

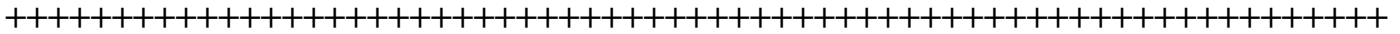
THE CARILLON



Grace Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 AM Joint Worship Service - February 2 (MP) and February 9 (D)

!!!!!!! NEW WORSHIP TIME !!!!!

9:30 AM Joint Worship BEGINNING Sunday, February 16

1st & 3rd Sundays – Hope Lutheran, Mineral Point

2nd & 4th Sundays – Grace Lutheran, Darlington

... From the Keyboard of Pastor Kate

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.*

*He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”*

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.

-- Luke 4:16-21

Beloved People of Grace and Hope,

As I sit down to write this morning, it is hard to know where to begin. So much has happened in just a week and a half since January 20, Inauguration Day/Executive Order Day. Honestly, it’s been enough to make my head spin, my heart seize, and my stomach drop. I grieve for our country and our world. I grieve for the poor, the sick, the weak, the undocumented, the asylum-seekers, those traumatized by war and hate, God’s transgender and non-binary children, those facing housing and food insecurity, those suffering from mental health issues, our veterans, women, people of color, children traumatized by fear for themselves, their families, and their neighbors, and so many more. I am angry, too, by the lack of integrity, compassion, humility, and character shown by the one who has been elected and vowed to honorably protect and lead our country and the world toward liberty and justice for ALL, all the while claiming to be a practicing Christian. Lord, have mercy on us!

Continued on next page

The scripture passage above is Part 1 of Jesus' inauguration into his ministry in the gospel of Luke. Jesus is clear from day one about God's kingdom and priorities, which he has been anointed to address. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life for ALL people, no exceptions.

At first the hometown crowd speaks well of Jesus and are amazed at his gracious words, but when Jesus goes on to say in vv. 21-30 that God is including and even prioritizes people outside their group they believe are inferior, unworthy, unentitled, and even downright enemies, they become filled with rage and try to hurl jESUS off a cliff. By the end of Luke's gospel, Jesus' words and actions for the good of all people get him crucified.

People of Grace and Hope, you are God's beloved children. In baptism you were also made members of Christ's body on earth – the Church. Jesus said in his famous Sermon on the Mount,

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:11-16)

The way of the cross is not an easy road; yet it is the way we are called to follow -- every single one of us who claim Christ as our Lord, Master, and Friend. By the gift of the Holy Spirit, he is here with us in it, as we do the hard things to which he has called us: continuing his reconciling, healing, and Resurrection work, and bringing the good news in tangible ways -- **in word and action** --to all people. Your neighbor needs to witness the truth of God's love, presence, and faithful activity in you, in your community, and in the world now more than ever!

I call each and every follower of Jesus Christ to **engage faithfully** as chosen and vital members of his Body. Pray! Engage with one another in worship, fellowship, discipleship (growing faith), mission, and service. Display radical hospitality as you invite people to “come and see” and join you in what God is doing in our midst. Be generous with your resources and support: your time, abilities, spiritual gift(s), finances, encouragement, contacts, hands -- whatever God has blessed you with – in joyful thanksgiving for what God has done and provided the mission of the church for those who are suffering. Perhaps take a humble, honest assessment of your current contributions and where God may be calling you to take a leap of faith and increase your support. Reach out to me or two another church leader if you would like help processing ideas. Be on the lookout for further guidance in the weeks ahead.

As I continue to remind us all, our God is present, faithful, and active in this world, and calls us to the same. May we do so in peace, harmony, and love.

