

IEWS AND VISTAS

The Newsletter of the

WEST GRANVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
6935 North 107th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53224-4316
414-353-8680

Web-site = www.westgranville.org
E-mail Pastor Elizabeth at pastore@westgranville.org

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From our Interim Minister

Transition Team Formed

The West Granville Transition Team has been formed. Members include Dorothy Harris-Shuff, Chigozie Okonkwo, Mark Savage, Tim Schneller, Kristina Tarvid-Lawrenz, Tammy Wood, and Pastor Elizabeth. This team will guide us through a mission study, where we will reflect on where we've been, who we are now, and who God is calling us to be in the future.

All members of the congregation will be invited to participate in this work together as the months continue. This work is a critical part of our transition process. Once it is complete, we will form a new Pastor Nominating Committee and draft a Ministry Discernment Form used to search for an installed pastor. Please pray for the transition team and for God's wisdom, as together West Granville seeks to step faithfully into God's future.

WGPC YouTube Channel

- o https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNPrOpTv3k_4JE8gYRM4-Dw

Rev. Judi will serve as Parish Associate

The Rev. Judi Holmes-Jensen, whom you already know well as part of our church family, will serve as Parish Associate at West Granville. A parish associate is a clergyperson—often retired or serving outside of a traditional ministry role—who shares their ministerial gifts with a particular congregation. Parish associates serve under the direction of the pastor in order to support the overall ministry of the congregation.

In this case, Rev. Judi will work alongside Pastor Elizabeth to provide pastoral care for the congregation, serving as primary pastoral care coverage when Pastor Elizabeth is away. You have already seen Rev. Judi in worship, and she will continue to engage in worship leadership from time to time. Finally, she will also help to facilitate adult education and faith formation opportunities.

Rev. Judi is an ordained minister for word and sacrament in the Presbytery of Milwaukee. She is a retired hospital chaplain with rich experience in accompanying individuals and families through challenging times. Rev. Judi is active in the Presbytery, serving at present on the Commission for Transitional Ministry (CTM) and has robust gifts in teaching, spiritual practice, and discernment. We look forward to commissioning Rev. Judi to this role in the near future, but please be aware that she will provide pastoral care coverage during Pastor Elizabeth's upcoming time away. We give thanks for Rev. Judi's willingness to serve our faith family!

Live Stream West Granville

Live Stream will open 10 minutes before the start of service

WORSHIP IN APRIL

- April 2** **Holy Thursday**
Zoom Service 6:30 PM
- April 3** **Good Friday**
- April 5** **EASTER** (No Church School)
9:00 Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt
10:30 Worship Service
Holy Communion
Tony Anderson, solo
Pulpit color change to white
Multiple Readers
Scripture: Colossians 3:1-4, Matthew 28:1-1
Sermon: *Crucifixions and Women Walking*
- April 12** **2nd Sunday of Easter**
Elder Kent Tess-Mattner, guest preacher
Scripture: 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31
- April 19** **3rd Sunday of Easter**
Scripture: 1 Peter 1:17-25; Luke 24:13-35
Sermon: *Imperishable Seed*
- April 26** **4th Sunday of Easter**
Scripture: 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10
Sermon: *Nonviolence or the Violence of Love*
Pastor Elizabeth away April 6th – 12th



The Meaning of Faithful Community
West Granville Presbyterian Church

Open Circle Sponsored Guest Speaker

Martha Boehm, author and gifted storyteller, joined us in March to participate in Worship and for lively conversation and a chance to tell personal stories afterward.



CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Military

Abraham Cosico (husband of Kali Grogan-Cosico) United States Navy
Major JT Lorbiecki of the Wisconsin Air National Guard 115 Air Wing in Madison.

Prayers

Deb Bascom's mother-in-law, Shirley, recovering from heart attack

Mike and Claudia McCord-

Pastor Elizabeth's parents as her father continues on his cancer journey.

Alice Mayer

Recovering from emergency hip surgery

Jane Hockerman, follow-up surgery

Nicki Rupke and the Rupke family

Long Term Prayers

Ruby Tylenda-Emmons, special need.

Continued prayers for those whose recovery is taking longer than expected, including Pat Grogan and Jen Westerman

Traveling mercies for all those on sea, road, or sky

Prayers for peace and those in military service

WEST GRANVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Elizabeth McCord, *Interim Pastor*

Sara Nygaard, *Church Administrator*

Carol Buck, *Newsletter Editor* cagbuck@sbcglobal.net

Please submit May newsletter articles by 4.26.26

POLICE APPRECIATION MEAL FOR DISTRICT 4 OFFICERS

Once again West Granville, sponsored by the Mission Committee, is helping with the meal being served at the District 4 Station on **Thursday, May 21st**. We will need help with the set-up, serving, and take down of the meal. Help for set-up would be at 3:30, meal served till 7p.m., and clean-up after that time.

