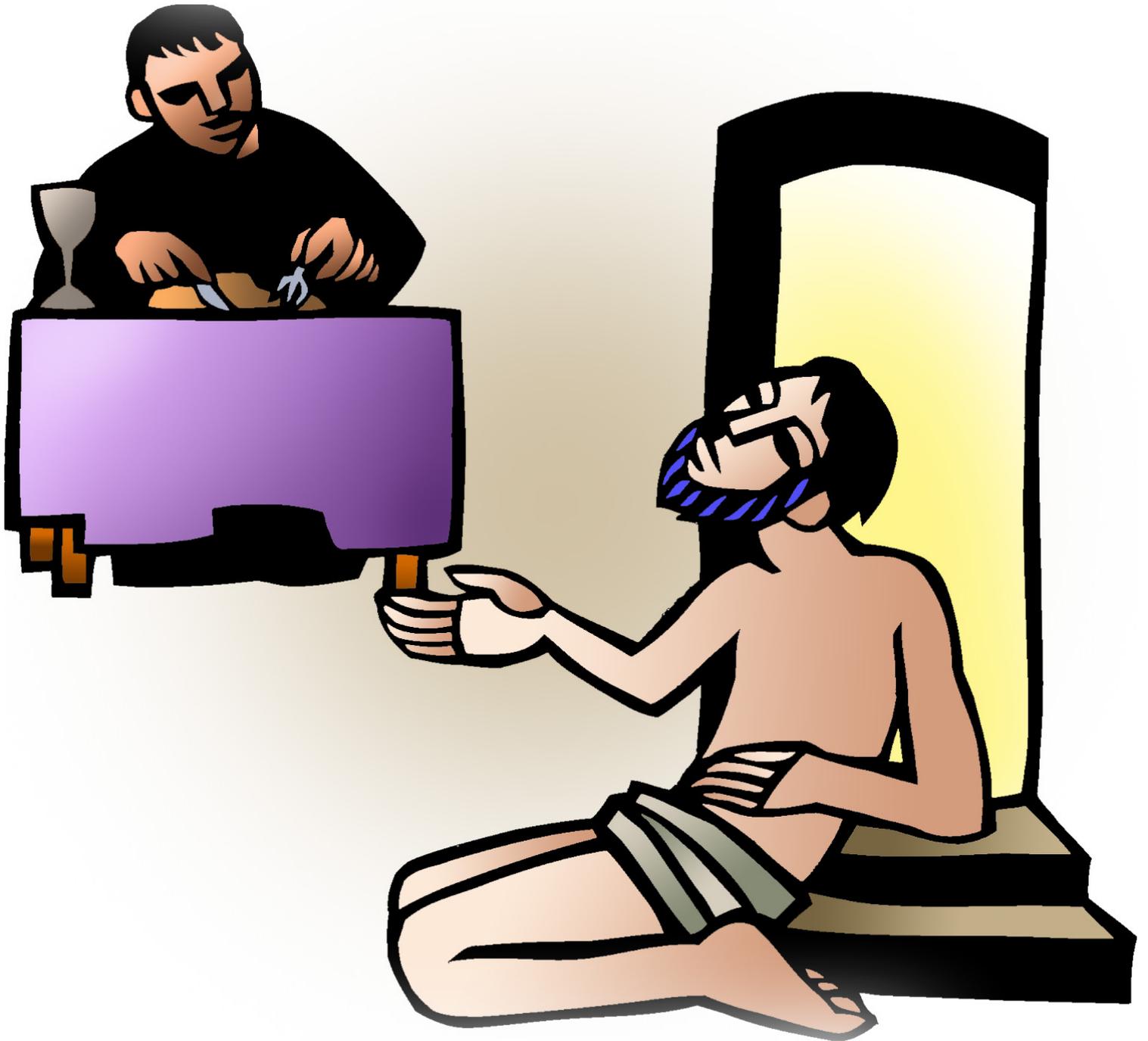


SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



September 25, 2022

10:00am

GATHERING

Prelude

Praeludium in E Major

Vincent Lubeck

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who is eager to forgive
and who loves us beyond our days.

Amen.

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,

we confess that sin still has a hold on us.

We have harmed your good creation.

