



**It's
a
GIRL!**



Welcome to the world:
**Abigail Kolby
Rosendahl**

Born: January 27, 2023
Time: 8:38 am
Weight: 7 lbs, 14 oz
Length: 20 inches

Pastor's Page

Why does Live-Stream Matter?

On social media I am always seeing funny pictures or videos about how terrible the last few years have been and how we hope that 2023 will be better but are reluctant to trust that it will be. These are often good for a chuckle, but pessimism really is not the way to begin a new year. The pandemic was difficult. So much so that we still feel like we are climbing out of its wake. But if we drop our negativity for a moment, we can see that there have been good things that have come out of it. For the church, one of those things happens to be video streaming services.

Some of us might feel like it is the opposite and that video streaming is actually damaging the church. I have to say that I can understand that point of view. But I also believe that in opening our worship to a broader audience has been beneficial to us. One of the first benefits of the video streaming is that many of our shut-ins can attend worship with us online. Another benefit is that those who travel frequently have access to view our church services as well. But the biggest benefit is not for our church alone but for the fact that now many churches across the world are being emboldened to get their message out to complete strangers. It is a way of evangelism that had not occurred to small churches until after 2020. This will mark the 3rd year of our video streaming, and here are just a few things folks have to say about it.

I look forward to worship service every Sunday on-line. I feel more enlightened spiritually, more connected to my church family. I enjoy our singing, sermons, and communion. I sure would miss it. There were a couple of times when the audio didn't work. I was so disappointed, but I can understand this will happen at times. Thank you so very much for doing this on-line.

Lori Fort-Hoerig (Watertown, WI)

I am very happy to be able to watch church online!! Since I have had some body ailments etc. Mornings are so hard for me to get out and about. It helps to know on Sunday morning I can still see church even though I can't seem to get there. Thank you for having it online I hope it can continue.

Karen Haedtke (Winona)

After moving to Indiana a few years ago, we haven't found a church home. Obviously, growing up with Pastor Rachel, has given me a bias toward clergy and I am partial to what I know and love. She baptized our son this summer and I was blown away how kind and welcoming the congregation was to our family. Now we have a rambunctious toddler, with a slightly chaotic morning routine. Being able to tune in online makes it easier to stay connected with Rachel and the GPC family, hear Pastor Rachel's lessons and sermons, and introduce our son to God's love. Services being available online has been one of the best things to come out of the pandemic and I hope that Grace Church is able to continue the option.

Anna Tanner (Danville, IL)

The online service is our link to home. The sermons leave us refreshed for the week and seeing our friends in church give us a good feeling. We feel this is an essential service to those people that can't be there in person!

Jerry & Mary Lowery (Florida & Up North MN)

**We need YOU to volunteer
to help those who cannot attend church
participate in our services!!
Call the church office (452-4608) to volunteer!**

Star Words: A Spiritual Practice for Epiphany

The wise men who traveled great distances to offer their gifts to the newborn Christ child were responding to the gift first given to them. They received God's gift, then offered their gifts to God. As we commemorate the arrival of the wise men and remember their offerings, we delight in this reminder that symbolizes God's generosity in our lives.

Why would such a simple gift take on such deep meaning? What is it about receiving a Star Word that touches people? Are you yearning for tangible, clear signs of God's presence? Our congregation is filled with compassionate people who spend hours baking for sales, cooking meals for shut-ins, writing cards to the sick, providing transportation to the homebound, calling on people in hospitals and nursing homes, praying for those in need, stretching the church budget by giving what they can, and hosting church suppers.

Congregations are good at being busy and "doing" for God. This Epiphany Sunday celebration represents a change in routine; people are offered the opportunity to "be still" in the presence of God and to receive God's gifts. This is not because we have done anything to merit such attention but simply because of God's abundant generosity.

