

GRACE NOTES

July 2023



*Experiencing God's Amazing Grace!
through*

-  Meaningful
Worship
-  Caring
Community
-  Inspirational
Learning
-  Loving
Service
-  Gracious
Invitation

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A Note **FROM THE PASTOR**

Dear Saints of Grace:



Forget about the summer doldrums. Think about this time of year to be about recreating and not just working. I hope you and your loved ones get time this summer to savor each other's company and perhaps to give thanks for each other. Recreation and gratitude. What a great combination!

At Grace this summer we will do a few fun things to help us build our relationships with each other, but also to reach out with a warm invitation to our neighbors. The biggest event will be our July 26th WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE. It will begin with a free supper from 6:00 to 6:30 followed by an intergenerational Bible Story Time. We will then learn a new song that continues the theme of the Bible Story. Then, there will be an intergenerational, small group craft project related to the theme. We will close with a brief service of song and prayer—featuring the song we just learned. Following the service, we will have an ice cream social!

Grace has invited both Petra Church and La Iglesia Church to join us in this event. We will also invite our recent Grace Preschool families. We are also reaching out to La Trinidad Church to see if we can figure out a way to include them. And our Outreach and Welcome Committee is investigating the cost of mailing semi-personalized invitations to our neighbors at Rob Roy!

The main purpose of our WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE in July (and again on August 30!) is for us to have an excuse to gather “just for the fun of it!” The COVID pandemic has disrupted our normal patterns of informal fellowship. We hope that these events will give lots of folks opportunities to re-connect with old friends and maybe make some new friends. The purpose will be for us to re-create together!

We recognize that for a variety of reasons, not all our members are able to or prefer not to get out at night. We will make every effort to match folks who would like a ride to and from WNL with folks who are willing to offer a ride. In either case, please call Barb in the church office ASAP so we can begin matchmaking! WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE is scheduled to end at 7:30. It will still be very light out at that time.

In the weeks ahead, our Outreach and Welcome Committee, supported by our Church Council, will identify numerous tasks—large and small—that need to be done to make our efforts successful. Please see what YOU can do to help. Don't wait to be asked. Ask how you can help!

Other special events this include:

Sunday, July 16, 10:00am Outside Worship

Sunday, August 13, 10:00am Outside Worship

Wednesday, August 30, 6:00 to 7:30pm WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE (Preview of Rally Day on September 10)

Watch the weekly announcements for details as they develop!

In the love, joy, peace and hope of Jesus!
Pastor Daniel Schwick

PS I appreciate all the positive comments and constructive suggestions that folks have offered about the living greens in our worship space. It is still very much a work in progress. Let me know what you think.

COUNCIL *Highlights*

Highlights of Church Council Meeting of May 23, 2013

1. Living Green Expo was a success.
2. New Grace website is now live.
3. New leases with River Trails Park district and Petra Church were signed.
4. Reconciling in Christ: Ad-hoc group to be set up going forward.
5. Approved Property Committee request to paint walls in Youth room. The wall contains artwork by former Grace youth. The congregation needs to be informed so that youth, parents, or grandparents can take photos of the artwork, if desired, prior to painting over.
6. Approved for ratification updates to the Grace Constitution/Bylaws for conformance to ELCA Model Constitution.
7. Parking lot resurfacing will take place in June.
8. New north garden named in honor of Dolores and Harmon Loeb.
9. Upgrades to church sound system were installed.

Congratulations **GRADUATES**

College

Danielle Drelicharz from Butler University
Andy Reimann from University of Minnesota

High School

Megan Nickl, attending University of Illinois this fall

Grade School

Kendall Grimpe

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Worship*

Zoom Worship Service: Join us on Sundays at 10am for worship.

THE ALL GRACE ALL THE TIME CONNECTION INFORMATION IS:

**Grace Lutheran Church, Mount Prospect
All worship services, Bible Study and Meetings**

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86543729643> Meeting ID: 865 4372 9643

One tap mobile: +13126266799, 86543729643#

Dial (audio connection only) +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 865 4372 9643

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Learning*

Wired Word: Wired Word is our weekly discussion group in which we focus on a particular current event and look at it from a Christian perspective. An optional weekly reading assignment helps to focus the discussion. Materials are available on the shelf outside the church office or ask Barb to email you the packet. We meet on Wednesdays at 1:00pm either in person or on Zoom.

Bible Study: Join us on Wednesdays at 7:00pm on Zoom for insights into the scriptures we share.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Service*

Volunteers of All Kinds Needed: So much of the work of Grace goes on “behind the scenes.” None of that happens automatically. It all relies on volunteers, each doing his or her small or large task on behalf of us all. Please consider joining one of the standing committees, participating in worship services, serving coffee on Sunday mornings, or taking on a project that never seems to get done. If you’re curious about a particular area of service but want more information, please speak with Pastor Dan or any member of the Church Council. We’re in this together!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Outreach*

La Trinidad Community Dinner: Once each month a group of Grace members gather at La Trinidad Lutheran Church in Humboldt Park for worship together with La Trinidad members and then to partake in a community meal that is part of the service ministry of La Trinidad. Grace’s contribution to the meal is made possible by your support for our Social Ministry fundraising campaign. The next dinner is July 23, 2023.

