



# GOOD NEWS FROM THE GRACE VINE

July 2026

*Praising God + Serving Others + Building Relationships + Growing Faith*

## Congratulations to two more 2026 Confirmands!

On Saturday, May 23 we celebrated Breck Stromberg and Clayton Gaedtke who Affirmed their Baptism at our 5:00pm worship.

### Clayton Vern Gaedtke

Baptism Date: November 27, 2011

Sponsors: Todd and Peggy Schauer

Parents: Jacob and Heather Gaedtke

Bible Verse: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

### Breck Stromberg

Baptism Date: August 1, 2011

Sponsors: Kelly Hruby, McKenzie Krause, and Shawn Cook

Parents: Jason and Jessie Stromberg

Bible Verse: "A gift opens doors; it gives access to the great." Proverbs 18:16



Thank you to the various ministries, people and community who have supported these youth in their faith journeys.



**WELCOME TO THE FAMILY  
KALLEY VON SCHRADER**

Welcome new member Kalley Ann Von Schrader. Kalley was baptized on Saturday, May 30, 2026.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO  
PURCHASED CERNY'S GIFT CARDS, IT WAS A  
VERY SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER AND THE  
WILDERNESS GROUP APPRECIATES EACH  
SALE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
SUPPORT! CASSADY**



## Pastor's Pondering July 2026

"To everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven..."

This verse from Ecclesiastes 3 reminds us of the beginnings and endings that are a part of life. Seasons are a part of a cycle of life in nature that we experience each year. Why is it that beginnings seem easier than endings? Saying goodbye to people and places we care about is difficult. We may be unsure about the transitions of life but the Holy Spirit helps us discern when those transitions are following God's call for our lives.

I have discerned that my season as Grace's Lead Pastor is coming to an end. I have announced my retirement to our church council and in worship on June 6 & 7. I plan to retire next spring 2027. I am announcing this a year ahead so that plans can be made for the ministry of Grace to remain vital while you extend a call to another Pastor. Our church council will work with the synod to prepare for this transition.

My retirement was a difficult decision because I deeply care for the people of Grace. Mike and I will miss being a part of the family here at Grace. This decision has more to do with spending quality time with our families, particularly with my mom who is 93.

What is important to realize about the seasons of life and transitions of Grace, is that endings can bring new beginnings. I see signs of new life at Grace in the baptisms, new members and new ministry like Blessings for Babies, that extend love and serve people in Jesus' name. We have strong Lay Leaders with Mark and Wendy, Pastor Emeritus Rev. Check, and Pastor Emerita Rev. Susan and Pastor Emerita Rev. Kathy. With this strong foundation of ministry in Christ, this is a wonderful opportunity to build and grow on these beginnings with new leadership in the future.

We have time in this next year to plan and prepare, hope and dream for Grace's ministry and mission to Praise God + Serve Others + Build Relationships + Grow Faith. Thank you for your support and care in this season of transition.

Blessings,  
Pastor Julie



### SPECIAL OFFERING TO TOMAHAWK ARE INTERFAITH VOLUNTEERS (TAIV)

TAIV was so appreciative to receive the donation of money and a raffle basket from Grace. Pictured left to right: Pastor Julie, Council President Steve Heikkinen, TAIV Executive Director Gloria Quinn, Council Member Sherry Clements, Director of Children's Ministries/Youth & Young Adults Cassady Grabow-Hohensee.

The ELCA Synod Assembly was held in Oshkosh, June 4th, 5th & 6th; the theme was "To Strive for Justice and Peace in all the Earth". The highlight of the three days was electing a bishop; Anne Edison-Albright was re-elected to serve a six year term in the office of bishop in the East Central Synod of Wisconsin of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The guest speaker was Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni, who serves as the Bishop of the Rocky Mountain Synod. She presented three times and always left us thinking. When she spoke on faith & civic life, she asked us "What if instead of We the People, we said – We the Christians". We are living in a hurting world – how will we strive for justice? Using the example of Minneapolis & ICE, many of us would have liked to be there, and in John 15 we're reminded that we are the branches of the vine and there are many workers or parts of the vineyard; so we can't always be everywhere, however the church is in you, so whatever we do or help with ~ the church is there. Rev. Meghan lives in Denver and works with programs supporting immigrants, a statement that really stayed with me is "You only leave home, when home is the mouth of the shark". Pastor Julie, Margie Welke and I enjoyed the beautiful music; we also liked the breakout sessions where we got to be with ministers & members from churches in the Wisconsin River Valley Conference. It is always interesting to hear how other churches are doing their ministries in the community. A few other thoughts from the Synod Assembly – Dr. Paul Erickson, Bishop of Greater Milwaukee Synod stated: Your Gift Matters, Your Pain Matters, and Your Voice Matters. An assignment for all of us: The church needs to speak to who Jesus is ~ a vision for the whole world. Dixie Erickson



## Meet Council Member Bob Wallis

My name is Bob Wallis I have been a member of Grace since 1987. I have a partner in life, four adult children and eight grandchildren. I enjoy family time with them and my dog Bella, working on projects, relaxing at home and most recently bowling.

