships through faith.

A central focus of this partnership is the support of the Lekubu Early Learning Centre (Crèche), which serves children from approximately six months to four years of age. Established in 1986, the Crèche provides early childhood education and care for families in the Lekubu community. Through financial support from Grace Lutheran Church, tuition assistance is provided for children attending the center, along with funding for facility improvements, educational materials, plumbing projects, and access to clean water through well development.



Meet Council Member Beau Stromberg

Why I agreed to serve on the council: When I was approached and asked if I wanted to be a part of the church council as the youth member, I honestly felt very honored that I was someone that they thought to ask. I try to be an active member at Tomahawk High School through sports and clubs and felt like I did less and less at

church. So, when I was asked to be a part of church council it felt like the perfect opportunity.

What I love about Grace: I love how Grace welcomes others to take part in communion when other churches don't. It symbolizes how accepting Grace is. I remember one time in confirmation when Pastor Julie asked us how they can make Grace more welcoming and comfortable for the LGBTQ community. It truly means a lot to see a church put in effort to make everyone feel seen and accepted. Christianity is supposed to be the religion of love and I truly believe Grace embodies what it means to love your neighbor. I feel very blessed to have had Grace as part of my life and help raise me to who I am.

Favorite bible verse: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35

Get to know Beau: I have just graduated from Tomahawk High School in the spring of 2026. I plan to attend the Milwaukee School of Engineering in the fall for Architectural Engineering. In my free time, I enjoy running, and lifting. I am currently training for college track and field. I also enjoy playing cards with friends and camping with my family.

Youth Summer Camp: Campers at Fortune Lake has a great week at Camp!

Youth Summer Camp: The campers at Fortune Lake had a great week at Camp. Thank you to everyone who supported them this year. Grace was able to partner with Kinship of Tomahawk yet again to send these campers who were able to dive deeper into their faith while enjoying a welcoming space to experience God, Community and Nature. We pray for their continued guidance in their faith journey with everything they were able to adventure and connect with during their time at Camp. Anyone interested in volunteering for camp help next year, please reach out to Cassady Grabow-Hohensee.

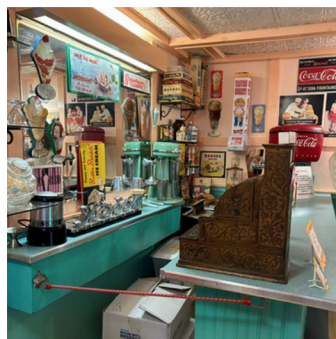
From Creation to Culture: A Journey Through Wisconsin

We had two enjoyable outings this summer. In June we had a great time visiting the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary including a picnic and devotions in the lovely park by the bay. We followed that up with a trip to the beautiful Green Bay Botanical Gardens with roses and many other blossoms to admire. On our way home we stopped at the Timeline Saloon and Bbq for our dinner and to peruse the quirky zoo and other displays on the site.

In July we ventured to Woodruff to the Dr. Kate Museum to learn about the life of this amazing woman. Included in our tour was a video of the "This is Your Life" episode where she was the honoree. We all chuckled at the commercials and at the early black and white television production values of the time. After a pleasant lunch at the Era Café we continued on to the Ojibwe Museum and Cultural Center in Lac du Flambeau. This museum is really well done and we learned and marveled at the artistry and resourcefulness of the first inhabitants of our local area.

The overall reaction was how we had all overlooked these interesting attractions so close to home. If you haven't seen them they are well worth your time. Both days were fun partly for the places we went, but enhanced by the fellowship of good friends. Thank you Pastor Check for your wonderful devotions each day we look forward to them always!

There will be no outing in August. In September we are planning a trip to Stevens Point to the Sculpture Park, lunch and tour of the Point Brewery. Stay tuned for details to come. There are currently no plans for the rest of the year. We are always open to suggestions. Please join us, everyone is welcome.



Youth Programs:

Grace Kid's:

Looking ahead... Grace Kids will begin on Sept. 13th, along with our 3-year-old Entering Grace Kids Milestone. We look forward to seeing all the children and youth back enjoying Grace Kids and Milestone together, after a summer break away. Be on the lookout for emails about upcoming Milestones and a Grace Kids schedule. Please contact Cassady Grabow-Hohensee for more information, or to volunteer within these Ministries.

GLOW:

Save the dates for GLOW!

Grace Lutheran On Wednesday is for 5th grade through 7th graders and is on Wednesday's after school from 3:30-5. We focus on Grace's mission statement, with emphasis on Bible study and serving others.

Entering GLOW Milestone will be Sept 2nd, and First day of GLOW will be Sept. 9th. Watch for more information in your emails soon. If you haven't attended before and would like to enroll, contact Cassady Grabow-Hohensee

Confirmation:

Confirmation for 8th and 9th graders is quickly approaching. Watch your e-mail for information about Confirmation. Important dates to note:

-September 2nd - Entering Confirmation Milestone for all incoming 8th graders (6:00-7:45 pm).

-September 9th - First night of Confirmation (6:30-8:00 pm)

If you don't receive information, but would like to enroll, contact Renee Loka at rloka@hotmail.com or call or text 715-224-2198.

