



February 2018

Volume 42 – Number 15

Milwaukee, WI. USA

# Grace Notes

A publication of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church—LCMS

Matthew Harrison,  
LCMS President

## Will you pray for your pastors.?

PAGE 9

### “Becoming Rich”

Without commands or even arm-twisting, St. Paul encourages, even challenges, the Church in Corinth to demonstrate the sincerity of their faith by their generosity in giving. He does this because giving generously is a gift of the Spirit given to us through the Gospel. // Page 6



### THIS MONTH AT GRACE



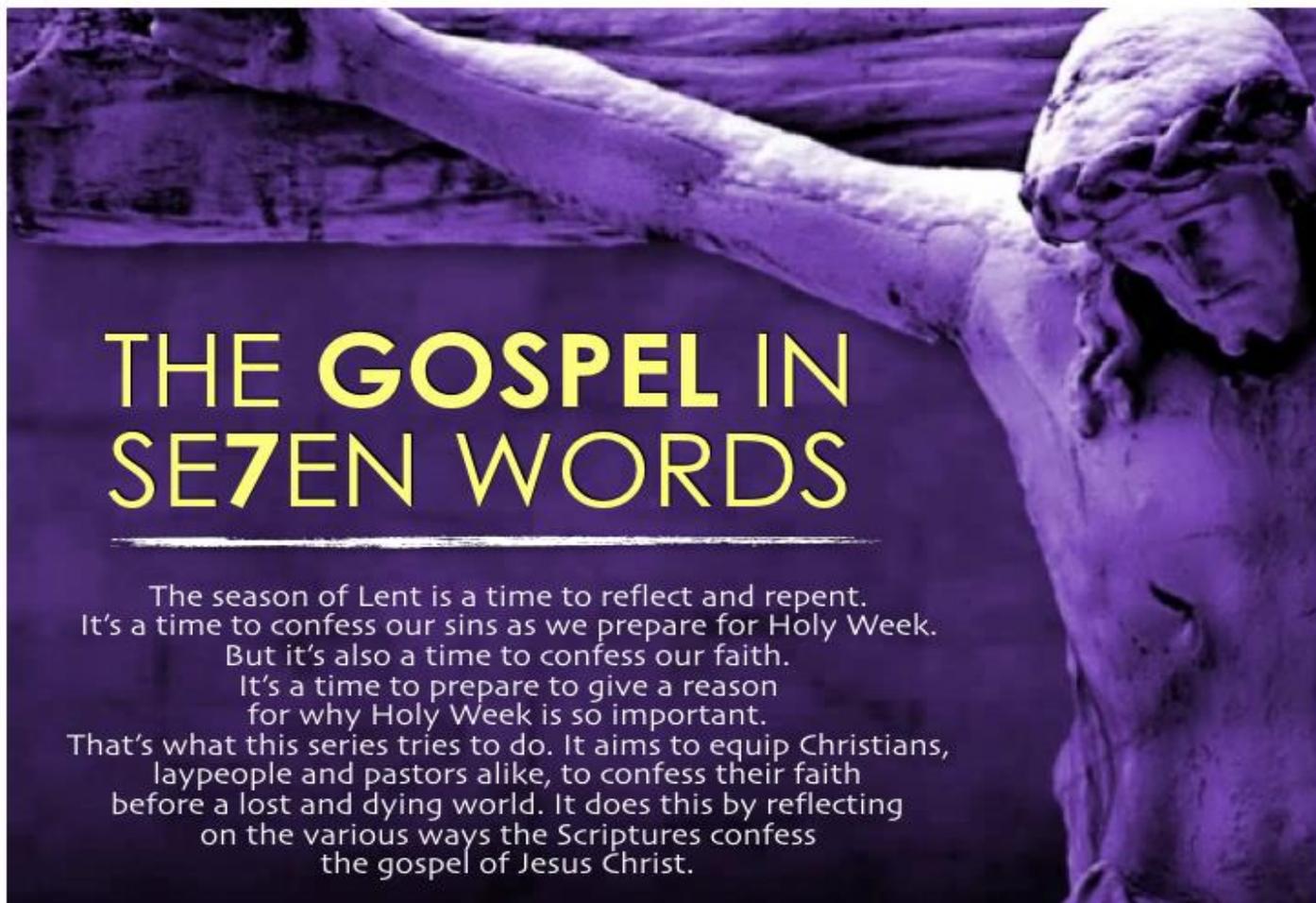
February 11th  
Puppets Ministry | 10AM  
Sunday School

