



October 2025

SAVING GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR JOURNEY

A newsletter for members and friends of Saving Grace Lutheran Church



“Established in the Holy Scriptures,
our mission is to make Jesus Christ
known to all as the One True Savior;
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.”



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25
3 - 5PM

REFORMATION

◆ SUNDAY ◆

SOLA SCRIPTURA, SOLA GRATIA, SOLUS CHRISTUS, SOLA FIDE

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 25

5pm



SUNDAY
OCTOBER 26

8:30am | 10:30am

FALL

BAZAAR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1st 9AM - 2PM

Events & News for October 2025



TRUNK OR TREAT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25
3 - 5PM

Candy donations can be dropped off at
the Church Office
Email office@saving-gracechurch.com
for any questions/details

Blood Drive

Monday, November 17th
Noon - 5pm
Fellowship Hall



Join us to help the American Red Cross
provide aid to those in need!

WE NEED FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS!

Please sign up to set up/clean up for
Fellowship hour at the treat table, or
contact Allison Otto!

REFORMATION SUNDAY

SOLA SCRIPTURA, SOLA GRATIA, SOLUS CHRISTUS, SOLA FIDE

SATURDAY 5pm  SUNDAY 8:30am | 10:30am
OCTOBER 25 OCTOBER 26

FALL BAZAAR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1st 9AM - 2PM

Come one, come all! Mark November 1, 2025
on your calendars, as the date of our annual
Saving Grace Bazaar! You won't want to
miss out on getting some of our famous
lefse, the men's delicious caramel rolls, the
many mouth-watering bakery items, some
lovely collectible "Old Treasures," and our
amazing array of booths featuring all hand-
made items from our tremendously
talented members of SGLC.

We will be open from 9am - 2pm, so come
on down! Be sure to get here early, because
many items - especially the lefse - fly off
the shelves! Bring your friends! We look
forward to seeing you there!



SAVING GRACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 27th | 11am - 3pm

Donations and questions can be
directed to Allison & Ashley Otto
sglcthanksgiving1@gmail.com



Free of charge!
Dine-In & Take Out
(Take-Out orders must be placed
by 4pm on Wed. 11/26
at 715-514-3552)
**Volunteers needed starting
Monday, November 24th**

A message from Pastor David Irgens

¹¹*The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him;*
¹²*if we endure, we will also reign with him;*
if we deny him, he will also deny us;
¹³*if we are faithless, he remains faithful--*
for he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴*Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.”*
(2 Timothy 2:11-15)

A Second-Grade teacher gave her class a lesson on magnets. She taught them about what a magnet is and how it works. The next day in a written test, she included this question: **“My full name has six letters. The first one is M. I pick up things. What am I?”** When the test papers were turned in, the teacher was astonished to find that almost fifty percent of the students answered the question with the word *Mother*.

While almost fifty percent of the class guessed it was “Mother,” it’s obvious half of them didn’t understand the question, but it’s funny how they were thinking. The context makes all the difference. In 2 Timothy 2:11-13 we hear a hymn that “might have been used at Baptisms or for encouraging Christians in persecution” (Hultgren, Arland J., Augsburg Commentary on the New Testament I-II Timothy, Titus, 1984.) The hymn parallels Romans 3:7, ^{“3}*Do you not know that **all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?** ⁴Therefore we have been **buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.***

⁵*For **if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.** ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. But **if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.”***
And Romans 8:17, 25, ^{“17}*and **if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ--if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him...** ²⁵But **if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.”***

