

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

3700 WASHINGTON AVENUE – RACINE, WISCONSIN 53405-2999

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REV. DAVID W. HINTZ, PASTOR

(920) 227-7915 (MOBILE); revdwhintz@hotmail.com

January 2024

Rev. John A. Frahm, III

PO Box 24

Boulder Junction, WI 54512

(Cell Phone) 715-904-0642

December 13, 2023

Dear fellow baptized believers in Christ of Grace,

After much deliberation, gathering information, and prayer, I have concluded with the Lord's guidance to *accept* the Divine Call to be administrative pastor of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church there in Racine. Jennifer and I are looking forward to living in the Racine area. I am grateful for the helpful discussions and tours we enjoyed on our previous visit.

There is a lot more to do when moving from a parsonage situation to arranging for another place to call home. We are in the process of getting things lined up to search for a home that best suits our household situation. Making trips back and forth to accomplish what is needed before the actual move and the time for us to sort and pack our household items will not be quick. Please keep us in your prayers during the complicated process. I plan to keep in touch as to when we can plan a move date and an installation date (this, with the consultation of the circuit visitor). No doubt we will need to enlist some willing help on various matters.

I am honored at the opportunity the Lord is providing for us to serve you there and to extend the reach of God's Word into our area from the household of Grace Lutheran Church. Our clear identity as a congregation faithful to the Holy Scriptures and the confessional writings of the Lutheran Church will guide us through these challenging times in this latter history of the world. We are knit together as the Body of Christ in this congregation. We have a calling to look after one another, encourage one another, show charity and forbearance with one another, and be a household of faith in Christ as we all are pummeled and enticed by the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh. We need that from one another as brothers and sisters in Jesus's name. Each time we receive our Lord's holy body and blood we learn again that we are joined to our crucified and risen Lord and through Him to one another as eternal companions who worship around the throne of the Lamb. This fellowship of love we exhibit humbly before the world and this bears testimony to the Word of God we echo to new hearers.

The Lord grant us His blessings as we begin a new chapter together and rely upon Him in His merciful generosity toward us without any merit or worthiness in us. Our lives are lived then in thanksgiving to Him, listening to and heeding His instruction as His eternal truth shapes our lives through crosses we bear and through joys before, during, and after. The Lord is with us and watches over us and we all commit ourselves to His care and attention.

I will continue to be in touch as matters progress. Please also keep Trinity Lutheran Church in Boulder Junction in your prayers as they begin a new challenging chapter in their life together. My last Sunday here will be coordinated to deal with the house closing, moving our household, and arranging for installation. We look forward to our first Divine Service with the people there.

In Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. John A. Frahm, III". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. John A. Frahm, III
Administrative Pastor-Elect, Grace Lutheran Church, Racine.

Note: A copy of this letter and a copy of signed call documents will be on the way to Grace via US Postal Service.

FROM THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

The Chief Stewards of Humanity: Mom and Dad

St. Paul tells the Ephesians that the first commandment with a specific promise attached to it is, “Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you, and you may live long in the land” (Eph. 6:2). This promise is one indication of the importance of this commandment. The other thing that highlights the special nature of this commandment is its placement within the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments are clearly organized in two big categories. The first three commandments deal with our relationship with God. This category is called the First Table of the Law. The last seven commandments, the Second Table of the Law, tell us how we should relate to other people. These two tables correspond to what Jesus calls the two greatest commandments: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind,” and “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matt. 22:37–39).

The order of the Second Table of the Law is also important. Murder is a greater sin than adultery, which is a greater sin than stealing, or lying, or coveting. But why is the Fourth Commandment first in the Second Table, ahead of “you shall not murder”? Is disobeying your parents really worse than murder? Or maybe we should give up on thinking these commandments are ordered?

The overall effect of this order is to get us to see our parents as a connection point between our neighbors and our God. Throughout our upbringing our father and mother stand between us and

God and deliver His gifts to us: God clothes us, feeds us, protects us and teaches His Word to us through our parents.

So, parents have a very high calling from God. They are called to be stewards of the greatest gift: the gift of life.

Parenting thus gives us a keen insight into all our stewardship. Parents know that they have been given a great treasure in their children, a treasure that does not belong to them, yet for which they feel a great deal of responsibility. Truth be told, every gift we have been given is like this, because everything we have — whether our own personal skills and powers or our wealth and time — is all from God. He entrusts it all to us so that we can use it all and take care of it all for His great purposes.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

ELEVATOR: As of November 30,2023, the balance on our elevator loan stands at \$139,839.31. Thank you for your support and generosity!

DIRECTORY: If you have an email address, new phone number or moved, please update our secretary.

PASTOR'S PHONE: To reach Pastor Hintz directly, please call his cell phone number, 920-227-7915.Thank you.

