

September 2021



WORDS OF GRACE

Monthly Newsletter

Inside the Issue

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARK VOLL

Pastor Mark Voll and his wife Sue will be joining our church family, to serve during our interim transition time. Here's a little introduction... see page 2

FALL PROGRAM KICKOFF!

September 12th we will be kicking off our Children's Discipleship classes after the worship service. Our AWANA & Fall Youth Programs begin that evening.

WOMEN OF GRACE REFLECTION -PG. 4!

Ladies, be sure to read the latest info about the upcoming Women's event happening in September at Whispering Springs Golf Course. See page 4 for details!

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS...

- Sept 5 Worship with *Communion*
Pastor Mark's first service with us!
- Sept 6 Labor Day - Church office Closed
- Sept 9 Missions Team Meeting, 6:30pm
- Sept 12 "Connecting with Grace" Newcomers Gathering
Discipleship Classes for kids begin
AWANA and Youth begin Fall program
- Sept 13 Elders Meeting, 6:30pm
- Sept 15 Women's Event at Whispering Springs Golf Club
- Sept 19 Fellowship Luncheon, 11:45am
- Sept 20 Deacons Meeting, 6:30pm
- Sept 27 Elders Fellowship Evening, 6:30pm

*"How satisfying to
turn from our
limitations to a God
who has none."*

- A.W Tozer



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray that the Elders will have wisdom as they seek God's face and God's direction for us to join in His mission as the Grace Family, and as they look for God's guidance in shepherding His people.
- Pray for the Deacons to have wisdom as they come along side hurting people, and steward the resources with which we have been blessed.
- Pray for the Ministry Leaders to experience God's presence and power as they lead their ministries.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- **8:45am** Sunday Mornings at Grace Church
- **6:30pm** Tuesday Evenings Corporate Prayer at Grace Church
- **6:30am** Wednesdays Men's Prayer - Prayer Room
- **8:00am** Thursday Mornings Men's Coffee Fellowship & Prayer at Grace

PRAYER & ENCOURAGEMENT CONNECTIONS

- Mondays at noon
- Wednesdays at noon
- Fridays at 7:30am

The easiest way to access these Zoom gatherings is to go to the homepage of the website, hover your cursor over the "Contact Us" tab and click on the "Prayer & Encouragement" tab. Use the password **ConnectwGRACE** to access the links for each time!

GET TO KNOW MARK & SUE VOLL

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Hello Grace Family,

We are so happy to be here! We look forward to getting to know you, and would like to share a little bit about us, so you can get to know us too! Sue and I were both born in Wisconsin; Sue in Milwaukee and I in Fond du Lac. Sue was raised in Port Washington but my family moved to suburban Dolton, Illinois from Malone, Wisconsin when I was just a year old. Sue and I met when I was a student at Lakeland College (B.A. Vocal Music Education) near Sheboygan and she was a student at Lakeshore Technical Institute in Cleveland, Wisconsin (Medical Assistant). We married in January 1977 in Port Washington. From there I entered seminary (United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities) in the fall of 1977.

Sue is one of 8 children (her oldest brother has passed away) and I am one of 6. Of our parents, Sue's mom is still living. She splits her time between Baraboo and Three Lakes, Wisconsin. Sue's siblings all live in Wisconsin while mine are in five different states.

We have two children. Our daughter, Katy, born in South Korea and adopted at 11 months, is now 38 years old, married, and expecting their first child in January. Katy and Dave live in the Portland, OR area. Katy is an inpatient clinical pharmacist and Dave is an M.D. Our son, Tyler (27) was born in Wisconsin and we adopted him when he was ten weeks old. Tyler, his wife, Ely, and their two children, Charlotte (3) and Lucas (1) live in Ozark, MO. Tyler is a corporate computer server specialist and Ely has taught K-12 music but will now be a full-time mom.

Between adopting Katy and Tyler, Sue and I were a licensed foster care provider in Wisconsin for newborns who were in the process of being placed for adoption. We found it to be very fulfilling and the church loved having little babies around to hold and help care for!

Our interests include our families, singing, musical theatre, hiking, kayaking, table games, finding great locally owned places to eat, cooking shows, and meeting people.

I served churches in St. Germain, Neillsville, and Port Washington, Wisconsin and most recently, Bella Vista, Arkansas. I started in ministry in the summer of 1979 leading campground services in Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Sue and I are passionate about honoring Christ Jesus our Savior with lives that glorify Him and serve His ongoing mission, through us and His church, to "seek and to save, rescue and redeem" a people for His Kingdom.

Our desire in coming to Grace EFC is to be used by God to help with the process of reflection (looking back at what God has been doing), assessment (how God is currently moving and working), and preparation for the selection and calling of your next staff pastor (how God wants to use Grace Church in these very critical times and the leadership that will require).