Hygiene Kits: Lutheran Social Services of Illinois has updated the list of items they want included in the hygiene kits for women re-entering the community from prison. Connections, a program of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois’ Prisoner and Family

Ministry, is in great need of hygiene kits for previously incarcerated women. Many of these women have no homes to return to and are placed in shelters, which do not provide these necessities. The Social Ministry Committee would like to collect enough items to package 20 kits.

The kits include the following items assembled in a one-gallon Ziploc bag:

- Toothpaste, 6 ounces
- Deodorant, 2.6 ounces
- Moisturizing lotion, 2.5 – 2.7 ounces
- Disposable razors
- Shaving Cream
- Soap
- Small wide-tooth comb
- 10 band-aids (in a small plastic bag, for packing)
- Nail clippers
- Hand sanitizer

The poster in the Atrium has been revised. A collection box for the items can be found under the poster. The deadline to bring items for the hygiene kits has been extended to July 9th.

Thank you for your support of this project.

School Supplies: The Social Ministry Committee is asking for your help to fill backpacks for local students and for students on the Rosebud Reservation. District 21 got a grant to cover school supplies except for backpacks. We would like to donate 10 backpacks to them. We would like to fill 10 backpacks for each School District 26 and Rosebud. If it's easier for you, monetary donations would be graciously accepted. They are asking for backpacks, crayons (24 in a pack), markers (10 in a pack), colored pencils (12 in a pack), child-sized scissors, Elmer's glue, pink erasers, #2 pencils (12 in a pack), 12-inch rulers, 2-pocket folders, highlighters, pencil cases and blue or black pens. Items can be brought to church through July 30, 2023. Thanks for your support.

The Mosquitoes are Coming: Watch out for the mosquitoes buzzing around Grace in August. Although the official ELCA Malaria campaign ended, the threat of malaria is still all too real. Help us swat mosquitoes and help wipe out this horrible disease. Swatters will be available August 20th & 27th.

Food Pantries: The local food pantries are having trouble keeping up with the demand. Please help by placing food items in the grocery cart provided at the east entry and/or marking your check for "food pantry" and the Social Ministry Committee will see that they receive the funds. Thank you.

AROUND *the Parish*

Saints of Grace



Name: Danielle Drelicharz
D.O.B: March 16, 2001
Member: Since birth
Favorite Memory of Grace: Youth trip to Detroit
Currently live: Mt. Prospect my whole life
Siblings: 1 sister Amy (20 this month)
College: Just graduated from Butler with a Bachelors in Public Relations and Advertising.
Favorite Subject in school: English
Least Favorite Subject: Math
Occupation: Still on the job search!
Dream Job: To work for Indy Car
Favorite Season: Fall

Favorite Scent: Coconut
Favorite Holiday: Christmas
Biggest Accomplishment: Graduating college
Favorite Sports Team: Arrow McLaren (Indy car team)
Hobbies: Going to concerts, hanging out with friends, coloring
Car I want to own one day: Corvette (the most recent model)
Favorite Sound: When dogs are running on hardwood flooring
Favorite Song: My favorite artist is Noah Kahan and I love all of his songs
Favorite Book: Anything by Stephen King
Phobia/Fear: Spiders
Dream Vacation: Australia
Movie: Horror movies
Color: Blue
Ice Cream: Strawberry
Candy: Starburst
Favorite Number: 7
Ideal Day: Wake up late and spend the day downtown with my friends and make sure to visit the Shedd Aquarium.
Favorite Animal: Otters and Dogs
Go to Dessert: Cheesecake
Go to Fast Food: Sonic
Coffee Order: Sweet Vanilla Cream cold brew from Starbucks
Meal: Pasta, anything with ala vodka sauce
Dinner with: My grandma (she passed a long time ago). Pato O'Ward (He is a driver for Arrow McLaren)
If I won the lottery: I would travel the world. Australia, Hawaii and Japan for starters.
Fun Fact: I have never been out of the country since I was adopted from China.
What I would tell my younger self: Trust in myself, follow my instincts and lean on my family more.

Congratulations to our own Michael Pirron who was elected to the Synod Board of Directors at the June Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly.

Congratulations to our own Pastor Kathie Bender Schwich who will become the Chair of the Board of Directors of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) on July 1. She previously served as Vice Chair.

Special Birthdays: Lorene Loiacano turns 91 on July 10th. Please send Lorene birthday greetings at The Moorings, 811 East Central Road, #130, Arlington Heights, IL 60005. Joan Russell turns 95 on July 16th. Please send Joan birthday greeting at Friendship Village, 350 West Schaumburg Road, Schaumburg, IL 60194. Gordon Greaves turns 91 on July 17th. Please send birthday greetings to Gordon at 1006 Hemlock Lane, Mount Prospect, IL 60056. Alice Johnson turns 98 on July 29th. Please send Alice birthday greetings at The Lutheran Home, 800 West Oakton, #2238, Arlington Heights, IL 60004. Happy Birthday, Lorene, Joan, Gordy, Alice!!!

