

# GRACE NOTES

July 2021



*Experiencing God's Amazing Grace!*

*through*

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

## **TABLE OF Contents**

- 2 A Note from the Pastor
- 3 Opportunities for Worship and Fellowship
- 4 Opportunities for Learning and Service
- 5 Opportunities for Outreach
- 6 Around the Parish
- 8 Financial Report
- Notes of Thanks
- 10 Birthdays

*A Note* **FROM THE PASTOR**

***Coming Back Stronger!***

Dear Saints of Grace,



These past fifteen months have been extremely challenging to us and to every other organization and institution that relies on personal interactions to fuel action. For more than a year we have been advised to stay apart from one another. Even now I find myself hesitating to offer my hand to someone I am meeting for the first time. One HUGE takeaway from our first WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE events on June 16, is that our congregation is hungry for the opportunity to be together again and to interact pretty normally, instead of masked and distanced.

Recognizing these dynamics, our Church Council has embraced a cautious but progressive return to “normal.” We are still be advised by denominational authorities to refrain from congregational singing indoors. While that may change shortly, we are going to abide by those recommendations. However, we will gather outdoors for Sunday worship on July 11 to participate in a full service of word and sacrament that will include congregational singing. {Rain date: July 18}

We will, throughout July and August, gradually and cautiously return to “normal.” The expectation is that by Rally Day, Sunday, September 12, we will be back to our usual parish life with worship, Sunday School, youth activities, in-person Bible Studies, etc.

Our resurgence as a congregation is only possible because of the faithfulness of our members. Even during times when you were not able to come to church, and you had to settle for a Zoom service with whatever bread and wine or grape juice you had available, you have been faithful in your financial support of our ministry together.

Because of your faithfulness, we are poised to emerge from this very challenging experience, stronger and more focused for being the presence of God in our community.

Thank you for your faithfulness!

In Christ’s love, joy, peace and hope,  
Pastor Daniel Schwick

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR** *Worship*

**Sunday Worship:** On Sunday, June 6, fully vaccinated individuals were no longer required to wear a mask in worship. We will continue to ask people to practice appropriate distancing and to refrain from singing or speaking the liturgy out loud. We expect to be able to add live music by mid-summer and to resume congregational singing by the fall. Please note that, while we encourage our members and friends to return to in-person worship as soon as they feel comfortable doing so, we also intend to maintain a Zoom option for the foreseeable future for those who cannot come to 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

**Outdoor Worship on Sunday, July 11:** Weather permitting, our Sunday worship service on July 11 will be held outside in the circle drive between the Grace Garden and the Church Office entrance. THE SERVICE WILL FEATURE THE COMPLETE TRADITIONAL LUTHERAN LITURGY AND CONGREGATIONAL SINGING OF THE LITURGY AND HYMNS!! Bring your own lawn chairs or use the church's chairs. Coffee hour will follow the service!!

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR** *Fellowship*

**Wednesday Night Live:** Following the great success of the initial Wednesday Night Live in June, we will be holding another Wednesday Night Live on July 21. Members and friends are invited to bring their own food for a picnic from 5:30 to 6:30. From 6:30 to approximately 7:15 we will celebrate and worship with music from Grace and Petra musicians. Following the service, we will have a more or less traditional "coffee hour" (decaf available!) Bring your picnic, Bring your lawn chair. Bring your singing voice!

**Reconnecting:** After fifteen months of social isolation, it is important that we be intentional about reconnection with one another, both those we have not known for a long time and those whom we don't know so well. Fellowship and hospitality are among the hallmarks of the life of Grace.

In order to foster reconnections, throughout July (and possibly into August if demand dictates), Pastor Schwick will host informal small groups in his office on dates detailed below. No reservations are necessary. Just find a time convenient for you to stop in for an hour or so and reconnect with Pastor Schwick and with other members of our community. Maybe you want to organize your friends to attend on the same day! There's no agenda other than reconnecting after our long separation. You don't need to limit yourself to one session. Reconnect with more people by attending multiple sessions. You will note in the schedule that some sessions will be conducted via Zoom for our members and friends who can't or prefer not to come to in-person sessions.

