

April 2016



**GRACE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*"Called To Share God's Grace"*

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▶ Volume 116, Issue 3



Grace Church 2016 Confirmation Class  
confirmed in Faith March 13, 2016  
Kassandra Carrick, Isabella Doege,  
Mya Gartland, Elizabeth Grenon,  
Allison Walter, Elora White



Saturday March 26  
9:00am  
Open to Children 9 & under



**Maundy Thursday**  
6:15p Soup & Bread Meal;  
7:00p Worship

**Good Friday**  
7:00p Ecumenical Worship  
at St. Katharine Drexel

**Easter Sunday**  
8:00 & 9:30a

Frederick Buechner is one of my favorite authors. I share with you his thoughts about Easter.

## EASTER

Christmas has a large and colorful cast of characters including not only the three principals themselves, but the angel Gabriel, the innkeeper, the shepherds, the heavenly host, the three Wise Men, Herod, the star of Bethlehem, and even the animals kneeling in the straw. In one form or another we have seen them represented so often that we would recognize them anywhere. We know about the birth in all its detail as well as we know about the births of ourselves or our children, maybe more so. The manger is as familiar as home. We have made a major production of it, and as minor attractions we have added the carols, the tree, the presents, the cards. Santa Claus, Ebenezer Scrooge, and so on. With Easter it is entirely different.

The Gospels are far from clear as to just what happened. It began in the dark. The stone had been rolled aside. Matthew alone speaks of an earthquake. In the tomb there were two white-clad figures or possibly just one. Mary Magdalen seems to have gotten there before anybody else. There was a man she thought at first was the gardener. Perhaps Mary the mother of James was with her and another woman named Joanna. One account says Peter came too with one of the other disciples. Elsewhere the suggestion is that there were only the women and that the disciples, who were somewhere else, didn't believe the women's story when they heard it. There was the sound of people running, of voices. Matthew speaks of "fear and great joy." Confusion was everywhere. There is no agreement even as to the role of Jesus himself. Did he appear at the tomb or only later? Where? To whom did he appear? What did he say? What did he do?

It is not a major production at all, and the minor attractions we have created around it—the bunnies and baskets and bonnets, the dyed eggs—have so little to do with what it's all about that they neither add much nor subtract much. It's not really even much of a story when you come right down to it, and that is of course the power of it. It doesn't have the ring of great drama. It has the ring of truth. If the Gospel writers had wanted to tell it in a way to convince the world that Jesus indeed rose from the dead, they would presumably have done it with all the skill and fanfare they could muster. Here there is no skill, no fanfare. They seem to be telling it simply the way it was. The narrative is as fragmented, shadowy, incomplete as life itself. When it comes to just what happened, there can be no certainty. That something unimaginable happened, there can be no doubt.

The symbol of Easter is the empty tomb. You can't depict or domesticate emptiness. You can't make it into pageants and string it with lights. It doesn't move people to give

presents to each other or sing old songs. It ebbs and flows all around us, the Eastertide. Even the great choruses of Handel's *Messiah* sound a little like a handful of crickets chirping under the moon.

He rose. A few saw him briefly and talked to him. If it is true, there is nothing left to say. If it is not true, there is nothing left to say. For believers and unbelievers both, life has never been the same again. For some, neither has death. What is left now is the emptiness. There are those who, like Magdalen, will never stop searching it till they find his face.

~originally published in Whistling in the Dark and later in Beyond Words

In this Eastertide - May God's Peace be with you all!

Pr Chris

## NEWS and ACTIONS from SESSION ELDERS

### Fellowship Committee: *(Julie Roberts, elder)*

As the Fellowship Committee Leader it warms my heart to see the love in our congregation, as was shown by many welcoming and congratulating our newly confirmed members. I am glad to see more people are staying after the service to enjoy coffee fellowship with one another in the social hall. God Bless!