We have failed to do justice,

love kindness,

and walk humbly with you.

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

Be our refuge and strength on the journey,

through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

Beloved of God:

your sins are forgiven † and you are made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ,

who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love

through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

#836

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

Children's Time

First Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4–7

^{1a}Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
⁴Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,
and lounge on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the stall;
⁵who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,
and like David improvise on instruments of music;
⁶who drink wine from bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
⁷Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6–19

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

El Shaddai

El shaddai, el shaddai
El-elyon na adonai
Age to age You're still the same
By the power of the name
El Shaddai, el shaddai
Erkamka na adonai
We will praise and lift You high
El shaddai

Through Your love and through the ram
You saved the son of Abraham
Through the power of Your hand
Turned the sea into dry land
To the outcast on her knees
You were the God who really sees
And by Your might
You set Your children free

El shaddai, el shaddai
El-elyon na adonai
Age to age You're still the same
By the power of the name
El shaddai, el shaddai
Erkamka na adonai
We will praise and lift You high
El shaddai

Michael Card & John W. Thompson

Through the years you've made it clear
That the time of Christ was near
Though the people couldn't see
What messiah ought to be
Though Your word contained the plan
They just could not understand
Your most awesome work was done
Through the frailty of Your son

El shaddai, el shaddai
El-elyon na adonai
Age to age You're still the same
By the power of the same
El shaddai, el shaddai
Erkamka na adonai
I will praise You til I die
El shaddai

El shaddai, el shaddai
El-elyon na adonai
Age to age You're still the same
By the power of the name
El shaddai, el shaddai
Erkamka na adonai
I will praise You till I die
El shaddai

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Luke 16:19–31

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
 Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

Holy God, we gather in this service of celebration that our lives might become celebrations of serving you and our neighbors. So we raise before you the concerns on our serving hearts.

A brief silence.

... God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

MEAL

Offering

Faith of Our Fathers

Michael Burkhardt

Offering Prayer

Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Communion

Prayer after Communion

God of the abundant table,
you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that
we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

God, who gives life to all things
and frees us from despair,
bless you with truth and peace.
And may the holy Trinity, † one God,
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

Amen.

Hymn

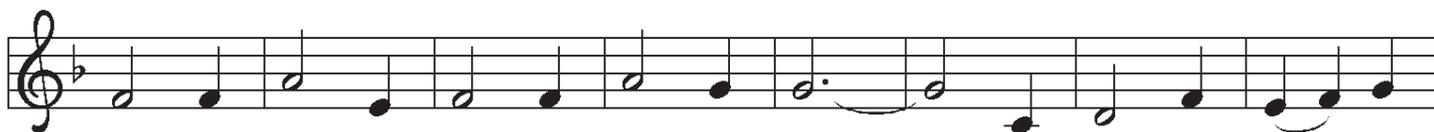
Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry - one what God has



done. Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and lead us forth in



joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948

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Dismissal

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

All Glory Be to God on High

Michael Burkhardt

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Minister: Rev. Phil Ruge-Jones

Assisting Minister: Paul Lokken

Reader: Arthur Grothe

Organist: Elaine Mann

Choir Director: Diana Cataldi



A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Stewardship Sunday

A Celebration of Service

October 9, 11:00am after worship come to the Parlors. Get your raffle ticket and your contribution letter.

- Enjoy a light lunch.
- Hear how our members serve our church and our community.
- Good chance to win as there will be continuous drawings.
- You can get more raffle tickets by bringing or wearing t-shirts like the ones on display, or any others that demonstrate how you have served our church or our community.



Coffee Hour

Coffee hour is back in session. Meet at chapel at 9:00am.

We are still looking for volunteers to bring snacks and clean-up. The staff will provide the coffee. There is a sign-up sheet on the coffee table for those who are interested.

Communion Set-up

Starting September 18, we switched to having Communion on every Sunday. I am hoping to have at least five people that are willing to be part of the Communion team. That way, you would do set up on one Sunday a month and those months that we only have four Sunday's, we would have a person in reserve if someone needed help.

If you are interested in serving our congregation on the Communion team, either contact me by phone or email. Or see me in Church on September 4 as I will be setting up for Communion on that Sunday. Thank you!