Upcoming Events

- Aug. 6 Wilderness Trip Follow Up Meeting at 6:00 pm
- Aug 10 Blessings For Babies Diaper Bank at 3:30 pm
- Aug. 11 Joyful Noise Luncheon at Loop Hole, 2243 County Rd L 11:30 am
- Aug. 12 Back To School Event at Kinship at 3:00 pm
- Aug. 13 Church Council at 6:00 pm
- Aug. 17 Newsletter Deadline
- Aug. 21 Worship at Riverview 9:15am. Tomahawk Health at 10:30 am, Milestone at 1:00 pm
- Aug. 24 Blessings for Babies Diaper Bank open 3:30 pm-5:30 pm

See Grace's website for a full calendar of events!



In Loving Memory

Our Prayers and Sympathy go out to the family of Deb Narloch who died peacefully June 16, 2026.

The funeral was held Saturday, July 18 at Mt. Calvary, Rothschild.

Our Prayers and Sympathy go out to the family of Mary Tesch (Cindy Storm's mother) who passed away July 1, 2026. A memorial service was held at Herman-Taylor Home in Wisconsin Rapids on Friday, July 10, 2026.

Congratulations!

Welcome new member John McKinley.
Congratulations to Patti Hilgendorf and John McKinley who were married in a private ceremony Friday, July 17.

July 9, 2026 Council Meeting Highlights

Full Council meeting minutes can be found in the Gathering Area.

Where Have We Seen God at Work?

- 124 people attended the outdoor service at the Loon over the 4th of July weekend.
- Listening to the Mount Calvary band at outdoor worship.
- Wisconsin's natural beauty in summer.
- The beautiful sitting area Succeed Independence made on the Washington side of the building.

Building Fund Update

When the new addition to our church was constructed we had a mortgage of \$1,279,773. Through the support of the congregation to the Building Fund over the years the balance on the mortgage has been reduced to just over \$105,000 as of June 1 of this year. The concern of the council is that contributions to the Building Fund have been steadily declining over the past couple of years. Our current Mortgage payment is \$4,015.96 per month and last month just over \$3,100 was contributed to the fund. The balance in the Building Fund is down to \$5,800 and declining by \$1000 per month on average. As many in the congregation may not be aware of this issue we want to bring it to the attention of everyone and respectfully ask for those who are able to add a contribution to the building fund to your current giving to support the ministries of Grace.

Thank you.

Thank You!

Dear Grace Lutheran Endowment Committee,

It is with the utmost gratitude, ecstasy, and appreciation that I thank you for selecting me as a scholarship recipient. Going to college, receiving a good education, playing college sports, and building the life I deserve have been goals of mine since I can remember. But like many things in life, these can all feel out of reach without the proper steps taken as an individual and support from others. It is on me to do what I can in my being to reach these goals- especially for the betterment of society. But with your support, I can remain encouraged, less financially burdened, and put my energies toward more productive measures that will help me meet my goals. Thank you, and the Grace Community for always supporting me. I hope to put smiles on your faces when I change the world someday.

Faith Derleth

AA/Alanon Meetings

Grace Lutheran

- AA and Alanon: Saturday. 9:00 am

Grace Community House

- AA: Sunday 10:10 am
- AA: Friday 7:30 pm (open)
- AA: Wednesday 12:10 pm

St. Paul's (12 E. Wisconsin Ave.)

- AA and Alanon: Monday 7:00 pm

If you have a problem with alcohol or if someone you know suffers from the disease, AA (for the alcoholic) or Alanon (for family or friend of alcoholic) could be your lifeline. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of both these groups. If you would like to speak with someone personally, the church office, 453-4066, or Pastor can put you in touch with an AA or Alanon member.

All communications will be confidential.

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John 1:2
I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you.

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Worship Service Times

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am indoor and
Ourdoor at the Tilted Loon
10:00 am

Staff (715 area codes)

Lead Pastor.....Rev. Julie Sinkula, 453-4066 or
(cell) 216-7652, pastorjuliebarger@gmail.com,

Lay Ministers.....Wendy Black, 360-4977,
wkblack@yahoo.com and Mark Gaedtke, 612-2000,
gaedmark@charter.net

Pastor Emeritus.....Rev. Gerald Check, 453-4066

Pastor Emerita.....Rev. Susan Christian,
224-3476, pstrxn63@gmail.com; Rev. Kathy Tulman,
ktulman2020@gmail.com, 579-6780

Dir. of Children's Ministries.....Cassady Grabow-
Hohensee, 453-4066 cassady.grabow19@gmail

Director of Confirmation.....Renee Loka,
453-4066, rlloka@hotmail.com

Dir. of Youth & Young Adults.....Cassady Grabow-
Hohensee, 453-4066 cassady.grabow19@gmail

Secretary.....Barb Zastrow & Mary G. Jones
453-4066, gracetomahawkoffice@gmail.com

Treasurer..Cheri Perrault ,
gracetreasurertomahawk@gmail, 453-4066

Wedding Coordinator.....Barb Zastrow

Custodian.....Barb Zastrow /Debi Tinker, 453-4066

2025-2026 Council Members

Pres.—Steve Heikkinen.....966-0160

V. Pres.—Pete Wurl.....966-3381

Secretary—Dixie Erickson.....453-4283

Gail Wilson.....453-5787

Sherry Clements.....453-5615

Steve Garrison.....414-828-2925

Zoie Mohr.....612-1057

Mary Hoglund.....612-5639

Bob Wallis.....966-1053

Rick Eskola.....493-2309

Beau Stromberg.....

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