February 12th  
COUNCIL MEETING | 6PM

February 14th  
Ash Wednesday |  
Fish Fry Dinner, 5:45PM  
Worship Service, 7PM

[WWW.GRACE-OK.ORG](http://WWW.GRACE-OK.ORG)

3030 W. Oklahoma Av. Milwaukee, WI. 53215



# THE GOSPEL IN SEVEN WORDS

The season of Lent is a time to reflect and repent. It's a time to confess our sins as we prepare for Holy Week. But it's also a time to confess our faith. It's a time to prepare to give a reason for why Holy Week is so important. That's what this series tries to do. It aims to equip Christians, laypeople and pastors alike, to confess their faith before a lost and dying world. It does this by reflecting on the various ways the Scriptures confess the gospel of Jesus Christ.



*February 14*

5:45pm Fish Fry Supper  
7pm Worship Service

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. This Special Service reminds us of the need for cleansing, scrubbing and purifying during this season. You're invited to our Fish Fry Supper before the Service.



*Every Wednesday*  
[February 21 thru March 21]  
5:45pm Lenten Supper  
7pm Worship Service

During the season of Lent, we'll be leading a Sermon Series called "THE SEVEN WORDS." Join us every Wednesday for Supper at 5:45pm, and then for Worship at 7pm.



- | **Palm Sunday** |  
March 25, 9am & 11am
- | **Passover Seder Feast** |  
March 29, 6pm
- | **Good Friday Service** |  
March 30, 7pm
- | **Easter Services** |  
April 1st.- 6am 9am & 11am

**GRACE COMMUNITY**

**3030 W. Oklahoma Ave. Milwaukee**

# USHERS

## FEBRUARY 4th

Sue Pritzlaff, Lynda Trapp,  
 Brenda Nitz, and Shirley Lovas

## FEBRUARY 11th

Dave and Danny Gaus,  
 Sheryl Pelican, and Lori Eshelman

## FEBRUARY 14th

Chuck and Alana Zielesch,  
 Don and Karen Ewert

## FEBRUARY 18th

Jim Barndt, Mark Jubeck,  
 Dave Biermann, and Chester Zbrozek

## FEBRUARY 21st

Art and Amy Socha,  
 Terry and Jane Doanldson

## FEBRUARY 25th

Sue Pritzlaff, Lynda Trapp,  
 Brenda Nitz, and Shirley Lovas

## FEBRUARY 28th

Dave and Danny Gaus,  
 Sheryl Pelican, and Lori Eshelman

"Fasting" doesn't mean eating fast food!



© Original Artist  
 Reproduction rights obtainable from  
 www.CartoonStock.com

## Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

3030 W. Oklahoma Ave. Milwaukee, WI. 53215

Office: 384-3520—384-4817 Fax: 384-3528

E-mail: [info@grace-ok.org](mailto:info@grace-ok.org)

Office Hours: TUESDAY-THURSDAY 9am-4pm

Rev. Germán Novelli-Oliveros, Pastor

Mobil Phone: (414) 366-5299

Email: [novelligrace@gmail.com](mailto:novelligrace@gmail.com)

### Congregational Officers

Terrence Donaldson, President

Mark Jubeck, Vice-President

Marian Laub, Treasurer

### Staff

Rev. German Novelli (Sr.), Pastor-Comunidad de Gracia

Jane Donaldson, Office Secretary

Telva Szymborski, Organist

Dennis Szymborski, Choir Director

Michelle Lenski, Bell Choir Director

Lucia Novelli, Lay Readers

Jane Donaldson and Marge Wodvarka, Altar Guild

Augusto LaCruz & Pablo Novelli, Worship Translators

Sue Pritzlaff, Ruth Guild President/ LWML

Sue Brahm, Sunday School Superintendent

Marilyn Jubeck, Senior Fellowship/ LWML

Kenneth Lovas, Interior Custodian

Shirley Lovas, Altar Flowers and Thrivent

Judy Zarzynski, Caring Connectors and Piece Makers

### Board of Directors

Don Ewert, Board of Elders

Jim Barndt, Board of Evangelism

Brenda Nitz, Director of Stewardship

James Van Acker, Board of Trustees

David Biermann, Board of Fellowship

Kenny Lovas, Board of Human Concerns

[www.grace-ok.org](http://www.grace-ok.org)

# God's Love Made Complete in His Son



*1 John 4: 10-12*

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

## Brookfield Lutheran Church

*18500  
Burleigh Rd  
Brookfield,  
WI 53045*

*Saturday  
March 17, 2018*

Come and fellowship with  
LWML Sisters of all different  
ethnic backgrounds!