Please contact Anita Reid if you are willing to serve: 715-835-2248 or voss523@gmail.com

Crafters' Corner

The Crafters will have merchandise out at Coffee Hour until their Unique Boutique sale on November 5th. There will be hand crafted items plus items from Grace Communities Gift Shop. Proceeds will go toward Grace Communities Patio upgrades.

Grace Church Choirs

Our Adult Choir is welcoming new members of all skill levels. If you have a love for singing and would enjoy sharing any level of gifts with your fellow congregation members, please give us a try. We meet on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. weekly and Sundays from 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. to prepare for

our anthems that day. The choir is a very welcoming and supportive group! Even if you are only able to join us every other week, please give us a try. All are welcome!

The Family Choir will be meeting the second and fourth Sundays every month directly after the services. All ages are welcome. Helpers accompanying smaller children or older parent are also wonderful additions. Share the gift of music and praise with your family members this year.

If you have questions, please email or call Diana Cataldi at gracechoirec@gmail.com or (937)903-0059.



God's Work, Our Hands

Thanks to all who participated in God's Work, Our Hands. Twenty-four bags of books found their way to Little Libraries around town, our cemetery is looking well-groomed, and we have gathered two rooms full of items for the October Neighbor 2 Neighbor rummage sale at Trinity. Well-done!

Thank you to the Grace Lutheran members who participated in the Lutheran Cemetery clean up for God's Work, Our Hands. A total of three churches helped with the clean up: Spirit, Immanuel and Grace Lutheran. Stones were cleaned and the areas around sunken markers were tidied up.

Fall Arts Celebration

Calling all Grace artists!

The first annual FALL ARTS CELEBRATION will be happening at Hope Lutheran on Reformation Sunday October 30th.

Grace will be one of six churches sponsoring the event that will include a concert as well as a display of local art (woodcarvings, jewelry, pottery, photography, stained glass, batik and paintings).

We are looking for local artists who are willing to share their gifts with the community. Your artwork can be for viewing only or for sale depending on your preference.

If you are interested, please contact Lynn Ziehr at 715-577-5440.



Pacibells Welcomes New Members

If you would like to join our music ministry at Grace, and can read music, you are invited to try handbells! Pacibells rehearses every Thursday, from 6:00–7:00pm, and we ring for 10:00 worship on the 3rd Sunday of the month, beginning Sept. 18.

Please contact Karen Lionberger at bellhog76@gmail.com if you are interested or would like more info.

Noisy Offering

A Season for Change

Save your coins and let them FALL in the Noisy Offering on October 16. The children of Grace will gather loose change from our pockets and purses during our worship service. (Even though it doesn't make as much noise when dropped into the collection cans, paper money is also greatly appreciated!)

October is National Hunger Awareness month so our special offering will go to The Community Table. Since 1993, The Community table has been working to ensure everyone in the Eau Claire community has something to eat. They currently serve approximately 90 meals each and every day of the year.

Make some noise and help our neighbors in need!



Meet our Members

Nora Gerber

Nora Gerber joined Grace in 2015, shortly after she left her home of 54 years north of Cameron and moved to Eau Claire to be closer to her grandchildren.

An active and energetic 85-year-old, Nora recalled the day she made the decision to move. She was mowing the two-acre lawn she had been maintaining since her husband Bob's death

three years earlier. “I said to myself you don’t have to do this. So I got down from the mower, went in the house and started making plans to move to Eau Claire.”

After settling in a duplex on Eau Claire’s west side, Nora visited several area churches before deciding to join Grace. “People were friendly and welcomed me when I first visited,” she said. “I’ve made friends and am very happy at Grace.”

Born in 1936 in Burnett County’s “sandbur” country north of Webster, Nora was in eighth grade when her family moved to New Richmond. Mostly unchurched at that point in her life, she was introduced to Lutheranism through her friend’s father, the pastor of First Lutheran in New Richmond. “When Rev. Oakland learned I wasn’t baptized or confirmed, he made it his business to make sure I was,” she said.

After graduating from New Richmond High School in 1954, she entered Wisconsin State College in Eau Claire where she majored in English. After completing requirements to teach English, she took a job with the Eau Claire school district while her then-boyfriend Bob Gerber finished college.