### Membership/Evangelism/Outreach: *(Therese Henriksen, Jen Smith, elders)*

*For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, they are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.* (Jeremiah 29:11). God bless our foster parents of Grace Presbyterian Church and foster parents all over the world. Also a friendly reminder that for the months of March and April the profits of *Scrip* will help fund the June 11-19 mission trip.

### Property: *(Wayne Schneider, elder)*

The temporary fix to the leaking sanctuary roof has been repaired. The committee is entertaining bids for the roof replacement and will have all bids gathered for comparisons by end of March. We will at that time expand the committee to make selections of successful bidders as well as colors and style of a new roof. The air compressor has developed a leak and repairs are scheduled (welding required). Heater repairs in the social hall are being investigated as they both continue to cause problems. Thanks to the milder weather we have had relief from the cantankerous heaters. We have removed (3) older Nescos from the cabinets and replaced with new ones. The old units are still useable but in storage with additional new ones. They will be put into service as needed.



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION @ GRACE

**SECOND TUESDAY BOOK CLUB** meets the second Tuesday of each month at 9 AM at Grace Church. Anyone wanting to discuss the books are invited to attend. For more information, contact Ann Peck.

Our upcoming selections are:

**April** - *Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown. This is an account of how nine working class boys showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit meant.

**May** - *The Orphan Master's Son* by Adam Johnson. The book deals with themes of propaganda and power in North Korea.

**June** - *Man called OVE*: a Novel by Fredrik Backman. This is a feel good story about an angry old man next door and the impact he has on other people's lives.



**CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER** (Meditation) meets Wednesday mornings from 8:30-9:45 in the chapel. Join this group that meets to nurture and sustain spiritual vitality in contemporary life. New faces are always welcome.



## 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Graders.....your time has come!

We are having a Lock-In Friday March 25<sup>th</sup> 7pm until Saturday March 26<sup>th</sup> 10am (or when all the Easter Eggs are found!). There will be games, snacks, movies, crafts, filling of Easter eggs for little kids, and SLEEP! Mature, spirited volunteers needed to help lead Lock-In on 3/25.

Church Volunteers.....we need you to help with Egg Hunt on 3/26. Arrive 8:30am.

Please sign up on Emily's Door!

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Middle School Youth Group in the Grace Middle School Room**

**3-13-16 5:30-7:00.**

**Snacks Provided. Bring a Friend!**

**HIGH SCHOOL STUDY GROUP 3-13-16 7:00-8:30PM**



Grace Presbyterian Church Scholarship Application  
 Deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup> 2016!  
 Seniors, please get your transcripts in!

## ADULT EDUCATION

### THE NEW TESTAMENT: A GREAT COURSES STUDY

Wednesday April 6-May 11, 9:45 in the Reception Room

Inquire with Emily Shier, Director of Christian Education

If you are unable to come every week, it's ok to drop in for a class or 2!

## MISSION NEWS

**PAVE Wish List:** For the month of April, PAVE wishes for laundry detergent, stain removers, disinfecting wipes, dish soap, dish towels.

The food pantry always needs donations to help area struggling families. Please continue to support this mission! Items are picked up monthly by the food pantry. Bins for all are located inside the main south doors. Thank you!



Save Your  
Items for Our  
Rummage Sale

## Rummage Sale

The Presbyterian Women will hold their spring rummage sale the last week in April. Work days Monday-Tuesday April 25-26; sale days Wednesday, Thursday April 27-28, 8 – 5, Friday April 29, 8 – 12. Start saving your good quality clothing, small appliances (in good working order of course!), knick-knacks, etc. to donate for the sale. Thank you!