Doors Open @ 8:30am  
Program starts @ 9am - 2pm

A free will offering lunch will be  
— served

RSVP by March 9, 2017

Contact Mai: 262-345-7771

mnthao1@gmail.com



## Grace Ruth Guild / LWML

**F**ebruary meeting Sunday, February 25th following the 9:00 am service. Please note the date and time. To the ladies of Grace, please join us and see what Ruth Guild / LWML is all about.

We are starting a new year, and we are eager to continue with our mission outreach goals. We will continue to support The Lutheran Bible Translators and The Deaf Ministry, along with a new mission. We will be lending our support to Rachel Meyer, who will serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod as a missionary teacher in Uganda.

Our mite offerings will help fund district and national LWML mission grants.

To our Grace Community, your ongoing support is a blessing. May the Lord bless our Grace Ruth Guild / LWML as we "Serve the Lord with Gladness."  
(Psalm 100:2)

For the Ruth Guild / LWML  
*Sue Pritzlaff*



### 2018 LWML SWD Convention

June 22 & 23

Milwaukee Marriott West-Waukesha

**"How Beautiful"**

Join us to be Engaged, Encouraged,  
Educated, Equipped and to Enjoy!

[www.lwml-swd.org](http://www.lwml-swd.org)

For more information about these and other events,  
please go to the LWML-SWD website's Events Calendar.



### **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

**6.- Eduardo Pizarro  
& Lucia Novelli**

**8.- Ethan Schenzel  
& Jacob Barndt**

**9.- James Barndt, Lenore Brultz,  
David Biermann & Jennifer Lovas**

**10.- Kimberly Mallegni  
& Arthur Socha**

**11.- Laura Jones**

**12.- Brian Maney**

**14.- Brian Lenski Sr.  
& Pastor Germán Novelli Jr.**

**17.- Toni Dartey & Faye Kachikis**

**23.- Vickie Quiles  
& Marilyn Pellowski**

**25.- Joan Rabehl**

**26.- Ruth Pelican**

**27.- Deborah Biermann**

**28.- Ronan Huolihan**



# Becoming Rich



check off a list of things to do. That empties it of its spiritual power and robs us of the joy that Christ and the Scriptures assign to it.

On top of that, since this generosity is linked to faith and knowledge of divine things, a lack of excelling in giving is a sure sign that our faith and knowledge of God are under attack as well.

Thus St. Paul points to the foundation of generosity: the generosity of Christ Himself. Even though He was rich, He became poor so that we who are poor might become rich. Thus, the incarnation, suffering, and death of our Lord on the cross is the reason, source, and driving force for our generosity in giving to the church.

And since Christ who was rich became poor so that we might be rich in His grace—of which generous giving is part—so we also who are rich in His grace can excel in pressing His grace into service toward the gracious work of the church.

Pay attention to what you give to the church so that you may excel at it. And if you find that your heart has grown cold or indifferent toward it, immerse yourself in God's Word. Read it at home. Attend Bible Class. Hear and listen to it preached in the Divine Service.

Be reminded of what Christ has done for you in His incarnation, suffering, and death. For this will strengthen your faith and knowledge. And where that excels, so will the grace of giving excel also.

*From LCMS-Stewardship*



***I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich"***  
*(2 Corinthians 8:8-9).*

Without commands or even arm-twisting, St. Paul encourages, even challenges, the Church in Corinth to demonstrate the sincerity of their faith by their generosity in giving. He does this

because giving generously is a gift of the Spirit given to us through the Gospel.

St. Paul wrote: "But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving" (2 Corinthians 8:7). In other words, just as we grow in faith and speech and knowledge of eternal things by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God, so also do we grow in giving from the same Spirit through the same Word.

The problem is that the grace of generosity often grows cold in us. It's not so much that we stop giving, but we don't put it first. We treat it like all the other bills that must be paid. It becomes a chore, just one more thing to

## Grace Seniors

**T**hrough the years I have enjoyed working with the Grace Seniors. Now, due to health problems, I am no longer able to continue (not mentioning ages!).

Thank you to all who have helped with ideas and planning: to the volunteer drivers and the extra dry runs they made so we had detailed directions to follow; ideas for new places to eat and for one day bus trips. We traveled as far north as La Crosse, the Dells, Wausau and Green Bay. There were one day trips to Minnesota, and the many, many trips into Illinois.

