



Rev. Beth Petzke

## Pastor's Corner

Dear friends in Christ,

Grace and peace to you! September is a time of transition of seasons, but October is when I most feel the movement towards change - in the weather and worship. The days become shorter with less light as the darkness creeps in a little earlier each evening. The long golden evenings of summer give way to cooler nights and shadows stretch across our yards. For many, the shorter days can feel heavy, and even discouraging at times.

And yet, scripture reminds us that darkness never has the final word. The prophet Isaiah declared, "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned" (Isaiah 9:2). That promise was fulfilled in Jesus Christ, the true Light of the World.

Even in seasons where the world feels dim—whether through personal struggles, uncertainty in our communities, or the literal shortening of daylight—Christ's presence shines. Jesus' light brings hope where there is despair, guidance where there is confusion, and peace where there is fear. Therefore, I encourage each of us to look for the light of Christ in both small and surprising places - in the smile from a neighbor, in the color of the autumn leaves, in the giggle from a baby or laughter from a child, or in the quiet moments of prayer. Christ carries light into our lives for us, and for us to share, bringing light into the darker corners.

May this season remind us that no matter how long the night, the dawn always comes in the light of Jesus Christ. There are many opportunities to join together as people of faith (in person or online), to gather our lights so that together we shine even brighter, as an example for those who need to know Jesus' love! Below are listed some of the opportunities to gather. All are welcome! Weekly Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6 p.m. in the lounge (rear of the sanctuary).

Upcoming Sundays: October 5 - Worship at 8 & 10 a.m. including communion at both services, celebrating World Communion - all are welcome at the table! We will receive a special offering for Neighbors in Need. Grace Senior Choir will sing at 10 a.m. service.

October 12 - Celebrating our members of 50+ years. Worship will include an old-fashioned-type hymn sing. Bibles will be presented to one of our young people. Following worship, everyone is invited to celebrate with a potluck and free bingo games.

October 19 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Intergenerational Worship. Grace Senior Choir will be singing.

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

Friends in Christ, shine your light and share it with others - it won't take away from your light! 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).

Blessings to you all,  
  
Pastor Beth



Fall is here, and our church is getting back to our regular schedule. The choir is practicing, and Sunday School has reconvened. We have a Bible study on Tuesdays, and there are lots of opportunities to help out.

Thanks to all who have volunteered to help with custodial duties while our custodian is on leave; your help is appreciated!

The Council has also been hard at work. We are looking at alternative ways to support the budget. This includes options we have already tried, like a repeat of Uncle Mike’s Kringles, and also some new ideas in the works. As these ideas come together, we will share them so that we can work together as a family to implement them.

Happy Day! Sarah Montgomery, Council President

## SCHEDULE OF MINISTRY HELPERS & HIGHLIGHTS

| OCT                                     | Usher   | Liturgist (10AM) |
|---|---|------------------|
| 5th<br>Worldwide Communion              | 9AM Betty Jones<br>10AM Larry and Deb Te Maat | Margy Horneck    |
| 12                                      | Carol and Mike Skeris                         | Karen Groth      |
| 19                                      | Lynn & Paul Green                             |                  |
| 26                                      | Curt Joa & Maureen Faucher                    | Maureen Faucher  |
| NOV                                     | Usher   | Liturgist (10AM) |
| 2nd All Saints<br>Holy Communion        | 8AM Betty Jones<br>10AM Mike and Lisa Rolloff | 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<br>Holy Communion | Carol and Mike Skeris                         |                  |
| 30                                      | Curt Joa & Maureen Faucher                    | Maureen Faucher  |

### Counting Deposits

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| October 2  | Henry Horneck  |
| October 8  | Linda Billmann |
| October 15 | Rosemary Lohse |
| October 22 | Henry Horneck  |
| October 29 | Linda Billmann |

November To Be Determined

### November 30<sup>th</sup> Congregational Budget Meeting



Could someone host coffee hour for between worship and the meeting start?