We are called to a different way of life. It doesn’t mean that everything is going to be peaceful and without pain. It means that we are called to follow Jesus. *Jesus says, “**For whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.” (Luke 9:23)*** I thought it would be easier. What about the “abundant life” (John 10:10)? Abundant life doesn’t mean that you get everything you want on this earth. It doesn’t mean that you get to shape your world into what you want it to be. It means that we submit ourselves to God, trusting in Him to provide for us. It means that He will guide our lives that we may be part of something greater than we could ever imagine. It means that you as a child of God have a purpose so complex and perfect, its part of God’s plan for those around you and the whole world. You have been called to be part of it. *“**I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before Him.” (Ecclesiastes 3:14)*** Perhaps life isn’t about my comfort, my enjoyment, my dreams, but it’s about being part of something so divine, that when it happens, we are in absolute awe of God who directs our path. We may not even understand all of it, but when we see just a glimpse of what God is doing, we see the fulfillment of what God desires for us and the depth of His love for us. Karl Barth was at Rockefeller Chapel on the campus of the University of Chicago during his lecture tour of the U.S. in 1962. After his lecture, during the Q & A time, a student asked Barth if he could summarize his whole life’s work in theology in a sentence. Barth said, “Yes I can. In the words of a song, I learned at my mother’s knee: ‘Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.’” That’s love. ^{“10}This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins... ¹⁹We love, because He first loved us” (1 John 4:10, 19).

^{“15}***Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15).*** There is no greater privilege.

In Christ Jesus our Lord,

Pastor David Irgens

A message from Pastor Dan Doran

I've recently started taking guitar lessons again. It's something I haven't done since I was in middle school. I've been playing on my own, trying to learn things on my own, but I feel I'm at a plateau. I can't learn what I don't know. I'm stuck where I'm at, unable to get past the challenge of learning new music that has been too difficult for me to play.

So, I've started taking lessons again--it's quite fun, challenging, and embarrassing. I've had a couple lessons now. The most valuable lesson I've learned so far is the willingness to let someone see my mistakes, my incompetence, a song that's still got its rough spots. In the past, that's exactly where I would give up. When I got stuck. When I'm embarrassed with the mistakes I'm still making. But, this is exactly where learning takes place. There's freedom in accepting our mistakes for what they are and being able to learn from them how God is inviting us to think or act differently in the future.

I've just started working on a song called, "My Worth Is Not In What I Own." Here's the opening verse:

*My worth is not in what I own
Not in the strength of flesh and bone
But in the costly wounds of love
At the cross*

All the verses end with those words, "at the cross." As opposed to everywhere else we might find our worth. Our pride, shame, skill, reputation, victories, losses, youth, wealth, wisdom all come to an end at the cross. We are no longer identified, characterized, or defined by any of those things. They do not give us value and they do not define our status. So, the concluding verse goes like this:

*Two wonders here that I confess
My worth and my unworthiness
My value fixed, my ransom paid
At the cross*

There is great freedom at the cross. We are not without our mistakes, our faults, and our embarrassments. But, when we bring them to the cross, we find we are free from our greatest failures--and even our greatest successes. Christ has died for us. Now, our future is full of hope learning from the one who has given his life for us. No matter how often we fail or miss the mark, the cross has determined our worth and our values.

"For though [the righteous] fall seven times, they will rise again..." -Proverbs 24:16

Every Blessing in the Lord,

Pastor Dan

Music Notes

Katherine Altreuter, Music Director



PSALM 37:1-9

**¹Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of the wrongdoers,
²for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.**

**³Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
⁴Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

**⁵Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.
⁶He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday.**

**⁷Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;
do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.**

**⁸Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret--it leads only to evil.
⁹For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.**

There are people we meet in this world that walk a different path than us. Maybe they follow a different religion, cause, or belief; maybe they have experienced life and learned different lessons than us. And there are times where we have to push aside our differences even though it may be the hardest thing we've had to do.

Psalm 37 reminds us that we must trust in the Lord despite the fact that He brought someone into our lives that contradicts our very being. That instead of showing them our anger or frustrations, we show them mercy as our Lord brought mercy to us through His Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Meditate on this: when you find yourself in conflict with someone, no matter the reason, do you show them mercy like Christ does? Are you willing to lay yourself at their feet even though they may have done you wrong? Are you patient with them, as God is patient with us sinners, even though it may feel like they don't deserve it?

We don't deserve God's grace, mercy, or patience. We as humans are impatient, angry, spiteful, hard to love, and sinful! We make mistakes, we hurt others, and we don't always extend God's grace even though we are called as Christians to do so. We make our own decisions to hold our anger over others' heads and let them stew in our grief, when Christ beckons us over and over in His Gospel to love each other, turn the other cheek, and learn to compromise in order to live in community with another.