We saw a lot, did a lot, learned a lot, and always ate a lot!

Thanks to Edna and Al Hoffmann for all of their help.

We still may do a lunch once in a while. See everyone in church!

*Marilyn Jubeck*

---

## What to 'GIVE UP' for Lent

**GIVE UP** 10 to 15 minutes in bed. Instead, use that time in prayer.

**GIVE UP** spending so much time with newspapers and magazines. Instead, use some of that time to study your Bible.

**GIVE UP** judging by appearances and by the standards of the world. Instead, learn to give up yourself to God.

**GIVE UP** grumbling. Instead, "In everything give thanks."

**GIVE UP** the fear which prevents Christian witness. Instead, seek courage to speak of your faith to others.

**GIVE UP** buying anything but essentials for yourself. Instead, give that money to God's work or someone in need.

*Joan Rabehl*



## Update on Fixing God's House - 2018

**Phase I Insulation, Roof and Steeple**  
**Loan Amount \$140,000.00**

Our Budget for 2018 will include a repayment for the loan to repair necessary areas on the church.

The loan payment will be \$1,400/month:

**Payment \$1280.37**

**Additional principal \$ 119.63**

**Building Update:** the insulation work has been completed, and the roofing and steeple work will begin May 15th and 16th.

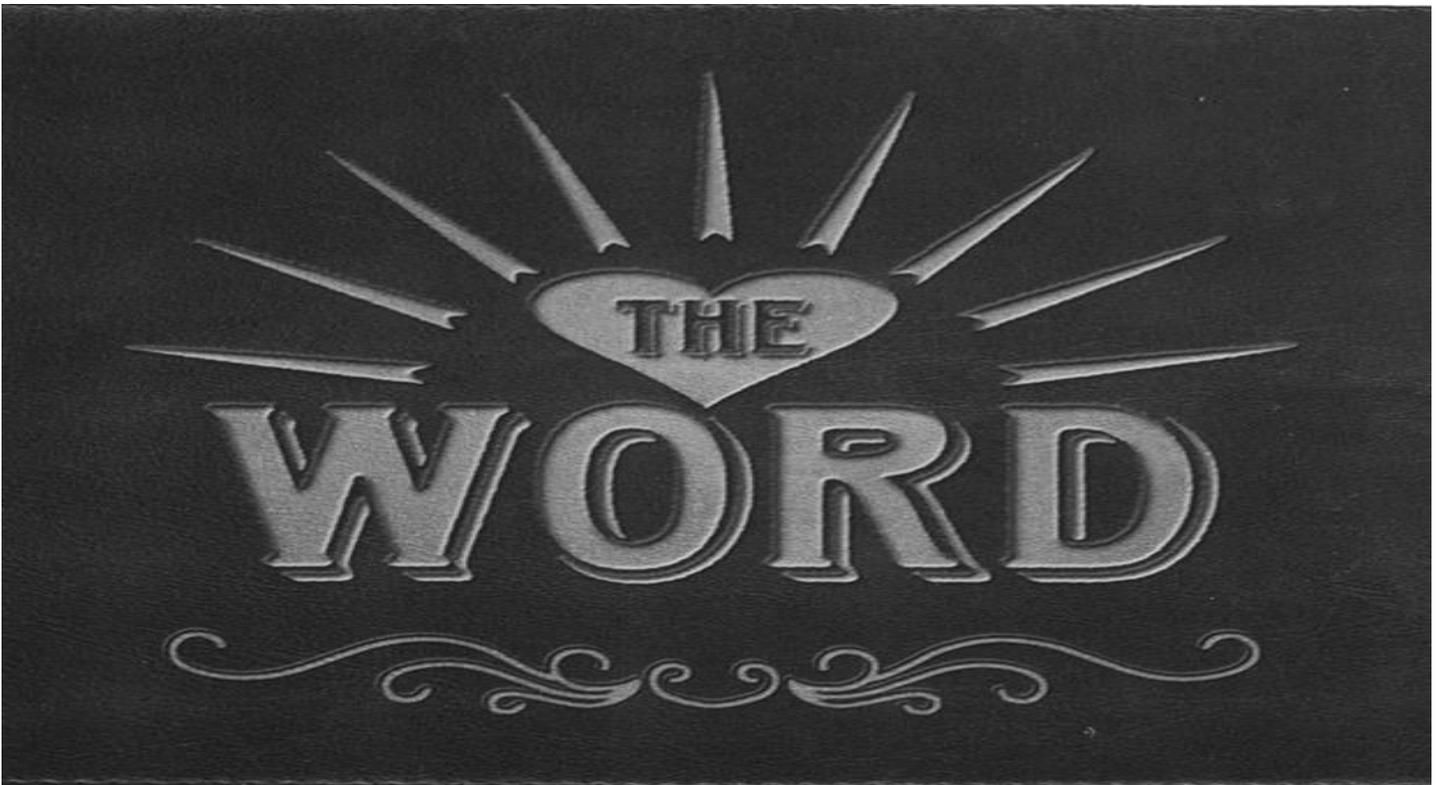
So with that above information, the council is asking each member of the Grace congregation to contribute to the Lord an additional \$2.50 per week (\$10 per month). This minimal amount per family will go a long way to help Grace with the \$16,800 that was added to our annual budget for the loan.

