

# GRACE NOTES

August 2018



*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

### ***Listening to the Prophets***



Throughout the summer, in our Sunday morning gatherings and in our Wednesday evening Bible Studies, we have focused on how “the Word of God” impacts our lives. Most of us first encounter God’s promise of love in our baptism. In that sacrament, God makes a unilateral, unconditional promise to each baptized person: nothing in all creation will separate you from God’s love in Jesus Christ. Nothing.

As we grow in grace, we encounter God’s Word as we learn about the Bible and its powerful stories of grace, sin, forgiveness and restoration. Specifically, in July and continuing through August, our Wednesday evening Bible Study is focusing on the Word of God proclaimed by the Old Testament prophets. They were not so much predictions of the future but pointing out the consequences of unfaithful behavior on the part of the Israelites, our ancestors in the faith. The role of the prophets—2700 years ago and today!—is to call society and especially the ruling classes to return to a sense of justice, fairness, and compassion, especially for “the widow, the orphan and the foreigner”—that is, the most vulnerable in society.

Who in your lifetime has been a prophetic voice? Has our church ever expressed a prophetic word to the community around us? Have you lifted your voice in opposition to oppression and exploitation? Those are not intended to be rhetorical questions; they are intended to encourage thought and reflection. Perhaps even prayer.

In Christ’s peace,

Pastor Daniel Schwick

## **Growing in Grace** *Roundtable*

At the last meeting of the Roundtable on July 8, 2018 the following items were discussed:

- External Signage – A meeting is planned to review a proposal for Pre-School signs. The External Signage Sub-Committee also is researching potential electronic external signage. This signage will come after the Grace Pre-School signs are installed.
- Bell Tower Removal – Five companies have been contacted for bids to remove the tower. The cost of the removal is higher than expected because of the cost of disposal of the tower and the creosote posts.
- Mount Prospect Block Party – The Outreach and Welcome Committee is prepared for the July 28 event. The Grace Booth should have close to 10,000 people walking by. The booth will face the Chase bank. Sign-up sheets are posted.

- Rally Day – The Outreach and Welcome Committee has scheduled a meeting for Monday, July 30 to plan activities for Rally Day.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR Fellowship

**Refugee Ministry Update:** Save the date! Resettlement SummerFest will be held on August 18<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 3pm at Lutheran Church of Martha & Mary in Mt. Prospect. Grace is invited to have a fun summer picnic with our Refugee Ministry partner congregations, some RefugeeOne staff, and the Alnajar family. The picnic will include great food, games for kids, and conversation for adults. Win-win-win! More details to come as we get closer to this fun event

**A Special Birthday to Celebrate!:** Evelyn Brandeau, a charter member of Grace, will be celebrating her 91<sup>ST</sup> birthday on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Please shower her with wishes: Evelyn Brandeau c/o Autumn Leaves of Arlington Heights, 1625 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, EVELYN!

**Rally Day:** Are you interested in helping to plan our Rally Day event on September 9, 2018? Please plan on attending the Outreach & Welcome Committee meeting on Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Questions? Contact Pastor Schwick or Mike Pirron.

**Zumba Gold** is held in the Youth Room every Thursday at 10:00am. If you have missed the opportunity to try the Zumba Gold class, join the group for some fun exercise each Thursday morning

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR Learning

**Summer Midweek Bible Studies:** Throughout July and August, there will be opportunities for Bible Study on Wednesdays at 7:00pm.. Why study the Bible? Where did the Bible come from? What happens when the Bible and Science seem to clash? What is the overall meaning of the Bible? COME TO THE WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY AND FIND OUT! We will study the classical Hebrew Prophets.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR Service

**Altar Guild:** The sign-up sheet for July and August is on the table in the Parlor. Current Altar Guild members and anyone interested in volunteering to help the Altar Guild are asked to please sign-up for a week or weeks to help with the altar guild duties this summer. If you have any questions, please speak with Betty Carlson at 847-803-9646.

