



Rev. Beth Petzke

Pastor's Corner

Dear friends in Christ,

Thanksgiving Greetings to you and your families!

As we approach the season of Thanksgiving, my heart is filled with gratitude for each one of you and the unique blessings you bring to our church family.

Thanksgiving is a time when we reflect on God's goodness and faithfulness, recognizing God's presence in our lives, both in times of joy and in seasons of trial.

The words from Lamentations 3:22-24 resonate deeply with this spirit of thanksgiving:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul,
'therefore I will hope in him.'

These verses remind us that despite the struggles we may face, God's mercies sustain us, God's compassion is steadfast, and God's love is renewed every day. In a world that often seems divided and uncertain, our congregation has remained a steadfast source of love and support. In a world that often feels uncertain, we can rest assured in the Lord's unwavering faithfulness. Each morning brings a fresh outpouring of God's grace, which allows us to face the day with hope.

Thanksgiving is more than a day on the calendar; it is a posture of the heart. It calls us to look beyond our circumstances and see God's hand at work. Even in the darkest of times, God's light shines. We are encouraged to remember that the Lord is indeed our portion, our sustainer, and the very source of our hope.

As you gather with your loved ones, I encourage you to pause and count the many ways the Lord has been your portion this year. Take time to share your testimonies of God's goodness. Let us not only express our gratitude with words, but also with acts of love and kindness, as we continue to share God's compassion with those around us.

May this Thanksgiving be a time of deep reflection, joyful celebration, and renewed hope in the Lord. God's great faithfulness has never failed us and never will. We have so much to be grateful for because God's love truly endures forever.

I invite you to join us on Thanksgiving Eve (November 26) at 6:30 p.m. for our service which will be full of Thanksgiving-themed worship songs and messages, including the senior choir and communion. All are welcome!

With a heart full of gratitude, I give thanks for you all and pray God's continued blessings in your lives. May this season remind us to give thanks in all ways and in all seasons of life. There are many opportunities to join together as people of faith (in person or online), to gather together as an example for those who need to know Jesus' love and share that love with all we meet! Below are some of the opportunities to gather. Please join us - All are welcome!

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

Weekly Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6 p.m. in the lounge (rear of the sanctuary).

Upcoming Sundays and special services: November 2 - Worship at 8 & 10 a.m. Grace Senior Choir will be singing at the 10 a.m. service. We will be celebrating All Saints Day at both services in which we will name before God the loved ones who have died this past year. In addition, there will be dedicated time to name all our loved ones who have entered into eternal life. A reminder that Daylight Saving Time ends on the evening before (falling back one hour).
November 9 - Worship at 10 a.m. We will celebrate consecration Sunday, dedicating our gifts to God. Time will be set aside to prayerfully pledge our gifts (time, talent, and treasure) to God in response to the generosity God shows us. In addition, we will celebrate the legacy gift from the Koepke family, honoring their dedication to Grace Church. We will also give thanks for the ministry of Sandy Rabe as she leaves her position as church secretary.
November 16 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, Intergenerational Worship at 10 a.m. Grace Senior Choir will be singing.
November 23 - Worship at 10 a.m. will include celebrating the Reign of Christ as our focus.
Wednesday, November 26 -- Worship at 6:30 p.m. in gratitude for the gifts God offers us. Grace Senior Choir will be singing. The sacrament of Holy Communion will be shared - all are welcome at the table! Following worship, we will gather for a pie feast. Please consider baking or buying an extra pie to bring and share for a time of fellowship following worship.
November 30 - Worship at 10 a.m., First Sunday of Advent (Hope)

Friends in Christ, shine your light and share it with others - it won't lessen your light! And when we put our light together, it grows. Live fully, laugh deeply, love widely. We are a people who do not give up - "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up" (Gal 6:9).

Thanksgiving blessings to you all,

Pastor Beth

A message from your
Church Council
President



The council is getting ready for Consecration Sunday, which is November 9th. This is the day that we dedicate our offerings of time, talent, and financial gifts to the church, and we will be having a celebration. We will also share information about our legacy gift from the Koepke family, and we will celebrate the work of Sandy Rabe, our former secretary. Hope to see you then!

Happy Day!

Sarah Montgomery, Council President

Hello Grace UCC!

I am Sue Kaiser - your 'new' office secretary!

I am a Plymouth, WI 'born & bred' native. I am 69 years old and have been married to my high school sweetheart Gary Kaiser for 49 years! Prior to coming to Grace, I was employed as a recovery coach/peer support specialist for the substance use recovery community in local counties.