**Genesis 28:16-22**

***When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it." He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven." 22 and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth."***

Blessings to you all,

*Terry Donaldson*  
President, Grace Lutheran Church



*John 1:1*  
***“In the beginning  
 was the Word,  
 and the Word was  
 with God, and the  
 Word was God.”***

**A**n 8 year old girl expressed it well when asked why Jesus was called the Word. She said, “Because Jesus was all God wanted to say to us.”

The message God wanted us to hear is in John 14:6: Jesus answered, I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” The world proclaims the opposite: All religions worship the true God.

In Matthew 7: 24-27, Jesus says the truth is: Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on a rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall because it had its foundation on the rock.

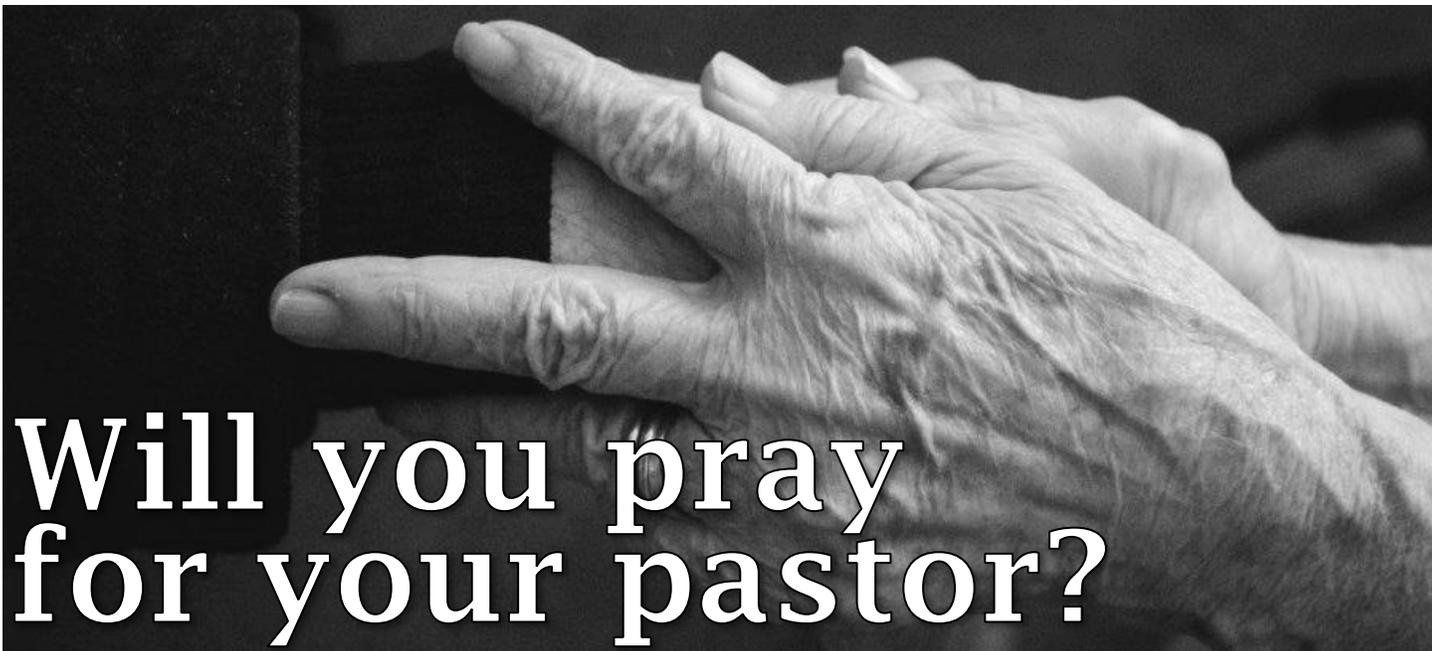
But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house and it fell with a crash.