I have been a bit of a quiet member for the last number of years so when I was asked to consider serving as a church council member I thought it would be an opportunity to become more involved again while also giving back to the church that has been an important part of my life for so many years. What I love most about Grace is its affiliation with the ELCA and our commitment to being a welcoming church for all people. I value that we embrace diversity as a strength and that we actively strive to serve and support our local community.

My favorite bible verse comes from Romans 15:7

"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

## Special Offering for July LWR School Kits/Local School Supplies:

Our special offering for the month of July is for school supplies for families who struggle to buy school supplies for their children. The money collected will be shared between Lutheran World Relief and our Tomahawk school students (you may choose to designate one of these by writing your choice on the offering envelope.)

The Tomahawk school students in need can pick up school supplies at the Back-to-School Event on Wednesday, August 12 at Kinship from 3 pm to 7 pm. We are working with other churches and community organizations to sponsor this event. Grace will be providing backpacks and supplies to Middle School students again this year.

## Lutheran World Relief School Kits

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is once again collecting school supplies for LWR over the summer. There is a basket in the Gathering Area to place supplies in.

### Items needed:

- \*pencils (unsharpened)
- \*blue or black pens (not gel)
- \*pencil sharpener
- \*16-24 count box of crayons
- \*12 inch ruler ( with both standard and metric markings)
- \*80 count spiral notebooks (four notebooks are needed for each kit)
- \*blunt tip scissors
- \*2 inch erasers



The LWR School kits will be boxed up and sent overseas in the fall.



**Thank You Heidi Winter and Succeed Independence members for making a Beautiful Flower Bed by Grace's fire pit.**



## Older & Wiser Lutherans (OWLS) NEWS

I hope everyone is having a good summer! Our July outing will be a short trip to our north. We will meet July 16 at 9:30 at the church for devotions. Our first stop will be at the Dr. Kate Museum in Woodruff for a tour to learn the story of the "Angel on Snowshoes" and the hospital built partially by the "Million Penny Parade" fundraiser. After the tour we will enjoy lunch at the Era Café. The next stop will be to the George W. Brown Jr. Ojibwe Museum and Cultural Center in Lac Du Flambeau. We should be back to Tomahawk around 5 PM. We have tentative plans for a September trip to Stevens Point to the Sculpture Park, lunch and a tour of the Point Brewery. Stay tuned for details to come. We have not made other plans for the fall. We are always open to suggestions. Please join us, everyone is welcome.

### Upcoming Events

- **July 3 Office Closed**
- **July 4-No 5:00 pm worship service!**
- **July 5<sup>th</sup> worship as regularly scheduled**
- **July 12 Camp & Wilderness Trip blessings at Outdoor Worship**
- **July 13 & 27 Blessings for Babies Diaper Bank from 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm**
- **July 14 Joyful Noise Luncheon at What's Brewing at 11:30 am.**
- **July 18 Greater Galilee Zoom Bible Study at 10:00 am**
- **July 20 Newsletter Deadline & Wilderness Trip Week**
- **July 21 Red Cross Blood Drive from 10:30 am - 5:30 pm**

**See Grace's website for a full calendar listing!**

**Seeking Kitchen Coordinator:** Our Kitchen Coordinator position organizes and oversees use of the kitchen by working with groups/families who host catered meals like funerals, etc. Hours are flexible. This could also be filled with co-coordinators working together. Contact Pastor Julie at 715-453-4066 if you would like more information.

### Grace is Seeking a Church Musician

We're seeking a skilled musician to provide musical leadership as part of a team for weekly worship services and seasonal events.

#### Responsibilities:

- Play piano/organ (or guitar) for Saturday/Sunday services
- Lead and accompany congregational singing
- Coordinate music selections with pastor/worship team
- Provide music for special services (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter)

#### Qualifications:

- Proficiency on piano, organ, or similar instrument
- Ability to read music and accompany singers
- Familiarity with hymns and/or contemporary worship music
- Reliable, collaborative, and committed to ministry

**Schedule & Compensation:** Part-time; accompany worship services 1-2 times per month. Additional pay for weddings/funerals.

## June 12, 2026 Council Meeting Highlights

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

Where Have We Seen God at Work?

- Good weather for outdoor worship at the Loon
- Attending the East Central Synod of Wisconsin Assembly in Oshkosh. Meeting people from area churches, re-election of Bishop Anne Edison-Albright.
- Kallie Von Schrader's baptism.
- Rite of Confirmation for the last two confirmands.

**Building Update:** Ceiling tile/lighting project complete.

**Outreach:** Grace is helping sponsor 10 students from Kinship attend Camp Fortune Lake.

## 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.



### In Loving Memory

Our Prayers and Sympathy go out to the family of Deb Narloch who died peacefully June 16, 2026. May they be comforted with new life in Christ. The funeral date is to be announced and will be held in Schofield in her childhood congregation with Pastor Kathy Tulman officiating.