We can't wait to get to know you all and serve our Great King together here in Fond du Lac.

In His Service,
Mark (& Sue) Voll



NEWS & NOTES

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR!

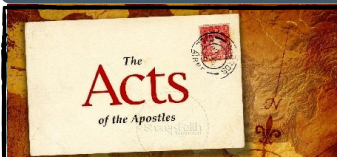
Our AWANA program is ramping up for our 2021-2022 season. Join us on Sunday Nights for Awana from 5:00-6:30 pm (for 5K-6th grade) beginning on Sunday, September 12th. Registration is NOW OPEN!

Visit www.gracechurchfdl.org/registration

Looking for more info? Contact Jean Titel, Jen Koenigs or the Church Office for more details.



"Connecting with GRACE" is an opportunity to learn more about Grace Church and what it means to become a member. This "no strings attached" gathering is scheduled for **Sunday, September 12th**, after the worship service. *Please sign up on our website www.gracechurchfdl.org/registration or at the Info Booth if you are interested in participating.*



Join us for an in-depth study on the life of Paul and the expansion of the early church throughout the known world through studying the book of Acts chapters 13-28.

Study Dates/Times:

Thursdays, September 9, 2021 – Thursday, April 28, 2022, with a break between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Time: Noon – 2:00 pm

Our study is in-person as well as live on Zoom. The study is also recorded for later viewing at your convenience through our website. The complete Acts Handbooks can be ordered ahead of time or lesson 1 will be available on our website at no charge for those who would like to check out the study before ordering the handbook.

Questions: please contact Julie Swanson, swanj@live.com (920) 923-2744

Join us for a

Fellowship Luncheon

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH

Join us on Sunday, September 19th after coffee fellowship & discipleship classes for a good ol' fashioned Fellowship Luncheon. We will be celebrating and welcoming Mark & Sue Voll to our Grace Family. Stay tuned for more information on where to sign up & what to bring.

JOIN US FOR DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Classes for 4K thru High School begin Sunday, September 12th! Registration is now open online: www.gracechurchfdl.org/registration



Habitat for Humanity
of Fond du Lac County

HARD HATS

& Heels



JOIN HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF FOND DU LAC COUNTY AT OUR

18th Annual Hard Hats & Heels Dinner

September 16, 4:00pm
South Hills Golf & Country Club
1175 Fond du Lac Avenue
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Habitat for Humanity of Fond du Lac County is blessed to announce its 18th annual Hard Hats and Heels fundraising event to be held Thursday, September 16, 2021 at South Hills Golf & Country Club. All monies raised during this event will support Habitat's Homeownership and Neighborhood Revitalization programs, honoring our mission of providing safe, decent, and affordable living for those in our communities. It is our hope you will join us, supporting children, families, friends, and neighbors throughout Fond du Lac County.

Cocktails: 4:00pm | Dinner: 6:00pm | Presentation: 6:30pm
Live Auction: 7:15pm

For more info please visit: www.habitatfdl.org/programs/hard-hats-heels/

Thank you from the Schoutens!

"We want to thank all those at Grace that sent us a card for our anniversary. It was so nice to hear from you. We are missing all of you, but we enjoy being near our family. We had a celebration with all of our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren (20 in all) for a weekend from Wisconsin, South Dakota, North Carolina Maryland, Virginia, Florida, and Illinois. God is good!"

- Stu & Joan

AWANA SCHEDULE

Sept. 12 - Welcome Back Night!!!
Sept. 19 - Baseball Cap Night
Sept. 26 - Polka Dot/Stripes Night



HEADS UP!



The church office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 6th.



Monthly Reflection

Reflections of a Lovely Lady



What makes a lady truly lovely?

Ladies high-school age and up are invited to come explore this topic with the Women of Grace.

Our evening begins with fellowship over a delicious meal, followed by our inspirational program, encouraging us to reflect the beauty Christ has woven into us as women.

Join us on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, from 5:45 pm-8:30 pm at Whispering Springs Golf Club (380 Whispering Springs Drive, Fond du Lac, WI) for "Reflections of a Lovely Lady." Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm.

Program Highlights Include:

Inspirational Speaker: Lucy Lonadier
Instrumental Piece by Lyda Osinga
Special Feature by Robin Fuhrman

Tickets are \$15

Available at www.gracechurchfdl.org/registration or in-person at Grace Church.

The deadline is Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

"A worthy woman, who can find? For her price is far above rubies" Proverbs 31:10 (ASV)

MEET OUR SPEAKER



Lucy Lonadier, married to husband Larry for 45 years, has 4 adult children and 9 grandchildren. Lucy loves Jesus, spending time with her family, and her Springer Spaniel Max. She will soon be a certified Mental Health Care Coach. Lucy is passionate about helping women heal from abuse in many forms and has lead a group for women at Appleton Alliance Church for close to 5 years. The group is called Overcoming CoDependency in relationships for women. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to share what's on her heart with the gals at the upcoming event!

