

GRACE NOTES

August 2019



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:



This green season of the church year—most of the Sundays between Pentecost and the end of the Church Year—are intended to be time of growth in the church. During the first half of the church calendar our focus is on the birth, life, ministry, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. From Pentecost on, we focus on what it means to be the church that was launched on that first Pentecost—a movement, more than an organization, a fellowship, more than an institution.

This year our little Grace Garden is a living symbol of our commitment to grow in our faithfulness, grow in our outreach, grow in our effectiveness as people on a mission to share God’s love near and far. The produce from our garden will be a welcomed addition to the diets of some of our neighbors, a small but powerful sign of our commitment to minister to our neighbors in need. The Grace Garden is also a beautiful and growing reminder of our connection to the earth and to the sun, and to the rain that support its growth. MANY THANKS TO THE MANY HANDS THAT WORKED TO PLANT THE GRACE GARDEN AS WELL AS TO THOSE WHO WATER IT, WEED IT, AND OTHERWISE TEND TO IT.

It seems like a long way off now, but on Saturday, October 5, from 3-5pm we will celebrate our harvest and the many hands that are doing God’s work. That celebration will also include our traditional Pet Blessing. Also in the works is a “Taste of Grace” in which we will all be encouraged to bring food to share that represent the ethnic, national or cultural background of those who come to Grace Church, Grace Preschool and Petra Church. Perhaps we could even include La Trinidad!

Growth at Grace is, of course, about more than just events. It is also about the growth that each of us experiences as we live in the community of God’s people. We grow in our compassion. We grow in our care for one another. We grow in our care of ourselves and the whole world around us.

Please continue throughout the summer and into the fall to come to Grace, be fed with God’s grace and grow more and more into the disciple that God calls you—us!—to be.

In Christ’, love, joy, peace and hope,

Pastor Dan

Committee Crawl

“Committee Crawl” coming on Sunday, September 22, after worship.

In June, our newly reorganized Stewardship Education Committee proposed to Church Council that we hold a Committee Crawl on Sunday, September 22. The Council approved the proposal. The luncheon will include tables and displays from our various committees and other working groups to help all our members gain a better understanding of the many ways that we do God’s work with our hands. Watch this space and the weekly bulletin announcements for more details as they become available.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR Worship

Grace on You Tube: If you miss a Sunday at Grace, why not tune into recent Grace sermons on You Tube. Go to Grace’s website at www.gracemtprospect.org and click on Sunday Worship. Then click on the link Grace Lutheran Church – Mount Prospect You Tube Channel AND WATCH AND LISTEN.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR Fellowship

Caregiver Support Group: People have expressed an interest in starting a caregiver support group here at Grace. If you are interested in participating in a group like this please contact Pam Walger at 847-824-7408. Let her know what day and what time would be convenient for you to meet with the group.

Birthdays to Celebrate: On July 29th Alice Johnson will celebrate her 94th birthday. Send her wishes to 800 West Oakton #2238, Arlington Hts., IL 60004. HAPPY BIRTHDAY ALICE!

On August 14th Evelyn Brandeau, a charter member of Grace, will be celebrating her 92nd birthday. Please shower her with wishes to Evelyn Brandeau c/o Autumn Leaves of Arlington Heights, 1625 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005. HAPPY BIRTHDAY EVELYN!

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

Sundaes on Thursday: “OUR PLANET” Every Thursday evening until the end of August, we continue to view and discuss the video series “OUR PLANET” which focuses on what is now happening to our planet AND the things we can do to change the trajectory of global warming and therefore mitigate its impact of human and other life

on the planet. Gather at 6:30pm for personalized sundaes. From 7:00 to 8:30pm we will watch and discuss episodes of the beautifully filmed presentations by Netflix. Everyone is welcome!

New Adult Study Begin This Fall: On Thursday evenings, from September 5 through October 24, we will focus on **Lutheranism: Past, Present and Future**. We will study together the historical background for the Lutheran movement, focus on the central teachings of our faith, follow the development of the Lutheran movement over its first 500 years and look at the church today and going forward. No prior study of Lutheranism is required. Every attempt will be made to make sure that everyone who wants to participate, even those who choose not to drive at night, will have transportation provided. Let the church office know if you would like transportation.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Service*

Ushers Needed: for Sunday services. Please consider volunteering.

Altar Guild: Attention Altar Guild members and all of you interested in volunteering to help the Altar Guild: the sign-up sheet for August is on the table in the Parlor. 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.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Outreach*

“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, 740 Wiley Farm Court, will be Tuesday, August 6th, from 6pm to 7:30pm. There are twenty-five spots reserved for our group.

Sign-up sheets will be available starting Sunday, July 21st. But, if you want to reserve your spot right away, access the website 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, and I will add you to our group.

Thanks for your continuing enthusiastic support of this ministry!

Lutherans in a Lather: It’s that time of year again when we collect soap 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 29, 2019.

Mission Trip: Dear Grace Family,

For several months, you have been reading and hearing about the sixth annual interfaith mission trip to East St. Louis, Illinois, which was scheduled to take place from July 17-21, 2019, for the purpose of assisting the Lutheran Social Services of Illinois prison ministry in its ongoing efforts to rehab two buildings. Regrettably, at the last minute, the trip had to be canceled.