Again, we are partnering with our Muslim friends who will be bringing their wonderful chicken and rice dish for the main meal. The officers will also be served hamburgers and hot dogs as an option. West Granville helps with all the fantastic side dishes and desserts. Please sign up for options to bring through the on-line sign up or contact Deb Bascom. Thank you

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We are approximately \$800.00 away from our per capita goal. If you have not yet paid your per capita, please consider helping us reach this goal. Remember, whatever is not collected still needs to be paid by the church.

The Finance Committee

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Carol Otten

555 Veterans Ave, #312

West Bend, WI 53090

Rupke Family has cancelled their landline (262.255.3207)

Nancy cell 262.844.0645

John cell 262.844.2480

Nicole cell 262-255-5491

OPEN CIRCLE EVENT

BLANKET MAKING, BLESSING BAGS and SALAD LUNCHEON

Date: **Saturday, April 25, 2026**

Time / Place: 9:30-1:00ish / Perseverance Hall

All ladies of the church are invited to join Open Circle for a morning of making tied fleece blankets that will be donated. No special craft experience or sewing is needed. Bring a pair of sharp scissors if you have them. Several yard sticks, scissors, and the fabric for blankets will be provided. We will also be assembling Blessing Bags.

After we make the blankets we will share a salad lunch. A sign-up sheet for salad fixings will be posted in the Narthex. See Patti Lorbiecki, who will provide the salad greens, for more information.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARY

- 3 Charles Ramlow 3 Lori Hrovat
- 4 Mark Savage
- 5 Jeff Ellner
- 5 Janet Beltman's 105th Birthday
- 6 Chet Bell
- 8 Tammy Wood
- 11 Christina Tarvid-Lawrence
- 11 Kent Tess-Mattner
- 13 Amy Tess-Mattner Mikec
- 13 Phillip Jones
- 17 Amy & Jim Rhines, 2004
- 20 Jim Rhines
- 23 Gabrielle Cannestra
- 24 Sue Berray
- 27 Deb Bascom
- 30 Lane Grigg 30 Ethan Pogorzelski

If your dates are missing or in error,
please inform the church office.

PERSEVERANCE SCHOLARSHIPS 2026

When Perseverance Presbyterian Church closed and many of its members joined West Granville, West Granville received money from Perseverance's endowment to assist students pursuing education beyond high school or training for new employment. That money was put into a special growth fund, and each year a percentage of the income on the account is set aside to be divided among church members who apply for the scholarship. The amount awarded varies from year to year, depending upon the number of recipients and the amount of the proceeds from the fund.

The Perseverance Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that this year the following students each received an award of \$2,000: **Noah Bichler, Lucy Daniel, Mimi Daniel, Michael Essoka, Victor Essoka, and Godson Nyadzi.** All of these students have a strong work ethic, have taken a rigorous course load, and have attained an impressive grade point average while being active in extracurricular and community service activities.

Noah Bichler is currently in a dual-enrollment firefighting/EMT program at Menomonee Falls High School and Waukesha County Technical College and will graduate this spring. He plans to continue his education at WCTC with further firefighter and paramedic training. Throughout his involvement in the Menomonee Falls High School Baseball Program and the Junior Phoenix Baseball Program, he consistently demonstrated perseverance, discipline, and a team-first mindset. His willingness to push through challenges while maintaining a positive attitude reflects a level of maturity that sets him apart. His references spoke powerfully about his character, work ethic, and commitment to personal growth. The committee was especially

impressed by his leadership and service to others. His role as a mentor and assistant coach for younger athletes highlights his ability to lead with patience, encouragement, and integrity. The impact he has made on those players — helping them grow in both skill and confidence — speaks volumes about his character and dedication to giving back. Noah notes that his faith has taught him to give back in community and help others in need. Through firefighting and EMT, he hopes to help people in their worst moments with lifesaving compassion and care.

Lucia (Lucy) Daniel will be graduating from Sussex Hamilton High School and plans to continue her education studying architecture in order to help others by designing residential and public spaces for those in need. Her references highlight her thoughtful leadership, excellent academic record, insight into new ideas/experiences and an exceptional ability to interact with peers and adults in many circumstances. Music is an important part of her life: she participated in band and plans to continue marching/concert band at the university level. Lucy maintained a stellar GPA while participating in cross country, track, Girl Scouts and NHS. In particular, her leadership as captain of the forensic team demonstrates her command of craft while encouraging and guiding teammates. Perhaps most importantly, one reference commented that she shows exceptional maturity in being able to "meet any person, no matter how different they are from her, and welcome and accept them in her presence for exactly who they are," demonstrating her character grounded in her faith. The committee is confident that these strong attributes will continue to serve her well as she continues her education, and on into her career.

