

# VIEWS AND VISTAS

*The Newsletter of the*  
**WEST GRANVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**6935 North 107<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Milwaukee, WI 53224-4316**  
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Vol. 49, No. 7 July-August 2026

## *From our Interim Minister*

*Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another.*

~ Romans 12:9-16b

In his letter to the Romans, Paul speaks of the qualities of genuine Christian community. These are not mandates to follow so much as reflections of the Spirit living within and among God's people. This is who the Church *is* when the Church is alive in Christ.

Like many of you, I experience this type of genuine, loving Christian community in West Granville. Generally, church folk feeling like a big family is not uncommon, especially in congregations our size. Less common, however, is that the members of West Granville so fully include their pastors in this bond of love.

It is sad to say, but many churches eat up their pastors. Church folk can demand superhuman feats of service, criticize even the smallest personality quirks, hold unrealistic expectations, and fail to give the support and grace to their leaders which they share freely with one another. In fact, when I graduated from seminary, one in eight new pastors left the ministry after their first pastorate, and this is one of the reasons we have a pastoral shortage today.

West Granville is not like this. Through your 39 years with Rev. Bletcher, your 40 years with Rev. Anderson, two budding pastoral residents, and now your current interim pastor, you have walked faithfully, compassionately, and graciously through seasons of great loss and grief. As my father's health faded over the past months, Pastor Dee said to me, "and now you get to experience West Granville giving love back to you." He was so right. I have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of support, prayers, and genuine love of this congregation. In fact, I am not sure how one goes through great seasons of loss without a community like West Granville.

I am deeply grateful for your care for me and my family as I have walked with my father through his final months of life and now grieve his loss. And I also want you to hear that genuine love, mutual affection, hospitality, and your willingness to both rejoice and weep with others is a particular charism—a spiritual gift—of this congregation.

*God, help us know when to rejoice with those who are rejoicing, when to weep with those who are weeping, and how to share the genuine love and hospitality of our faith family with your world. Amen.*

## **SUMMER WORSHIP IN JULY** **9:30 AM**

- July 5** Holy Communion  
Rocking Chair Reflection:  
*A Faith Story with Pastor Elizabeth*  
Scripture: Genesis 24 (excerpts)  
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
- July 12** Rocking Chair Reflection  
with Elder Tammy Wood  
Scripture Genesis 25-19-34  
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
- July 19** Rocking Chair Reflection  
with WG Youth after their Mission Trip  
Scripture: Genesis 28:10-19a  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
- July 26** Rocking Chair Reflection  
with Elder Tony Anderson  
Scripture: Genesis 29:15-28  
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-46

Live Stream West Granville  
*Live Stream will open 10 minutes before the start of service*

### **2026 SUMMER COFFEE HOUR SIGNUP**

Remember the delight of fellowship along with the enjoyment of a delectable treat and delicious beverage following a worship service? We can have those special moments again as volunteers sign up to host our summer coffee hours. These are the only dates available:

July 5, 12, 19, 26  
August 9, 16, 30

Signup sheets are located in the Narthex and kitchen.

**SUMMER WORSHIP IN AUGUST**  
**9:30 AM**

**August 2** Holy Communion  
Rocking Chair Reflection:  
*A Table Story*  
Scripture: Matthew 28: 16-20

**August 9** Rocking Chair Reflection  
Scripture: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28  
Matthew 14:22-33

**August 16** Rocking Chair Reflection  
Genesis 45:1-15  
Matthew 15:21-28

**August 23** Outdoor Worship  
Trombone Choir  
Scripture: Exodus 1:8-2:10  
Matthew 16:13-20

**August 30** Rocking Chair Reflection  
Scripture: Exodus  
Matthew

**OUTDOOR WORSHIP** will be held on **August 23** with music by Kent Tess-Mattner and his trombone choir and followed by the Annual All-Church Picnic.

**DIRECTORY UPDATES**

Have you moved, changed your phone number or e-mail? Please communicate any updates to the office! Also, you can update your information and/or add pictures to your listing in the Online Directory: [Online Directory Link](#)

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**Sympathies**

to Cindy and Dee Anderson on the death of Cindy's brother-in-law, Donald Goerke, who passed away on June 8 at the age of 91. His obituary: [Pagenkopf Funeral Home.](#)

to Sally and Kevin Tarvid and Kristina, Jess, and Nora Tarvid-Lawrenz. Sally's close cousin, Robert Marti, passed away unexpectedly in June. Let us surround their family as they grieve and honor Robert's life. His obituary: <https://roseberrys.com/obituary/robert-r-marti/>

**Congratulations** to Judi Holmes-Jensen who celebrated her ordination of 19 years in June.

**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**

Janet Beltman, receiving hospice care  
Jane Hockerman, receiving treatment for cancer  
Deb Bascom, recovering from foot surgery

**Long Term Prayers**

Nicki Rupke, special care.  
Ruby Tylanda-Emmons, special need.