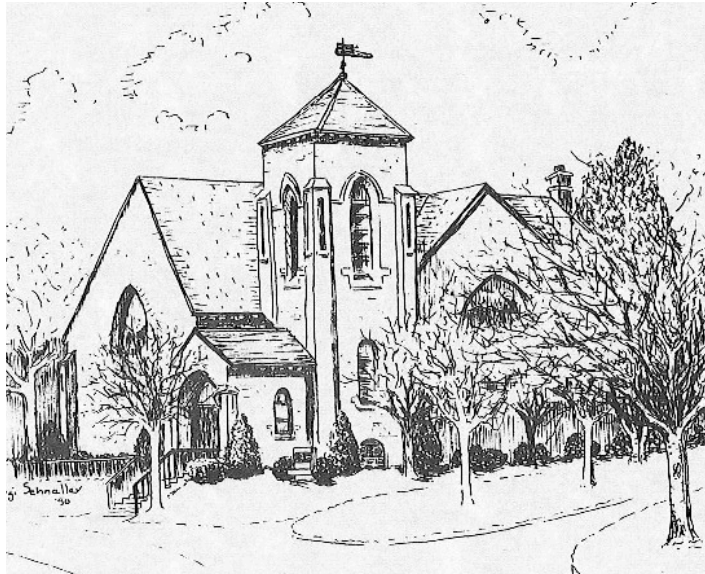


# Recognition

IT WAS SO NICE LAST YEAR WE DECIDED TO DO IT AGAIN!

## of 50+ year members

Sunday, October 12, 2025 following 10AM worship  
Potluck Luncheon and BINGO!



50 Years - Vicki Mavis  
51 years - Elaine Hitchcock, Neil and Shari Jensen  
52 years - Betty Jones  
53 years - Thomas Widder  
54 years - Jim & Margie Price, Nancy Christian  
55 years - Diana Multer  
58 years - Linda Billmann, Lola Lindow, Lois Meyer  
61 years - Marcia Fenner, Margy Horneck  
69 years - Judith Kummer, Gordon Horneck,  
Kenneth Lindow, Robert Multer  
71 years - Margaret Widder  
72 years - Beverly Kramer  
75 years - Henry Horneck  
83 years - LaVerne Gier

**50-YEAR MEMBERS PLEASE RSVP TO CHURCH OFFICE  
920.452.6795 BY OCTOBER 2<sup>ND</sup> PLEASE.**

### Report on our SEPTEMBER MISSION: Neighbors in Need

By the time you read this we may have gathered and blessed the monies you have given to help support Neighbors in Need.

It is never to late to give. Every dollar matters. Year to Date: \$144 and counting.

**THANKYOU**

## Hello October

**O**NE OF THE BEST THINGS YOU  
**C**AN DO FOR YOURSELF IS  
**t**AKING TIME TO LEARN AND GROW.  
**o**NCE YOU GIVE YOURSELF PATIENCE, YOU  
**b**ECOME YOUR BEST FRIEND. AND THE  
**e**MPATHY, SELF-KINDNESS AND  
**r**ESILIENCE ARE WHAT YOU NEED TO GROW.



## Wedding Anniversaries October



10th Dan and Sarah Montgomery  
19th Wayne and Rosemary Lohse  
20th Curt and Lisa Scheppmann  
29th Gary and Laurie Lindow

## CELEBRATING



## Birthdays THIS MONTH

|                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 2nd Duane Ream    | 16th Karen Milbrath   |
| 3rd Brian Payne   | 16th Keith Valenstein |
| 6th Rica Ehrhart  | 18th Betty Jones      |
| 11th John Fenger  | 23rd Ava Priebe       |
| 11th Vicki Mavis  | 24th Kelly Kasten     |
| 12th Paul Green   | 28th Molly Montgomery |
| 13th Tom Widder   | 30th Chuck Ebert      |
| 14th Janet Carter | 30th Mike Rolloff     |
| 15th Joya Cox     |                       |

## THANK YOU NOTES



*"I would like to thank everyone for cards, flowers, prayers, and visits. I really appreciate all the love and support I received since my recent illness." Your Friend, Joya Cox*



"Thank you for your donation of 41 pounds of peanut butter and jelly for the Sheboygan County Food Bank through your food drive. We are grateful for your thoughtful gift that will help make sure nutritious food reaches local families, seniors, and children in need." From Katelyn "Thank you for being such a great partner in fighting hunger." From Todd "Thank you so much for once again hosting a PB&J drive. It will help many families.



*"Heartfelt thanks for your generous donation of school supplies. Your kindness ensures that every child has the tools they need to learn, grow, and thrive this school year. The impact of your generosity will be felt daily in our classrooms, and we are truly grateful for the partnership and encouragement you have given. Thank you for blessing our school in such a meaningful way." Oostburg Elementary School*



"Your willingness to share our mission helps spread hope, raise awareness, and invite others to walk alongside families on their journey to stability. Thank you for being such an important part of this work." Sent with gratitude from Lisa Stephan, Executive Director of Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization.