***Reconnect Sessions:***

Thursday, July 1, 11:00am, 1:00pm and 4:00pm  
Wednesday, July 7, 11:00am, 1:00pm {Zoom only} and 4:00pm  
Thursday, July 8, 11:00am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, and 7:00pm {Zoom only}  
Friday, July 9, 7:00pm  
Saturday, July 10, 10:00am  
Sunday, July 11, 11:00am.  
Monday, July 12, 10:00 am {Zoom only}, and 7:00pm  
Tuesday, July 13, 11:00am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm and 7:00pm  
Wednesday, July 14, 11:00am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm {Zoom only}  
Thursday, July 15, 11:00am, 1:00pm and 7:00pm  
Monday, July 19, 11:00am {Zoom only} and 7:00pm  
Tuesday, July 20, 11:00am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm and 7:00pm  
Thursday, July 22, 11:00am, 1:00pm and 7:00pm {Zoom only]  
Saturday, July 24, 10:00am

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Learning***

***Summer Bible Study: "For the Healing of the World"***

Join us Wednesdays at 7:00pm on Zoom (Except July 21 and August 18, when Wednesday Bible Study will be pre-empted by our monthly Wednesday Night Live). What does the Judeo-Christian tradition teach us about the healing of the body, mind and spirit? What about the healing of the creation itself? How do we discern God's will as we make decisions impacting the health of our planet for generations to come.

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Service***

***Green Thumbs:*** Sign-up to plant and maintain a green thumb plot around the church. There are still plots available for planting and beautification. Call Barb in the church office at 847/824-7408.

**Altar Flowers:** Altar flowers are once again available for purchase. Contact the church office or look for the altar flower chart in the hall near the east entrance to see what dates are available. The cost is \$15 per vase.

**Grace Garden Committee:** Additional help is welcome for anyone willing to contribute to this year's garden. Please know that experience is not required and there are many tasks that do not require kneeling on the ground. Some of the tasks available include: occasional watering, regular weeding (typically requires kneeling on the ground), harvesting produce (some produce does require kneeling on the ground) and logging and documenting produce prior to delivery to the food pantries. If you are interested in participating, please let Barb know in the church office. Any participation would be welcomed.



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Outreach*.

**Shirley Koenig Memorial Soap Drive:** It's that time of year again when we collect soap for Lutheran World Relief. There will be a washtub in the east entryway from July 11 through September 26 waiting for your contribution of new bars of soap. LWR would prefer bath-sized bars (4 to 5 ounces) 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.

**School Supplies:** The Social Ministry Committee will be collecting school supplies for District 21 and 26. We also continue to support Rosebud Indian Reservation but have found it more cost effective to order the supplies online and have them shipped directly to the reservation. The school districts are asking for backpacks, spiral notebooks (wide ruled) and two-pocket folders. We would like to supply each district with 10 filled backpacks. Funds to purchase supplies for Rosebud or the school districts can be sent to the church and marked "school supplies." Donations are needed by August 1. Watch for a box in the Atrium for the school supplies.

**Food Pantries:** The need of the food pantries is changing as we continue to struggle through Covid-19. To make things easier, we are asking for monetary donations to church, marking it for the food pantry, and the Social Ministry Committee will make sure the donations are sent to the food pantries so they can purchase the items most needed at their sites, Thank you for your generosity.

**La Trinidad Community Dinners:** The next community dinners are July 18 and August 22, 2021. Because of your support, the Social Ministry Committee will be able to bring chickens, fruit, drinks, protein bars and cookies. They have asked for donations of socks. Items can be dropped off at church or at the Reimann's house.

## AROUND *the Parish*

**We have Two Fabulous Birthdays to Celebrate in July:** Please send birthday greetings to the following people celebrating special days in July:

On July 16<sup>th</sup>, Joan Russell will celebrate her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Send her wishes to 350 West Schaumburg Road, Ginko 218, Schaumburg, IL 60194. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JOAN!

On July 29<sup>th</sup>, Alice Johnson will celebrate her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. Send her wishes to 800 West Oakton Street, #2238, Arlington Heights, IL 60004. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALICE!