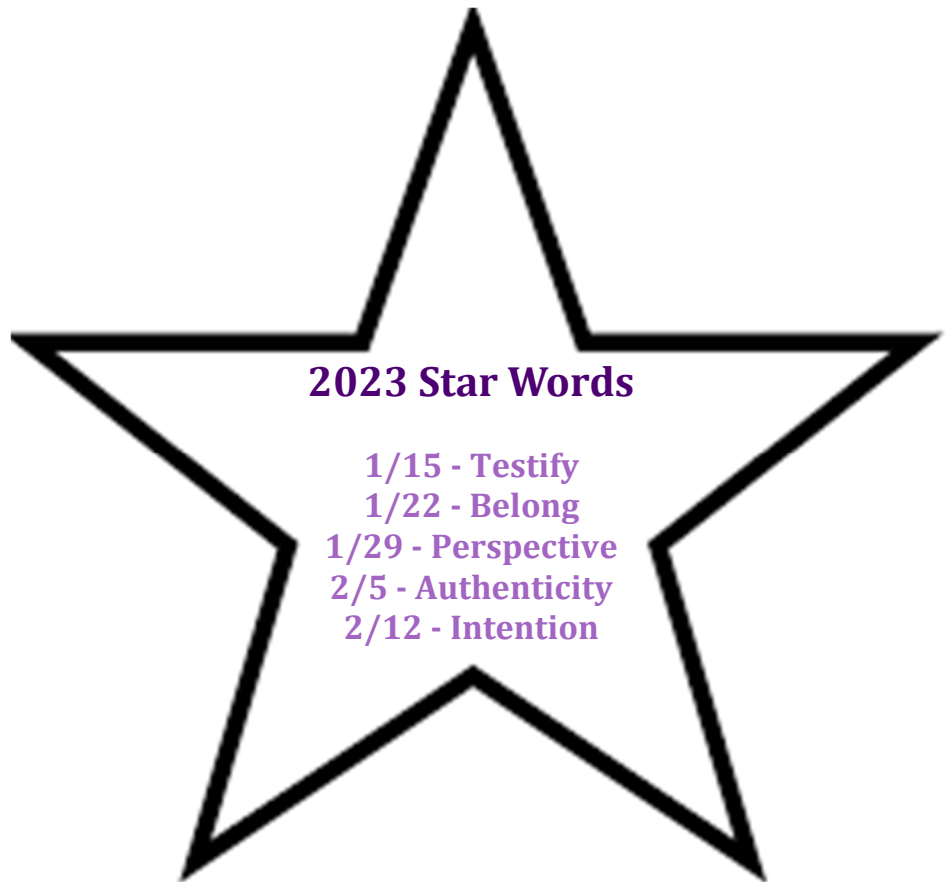
When the you arrive at church, you are prepared to receive something special. As you settle into your chairs, do you often compare notes: What word did you receive last year? What did your Star Word tell you during the last twelve months?

Did you pick up a "Star Word" yet? (There are a few in the basket on the Usher's Stand.) How will your Star Word impact your life?

Like any other gift, Star Words can be received either with joy or discarded and forgotten. You need to be intentional about your response to your Star Word. Will the star be stuffed into a pocket or jammed into the bottom of a purse, never to be considered again? Or will that word be considered an opportunity—a chance to reflect on how God speaks to God's people? What might we learn from one; word? What new ideas might evolve, what treasured wisdom might resurface?

Epiphany is the celebration of God's presence breaking through to shine as a light in the darkness. Each year our congregation rejoices in the reminder of our generous, giving God—one Star Word at a time.

These 5 Star Words will be preached on January 15 through February 12. If you missed any of the sermons in this series, feel free to check out our YouTube page [gracepresbyterianchurchwin](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8) (copy this and paste it in the search bar on YouTube.)





A heartfelt thank you to the prayers and cards we received in the loss of Robert Dornfeld, our father, father-in-law, and grandfather. Bob lived a full 97 years of life, and we are grateful for all the memories we have had with him.

Dave, Nancy, Jake & Rena Dornfeld

A very special thank you for the colorful and sweet cards I have received from the Grace kids. I hang them up in my room and enjoy looking at them. Also thank you for the Advent devotional, I have enjoyed reading. To the Grace Deacons, appreciative thank you for the many cards they have sent to me. I am thankful for all your kind words and thoughtfulness.