**Ushers:** We are in need of ushers for Sunday services. Please consider volunteering.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Outreach*

**Back to School Supplies Needed:** The Social Ministry Committee is collecting supplies for local school children and children on the Rosebud Indian Reservation. We are hoping to collect enough supplies to fill 30 backpacks. There will be tear-off tabs on a poster starting July 8. People can take tabs for the supplies they would like to donate. A collection box will be set up by the poster. We would like all the supplies to church by July 29 so we have time to ship the backpacks to Rosebud before school starts.

We're hoping the timing of the school supply drive will coordinate with the back-to-school sales at the local stores. We are looking for the following items:

- 12-inch rulers marked with inches and centimeters
- Boxes of colored pencils
- Pencil boxes
- Highlighters (in sets of two)
- Elmer's Glue in 8 ounce bottles
- Rolls of scotch tape
- Boxes of washable markers, thin or thick, classic colors (8 or 10 in a box)
- Pink erasers in sets of 2
- Single-subject ruled spiral notebooks in sets of three (each a different color, not college ruled)
- #2 pencils in sets of 48
- Backpacks (solid colors preferred)
- 2-pocket folders in sets of 6 (each a different color)

If you don't have time to shop but would still like to help, please use a pink pew envelope to donate funds to offset the cost of shipping the school supplies to Rosebud. Thanks so much for your support.

**Lutherans in a Lather:** It's that time of year again when we collect soap for the Shirley Koenig Memorial Soap Drive for Lutheran World Relief. There is a washtub in the East entryway just waiting for your contribution of new bars of soap. LWR would prefer bath-sized bars (4 to 5 oz.) that are not overly scented or perfumed. The soap that is collected will be distributed by LWR to people in need of pride and cleanliness in refugee camps, hospitals and disaster sites around the world. The washtub will be out through Sunday, September 30, 2018.

**La Trinidad Community Dinners:** Please join members of the Social Ministry Committee at the upcoming Community Dinners at La Trinidad. We leave church at 9am so that we can join in their 10am worship service before helping serve and clean up after the monthly meal. We usually take roasted chickens, salads, breadsticks and desserts. If you cannot make the trip to La Trinidad but would like to help, please consider donating funds to cover the costs of the food items we bring. Please use a pink pew envelope and mark it "La Trinidad meals."

**Mosquito Invasion:** 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 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>.

**“Feed My Starving Children” – A Friendly Reminder:** Just a reminder that our next chance to go as a group from Grace to the Schaumburg location of Feed My Starving Children, 1072 National Parkway, will be Tuesday, August 7th from 6pm to 7:30pm. There are thirty-three spots reserved for our group.

Sign-up sheets will be available starting Sunday, July 22. But, if you want to reserve your spot right away, access the website [www.fmssc.org](http://www.fmssc.org) and follow the prompts to “join” the group named Grace Lutheran Church (group leader Greg Linwood). Or, another way of volunteering now is to contact me directly, either at 847-502-7744, or via e-mail at [gregorylinwood@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gregorylinwood@sbcglobal.net), and I will add you to our group.

Thanks for your continuing enthusiastic support of this ministry!

**Lutheran Disaster Response** is collecting funds for the flood victims in various areas in the United States. If you can, please donate using a pink pew envelope and mark it “U.S. Spring Flood”. Thanks!

## **YOUTH GATHERING 2018**

More than 31,000 youth, young adults and adult sponsors gathered to work, play, study, worship and just plain have fun!

Special thanks to Margit Willis for organizing our participation in the event. Thanks to Rachel Thompson and Alan and Rachael Rogers for being young adult chaperones.

Thanks to Matthew Pracko, Adam Majczan, Danielle and Amy Drelicharz, Andrew Stutheit, Cory Cordier and Jordan Nagle for being great kids!

Thanks to the parents of our youth—including the families of youth who were not able to attend the Gathering—for their strong support for the fundraising efforts that made our participation possible.