*Grace frequently uses images from church activities and events on our website, Facebook page, in the newsletter, and for promotional purposes. If you do not wish for us to use your image please contact the office.*



## INCOME & EXPENSES:

Stewardship Update

February - Income		February- Expenses	
Offering Envelopes	\$ 15,187.00	Missions	\$ 814.33
Loose Offerings	\$ 240.02	Session	\$ 1,487.50
Per Capita	\$ 1,230.00	Worship	\$ 1,661.72
Housing Allowance	\$ 500.00	Christian Education	\$ 3,086.08
Building Rental	\$ 100.00	Administration	\$ 7,898.18
Fellowship	\$ 72.15	Property	\$ 2,485.14
One Great Hour	\$ 45.00	Deacon	\$ 20.00
"Souper" Bowl Mission	\$ 131.00	Pastoral	\$ 7,500.88
Westergaard Mission	\$ 100.00		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 17,605.17</b>	<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$24,953.83</b>

*Stewardship is an honor, an opportunity, and a challenge!  
 It can change the way you work, live and think!*

## SCRIP PROFIT REPORT

Support our church throughout the year!

January 2016 \$ 408.10 February \$ 395.67



There are many local and non-local businesses that offer Scrip, so check out our Scrip order form at church or on-line on our web page [www.bdgracechurch.org](http://www.bdgracechurch.org). Thank you to all who support Grace Presbyterian Church by purchasing Scrip!

## PER CAPITA

Have You Returned Yours Yet?

It is not too late to pay your 2016 Per Capita Apportionment. The amount is \$30.00 per **confirmed member**. Remember, this includes both spouses and your confirmed children in your family. Once your child is confirmed into the church, they are full members and would need to fulfill the per capita apportionment.

As members of Grace Church, please be responsible and pay your per capita. If you have misplaced your envelope, please call the office for a new one or just memo your payment **per capita**.



Grace Church Beaver Dam on **facebook** !!

## March Birthdays

- 1 - Renaté Campbell
- 2 - Crystal Ellcey
- 3 - Cody Schroedl
- 4 - Erin Wernimont
- 5 - Karen Verhulst
- 6 - Myah Malueg, Kera Schraufnagel
- 7 - Chris Davis, Madelynn Johnson, Barret Shier
- 8 - Zachary Braun, Roger Slayton
- 10 - Brittany Borchardt, Charles Ganske
- 11 - Sarah Connaughty, Amy Rochester
- 13 - Keith Kneser
- 14 - Sue Hyde, Andy Propst, Emma Sutter
- 15 - Bryan Beaudry, Elora White
- 16 - Gene Thorn, Charles Welch
- 17 - Pam Kuehl
- 18 - Buehl Cuff
- 19 - Easton Meier
- 20 - Wendy Meier, Sarah Willihnganz
- 21 - Rachel Muenchow, Katie Sanders
- 22 - Alice Davies, Olivia Hilliard
- 24 - Gregg Jameson, Wayne Propst, Mike Zimmerman
- 25 - Evyn Adams, Taytum Roberts
- 26 - Jan Sutter, Carrie Tietz
- 27 - Annabell Eilbes, Sarah Mohammed, Sean Wilson
- 28 - Betty Hummelmeier
- 29 - Shirley Youngdale



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## Office Hours

*Office hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday of spring break week will be 7am-12 noon, closed the afternoons of March 22, 23 & 24.*



## Easter Lilies

The following people have contributed Easter Lilies to enhance the sanctuary today and to remember and honor their loved ones:

### Given by:

Myrt Beecher in memory of Bill Beecher

Bill & Lois Bradley in memory of Everett & Myrtie Bradley,

Kenneth & Ruth Russell, Tony Westhuis

Rose Cantafio in memory of Ryan Cantafio and Joe Cantafio

Kevin & Joyce Dollar in memory of Cal & Inez Dollar

Richard & Kathi Gallus in memory of Virgil Sinner, Don & Rose Gallus

Doug, Susan, Aaron & Micah Gankse in memory of Louie & Barbara Ganske,

Sanford & Helen Disrud

Helen Glewen in memory of Claryn D. Glewen and Beth R. Glewen

Sandy & Scott Hautamaki & LouAnn Muenchow in memory of Ryan Cantafio,

Dale Muenchow, Emily Muenchow, Bob Hautamaki & Sandy Muenchow

Richard & Mary Jacobs in memory of Carol Boviall

Sherron Kellom Challis, Gar Kellom, Kay Kellom Hansen in memory of

Emerson & Verna Kellom

E. Gertrude Miller in memory of Marvin G. Miller

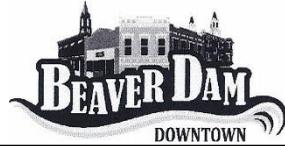
Bill & Sue Reifsnider in memory of Austin Reifsnider