Despite this set-back, Margit and I wish to thank you all for your generosity in the many ways in which you had planned to support this effort. We extend gratitude to Cindy and Rachael Rogers and Ardell Mueller who also signed up to join us in representing Grace on this year's trip; to those of you who offered donations of supplies and monetary gifts, and to those of you who offered to provide food and assistance with the send-off luncheon that Grace was going to again host this year. Finally, we want to thank all of you for those all-important prayers which would have come our way during this time.

Moving forward, God willing, it is my hope that within the next few months, The Northern Illinois Council of Churches will begin laying the groundwork for a mission trip in 2020, at which time, Margit and I will once again come to you for your much needed and most appreciated participation and support. God's work, our hands, donations and prayers!

Yours in Christ,
Terry-Ann Saurmann and Margit Willis

Shop for the Food Pantry: Please look for: Canned Meat (tuna, salmon, stew, etc.), Cereal, Chicken Noodle Soup, Fruit Juices (quart bottle or boxes), Fruit Cups, Fruit Snacks, Granola Bars, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Peas, Detergent, Diapers (adult and baby), Kleenex, Paper Towels, Shampoo, Soap and Toilet Paper. If you'd like to make a cash donation toward a grocery store gift certificate, please place your donation in a pink pew envelope and mark it "Food Pantry Certificates." The food pantry has empty shelves during the summer months but hunger doesn't take a summer vacation. Thanks for your generosity!

Notes of **THANKS**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your recent gift of \$251.00 to Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI). Your congregation is investing in the wellbeing of all Illinois citizens, offering people the opportunity to reach their full, God-given potential.

Just as God sees each person in their entirety, LSSI seeks to provide whole person care to those receiving our services. The faithfulness of congregations like Grace is critically important in this work.

For more than 150 years, LSSI has made the love of God tangible for those in need. We couldn't have served this long without dear friends like you. Please know how much we value your support and partnership in this ministry.

Peace and prayers, David P. Novak, JD, Vice President, Advancement
P.S. Members are encouraged to watch short videos about how they are helping to change lives. Just go to www.LSSI.org and click on the YouTube icon. We want everyone to know how your gifts are being put to work in response to the Gospel!

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

What a gift you've given! Thank you for your generous gift of \$80 to ELCA ministries through ELCA Good Gifts.

Your Good Gift is a very good gift, indeed. With resources like seedlings and seminary courses, vaccinations and vegetable gardens, Bible and blankets, you're equipping God's people – around the world and around the corner – with what they need to live abundant lives.

Thank you for your leadership in the vital ministries that we do together – and for your very good gift!

In God's abundant grace, Christina Jackson Skelton, Executive Director Mission Advancement

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$538.00 to ELCA World Hunger.

Your generous gift is enabling transformative works of love here in the United States and in 60 countries around the world, providing what is needed to end hunger and poverty: access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Together, we are creatively and courageously working toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our neighbors around the world.

And thank you for your gift of \$100.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

With your Spirit-filled generosity you bring help and hope to families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and around the world. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response make possible short-and long-term recovery and rebuilding of lives and livelihoods.

Thank you for sharing the gifts God has activated in you!

In Christ, Robin K. Brown, Mission Funding Director, Congregations.

SPECIAL *Events*

- ***Feed My Starving Children:*** Tuesday, August 6, 6-7:30pm
- ***Committee Crawl:*** Sunday, September 22 after the service

Birthday LIST

August

- | | | | |
|-----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Suzanne Rovani
Gigi Pirron | 16 | Marilyn Stark |
| 2 | Zachary Schulze | 17 | Libby Reimann |
| 5 | Nancy Greaves | 18 | Ken Adams
Margaret Reed |
| 7 | Hanna Roth | 20 | Jon Walger |
| 9 | Richard Ohman
Janet Gaiser
Cynthia Lauletta-Fontaine | 25 | Lois Hauge |
| 10 | Christine Lunardini | 26 | Joanne Volocyk |
| 11 | Glenn Grimpe
Karen Pfeffer
Justin Walger | 27 | Alan Clark
Eileen Clark |
| 14 | Evelyn Brandeu
Jonal Nimal | 28 | Rob Kaulfuss
Bonnie Radtke
Beth Stone |
| ... | | 29 | Evelyn Linwood
Austin Greaves |

CELEBRATIONS OF *Life*

Baptisms

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

Olive Alexandra Soukup, child of Todd and Nicole Soukup, was baptized on July 14. Her sponsors are Tom and Laura Magnuson.

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.

A memorial service for long-time member Sheila Fencel was held on July 1, 2019.



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www.gracemtprospect.org
www.facebook.com/gracemtprospect



A congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America (ELCA)

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.

Staff *DIRECTORY*

Pastor: Daniel Schwick
d.schwick@gracemtprospect.org

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b.willis@gracemtprospect.org

Director of Lay Ministry: Pam Walger
p.walger@gracemtprospect.org

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Mission Partner: Rev. Carrie Smith
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Happy 101 Birthday, Rand!

ARTICLE *Deadline:* August 18