Jeanne Nelson

Thank you to the Deacons for the Hy-Vee gift card Jack & I received at Christmas. Thank you to those who remembered me with gifts and kind words not only at Christmastime but throughout the year. It is truly my pleasure to serve along side all of you! Looking forward to a fantastic 2023!!

Cheri & Jack Looman

**You are invited to
Game Night
Friday, February 24 ~ 6:00 p.m.**

Come and enjoy an evening of fun and games with your Grace Church family!

*Bring your favorite beverage,
a snack to share,
and your favorite game!*

See you there!!

Offering Envelopes ~ What should you to know ~

What is the "Initial Offering" envelope for?

Any money received through envelopes help pay for the cost of the boxes of envelopes. Every year, a few boxes of envelopes have to be mailed, and this helps defray this cost as well.

Why should you use envelopes?

It makes entering your offering into our church database much easier! Numbers are used to keep track of what you give to Grace Church. Statements are sent out quarterly so you know how much you have given toward your pledge.

Happy January Birthday!

David Rosendahl	January 11
Mel Rennells	January 12
Leona Thiele	January 25
Keith Smith	January 25

Happy February Birthday!

Kathy Weiner	February 3
Ron Dietrich	February 13
Mark Engstler	February 16
Daniel Mrkvicka	February 16
Andrew Schantzen	February 19
Jeanette Karjala	February 21
Kathy Weitschat	February 21
Steve Thiele	February 25
Michelle Stark	February 27

Happy February Anniversary!

Walt & Dorothy Gilbertson	February 4
Jerry & Mary Lowery	February 14
Steve & Candi Kohner	February 28



January



"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Numbers 6:24-26

February



"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine."
Isaiah 43:1

Valentines Are in the Air!

Soon, the Grace Kids of all ages will be making lovely Valentines to be mailed to some favorite people we know and love from our church family.

When will Grace Kids next sing?

Be watching closely because at one worship service during the month of February the Grace Kids will be singing. It is always a special time for the church family.

Where did all the mittens go?

Thanks to all who placed mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and even socks on the mitten tree in the fellowship hall! These items were delivered in early January to The Warming Center and to Grace Place. They will make a big difference for many people!



Christmas Eve Offering

Thanks to your generous giving, \$215.00 was collected on Christmas Eve and was donated to ***Hope Harbor.*** They received an additional \$215.00 from the Special Mission Fund!



2022 Special Mission Giving

During 2022, money was collected for those in Ukraine who are suffering hardships due to the war. ***Thanks to your generous giving,*** \$376.83 was collected. They received an additional \$300.00 from the Special Mission Fund!

Sunday, February 19, 2023

11:30

a.m.

Annual Meeting

Join us in person or via Zoom.

Zoom log-in will be sent the week before the meeting

Review of Intergenerational Christmas Program

On ***Sunday, December 18, 2022***, a cast of 19 presented the Intergenerational Christmas Program which was edited and adapted by Pastor Rachel Rosendahl.

The Christmas story was read from Matthew, Mark, and Luke. As the Narrators read the story, the actors showed what took place in three different settings: Nazareth, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem.

Congregational hymns were sung as the story unfolded. The cast sang two special hymns: "*O Little Town of Bethlehem*" and "*Away in a Manger.*"

The Bell Choir played "*We Three Kings*" while the Wise Men searched for the child Jesus.

Dan Barr was accompanist for all the music.

*It is a Joy to the earth,
the Savior does reign, and
we worship Jesus Christ, the Lord!*

Cast:

Savannah Bell, Mary

Ben Hansen, Joseph

Cole MacAskill, Angel of the Lord
and child with speaking part

Will Roessler, Gabriel

Mia Fuglestad, cherub

Skyler Fuglestad, shepherd

Brycen Hansen, shepherd

Dash Roessler, Emperor Augustus and sheep

Todd Roessler, assistant to Emperor Augustus
and sheep

Andrew Schantzen, Innkeeper and sheep

Kathy Weiner, Elizabeth

Paul Weiner, Zachariah

Mary Rennells, Anna

Mel Rennells, Simeon

Will Schantzen, Wise Man

Brady Hansen, Wise Man

Matthew MacAskill, Wise Man

Ella Schantzen, Narrator 1

Ava Roessler, Narrator 2



On behalf of the cast of the Christmas program, all the helpers, musicians, and congregation of family and friends, we say a big thank you to **the Fellowship Committee** for serving a delicious sloppy joe lunch following the program.