2024 FLOWER CHART is available for sign up in the narthex. The cost is \$27.00 for two bouquets. Please make your checks payable to “Grace Lutheran Church” and place them in the secretary’s box in the Communication Center. Thank you

KWIK TRIP & SPEEDWAY GAS CARDS :

are for sale before and after both services in the office equipment room. Grace gets 5% back on all cards. All proceeds benefit Grace. If you would like further information, please contact the church office.



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CONNECTION CORNER

Having restarted our newsletter we are also restarting the Connection Corner! Frank Santalucia was kind enough to offer to be the first person, thank you Frank.

Frank Santalucia grew up in a small working River on the outskirts of Pittsburgh, PA. He lived in a very small row house with his parents and two sisters. The thing he cherished the most is that his whole family lived in the same town and within walking distance of each other, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Prior to becoming members of Grace he and his wife (Suzanne) belonged to an ELCA Church and became very uncomfortable with their teaching. They looked for a different church that was more centered on the bible. Having friends that were members of Grace, and coming to a number of services and getting to know, like and respect Pastor Crane, it was an easy decision to join Grace.

He enjoys the beautiful architecture and history behind our church building. Helping in Fellowship Hall kitchen keeping it supplied with food and supplies. The ease of getting around the church with the new elevator he considers a blessing.

The sheet asked what he is most proud of, his answer: My family, my wife, my two sons and four grandchildren. They have two sons, David who lives a few miles from them and Jason who lives in Connecticut. They are both married with two children each. David has two boys (Mason and Emmett) and Jason has two girls (Jinju and Miyan (Mimi)).

If he has any free time he enjoys keeping up with current events, reading, doing word games, he is a sports fan, but most importantly he enjoys spending time with his grandkids.

FROM THE BOARD OF PARISH FELLOWSHIP

As we wrapped up 2023 and look forward to 2024, I thought a review of our board role and responsibilities may be helpful.

First and foremost, we cannot take Christian fellowship for granted. All we have to do is remember what it was like during the pandemic. It is with this in mind that we desire and are responsible for providing opportunities for friends and family to gather in various ways throughout the year. We look for ways to strengthen this fellowship between members both spiritually and socially.

We do this in a variety of ways. Such as Sunday morning coffee fellowship, Ladies of Grace luncheons, game day, and Growing Strong with Grace as well as Grace's Craft and Chat Saturday.

These activities have opened up new areas of ministry by which we have been mightily blessed.

One such ministry is the creation of our "Blessing Boxes". These boxes are put together with love for anyone recently diagnosed with cancer. Through generous donations, we have gifted 3 boxes already and still have enough supplies to make several more. If you know of anyone who might benefit from one of our Blessing boxes, please contact anyone on the Parish Fellowship board or call the church office and your message will be forwarded.

Be sure to check our calendar of events in this newsletter and watch for news on our bulletin board by the coatroom. Join us whenever you are able. You are always welcome.

LWML NEWS

Abiding in Christ's Love

“Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him and he is in God. So, we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.”

Winter Getaway on February 2-3, 2024

Location: Marriott West

W231N1600 Corporate Court Waukesha, 53186

Cost: \$70 per person (includes Saturday Lunch)

Find more information at lwml-swd.org

Gifts for the Heart recipient Women's Leadership Institute at Concordia University Wisconsin (3/4) Female students and church worker Scholarship Fund (1/4)

Items to include are socks, facial items, lip gloss, chocolate kisses or hugs, devotions and mustard Seed devotion packets. Please put items in a quart size zip lock bag. Complete kits are requested.

March 16th 2024

Heart to Heart-Sisters of all Nations Event

“Hearts for the Harvest” Saturday March 16, 2024, 8:30am- 1:30pm

Benediction Lutheran hosting at LUMIN School, 8242 Granville Rd., Milwaukee

Be sure to check out the last “Cooler by the Lake” newsletter posted at

www.lwml-swd.org/events/other

JANUARY

Ladies of Grace Luncheon will be January 12, 2024 at The Aries, 4713 Douglas Ave. at 11:30AM. Please RSVP to Linda Eaton or Jane Kuntsman.

Growing Strong with Grace will meet Wednesday, January 17th at 11:30 with a Pot Blessed Lunch in Fellowship Hall followed by Game Day.

Grace Craft and Chat Breakfast will meet Saturday, January 20th from 9-11.

Respectfully,

Board of Parish Fellowship

Matthew 2:10.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

January Events

**01/12/2024 Ladies of Grace
11:00 (check bulletin for location)**

**01/17/2024 Growing Strong with Grace
11:30 Game Day**

**01/20/2024 Grace Craft & Chat
9:00 (bringing a dish is optional)**

WISH LIST

Juice

Crackers/Cookies

Summer Sausage

Block Cheese