Miriam (Mimi) Daniel also is graduating from Sussex Hamilton High School. She says that her faith has shaped her desire to study psychology, at either Marquette University or the University of Minnesota, because it has taught her to view others with compassion and empathy, motivating her to help those who are struggling. Her references compliment her caring, inspiring and intuitive contributions to classmates, coursework and extracurricular activities. Mimi has participated in marching/concert band, theater clubs, and four years of varsity cheerleading. Her cheerleading leadership positions as Manager and in Representation and Advocacy demonstrate her commitment to support others in various capacities. Her cheerleading coach notes her influential positive attitude, persistent work ethic and excellent communication skills. In addition, her work as a teacher's assistant/tutor for Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) for the sophomore class impressed the committee and Mimi's references. She is seen as "an active and caring role model due to professionalism and empathy." She demonstrates the ability to handle multiple classroom, organizational and administrative tasks with kindness and authenticity. She is able to help all involved feel that they are part of a team – very important talents in building community.

Michael Essoka is graduating from Brown Deer High School and plans to study biomedical engineering at either the University of Wisconsin-Madison or Tulane University. He says that God has gifts for all of us to do something in life, and his gift is to work hard and persevere toward his goal of using science and engineering to make a positive difference in healthcare. The committee was impressed by Michael's stellar record of academics, sports, community involvement and leadership. He is a multi-sport athlete in soccer, basketball, and track and field.

As captain of the soccer team for several years, he is described as an exceptional leader. His participation in student council and community service projects supports the school as well as the community. His references describe analytical abilities and critical thinking skills that have no doubt led to his impressive GPA across all courses and a variety of AP classes. Of note are his references' compliments about his influential presence, exceptional character and determination for best efforts in all aspects of his high school experience. One reference described Michael as "an incomparably well-rounded individual with great things ahead of him."

Victor Essoka will graduate from Brown Deer High School and plans to continue his education studying sociology and political science, with the goal of improving policies that currently affect marginalized communities. He notes that his personal faith guides his actions in daily life and in the community. Particularly noteworthy is his work with the Milwaukee County Youth Commission, through which he has attended policy meetings with legislators and discussed ways to improve the quality of life for Milwaukee County youth. The committee was impressed by his many contributions to his school and community. Victor acted in many theatrical productions at school and recently won the Spirit Award honoring excellence in high school musical theatre. He maintains an exceptional academic record while also exhibiting strong leadership on the tennis team, in the Mentoring Program, at the Wisconsin Leadership Seminar, and in DECA (a global nonprofit student organization helping to prepare students for college and career success). He is described as "academically brilliant, artistically talented, athletically skilled and fundamentally compassionate." One reference believes he will "serve as an agent of change for his community and the world moving forward."

Yaovi (Godson) Nyadzi is graduating from Vincent High School of Agriculture Science where he also participates in GPS Ed, a work-based learning apprenticeship. In the fall, he will attend the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a major in marketing and engineering. His goal is to learn how to design and build new products while also learning how to promote and sell them, thereby connecting technical knowledge with business ideas. Godson's references praise his strong commitment to learning, noting that he consistently strives for deeper understanding and personal growth. His work ethic, ambition, and disciplined approach to his education reflect a student who is fully invested in his future. In addition to his academic and apprenticeship requirements, Godson runs track and participates in church and community service projects. The committee was impressed by his involvement with our church community, in which he exhibits a quiet yet powerful leadership style, and a recognition that "service is not just about completing physical work but about caring for people." One reference also noted that Godson "leads not by seeking attention, but through steady commitment, humility, and a genuine desire to serve others." He is described as having a natural ability to guide and encourage younger children, who "look up to him because he leads with patience, kindness, and authenticity." He demonstrates a level of maturity and compassion that truly sets him apart.

West Granville is extremely proud of these talented, intelligent, hard-working and dedicated students, and we wish them success as they continue their education journeys!

APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Communion Team: Ed Kress, Maureen Jones, Sarah Ramlow, Dawn Anderson Ushers: Tammy and Patrick Wood, Mawuena Alogavi Stream Team: 5: Laura Meyer 12, 26: Angie Anderson 19: Logan Cannestra Coffee Hour hosts: 12: Bledu family 19: ??? 26: Tim & Christine Schneller			1 6:30 Bells	2 6:30 Maundy Thursday Zoom Service	3 <i>Good Friday</i>	4
5 – Easter Sunday 9:00 Easter Breakfast for all Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 Worship Holy Communion Tony Anderson, soloist	6 7 – Worship * Pastor Elizabeth away → 12 th	7	8 6:30 Bells	9	10	11
12 – 2nd Sunday of Easter 9:15 Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship Elder Kent Tess-Mattner guest preacher	13 7 – Finance *	14	15 6:30 Bells	16	17	18
19 – 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:15 Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship	20 7 – Session *	21 7 -- Property *	22 <i>Earth Day</i> Be good stewards of the earth 6:30 Bells	23	24 <i>May Newsletter deadline is Sunday</i>	25 9:30-1ish Open Circle Blankets, Bags, and luncheon
26 – 4th Sunday of Easter 9:15 Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship	27	28	29 6:30 Bells	30		

Recorded sermons and videos may be found at our YouTube channel – https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNPrOpTv3k_4JE8gYRM4-Dw
 Zoom links may be found on our www.Westgranville.org website under the *Events* tab.

*Meetings may be via Zoom or may have been date- and/or time-changed, please stay tuned.