**Fair Trade Flavored Coffee:** We've had a request to check for flavored coffee as a Fair Trade coffee selection. Equal Exchange offers Hazelnut Crème and Toffee Caramel for \$10.00/bag. If you'd like to order either of these, please notify Margie Welke or Sherry Clements and we'll add some to our next order. We are so grateful for the support Grace offers to farmers around the world by purchasing their Fair Trade items. Thank you!

### MAY 2026 FINANCIAL REPORT

	Receipts	Spending	Difference
Monthly Receipts vs. Spending	25,550	31,914	(6,364)
Year to Date Receipts vs. Spending	139,179	156,457	(17,278)
Mortgage Loan Balance			105,257
Special Offering - Endowment Fund			750
Other Benevolence:			
Tomahawk Lunch Program			-
ELCA Good Gifts			-

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.**

**TOMAHAWK Pharmacy**



Easy Refills with our Rx365 App!

Mon - Fri	9:00am - 5:30pm
Sat	9:00am - 12:00pm
Sun	Closed

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

**HETZEL'S**  
PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.  
715-453-3715

For Your Complete  
Plumbing and Heating Needs

*Simply Stitched LLC*

**NORTHWOODS**  
AWARD & ENGRAVING, LLC

**715-966-3993**

**DAN-Bee**  
715-453-1110  
danbeeroofing.com

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

- Fully Insured
- Free Estimates
- Shingle & Metal Roofing
- Snow Removal

**NORTHWOODS STORE** 

PREMIUM FUEL • GROCERIES & SUPPLIES  
WINE, BEER & SPIRITS  
FISHING SUPPLIES • GUNS & AMMO

**(715) 282-5696**  
9578 County K (Corner Cty K & 51)  
Harshaw, WI

**Your convenience store & More!**

**Never miss our publication!**



Get each new issue delivered straight to your inbox.



Scan to subscribe on [MyCommunityOnline.com](http://MyCommunityOnline.com)

**GENERATIONS**  
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY

(715) 224-3182 Tomahawk, WI

Kevin J Krueger  
Karri Ernst

[www.generationsfuneral.com](http://www.generationsfuneral.com)

**Billy Bob's**  
SPORTS BAR & GRILL TOMAHAWK

OPEN DAILY:  
11am - 9pm  
Fri & Sat 10pm

**715-453-4984**

N12025 Cty Hwy L, Tomahawk, WI

[www.billybobssportsbarandgrill.com](http://www.billybobssportsbarandgrill.com)

**\$5 OFF a \$25 purchase with coupon**

**Little space. Big impact.**

Advertise here  
Call 800-950-9952

**Advertise in Our Newsletter!**

Contact Marsha Smith  
msmith@4LPi.com  
(800) 950-9952 x2485



**N&W CONSTRUCTION LLC**

Nathaniel Lambright  
**715-679-4859**

ROOFING  
NEW CONSTRUCTION  
REMODELING  
INTERIOR FINISHING  
FREE ESTIMATES



Tomahawk, WI

**Cerny's Greenhouse**

Long Time Friend of Grace Lutheran  
(715) 453-4143

[CERNYSGREENHOUSE.COM](http://CERNYSGREENHOUSE.COM)



Northwoods Community Realty.com

**JACKIE LEONHARD**  
I go the extra mile to help my buyers & sellers.  
715-612-2673  
[www.choosejackie.com](http://www.choosejackie.com)

**Northern Sight**  
VISION CLINIC, LLC

Dr. Brittany Lemke  
Dr. Jessica Stromberg

(715) 453-3636 (715) 339-2040  
Tomahawk, WI Phillips, WI

[VisionSource-NorthernSight.com](http://VisionSource-NorthernSight.com)

Tomahawk  
**APPLIANCE & HOME**

686 North 4th St.  
Tomahawk  
715-224-3600  
[tomahawkappliance.com](http://tomahawkappliance.com)

**Support Our Advertisers!**



**KRUEGER-NIMSGERN**  
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES  
Jamie Nimsgern - Tammy Zweck  
John Krueger  
Licensed Funeral Directors  
715-453-3808  
[NimsgernFuneral.com](http://NimsgernFuneral.com)

**NORTHWOODS MEDICARE & HEALTH SOLUTIONS**

Formerly Dunn Financial Services  
Chad Lashua • Mike Kriewald  
**715-493-4803**

See us for all your health and Medicare needs.

**NORTHWOODS GLASS**

Serving Wisconsin for over 30 years  
Commercial • Residential • Auto Glass

**715-453-8495**  
199 Onieda Drive, Suite B  
Tomahawk

**Tomahawk Family Restaurant**

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

Serving Breakfast all day!  
1020 N. 4th Street  
**715-453-4504**

Grace Lutheran Church  
108 W. Somo Avenue  
Tomahawk, WI 54487

Non-profit org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID



**Worship Service Times**  
  
Saturday: 5:00 pm  
  
Sunday: 9:00 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.....

**Contact Us!**  
108 W. Somo Ave.  
Tomahawk, WI 54487  
Phone: (715) 453-4066  
gracetomahawkoffice@gmail.com  
www.gracelutherantomahawk.org  
Follow us on our FaceBook page.