I am a fairly active member at my home church - Pilgrim UCC in Fond du Lac, as well as being active in the WI conference and in my community. A few of the ministries I am involved in are: WI Conference Art Installation Group, ONA - Open & Affirming Coalition, WISE - Welcoming, Inviting, Supportive and Engaged for Mental Health (Network), HROP - Harm Reduction and Overdose Prevention Ministry and I am also the secretary for the Sheboygan County Housing Coalition whose vision it is that all Sheboygan County residents have access to safe, stable, and affordable housing. Oh, and let's not forget the singing! I LOVE to sing! I sing with Pilgrim's Choir, the Plymouth Art Center Choir and also in theatre productions.

I'm looking forward to meeting you in the upcoming months and thank you in advance for your patience and grace as I try to take the place of the best secretary ever!!

Sue

SCHEDULE OF MINISTRY HELPERS

NOV	Usher	Liturgist (10AM)
2nd All Saints	8AM Betty Jones 10AM Mike and Lisa Roloff	Margy Horneck
9th Consecration Sunday	Margy Horneck & Karen Groth	Karen Groth
16	Mike and Susie Wandschneider	
23	Larry and Deb Ter Maat	
26th Thanksgiving Eve Holy Communion	Carol and Mike Skeris	
30	Curt Joa & Maureen Faucher	Maureen Faucher

DEC	Usher	Liturgist (10AM)
7	8AM Betty Jones 10AM Paul & Lynn Green	Margy Horneck
10th Blue Christmas	6:30PM on Wednesday no ushers	
14th	Mike and Lisa Roloff	Karen Groth
21	Margy Horneck & Karen Groth	
24 Christmas Eve Holy Communion	4:30PM Mike and Susie Wandschneider 11:30PM Candlelight Service	
25th Christmas Day	10AM Larry and Deb Ter Maat	
28th	Mike and Carol Skeris	

Wedding Anniversaries November



24th Tom and Bev Schroeder
27th Christopher and Tracy Widder
28th Jim and Jean Limberg

Safe Sanctuary Adult Sign Up

Please consider being a second available adult for confirmation classes at 5pm Tuesday's.

To be safe sanctuary compliant we need two adults in the building when youth are present.

Sign up sheet available in narthex.

Birthdays THIS MONTH

2nd	Angie Peskie	19th	Kurt Becker
8th	Cathy Meiselwitz	23rd	Curt Joa
10th	Dennis Kampmann	24th	Margaret Widder
10th	Dawn Ziegelbauer	27th	Mandy Priebe
12th	Lynn Green	29th	Benjamin Widder
14th	Aaron Radder		
16th	Bev Schroeder		
18th	Laurie Lindow		
19th	Nolan Waterman		



Sunday, November 2 we will give pause to remember All Saints Day and honoring the memory of loved ones that have passed since October of last year.



Veterans Day is celebrated on Tuesday, November 11 but we will remember our veterans in worship on the 9th. It is a practice at Grace Church to remember loved ones that serve or have served our country. Should you have someone in mind, please provide a photo, a name, the branch of service, and years of service (if possible) to complete our remembrance.

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

November 26th  host needed!

Thanksgiving Eve 6:30 p.m.
with pie social to follow

November 30th
Annual Congregational Budget
Meeting following worship

December 10th
Blue Christmas Service 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve services
4:30 p.m. & 11:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship
10:00 a.m.



COMING ATTRACTIONS FOR DECEMBER AT GRACE

NATIVITY / CRECHE DISPLAY



Nativity displays are sometimes known as a "creche," a French word meaning "crib" or "cradle".



If you would like your display at Grace Church for the coming Christmas Season - you will be responsible to set it up in the church window on **SATURDAY 11/29 after 9am**. Please contact Rosemary Lohse with any questions.

Have your name and note attached explaining what you might know about its origin or what makes it special to you. *Thank you in advance for participating!*



FOOD ITEMS

Mini / regular Candy Bars
Pringle Chips single serve
Cookies (regular & sugar free)
Puff Cheese Balls
Sugar Free Chocolate Candy

Variety Hard Candy
Soft Chocolates
Hostess or Little Debbie Snacks
Nuttty Buddy Bars
Regular or Diet Soda

MISCELLANEOUS

Electric Razors
Pencil Sharpeners
Pens
Larger size Wisconsin Sportswear e.g. Bucks, Panthers, Brewers, Badgers

Rocky Knoll 2025 Small Gift Christmas List

TOILETRIES

Deodorant
Body Lotion
Shampoo
Nail Polish / Remover
Kleenex
Non-Aerosol Body Sprays (men & women)

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

1. Don't wrap items
2. Drop off in narthex by Nov. 30th
(please: no pudding or fruit cups)
Sandy will deliver before their deadline.