**Grief Support Group:** There has been interest expressed in putting together a Grief Support Group. The group will be open to both members and friends of Grace. If you are interested in joining a group like this or if you know someone who would be interested, please contact the church office or Pam Walger via email at [p.walger@gracemtprospect.org](mailto:p.walger@gracemtprospect.org). Meeting dates and time will be determined by the responses.

**Congratulations:** Former Pastor Peter Hellstedt retired at the end of June. We wish him all the best as he begins this new phase in his life.

## **Saints of Grace**

(a monthly column by Cynthia Lauletta-Fontaine)



Name: Julius (Jules) Kastens

D.O.B.: October 17, 1928

Marital Status: Married to Martha for 20 years on July 14.

Children: 4 children. Terry, Elizabeth, and twins Ed and Alan.

Siblings: Had a sister who passed away, Virginia.

Grew Up: Chicago, Northside

Member since: around 1990

Currently Reside: Mt. Prospect

Favorite Memory of Grace: I worked on the committee that added the choir room and worked on the new design for the altar and the chancel. I also suggested the Lutheran rose that is placed at the

bottom of the baptismal font.

Favorite Bible Passage: John 3:16

Occupation: Retired. I was a lot of things. I started out as an architectural draftsman. Worked on high rises downtown. I also worked as a salesman for electrical products and later a bath and kitchen designer. I was nationally certified.

Biggest Fear: None

Favorite Season: Spring and Fall, when the colors change.

Favorite Holiday: Thanksgiving. I love when all the family gets together. I love turkey, I always get the legs.

Favorite Pastime: Barbershop singer, with the Arlingtones. Been doing it for 72 years.

Greatest Accomplishment: The Arlingtones used to put on a magnificent Christmas show. The scenery I help build. It was all huge scenery, 12 feet high.

Favorite Sports Team: Chicago Bears (When I was a child, my father knew George Halas.) Best answer yet, IMHO. lol

Pets: None now. I grew up with a German Shepherd, King. He was a good friend.

Dream Vacation: Always wanted to go through the new Panama Canal. Saw the last one up close on a cruise.

Person to Have Dinner With: Neil Armstrong

Favorite Color: Blue

Favorite Scent: Newly cut grass

Favorite Sound: Singing a barbershop chord in 4-part harmony.

Favorite Texture: Flannel

Dream Car: Thunderbird Convertible 2005

Favorite Ice Cream: Strawberry

Favorite Candy: The World's Finest chocolate bars, if I eat candy.

Favorite Meal: Pork Chops and Baked Potatoes

Favorite Subjects: Architectural Design

Fun Fact: I wore green leotards as an elf as a part of the Arlingtones Christmas show.

If I won the Lottery: Give  $\frac{1}{3}$  to charity and  $\frac{1}{3}$  to our children and  $\frac{1}{3}$  to live on.

**Showcasing Grace's Committees:** The Stewardship Education Committee will be showcasing the various committees and groups at Grace. Each month a different committee will be featured. In July we feature the Outreach and Welcome Committee.

## **Outreach and Welcome**

Outreach and Welcome is a small but loyal group whose purpose is to be an outreach to the community in and out of Grace and to welcome & encourage all to be a part of Grace.

Pre-pandemic the focus of the committee included developing and displaying banners for special church events, placing ads in the local papers for Christmas and Easter services, new member fold-in dinners, provide welcome bags, movie matinees, visitor follow-up and participating in the Mount Prospect Block Party by manning a booth to distribute community awareness of Grace

Because of the pandemic we have not met. We are expecting our committee to be starting up soon. In the past we held our meetings on the third Sunday of the month after the service.

We would love for you to join us!

You may contact Cindy Pirron for more information. 847 417-2169

## FINANCIAL Report

Financial Report ending May 31, 2021

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Weekly Envelope Income	\$ 122,250	\$ 122,983	\$ 733
Special Income	14,990	13,538	( 1,452)
Prepaid Income	4,427	6,927	2,500
Total Income	\$ 141,667	\$ 143,448	\$ 1,781
Expenses thru May	150,384	136,859	
Current Year Surplus or (Deficit)		\$ 6,589	
<i>2019 Operating Surplus Carryover</i>		<u>38,620</u>	
Remaining Surplus		\$ 45,209	

It has happened sooner rather than later. And, hopefully, we will all work together moving forward to make it last.