She and Bob were married in 1959. After Bob finished school, they lived in Milwaukee for several years before moving to Cameron in 1965. At first Bob owned and managed the Ford garage and Nora taught school. They raised four children: Gretchen, now a retired veterinarian in Washburn; Rob, the retired pastor of Cedar Creek Church in Eau Claire; Heidi, a retired Alaska Airlines employee in Tacoma, Wash.; and Christa, a property manager in Eau Claire.

As her children reached Sunday school age, Nora became increasingly involved at Faith Lutheran, an ELCA congregation in Cameron. She started a junior choir, directed the senior choir, and created cantatas and other musical programs. When Bob urged her to become a broker and join him in his growing real estate business, she resisted the idea. “I was dragged kicking and screaming to become a broker,” she said. “It turned out I loved it and was good at it, especially at getting listings.”

Nora also loves traveling, a passion that started in the 1990s when a friend in the Peace Corps in Tunisia invited her to visit. Riding a camel, camping in the desert and staying in an underground hotel introduced her to adventure travel, which she still enjoys to this day. A couple of years ago, she and a friend car-camped their way through the Northwest Territories and Alaska, and earlier this summer she returned to Alaska on a cruise.

Nora’s six grandchildren have benefited from her love of travel. At age 16, each traveled abroad with her to a destination of their own choosing. Her oldest granddaughter Becca chose a trip to Paris; Katie Jo wanted to go somewhere warm by water so they went to Jamaica; Sam wanted to go four-wheeling in the Caribbean where “he drove and I hung on;” she said; and Christian, now in college, chose a food tour to Korea. Cameron, the youngest, had to postpone his trip to Japan because of COVID so that trip is still in their future.

“I wanted to have some one-on-one time with each grandchild at a time in their lives when they’re just getting started to form ideas about what to do in life,” she explained. “The trips were my chance to get to know each one of them as individuals. I think we are closer because of the experience.”

A voracious reader, Nora’s bookshelves are packed with books. She says she usually has two books going at a time. She loves concerts and plays, especially Broadway productions and tries to take advantage of the Pablo Center’s programs.

Most Sundays, if she’s not traveling and in keeping with the tendency of many Grace members to sit in the same pew every Sunday, Nora can be found on the left side of the church, about half way down and to the right. “Maybe we should try mixing it up some Sunday and move over a few spaces so we get to know each other better,” she joked.

By Jan Wisner

This is a new monthly series to help us know each other better. Would you like to be featured or recommend someone else? Talk to Pastor Phil or Jan.



Did You Know?

Grace Lutheran Communities has a program called “Grace School Age Child Care” under the supervision of Tyler Papierniak, Director. This allows School-age children and their parents a safe, reassuring licensed solution to quality care at an affordable price.

The program has two offerings: there is a summer program and a program developed for the school year. This year Grace Lutheran Communities’ “Sunsational Summer Camp” was held in our Grace Woodlands facility. The use of this facility allowed game rooms like a foosball table room, a ping pong room, a library, etc. It also provided a variety of outdoor environments for about 60 kids to explore. Now the fall/winter program is in full swing.

The fall/winter program serves 250 – 300 kids ages 5 to 13. Depending on which school they attend the after-school programs are in effect at Sherman, Roosevelt, Lakeshore and Altoona Elementary schools. These programs are designed to let children play. In nice weather the kids play outside. In inclement weather they play board games, building blocks, puzzles, etc. under guidance and supervision of staff.

In the fall/winter program the children may attend from 6:30 am until the start of the school day and after school programs are available from 2:30 to 6:00 pm. They are supervised by teachers and staff that have been vetted and have FBI clearance. Because of this requirement and the fact that children are involved, volunteers cannot be used. Due to the current staff shortage, we have a waiting list for families wishing to enroll their children.

These well-received programs have been a long-standing commitment to the families within our community.

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org

If you missed one of our services, you can find them on the “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page. If you would like to follow along with a bulletin they can be found on our website (<https://grace-church.org/>) under the “Our Ministry” section.

Services are also broadcast on the following platforms:

Televised Service

Sunday	10:30am	WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)
Thursday	1:30pm	Cable Channel 993 (ChipVal CTV Pub Ed)

Radio Service

Sunday	8:30am	WAYY 790 AM
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