## CONNECT WITH GOD DAILY

Upper Room Devotionals are available in the narthex year round in regular and large print for a donation. Take one/Share one!



## GIFT GIVING IDEA FOR FALL

Pair the cookbook with a lovely fall scented candle (spiced apple or pumpkin spice @ \$15 ea.) with the second edition of the Grace cookbook (\$13). Contact the church office or just leave your money in the little box in the narthex.



| Sun   | Mon  | Tue   | Wed   | Thu   | Fri  | Sat                         |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------|
| 28  | 29   | 30  | 1<br>(office closed)                                | 2<br>Duane Ream - Organist<br>9am - Deposit | 3  | 4<br>Feast of St Francis of |
| 5<br>NIN Offering<br>World Wide<br>8am - Worship with<br>10am - Worship | 6<br>Rica Ehrhart<br>11am - Choir Rehearsal  | 7<br>5pm - Confirmation<br>6pm - Bible Study                      | 8<br>9am - Deposit                                  | 9<br>Dan & Sarah                            | 10<br>John Fenger<br>Vicki Mavis               | 11                          |
| 12<br>50+ year member<br>Paul Green<br>10am - Worship                   | 13<br>Tom Widder<br>11am - Choir Rehearsal   | 14<br>Janet Carter<br>5pm - Confirmation<br>6pm - Bible Study     | 15<br>Joya Cox<br>9am - Deposit<br>5:30pm - Council | 16<br>Karen Milbrath<br>Keith Valenstein    | 17<br>Betty Jones                              | 18                          |
| 19<br>Intergenerational<br>Wayne & Rosemary<br>10am - Worship           | 20<br>Pastor Beth vacation<br>Curt & Lisa<br>Newsletter Articles<br>11am - Choir Rehearsal | 21<br>5pm - Confirmation<br>6pm - Bible Study                     | 22<br>9am - Deposit<br>1pm - Grace Friends          | 23<br>Ava Priebe                            | 24<br>Kelly Kasten<br>Kohler Villager Articles | 25                          |
| 26<br>Pastor Beth<br>10am - Worship lead                                | 27<br>11am - Choir Rehearsal   | 28<br>Molly Montgomery<br>5pm - Confirmation<br>6pm - Bible Study | 29<br>Gary & Laurie Lindow<br>9am - Deposit         | 30<br>Chuck Ebert<br>Mike Rolloff           | 31   | 1                           |



A number of things that just 'happen' here at Grace. For those who give of their time and talent to make things happen – whether anonymously or accidentally not included here, please know that we are thankful for your efforts! Kindly let the church office know of any errors or omissions.

## We Are Grateful For...

- 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.
- Welcome to returning and new (and renewed) choir members.
- Thanks to Rosemary Lohse for the beautiful mums at the church entrance.
- Continued thanks to Henry Horneck, Linda Billmann, and Rosemary Lohse who continue to assist with counting the weekly offering for deposit.
- Thanks to the church council for hosting the renewal Sunday potluck. Thanks also to all who stayed and shared a meal and themselves.
- It seems surely we've missed something here and while we can't always catch everything but know your efforts for the good of Grace Church are whole heartedly appreciated. Thank you God.



EMPOWER - 2025 Sheboygan County Caregiver Conference hosted by Dementia care Network of Sheboygan County and Songbird Pond.. 8:30-3:30, join us to learn and stay updated with caregiving techniques, tools, and the resources you need for you and your loved one. "An AWESOME and VALUABLE conference for both professional and family caregivers in our community." Spend a fun and educational day with other caregivers and loved ones caring for older adults with chronic conditions.



Bethlehem United Church of Christ is pleased to sponsor guest speaker, police officer Adam Meyers. Officer Meyer's presentation will be at the Kiel Community Center (510 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Kiel) on Monday, October 20 beginning at 6pm. Officer Meyers was involved in an officer-involved shooting and the experience led to significant mental health and substance abuse challenges. Meyers will use his experience to demonstrate the importance of de-stigmatizing mental health concerns and normalizing conversations about mental health. The presentation is free of charge.



Family Pathways has seen several new families joining our supervised visitation schedule recently. It has been both a busy and rewarding experience meeting new families and learning more about them. We continue to provide birthday gifts for the visiting children, and appreciate any donations of new toys, crafts, books, games, etc. Bridgeway needs list: Toilet paper, Kitchen garbage bags, Diapers size 5 and 6, and Paper towel.



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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: Sandy Rabe

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

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 9AM-4PM on Wednesdays most often

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