The numbers above show our current financial status as of the end of May as we now enter the new beginning as of the 13th of June. We would like to THANK all of you who have so faithfully supported your church through this very different and difficult time. We now begin coming out other side. With God's guidance and His continuing grace watching over GLC things have happened sooner rather than later. He is now welcoming us all back to His house again.

## Notes of THANKS

**Thank you** from the Social Ministry Committee for your donations to the Mother's Day No Bake Sale. The funds raised were given to School District 21 for Robert Frost School's summer programs.

**Dear Grace People:** Thank you for the wonderful cards – I'm celebrating before – during and later. Thanks to all. June Brickwood

**Dear Grace Lutheran Church:** Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,632.00 to the ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). With your gifts, you are putting God's love into action – living faithfully, witnessing boldly, serving joyfully and giving abundantly. Your generosity allows this church to continue to spread the good news of Jesus Christ by equipping leaders, positioning communities to grow and sharing the love of a faithful and abiding God.

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

With gratitude, Rachel Wind, Executive for Philanthropy

**Dear Friends in Christ:** You have given more than money; you have offered hope in these uncertain times for those served by Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI). Thank you for your gift of \$300.00 for Good Shepherd/LSSI Sunday, which will be put to immediate use for those facing difficult challenges in their lives. It also will be credited to your synod's \$5,000.00 match made by an anonymous donor.

LSSI has been an essential service provider for Illinois during the COVID 19 pandemic. Our work has continued, even as we have joined you in adapting to social distancing and other preventative health measures. Now, more than ever, we are grateful for your partnership with us in this ministry.

Thank you for believing in LSSI's mission. By working together, we offer the kind of loving care that the shepherd provides to the flock. This is the image Jesus used when telling about God's tremendous love for each one of us. May that love surround and protect you and your loved ones.

Sincerely yours, Marl A. Stutrud, President and CEO



*Birthday* LIST

**July**

- |    |                                   |    |   |
|----|-----------------------------------|----|---|
| 1  | Mike Kintzle<br>Stephanie Kintzle | 17 | Sue Buerger<br>Gordon Greaves<br>Andy Reimann |
| 2  | Tom Carlson                       | 18 | Dorothy Olson                                 |
| 4  | Lynne Dixon<br>James Shaffer      | 19 | Wendy Thompson                                |
| 6  | Jerry Sakover                     | 21 | Adam Rude<br>Rachel Thompson                  |
| 8  | Connor Ellertson                  | 23 | Andrew Pfeffer                                |
| 10 | Frank Doran<br>Lorene Loiacano    | 25 | Megan Nickl<br>Rich Rogers                    |
| 12 | Amanda Jannusch                   | 29 | Susann Garfinkle<br>Alice Johnson             |
| 13 | Jeannine Ellertson                | 30 | Darlene Sharlog                               |
| 15 | Molly Ryan                        |    |   |
| 16 | Joan Russell                      |    |   |





EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Experiencing God's Amazing Grace!*

1624 E. Euclid Ave.  
Mount Prospect, IL 60056

Phone 847-824-7408  
[www.gracemtprospect.org](http://www.gracemtprospect.org)  
[www.facebook.com/gracemtprospect](https://www.facebook.com/gracemtprospect)



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

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 2215  
Palatine, IL

## 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](mailto:d.schwick@gracemtprospect.org)

**Church Secretary:** Barbara Willis  
[b.willis@gracemtprospect.org](mailto:b.willis@gracemtprospect.org)

**Director of Lay Ministry:** Pam Walger  
[p.walger@gracemtprospect.org](mailto:p.walger@gracemtprospect.org)

**Director of Music:** Susan Nelson  
[sopranosusannelson@gmail.com](mailto:sopranosusannelson@gmail.com)

**Organist:**

**Pre-school Director:** Jaime Wright  
[preschool@gracemtprospect.org](mailto:preschool@gracemtprospect.org)

**Mission Partner:** Rev. Carrie Smith  
[carrie.smith@elca.org](mailto:carrie.smith@elca.org)

**Grace Notes Editor:** Debbie Bodett  
[bodettdeb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bodettdeb@sbcglobal.net)



**ARTICLE** *Deadline:* July 18