Thanks to the people of Grace for so generously supporting the fundraising efforts so that we could help nurture our youth in the community of the Church.

## FINANCIAL *Update*

Financial Report ending June 30, 2018

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Weekly Envelope Income	\$132,000	\$128,885	(\$ 3,115)
Special Income	16,020	19,729	3,709
Prepaid Income	9,958	10,066	108
Total Income	\$ 157,978	\$158,680	\$ 702
Expenses thru June	167,567	167,000	
Surplus or (Deficit)		(\$ 8,320)	

Heavy expenses in June caused a severe reversal of fortune. First were insurance payments of \$931 and \$2,519 (the later a quarterly premium). This was followed by \$6,600 in repair costs to the air conditioning system for our summer comfort. These expenses, coupled with a \$2,000 shortfall in budgeted income, explain the reversal. We do need continued support over the summer months and into the last quarter of the year to keep us in sound financial condition. We thank you for your support.

## *Notes of* THANKS

**Thanks** to Susan Nelson and Erik Matson for their outstanding Father's Day Recital. The free-will offering of \$463 is earmarked for Lutheran Social Services of Illinois to support their services for dads.

**Thank You** for your donations to the hygiene kits for LSSI. 20 Kits were assembled and shipped to the LSSI office downstate.

## HELP *Needed*

Anita Taylor is helping a friend downsize. The friend has a collection of Lenox porcelain birds and small animals. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the collection, please contact Anita at 847-299-5255.

## **SPECIAL** Events

- **Mount Prospect Block Party:** Saturday, July 28
- **La Trinidad Community Dinner:** Sunday, July 29
- **Rally Day Planning Meeting:** Monday, July 30, 7:00pm
- **Feed My Starving Children:** Tuesday, August 7, 6:00pm
- **Thanksgiving & Farewell to Erik Matson:** Sunday, August 12
- **Growing in Grace Roundtable:** Sunday, August 12
- **Resettlement SummerFest:** Saturday, August 18
- **La Trinidad Community Dinner,** Sunday, August 19
- **Preparedness Training:** Sunday, August 26, following the service
- **Rally Day:** Sunday, September 9
- **Pet Blessing:** Saturday, October 6



Rand Burdette's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party – the Ringmaster arriving in style.

## *Birthday* LIST

### **August**

- |    |  |    |   |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1  | Suzanne Rovani<br>Gigi Pirron                              | 17 | Libby Reimann   |
| 2  | Zach Schulze   | 18 | Kenneth Adams<br>Margaret Reed                                    |
| 5  | Nancy Greaves  | 20 | Jon Walger  |
| 7  | Hannah Roth  | 22 | Julie Eschbach  |
| 9  | Richard Ohman<br>Janet Gaiser<br>Cynthis Lauletta-Fontaine | 25 | Lois Hauge  |
| 10 | Christine Rovani   | 26 | Joann Volocyk   |
| 11 | Glen Grimpe<br>Karen Pfeffer<br>JustinWalter               | 27 | Alan Clark<br>Eileen Clark  |
| 12 | Jessica Caraba   | 28 | Robert Kaulfuss<br>Bonnie Radtke<br>Beth Stone<br>Michelle Nauert |
| 14 | Evelyn Brandeau<br>Jonal Nirmal                            | 29 | Evelyn Linwood<br>Austin Greaves                                  |
| 16 | Marilyn Stark  |    |   |

## **CELEBRATIONS OF** *Life*

### ***Baptisms***

Receiving Christ's gifts of grace with water and word, we are welcomed into God's family of the church.

Jordan Reese Lenel Nagle was baptized on June 26, 2018. His sponsors are his mother Marilee Nagle, grandmother Barb Nagle and great grandfather Rand Burdette.



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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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## Staff *DIRECTORY*

**Pastor:** Daniel Schwick  
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## Grace participants in 2018 Youth Gathering in Houston



**ARTICLE *Deadline:* August 19**