Yours in Christ,
Pr. Kate

Keeping Our Ears to the Ground –

The following are ways to stay abreast of news from our synod, ELCA church-wide, and partners in our common mission. You can sign up to receive updates and information on areas you are particularly interested in, or just go directly to the source. You can also search for these organizations in **Facebook, Instagram, and other social media platforms:**

- **South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (SCSW) newsletter & emails** <https://scsw-elca.org/engage/>
- **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** -- <https://www.elca.org/news>
- **Wisconsin Council of Churches** -- <https://www.wichurches.org/>
- **Lutheran World Relief** – <https://lwr.org/>
- **Lutheran Disaster Response** -- <https://www.elca.org/our-work/relief-and-development/lutheran-disaster-response>
- **Lutheran Global Refuge** -- <https://www.globalrefuge.org/>
- **Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Great Lakes** -- <https://www.lsswis.org/>
- **ELCA Advocacy** -- <https://www.elca.org/our-work/publicly-engaged-church/advocacy>
- **AMMPARO** -- Accompanying Migrants with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities (AMMPARO) www.elca.org/our-work/relief-and-development/ammparo

RECORDED WORSHIP SERVICES



Grace and Hope services are being recorded by Ted in Mineral Point. Each Tuesday a link will be sent to watch the service if you would like.

Other opportunities to watch or listen to a live worship broadcast are:

TV – WKOW Channel 27 at 10:00 AM – Bethel Lutheran of Madison or on Bethel’s YouTube channel

Radio – WDMP 99.9 FM at 9:00 – Grace Lutheran Church, Dodgeville

Radio – WPVL 1590 AM at 10:00 AM – First English Lutheran, Platteville

Or – 8:00 AM on Sunday FELC Platteville YouTube or Spotify



Celebration!



Birthdays

Wendy Johns (2/3)

Missy Zasada (2/7)

Ruby Black (2/6)

Chelsie Golackson (2/22)

John Roelli (2/6)

Sheila Carrington (2/28)

Anniversaries

Patty & Stu Vamsatd (2/16)

WELCOME ROOD FAMILY!!

We welcome **Kip Allan Rood** to the family of God. Kip was baptized at Grace on January 12. His parents are Ann and Todd Rood, and his siblings are Sterling and Eleanor.

Please let the office know if we have missed your birthday, anniversary, or retirements in the listing so we can add your special day to our records.

WORDS OF GRATITUDE



A big thank you to:

- Paul Roelli for putting up new bathroom signs, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, and water leak detectors in several areas of the building and attached power cords for lights at pulpit and lectern.
- A huge thanks to our church treasurers: Tina Riechers (Grace) and Angie Schubert (Hope) for all their work “keeping the books,” paying the bills, and keeping good lines of communication going, as well as to Steve Fleming (Grace Financial Secretary) and Jim Harris (Hope) for working with their respective treasurers to put together the 2025 spending plans. Well done!
- To Tana Risseeuw (Grace) and Julie Owens (Hope) for their fine work on putting together the annual reports for each church. Also much appreciation for all those who provided information for the reports. We’re so thankful to you all!
- To the 2024 Council members of Grace (Linda Considine-President, Chuck Barnard-Vice President, Kris Fleming-Secretary, Tina Riechers-Treasurer, Steve Fleming-Financial Secretary, Mary Ann Roelli, Jody White, Don Barnard) and Hope (Jim Harris-President, Tim Terrill-Vice President, Muffy Swingen-Secretary, Angie Schubert-Treasurer, Deb Finkelmeyer, Ted Weier) for their faithful service to God’s people.
- To those who said “yes” to being the new 2025 Council members: Grace—Eldon & Kitty Wilson, Don Leinberger; Hope—Ted Weier (another term), Bill Kinsman, and Andrea Dannenberg. Also thank you to Steve Fleming for serving and continuing to serve on the Endowment committee and Greg Roelli for accepting a term to the same.
- For all the people from Grace and Hope who attended the annual meetings and have continued to show faithful and ongoing support for Christ’s Church, its people, and God’s mission through your giving, participation in worship attendance, service, bible study and classes, and more.
- For the support of our Confirmation Parents by getting their students to/from classes, keep open and active the lines of communication, providing snacks and drinks, and volunteering when needed.
- To all those who organized and helped taking down and putting away the Christmas decorations at Hope and Grace. You are greatly appreciated!
- To everyone who helped host fellowship after worship services this past month!