2025 POINSETTIA ORDER FORM - DUE November 27th

All poinsettia plants are in 6.5" pots and will have one plant with 4-6 blooms.
Plants will be wrapped in gold foil with a red bow.



QUANTITY _____ \$11 EACH

_____ Classic Red

_____ Christmas White

Total \$ _____ (Make checks payable to Grace UCC*)
Write **Poinsettia** in the memo line please.

Placed By: _____
Print clearly as this is how it will appear in the program.

CHOOSE ONE:

☐ In Memory of: _____

☐ In Honor of: _____

Return order form & payment to the church office on or before **Thurs., Nov. 27th**

Donate my poinsettia after Christmas worship as you see fit.

☐ I will take my poinsettia home.

THANK YOU NOTES



Dear Grace,

Thank you so much for the beautiful Peace Lily in honor of the passing of Sarah's dad, Rev. Gene Krueger. We are so appreciative for the prayers and support of our church family in this difficult time.
Sarah and Dan Montgomery



Continued thanks to all who are helping with the church building and grounds during Mike Rolloff's medical leave - Paul & Lynn Green, Marge & Hank Horneck, Joyce Atkins, Susie & Mike Wandschneider, Sandy Rabe, Greg Cartwright and Family.

Thanks to Rosemary Lohse for enhancing the chancel, narthex area and outside entrance with the beautiful fall decorations.



Continued thanks to all those who meet weekly to help count offerings with Sandy.

Thank you for your generosity to Grace Church, supporting the mission and ministry that helps spread the good news of God's love for all!



We Are Grateful For 50 Year+ Members

Thanks to all who made the recognition and celebration of members of Grace for 50 or more years such as success. More than half of those members joined us for worship, followed by a celebratory potluck meal complete with fellowship and bingo. A commemorative piece was created thanks to Joyce Atkins and artist Dan Petzke. The original artwork is on display at Grace, including the names of each of those members. Additional copies of the piece are available in the narthex.



Thanks to all who made the fellowship event so wonderful:

- For each of you who attended or supported the celebration.
- Joyce Atkins for table top decorations, pumpkins donated by Nourish Farms.
- Sandy Rabe for coordinating the special program, meal details, bingo prizes, and called bingo.
- To all who brought a dish to pass and helped serve.
- To all who donated bingo prizes: Heidi Becker, David Rabe, Maureen & Richard Faucher, Karen Groth, Joyce Atkins, Pastor Beth.
- Henry McKnight for helping to serve beverages.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 All Saints' Day
2 All Souls' Day Angela Peskie 8am - Worship (All) 10am - Worship (All)	3 11am - Choir Rehearsal	4 5pm - Confirmation 6pm - Bible Study	5	6	7	8 Cathy Meiselwitz
9 Consecration Sunday 10am - Worship	10 Dawn Ziegelbauer Dennis Kampmann 11am - Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm - Council	11 5pm - Confirmation 6pm - Bible Study	12 Deadline for Budget Lynn Green	13	14 3rd Annual Women's Retreat Aaron Radder	15
16 Bev Schroeder Intergenerational 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship	17 Cathy Valenstein 11am - Choir Rehearsal	18 Laurie Lindow 5pm - Confirmation 6pm - Bible Study	19 Nolan Waterman	20 Newsletter Articles	21 Kohler Villager Articles	22
23 Curt Joa 10am - Worship	24 Margaret Widder Tom & Bev Schroeder 11am - Choir Rehearsal	25 6pm - Bible Study	26 6:30pm - Worship 7:30pm - Pie social	27 Amanda Priebe Chris & Tracy Widder Christmas	28	29 Benjamin Widder 9am - Christmas Decor 9am - Crèche Set Up in
30 First Sunday of Advent 10am - Worship 11am - 2026 Budget	1	2	3	4	5	6

Grace United Church of Christ
500 School Street
Kohler, WI 53044

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



If you cannot or wish to not
attend worship in person,
please consider mailing in
your offering to the church
office:
[Click here for PayPal](#)

PASTOR: Rev. Beth Petzke

ORGANIST: Duane Ream

CHOIR ACCOMPANIST: Sue Hildebrand

CUSTODIAN: Mike Rolloff

CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Sarah Montgomery

TREASURER: Dan Montgomery

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Duane Ream

CHURCH SECRETARY: Sue Kaiser

*GRACE NOTES IS A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF
FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF GRACE CHURCH*

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS **11AM-4PM on Thursdays most often**

Phone: (920) 452-6795 OR Email:GraceUCCKohler@gmail.com

[Website:https://graceucckohlerwi.wixsite.com/website](https://graceucckohlerwi.wixsite.com/website)

GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

"Grace Church is an accepting community of faith, committed to growth through change."

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