One thing about Jesus’ parables; they always present a challenge. In this one, the challenge is practice. What is it

about the word practice that turns us off? To start with, it requires commitment, plus effort, time, action and sacrifice. In this case, sacrifice of our old life and our old way of thinking, in exchange for a new life in Christ Jesus. To the wise, this is a blessing. The response of the foolish – No thanks. I like my life as it is.

This advice from a devotional reading sums it up well: Pray for the grace to take God’s Word seriously so that we understand the connection between love and obedience.

*Lillian Hughes*



# Will you pray for your pastor?

## Prayer is the breath of the Christian.

St. Paul's letters are filled with references to his prayers for others and his requests for their prayers for him. "To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power ..." (2 Thess. 1:11). "Brothers, pray for us" (1 Thess. 5:25). "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17).

There are many others. There have been many times, particularly as my vocations have become increasingly challenging, when I've had the sense that I am being carried along, especially as I pass through days when very difficult decisions have to be made. At these times, I pray that God will give me the strength to be faithful today. "Sufficient for the day is its own trouble" (Matt. 6:34). So I pray: Lord, have mercy upon me, today. Lord, give me what I need for today.

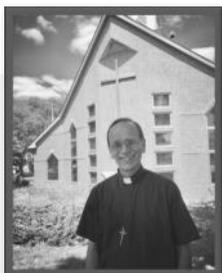
Once I was visiting an elderly woman who had just been transferred from her home to a care facility. She was distraught. I should have simply sat quietly,

listened to this elderly saint's lament, and then offered her comfort. But I interjected, and with law at that. "But the Bible tells us it is the task of widows to pray," I said to her. I'll never forget her response: "Oh Pastor, I pray for you every day." How small I felt. And yet, how comforted I was.

Far from my own ability or charisma sustaining me in the Lord's work, it was and is much more the promises of the Lord, and especially the prayers of the saints.

Today I make a request of you. Will you pray for your pastor? Will you pray for him daily? Will you put him on the list of all those names you rattle off when you pray with your young children every night? Will you, by God's Spirit, resolve to be more diligent in prayer for him, for his wife and for his family? He needs your prayers, always. And now — in these "gray and latter days" — he needs them more than ever.

*Rev. Matthew Harrison*  
*President of the Lutheran*  
*Church—Missouri Synod*



**On January 28, Rev. German Novelli Sr., Director of the SWD CPTLN Hispanic Ministry and assisting pastor in our congregation, suffered two massive heart attacks while at home. Please join with his family and friends in praying that German will be healed according to our Father's will as well as for the Novelli family while they attend to German during his recovery.**

EXPLAINING ALL THE  
SCARY STUFF IN  
**REVELATION**

WINTER-SPRING BIBLE STUDY

| Sundays, February 4, 11 & 18 |  
10 AM (Hoge Hall)

**GRACE** | 3030 W. Oklahoma Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI



COMUNIDAD DE GRACIA  
Centro de Familia  
**BIENVENIDOS**

*¡Crecemos en Gracia...  
Adoramos en Comunidad..!*

**CADA DOMINGO**

Escuela Dominical para Niños, 10 am  
Celebración Hispana, 11am



# WANTED:

## PEANUT BUTTER



### FOR BEING DELICIOUS AND NUTRITIOUS

GRACE COMMUNITY PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE  
DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY  
ANY SIZE, ANY KIND OF PEANUT BUTTER

PURSUIT SPONSORED BY

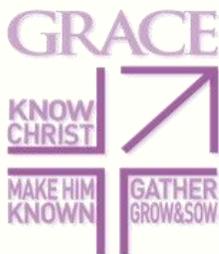
  
HUNGER TASK FORCE  
FREE & LOCAL

**meijer**

# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

3030 West Oklahoma Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53215-4352  
Phone (414) 384-3520  
Fax (414) 384-3528  
[www.grace-ok.org](http://www.grace-ok.org)

First Class



## worship times

Let's grow together in God's Amazing Grace!

**Every Sunday**  
**9am & 11am**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL & ADULTS PROGRAM**

**10am**



[www.grace-ok.org](http://www.grace-ok.org)

## Comunidad de Gracia

*Celebraciones en Español*  
*Domingos, 11 de la Mañana*  
*Estudios Bíblicos, 10am*