Thank yous Received

“Thank you for the lovely gifts and joyous Baptismal Celebration for Kip. We are so grateful to have been so warmly welcomed and embraced by the Grace Lutheran Congregation. With love, prayers and gratitude, the Roods – Todd, Ann, Sterling, Eleanor, and Kip”

CARE COMMITTEE



Our care committee had the congregation sign Valentine cards for our home bound people at the annual meeting.

We will continue to send out cards for birthdays, anniversaries, sympathies and get well cards etc... If anyone knows of someone that needs a card, please let us know to get one sent out. As mentioned at the annual meeting, if there is anyone who would like to join our committee, please let us know! We would love to have you!

IN OUR PRAYERS

We remember in our prayers:

Congregation/Homebound: Duane Nelson, Jean Belanger, David Chambers, Stu Vamstad, and the Kleppe family.

Friends, Family, & Neighbors: Susie Beiler and family (work injury)

Deaths:



Grace Lutheran Church Council



President: Linda Considine
Vice President: Mary Roelli
Secretary: Kris Fleming
Financial Secretary: Steve Fleming
Treasurer: Tina Riechers

Eldon Wilson
Kitty Wilson
Don Leinberger
Jody White

Council Highlights – Annual Meeting

- Proposed budget was approved
- Pastor is going to 75% time - this will not change the number of Sundays
- Worship service time will change to 9:30 beginning February 16
- Welcome to new council members: Eldon and Kitty Wilson and Don Leinberger
- Thank you to the outgoing members, Don and Chuck Barnard for their service

ANNUAL REPORT

There are copies of the Grace Annual Report available outside the church office.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are planning to run a 2025 directory of Grace members. If any of your contact information is incorrect in the current directory or has changed, please let the church office know ASAP.

Noisy Offering

The Noisy Offering for November and December was designated to be given to the Food Pantry. The total giving for the two months was \$215.97.

January “Noisy” offering going to a needy family at Grace.





WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for FEBRUARY

	Feb. 2	Feb. 9	Feb. 16	Feb. 23
Altar Care	Worship at	Mary Roelli Pat Roelli	Worship at	Jalaine Ruegesegger Sheila Carrington
Reader	Hope	Heather Blosch	Hope	Barb Schilling
Greeters*		Blosch Family		Bill & Barb Schilling
Ushers**		Don Leinberger		Don Leinberger
Acolytes		Marta Roelli		Brax White
Communion		Mary Roelli		Jalaine Ruegesegger
Bread		Mary Roelli		Mary Roelli

*Please arrive 20 minutes early.

**Please arrive 25 minutes early.

If you are unable to fulfill your role on a given weekend, please contact another person/family on the Worship Leader Schedule and swap or have someone cover for you.

Please indicate changes ahead of time on that master schedule, **or** if need be, contact the office with changes. (Office: 608.776.4462; darlinglutherans@gmail.com).

FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

Thank you to those who signed up to provide refreshments following worship. If interested in helping please contact Pat Roelli (482-0572).



Feb. 2 - Hope

Feb. 9 - Renae Johnson
Pat Roelli

Feb. 16 - Hope

Feb. 23 - Mary Roelli
Heather Blosch

Mar. 2 - Hope

Mar. 9 - Diane Bredeson
Barb Nelson

Mar. 16 - Hope

Mar. 23 - Tina Riechers
Pat Roelli

Mar. 30 - Kris Fleming
Kate Chambers

FAITH FORMATION



Confirmation Classes

- 5:30 – 6:30 PM, Wednesdays in Grace Fellowship Hall
- friends welcome!
- **Schedule:** February 5, 19, 26

“IGNITE!” Youth Group – Invites You To A Church Family and Friends GAME DAY! Sunday, February 23 between 1:30-5:30 PM



- Hosted by Grace Lutheran in the Fellowship Hall
- Please invite other church members from Grace and Hope, family, neighbors, and friends!
- Bring your favorite card and/or board games, or borrow from those provided.
- Bring your favorite snacks and non-alcoholic beverages to share!
- Time allotted for BINGO with prizes!

SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP

Sugar Creek Bible Camp information for youth retreats and summer information is out!! Check out the poster on the bulletin board in the narthex for upcoming events.