Follow LSSI on Social Media: Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) is a partner in ministry with programs across Illinois. Learn more about their work at LSSI.org and follow them on Facebook (@MeetLSSI), Twitter (@MeetLSSI), LinkedIn, and YouTube (@MeetLSSI). LSSI frequently features photos of ELCA members and congregations partnering to serve LSSI's 42,000 clients each year. Like and share posts so more people can be inspired.

Advocate Health Care: Follow Advocate Health Care at aah-faithhealth@aah.org. Their faith and health partnership has many upcoming events and opportunities for you to participate in. Registrations for their events takes place on their site.

FINANCIAL Report

Financial Report ending May 31, 2023

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Weekly Envelope Income	\$ 123,335	\$ 121,875	\$ (1,460)
Special Income	20,000	20,098	98
Prepaid Income	4,165	4,167	2
Total Income	\$ 147,500	\$ 146,140	\$ (1,360)
Expenses thru May	166,639	159,557	
Current Year Surplus or (Deficit)		\$ 13,417	
<i>General Fund Balance 1/1/23</i>	<i>\$ 46,296</i>		
Current Year Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ (13,417)		
General Fund Balance 5/31//23	\$ 32,879		

Income for the first 5 months of the year is meeting the projected income and expenses

For the year we are about \$7,000 under the ambitious budget adopted in February. Though we reflect a \$13,417 deficit through May, we are within reason of where we expected to be. Your continued generous support will be needed to have another financially successful year. Thank for your generosity and continued support.

As always, "Return to God as He has blessed you."

Notes of **THANKS**

Thank You to the Property Committee for all their hard work landscaping around the building. Thank you also to Dan Kjeldberg for his many donations of dirt and compost over the years; to Mark Teegan (son-in-law of Marge Hagemann) for his donation of mulch; to Carol Becker for her time in designing the Butterfly Garden and to Carol and her husband for planting all the plants; and to the City of Mount Prospect for donating wood mulch.

Dear Grace Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your gift of \$2.754 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

As a church, we believe that God's grace is freely given to us. This brings us peace and hope. It makes a difference in our lives. Through your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA you share this amazing grace with others and help people around the world feel the transformational power of God's love.

Your Spirit-filled generosity helps families and communities reeling from disasters. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods now and far into the future.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you.

In Christ, Amanda White, Director, Congregational Generosity

Dear Friends of the Pantry:

Thank you for your recent donation to the Northfield Township Food Pantry. You are helping local residents who are food insecure and as a result, strengthening our community.

As costs for everyday items continue to rise, we are committed to ensuring that no one in our township has to make the difficult choice between paying rent or utilities or buying gas or food. This is made possible by the generosity of people just like you.

No matter what challenges our residents face, your support ensures that we can provide food, personal hygiene items, household products and gift cards to those in need today or in the future.

On behalf of our neighbors who benefit from your compassion, thank you for your dedication to our community. Together we are making a difference.

Kind regards, Shiva Mohsenzadeh, Township Supervisor

Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church

We would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$100.00 to the Mount Prospect Emergency Food Pantry and Financial Assistance program. This program assists residents of Mount Prospect who are experiencing a financial hardship and struggling with every day needs such as food, housing, utilities and medications.

This program is not supported by tax dollars. Throughout the year, we are able to assist individuals and families due to generous donations made by local churches, schools, businesses, civic organizations and individuals.

Sincerely, Julie Kane, LCSW, Human Services Director

Birthdays LIST

July

4	Lynne Dixon		Charlie Soukup
5	Jerry Sakover	17	Sue Buerger Gordon Greaves Andy Reimann
6	Brian Lewis		
8	Connor Ellertson	19	Wendy Thompson
10	Frank Doran Lorene Loiacano	25	Megan Nickl Rich Rogers
13	Jeaninne Ellertson	29	Alice Johnson
16	Joan Russell	30	Darlene Sharlog

CELEBRATIONS OF *Life*

Funerals and Memorials

We support one another in our grief through mutual support and the assurance of our faith in Christ's promise of everlasting life.

We extend our sympathy to the family in the death of former member, and first Preschool Director (Miss Marie), Marie Winkelman on June 5 at age 95. Marie and her family were members of Grace from 1969 until their move to Arizona in 1995.

We also extend our sympathy to the family of Harold Klumpp, organist and choir director at Grace for 25 years (1964 to 1989), who died June 11 at the age of 95.



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OUR *Mission* AND *Vision*

Our mission is to tell the good news of Jesus and touch people with his love.

Our vision is to joyfully praise and serve God, committed to being a church of friendship, openness and diversity.

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ARTICLE *Deadline:* July 16