**DIRECTORY UPDATE**

Sue Skaros  
N78W17261 Wildwood Dr. #728  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

**TRANSITION TEAM REPORT: June 2026**

- The Transition team has begun its work by focusing on our church's Communications Systems and how we communicate with our members and the broader public. This includes studying our Website, Facebook page, YouTube channel, Newsletter, Directories and mailing or, primarily, emailing lists.
- The good news, all are readable, helpful and working for the church. The social media outlets are viewed well by members and newsletters and emails generally are opened by about half our members.
- We are continuing to look into the workflow for each of these, some being easier to manage and already working well, while others are less consistently managed.
- One area of concern is the church's Website. Analytics and comparing it with other more current church websites and benchmarks for successful church sites indicate West Granville's needs a serious update.
- The Website is our front door to visitors and potential new members and while our site is accurate it falls short on being as welcoming as it could be, and in highlighting our active and diverse church family.
- The Transition Team will continue discussing options for website support with Session."
- More news as we move forward.

*The Transition Team*

## **AFRICAN DINNER**



~ photo by Noel Adams

On June 28<sup>th</sup> West Granville hosted a number of Commissioners and General Assembly guests in worship and treated them and the congregation to an authentic African dinner prepared and served by many of our members, pictured above, and enjoyed by all!

*Thank you so much to all who welcomed and worshiped with our General Assembly guests recently. Our guests were deeply touched by the hospitality and community here at West Granville. A Presbyterian news article features our worship and our congregation:*  
<https://pcusa.org/news-storytelling/news/2026/6/28/puff-puffs-polity>.

*Special thanks to the amazing cooks who provided a beautiful feast: Linda Annor, Thompson Asiedv, Hildegard Essoka, Chioma Okonkwo, Ayo Akinyiga, and Mawuena, Akoeba, and Afi Alogavi. Great thanks also to Hildegard for serving as liturgist and organizing both worship and our meal, as well as to Kent Tess-Mattner for serving as tour guide and bus usher between the convention center and West Granville.*

*What a gift to join with siblings from across the country, and what a joy to have our sanctuary and Perseverance Hall filled with love, laughter, active little feet, and the Holy Spirit as we praised and fellowshiped together. Thanks be to God!*

## **GOLF OUTING ~ SATURDAY, JULY 25**

The 2026 Annual West Granville Presbyterian Church Golf Outing will be **Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**. We have scheduled 4 tee off times starting at **8:30**, so hopefully, it won't be too hot!

The golf course is **Blackstone Creek** located at N112W17300 Mequon Rd. in Germantown. As usual, we will play scramble golf (best ball) and each group must use each team member's drive and finishing putt – a minimum of two times! It's a fun event as golfers who have previously played in the event can tell you.

Please sign up in the Narthex and Perseverance Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Prill at 414-659-9680 or [sprill@milwpc.com](mailto:sprill@milwpc.com)

## **MAPLE TREE SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE**

We will be beginning our 19<sup>th</sup> annual school supply drive this summer for the students at Maple Tree School. While general school supplies are always needed, they are especially grateful for supplies that are needed year round such as pencils, crayons, erasers, glue sticks, kleenex, and backpacks. Please NO rulers or composition notebooks, they aren't used. We are also happy to collect your gently used school supplies. The students and staff always appreciate your generosity as it makes their school year a little easier!



## **WEST GRANVILLE 2026 ANNUAL PICNIC!**

**Sunday, August 23**  
immediately following  
**Outdoor Worship**

What to bring:

Chairs

Dish to Pass (some examples: salads, chips, soda pop, desserts, sides, ice, juice)

Outdoor Games for the Kids

Prayers for a Great Sunny Day

WGPC will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, brats and condiments.

Please text Jo Olson with your RSVP to (262) 252-4720  
or email [josieolson1990@gmail.com](mailto:josieolson1990@gmail.com)

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Just a friendly reminder there are multiple ways to make your pledge contributions during the summer months; online (donation link on WGPC website), ACH/bill pay through your bank, or mail a check. Thank you for continuing to make your contributions during the summer months. This allows the church to meet its monthly financial obligations.