Upcoming: March 7-8 - **Youth Retreat at Sugar Creek** for grades 6-10 with youth from other churches. This is a great introduction to Sugar Creek for those who are new. We should register by early-mid February. Please let Pastor Kate know if your youth is/are interested. Pastor Kate will be able to drive/attend if there is interest by at least a couple of students. Costs will be covered for Grace attendees.

COMMUNITY

ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS WITH TAXES

The tax assistance program that is available in Lafayette County is known as the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program. It is the nation’s largest volunteer-based tax assistance and preparation program with a focus on taxpayers over the age of 50, particularly those with a low to moderate income. Grace Lutheran, again this year, is donating space for those volunteers to assist the seniors with their filing. The volunteers will be at Grace on Mondays from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM beginning in February only certain weeks and some Fridays. Call the Lafayette County ADRC in Darlington to make an appointments with the taxpayers (608/776-4960).



Lafayette County Food Pantry



The Lafayette County Food Pantry is in its **NEW LOCATION** at the Meadows on Spring Street!! The pantry is in **need of donations**. They continue to have a **large increase of families in need!** All types of groceries and household supplies are needed. Particular needs are **Hamburger Helper, personal care products** (shampoo, conditioner, lotion, etc.), **baby wipes, diapers (sizes 2, 3, & 5).** Toilet paper and paper towels are always needed.

Non-perishable donations can be dropped off at Grace in the shopping cart located near the fellowship area. **Frozen products** can be dropped off at the Food Pantry on Tuesdays or Thursdays (10:00-3:00). Tell them you represent Grace Lutheran Church, and your donation will be added to our ongoing count of pounds for 2024! **January total was 18#! The total for 2025 is 18#.**

GRACE IN PICTURES



Baptism of
Kip Allan Rood
1/12/25



Humble Choir
Sings
"Baptized in Water"

Children's Sermon





February 2025

Pastor's Schedule (608/732-9688)
 Pastor.GraceDar@gmail.com
 Tuesdays - Thursdays
 Mondays, Fridays, Saturdays: Pastor's Day Off

Office Hours
 Tana Risseuw, Adm. Assistant (608/558-0697)
 DarlingLutherans@gmail.com
 Tuesday-Thursday 9:00-Noon

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>NEW Worship Time 9:30 AM Beginning February 16</p>						<p>1</p>
<p>9:00 AM 2 Joint Worship & Fellowship & Council Installation @ @ Hope</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>10:00 AM 5 Worship Committee 5:30-6:30 PM Confirmation @ Grace Fellow- ship Hall</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9:00 AM 9 Joint Worship & Fellowship & Council Installation@ Grace Grace Council</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 No Confirmation ----- Pastor - Gone</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 </p>	<p>15</p>
<p>9:30 AM 16 Joint Worship & Fellowship @ Hope Hope Council -Pastor - Gone---</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 5:30-6:30 PM Confirmation @ Grace Fellow- ship Hall</p>	<p>20 1:00 PM IA Cty Jail Ministry</p>	<p>21 Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>22 9:30-3:30 LEAD Event In Mazomanie</p>
<p>9:30 AM 23 Joint Worship & Fellowship @ Grace 1:30-5:30 PM <u>Church & Friends</u> Game Day @ Grace</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 10:30 AM Worship at Laf. Manor</p>	<p>26 5:30-6:30 PM Confirmation @ Grace Fellow- ship Hall</p>	<p>27 10:30 AM Worship at MP Care Center</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>UPCOMING Ash Wednesday March 5</p>



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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

1302 Clay St • Darlington, WI 53530

Return Service Requested



Mission/Vision Statement

We are Grace people. Jesus Christ sends us out to:

- ✚ Feed the hungry
- ✚ Welcome every child
- ✚ Seek out the stranger
- ✚ Give thanks to God in all things
- ✚ Follow the way of the cross

Church phone: 608.776.4462
Church email: darlinglutherans@gmail.com
Facebook: [Facebook.comGraceLutheran.Darlington](https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheran.Darlington)
Website: GraceLutheranDarlington.net
Pastor's email: Pastor.GraceDar@gmail.com
Pastor's phone: 608.732.9688

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Newsletter Deadline

Items need to be submitted for the
March Newsletter by February 21