The Anchor Holds

by Jack Witte

Seeing yourself through the eyes of God ...

The above thought came to me from God today. What does God see when He looks at me?... What does He see when He looks at you? I think when He looks at each of us, *He sees the beautiful creation He designed us to be*. For God sees our soul and our spirit, not the outer shell we call our body. In each of the uncountable number of humans He created, He put a *soul and a spirit* with a desire for each us to know Him personally.

The body you see in the mirror is only the shell He gave us to abide in on our earthly journey. *He created us to look different*. He made some black, some white, some yellow, and some red. He gave us each different features, different mannerisms, different identities. He made some tall, some short. Some large, some small. He created us of different races. Each with different skills. He gave each of us an earthly identity, but in each of His creatures He put a perfect spirit and soul. Our earthly bodies are only temporary, and one day we will leave them here on earth, but our soul and our spirit will live on for eternity.

In creating us, God gave each of us the desire to know Him, but He also gave us a free will, allowing each of us to make a choice... *the choice to accept Him or reject Him*.

God rejoices when the soul and spirit of a believer leaves this earth for its heavenly home. God mourns the loss of a soul and spirit who leave this earth without Him, for He recognizes the burning hell that they will find at the end of their earthly days. Eternity is FOREVER!

We each have to make a choice. Think about it today ... have you made your choice?

I pray that you will seek out the Heavenly God who created you.

"Remind me, remind me ... Dear Lord ..."

Dottie Rambo song

Listen to the words of this beautiful song: ... "The things that I love and hold dear to my heart, are just borrowed ... they're not mine at all. Jesus only let me use them to brighten my life ... so remind me ... remind me ... Dear Lord."

What a beautiful song written by Dottie Rambo. I have attached Terry Blackwood's version below. When I listen to this, I think about the many, many times God has blessed me, yet so often I fail to thank Him and quickly forget. It bothers me to think that I can take God's blessings for granted... and it is so important that I am reminded *what God does every day of my life* and what my life could have been *without His saving grace*.

The song continues ... "Roll back the curtain of memory now and then ... show me where you brought me from and where I could have been." Think about your life today, and where you might have ended up if God hadn't claimed you for His own. *Each of us have our own story*. I lived 35 years of my life on my own. I had complete control of what was happening and yet I found myself deeply troubled and feeling lost and hopeless. But on that September Sunday in 1976 everything changed. I invited Jesus to live in me and gave Him control. I shudder to think where I could have ended up had my friends not urged me to investigate God's saving grace and the sacrifice His Son Jesus made for me, so that I could change my ways and trust Him instead of trying to do things my way.

Take some time today, and allow God to remind us of the blessings He has given, and will continue to give us as we journey through this life on earth *with Him in control*.

Say this little prayer with me ... "Remind me, remind me, Dear Lord." For we are truly blessed.

YouTube link to song: <https://youtu.be/HAZTKsAzTy4>

Your Anchor will hold ... in spite of your storms!



163 18th Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
office@gracechurchfdl.org
www.gracechurchfdl.org

CORPORATE PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES:

Sunday mornings at 8:45am
Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm
Wednesday AM Men's prayer at 6:30am.

*All meet at
Grace Church
building*

GRACE CHURCH STAFF

Head Pastor & Chief Shepherd - *Jesus Christ*

Pastor Grant Baumgart - *Worship & Admin*

cell: 948-6373 email: baumgart@gracechurchfdl.org

Pastor Brad Rutherford - *Youth & Family*

cell: 313-0456 email: rutherford@gracechurchfdl.org

Pastor Mark Voll - *Interim*

cell: (479) 372-8853 email: voll@gracechurchfdl.org

Administrative Assistant - *Carol Blain*

phone: 922-7211 email: office@gracechurchfdl.org

Communications/Media Coordinator - *Rachel Titel*

email: cmc@gracechurchfdl.org

Office Assistant - *Beth Rutherford*

Custodian - *Mark Jopling*

Custodial Assistant - *Jen Koenigs*

Elder on Call: Friday, Saturday & Sunday

(920) 948-9262

Offering & Attendance

7/04/2021	\$5,357	160
7/11/2021	\$7,189	163
7/18/2021	\$9,094	192
7/25/2021	\$12,004	173

July Weekly Ave: \$8,317 172

Weekly average needed to meet budget \$10,142

Year to Date Givings \$33,268

Year to Date Expenses \$43,275

Totals reflect July month-end totals

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please submit information for the
October Words of Grace
to the church office by **September 15th**.
You can contact the office at (920) 922-7211 or
office@gracechurchfdl.org

Office Hours are:

Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:30pm

Friday 8:00am-11:30am