They always are working behind the scenes to prepare wonderful food and decorations. We are very grateful to all of you!

Session Summary ~ December

Session held its regular meeting on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, and approved the following items:

- * To pay Dan and Tony as Independent Contractors rather than Sub-organists. This means they will be paid out of payroll rather than the regular budget.
- * To ratify a January 3, 2023 email vote to accept Todd Roessler into membership at Grace by reaffirmation of faith.
- * To have Pastor Rachel's Family Leave begin on January 29, 2023.
- * To have a game night on February 24, 2023.
- * To have February be the month for a Deacon's Annual offering. Special offerings for them could be taken during the year as needs arise.
- * If the Nominating Committee has someone to fill the Deacon vacancy that person could be ordained and/or installed at the Annual meeting on February 19, 2023.

Pam Lica, Clerk



Session Summary ~ January

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- * To have a game night on February 24, 2023.
- * To have February be the month for a Deacon's Annual offering. Special offerings for them could be taken during the year as needs arise.
- * If the nominating committee has someone to fill the Deacon vacancy that person could be ordained and/or installed at the Annual meeting on February 19, 2023.

Pam Lica, Clerk



A Warm Welcome

is extended to **Todd Roessler** on his membership to Grace Presbyterian Church. We look forward to see how God will use your gifts here at Grace!

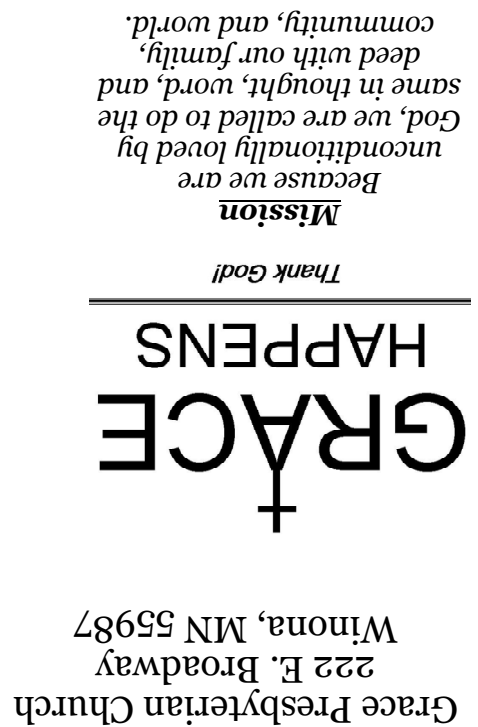


Let's Grow the Deacon's Fund

During the Month of February, **YOU** will have a chance to help grow the Deacon's Fund!

Use the special envelope in your chair pocket to make your donation!
Note Deacons Fund on the memo line of your check.





Grace Presbyterian Church

222 E. Broadway, Winona, MN 55987

Phone

507.452.4608

Fax

507.474.9108

E-Mail

gracechurchwinona@gmail.com

Web site

<http://gracepresbyterianwinona.com>

Office Hours

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Tuesday - Thursday

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Friday

Sunday Morning

Sunday School ~ 9:00 am

Sunday Worship ~ 10:30 am

Fellowship Time ~ 11:30 am

Minister

Rev. Rachel Rosendahl

Office Administrator

Cheri Looman

Accompanist

Various

Treasurer

Jennifer MacAskill

Church School Director

Kathy Rosendahl

Session Elders

Kjersti Anderson

Ron Dietrich

Rena Dornfeld

Nancy Dornfeld

Pam Lica

Jennifer MacAskill

Chris Schantzen

Board of Deacons

2023: O. J. Jacobson, Jeanette Karjala

2024: Kathy Rosendahl; Tori Schultz

2025: Candi Kohner