If you are struggling to connect or see eye-to-eye with someone, remember Psalm 37: trust in the Lord, refrain from your anger because it only leads to evil, and let those who are wicked perish on their own. Those who do not follow Christ will find out and that is up to God's will, not our own.

But not only should you not act with vengeance on these people, but pray for them. Pray that they find peace, that they come to the Lord with an open heart, and that they abandon their wicked ways. As Christians we must pray for our loved ones but also those that we find difficult to love! Because God loves them despite their sin, just as He loves us despite our own sin.

Keep the faith! God is in the darkest of moments as well as the lightest.

MISSION OUTREACH

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS

In September, monthly gifts went to Starfish Kids, Ephrem, Binder Family, Soft Landing *Sober House*, Wisconsin Foster Closet, Ananias House *Brittany Burnette Hansen trip to 2025 October Women's Training in Cairo, Egypt*, Hope Gospel Mission *Thanksgiving Dinner*, Annunciation Catholic Fund, and Pastors' Discretionary Fund.

We decided to support Wisconsin Foster Closet with a Walmart scrip card. Wisconsin Foster Closet is a non-profit located in Menomonie, Wisconsin. They provide clothing, basic hygiene items, and other essential resources to children entering the foster care and kinship systems. There are currently over 7,000 children in foster care and more than 2,600 reported kinship care cases in Wisconsin. For more information google Wisconsin Foster Closet.

We have started a collection of old and new devotional books *Our Daily Bread & Christ in Our Home*, we want to use them for future projects. We have a basket on our Mission Outreach table for them.

We would like to invite you to our Mission Outreach table in the Narthex. We have notes, newsletters, and volunteer information from groups and organizations Saving Grace supports. We are always open to ideas and suggestions *use the new Lockbox* for missions from our congregation. Call one of our mission committee members or email office@saving-gracechurch.com.

Mission Outreach next meeting will be on Monday, October 6, 2025 at 5:00pm.

Memorial & Honorary Gifts

In memory of David Cramer

to the General Operating Fund

Cindy Joy Fischer, Cheryl Cramer

In memory of Don Erickson's parents

to the General Operating Fund

Don & Bev Erickson

In memory of Sharon Risberg

to the General Operating Fund

Randall Koplien

to the Children's Ministry Fund

Mrs. Peetz, Nancy Sparks, Dianne & Ray Hughes, Duane & Patricia Jensen, Todd & Karen Nelson, Jon & Kay Granger

to the TV Fund

Mary Seidling

to Music Ministry

Sheryl Helland, Pete & Renae Hestekin, Sandra & Arlan Gunderson, Sharon Jurjens

In honor of Joshua Titus Doran's baptism

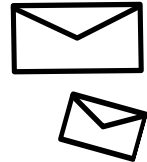
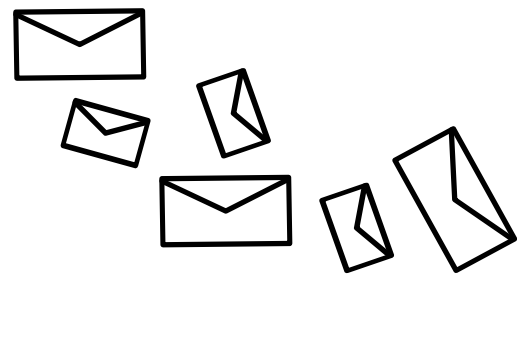
to the General Operating Fund

Dan & Nancy Sunderson

OUR PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS NOW OUR MAILING ADDRESS!

We closed our PO Box, so now send all mail to:

**SAVING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3735 JEFFERS RD
EAU CLAIRE, WI 54703**



*Make sure to update our address with any
third parties for giving!*

Church Council

Michelle Otto, President

Patty Dundas, Vice President

Pam Bee, Treasurer

Michelle Volz, Secretary

Council Members: Mary Schneider, Ruth Hofland,
Steve Wright, Carol Pickhardt, Brian Hagen,
Patrick Bartholomew, Barb Clark

Staff

Pastor David Irgens, Senior Pastor

Pastor Dan Doran, Associate Pastor

Katherine Altreuter, Office Administrator & Music Director



SAVING GRACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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www.saving-gracechurch.com

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