Amy Rochester in memory of parents

Sharron Roffers in memory of my son Darryl and husband Jerry

Carol Taylor in memory of Taylor C. Taylor

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship-Communion 10:30a Christian Education 5:30p Middle School Youth Group 7:00p High School Group – Social	<b>4</b> 6:00p Worship Committee	<b>5</b> 9:00a Mom’s Group 9:30a Senior Coffee 7:00p Youth Ministry Meeting  <b>Election at Grace</b>	<b>6</b> 8:45a Meditation 9:45a The New Testament Adult Ed Class	<b>7</b> 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 10:30a Christian Education 5:30p Middle School Youth Group 7:00p High School Study Group	<b>11</b> 5:30p Stewardship Meeting	<b>12</b> 9:00a 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Book Club 9:00a Mom’s Group 9:30a Senior Coffee	<b>13</b> 8:45a Meditation 9:45a The New Testament Adult Ed Class 1:30p Charleston House Communion	<b>14</b> 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 10:30a Christian Education 5:30p Middle School Youth Group 7:00p High School Study Group	<b>18</b> 1:30p Hillside Manor Communion	<b>19</b> 9:00a Mom’s Group 9:30a Senior Coffee	<b>20</b> 8:45a Meditation 9:45a The New Testament Adult Ed Class 6:00p Session Meeting	<b>21</b> 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship – <i>Earth Day</i> 10:30a Christian Education 5:30p Middle School Youth Group 7:00p High School Study Group	<b>25</b>  <b>RUMMAGE SALE WEEK</b> →	<b>26</b> 9:00a Mom’s Group 9:30a Senior Coffee	<b>27</b> <b>8 – 5 Rummage Sale</b> 8:45a Meditation 9:45a The New Testament Adult Ed Class	<b>28</b> <b>8 – 5 Rummage Sale</b> 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>29</b> <b>8 – 12 Rummage Sale</b>	<b>30</b>
						



Dear Area Service Clubs, Nonprofits, City and Church Groups:

Greetings from Downtown Beaver Dam Inc. (DBDI). We are delighted to have been chosen by Walldogs national artists to be hosting a full mural festival in Beaver Dam from June 28-July 2, 2017, which is just over a year away. The full festival will involve all service clubs, nonprofits, church groups, area downtown and other businesses, students, and as many volunteers from the general public as possible. Over 200 artists will be descending upon Beaver Dam to paint nearly 10 murals in five days. DBDI has already painted two murals and are in the midst of fund raising for additional murals.

This letter is an invitation to send a representative from your organization to a planning meeting in March. As we plan for 200+ artists, we also need to plan for registration, meals, snacks and bottled water, housing, safety, welcome bags, entertainment, equipment for painting, and other details. We need your help since this is a community festival. We are excited that whoever wants to be involved can be. This is your opportunity to truly carry out the mission of your organization and show pride for being an integral part of this wonderful community.

Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 22nd at 6:30 pm. Our new DBDI offices are located right down town at 138 Front Street in the former Professional Building. We will be discussing what organizations might be willing to help make and serve food for large crowds, put together welcome bags for area businesses and special events, help organize housing and locate necessary scaffolding, ladders, garbage bins, scissors lifts, etc.

We are specifically seeking volunteers for these subcommittees: Registration, Housing, Food, Equipment, Transportation, Volunteers, Entertainment, Marketing & PR. You may have an idea where you could fit into to the overall master plan for this event or you may simply wish to know where DBDI needs the most help.

Please let us know your questions or RSVP your presence by email [kjensen@wayland.org](mailto:kjensen@wayland.org) or call (920) 356-2120 ext. 236.

Sincerely,  
Karla R. Jensen  
Mural Festival Chairperson