*Finance Committee*

### **THANK YOU**

*WGPC Open Circle,*

*Thank you for your generous donation to help support Lake Country Caring's mission of providing necessities at no cost to those in need in the Wisconsin counties of Dodge, Jefferson, Waukesha and Washington. Founded in 1990, LCC is a 100% volunteer-run 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and a registered charity in the State of Wisconsin. Last year LCC's clients visited us over 4200 times to obtain clothing, household goods, furniture, toys, small appliances and other needed items generously donated by individuals and organizations in the Lake Country area. Your donation of beautiful blankets and a quilt will make a huge difference in the lives of those we serve.*

*Once again, we are very grateful for your support! If you'd like to learn more about our organization, the people we serve, volunteer opportunities, or needed donation items, please contact us or visit our website at [www.lakecountrycaring.com](http://www.lakecountrycaring.com).*

*Sincerely, Lori Dorshorst,  
Donor Relations Coordinator*

*~ Letter posted in narthex*

### **JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARY**

- 2 Lori Martens
- 2 Jerica Ellner
- 3 Sarah Daniel
- 4 Leigh Otten
- 8 Sarah & Dominic Bichler, 2006
- 8 Carol Buck
- 9 JoAnn Olson
- 11 Elizabeth Sandretti
- 13 Rob Pearson
- 13 Cean Ryan
- 14 Erik Anderson
- 15 Kerry Tylenda
- 16 Evan Anderson
- 18 Lauren Meyer
- 18 Molly Mikec
- 21 Cristin Jones
- 25 Tom Grogan
- 25 Karen LaPorte
- 27 Lil Sullivan
- 30 Diana Essoka

### **LOST AND FOUND**

When you do return to the church, remember to check the Lost and Found bin in Narthex for your missing treasures.



**Access Begins in the Heart**

### **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

- 4 David Suyama
- 4 Amy & Dave Mikec, 2007
- 6 Tony Anderson
- 11 Shannon Canestra
- 12 Alice Mayer
- 13 Amy Suyama Barnes
- 16 Joy Hartman
- 17 Alex Hrovat
- 22 Miriam Daniel
- 22 Lucia Daniel
- 23 Farrukh Daniel
- 23 Jennifer Otten Peterson
- 25 Linda Ryan
- 26 Jim Rhines
- 28 Erik & Madison Anderson, 2020

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

### **WEST GRANVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Elizabeth McCord**, *Interim Pastor*

Sara Nygaard, *Church Administrator*,

[secretary@westgranville.org](mailto:secretary@westgranville.org)

Carol Buck, *Newsletter Editor*, [cagbuck@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cagbuck@sbcglobal.net)

Please submit September newsletter articles by

Sunday, August 30

# JULY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Communion Team:</i> Linda Ryan, Deb Crane, Pat Grogan  <i>Ushers:</i> 12, 19, 26 – Pat Grogan, Jim Ashton  <i>Coffee Hour Hosts:</i>  <i>Stream Team:</i> 5, 12 Logan Cannestra; 19 Angie Anderson; 26 Laura Meyer</p> <p>Recorded sermons and videos may be found at our YouTube channel: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNPrOpTv3k_4JE8gYrRM4-Dw">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNPrOpTv3k_4JE8gYrRM4-Dw</a>.            You may continue to livestream our services as well.</p> <p>Zoom links may be found on our <a href="http://www.Westgranville.org">www.Westgranville.org</a> website under the <i>Events</i> tab.</p>						
			1	2	3	4 Celebrating 250 years! Have a safe and fun 4 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>5 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 Worship Holy Communion	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>12 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 Worship  Youth Mission trip to Chicago →16 <sup>th</sup>	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>19 – 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 Worship	20	21	22	23	24	25 8:30 – Golf Outing
<b>26 – 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 Worship	27	28	29	30	31	

# AUGUST 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Communion Team:</i> Logan Cannestra, Angie Snowden Anderson, Thompson Asiedv  <i>Ushers:</i> 9, 23 Tony &amp; Shellie Anderson; 16, 30 Calley &amp; Mark Savage  <i>Coffee Hour Hosts:</i> 2 – Chet and Jeanette Bell; 23 – All-Church Picnic coordinated by Jo and Roger Olson                      You may continue to livestream our services as well.                      *Meetings may be via Zoom or may have been date- and/or time-changed.</p>						1
<p><b>2 – 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>                      9:30 Worship                      Holy Communion</p>	3  6:30 - Mission * 7 - Worship *	4	5	6	7	8
<p><b>9 - 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>                      9:30 Worship</p>	10  7 – Finance *	11	12	13	14	15
<p><b>16 – 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>                      9:30 Worship</p>	17  7 – Session *	18	19	20	21	22
<p><b>23 – 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>                      9:30 Outdoor Worship                      Trombone Choir                      10:30 All-Church Picnic</p>	24	25  7 – Property *	26	27	28	29 <i>September Newsletter deadline tomorrow</i>
<p><b>30 – 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>                      9:30 Worship</p>	31					