

# GRACE NOTES

June 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**

Dear Saints of Grace!



Beginning in June, the church calendar has a very long series of “Green Sundays”—sometimes called “ordinary time,” that is, Sundays not associated with a season, like Advent, Lent or Easter, or specific events, like Pentecost. This green season in the church year is intended to focus on how the church translates the events that it commemorates from Christmas through the Easter Season, into ministry that makes a difference in the lives of people.

Throughout this season we will have a major focus on the Sacrament of Baptism as “the place where it all begins.” On four Sundays in June our focus will be on the four questions about Baptism Martin Luther addresses in his Small Catechism:

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| June 3  | What is Baptism?  |
| June 10 | What gifts of benefits does Baptism grant?                |
| June 17 | How can water do such great things?                       |
| June 24 | What then is the significance of such Baptism with water? |

In July and August we will focus on the responses to Baptism that we commit to when we become adult members of the church:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| July 1    | To live among God’s people   |
| July 8    | To hear God’s Word   |
| [July 15  | Guest Preacher, Missionary Carrie Smith]                             |
| July 22   | To share the Lord’s Supper   |
| July 29   | To proclaim the Good News in word                                    |
| August 5  | To proclaim the Good News in deed                                    |
| August 12 | To serve all people following the example of Jesus’ self-giving love |
| August 19 | To strive for justice  |
| August 26 | To strive for peace in all the world                                 |

I hope that this summer of growth will prepare all of us to affirm our baptism on September 23 along with our four confirmands!

In Christ’s peace,  
Pastor Daniel Schwick

## Roundtable UPDATE

The May meeting of the Growing Grace Roundtable took place on Sunday, May 20. About two dozen Grace members and friends participated.

One focus was on ways to deepen the relationship between Grace Church and the families of Grace Preschool. We are planning to double the enrollment of the Preschool in the 2018-2019 school year. A new director has been hired and we are in the process of hiring other teaching staff.

It was suggested that we plan occasional intergenerational activities involving seniors for Grace Church and the Preschool children. We might also plan events specifically geared to the parents. We are planning an installation rite for our new Preschool staff at the beginning of the school year as well as an Open House so that Grace members can become more familiar with our ministry through the Preschool.

Dan Reimann, convener of the Exterior Signage working group presented drawings of proposed new signs highlighting Grace Preschool and marking the main and accessible entrances. The working group also recommended that four "Visitor Parking" spaces be reserved and so marked near the main entrance. Those recommendations were referred to the Property Committee for further consideration.

The Roundtable then gave further consideration to the list of proposed events that was generated at the April Roundtable. There was consensus that we should focus on the Mount Prospect Block Party on July 28 and a Pet Blessing on the Feast of St. Francis, Sunday, October 6.

The next meeting of the Growing Grace Roundtable will be Sunday, June 17, following worship. The July roundtable will be on Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup>.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE!

## ANOTHER KIND of Bedtime Story

Count it a great blessing if you had parents who read to you when you were young. Listening to bedtime stories can be a powerful bonding experience for parents and children. But not for children whose parents are incarcerated. Story time is just one of many special moments that these children miss out on. That's where LSSI's Storybook Project comes in. Working with volunteers, LSSI brings new books into correctional facilities where parents record stories and messages for their child. The book and a CD of the recording are sent to the child as a gift from the parent. **Last year, nearly 6,000 children received a book and CD through the Storybook Project!** The Storybook Project relies on more than 500 volunteers and the financial support of generous donors



who provide the books and CDs and pay for the mailing costs. It is one more way we have of being Christ in a broken world.

Would your congregation, youth group or other organization like to join the Storybook Project? You could collect new children's books and/or raise money to cover mailing costs. For more information, please contact Susan Greeley: [Susan.Greeley@Issi.org](mailto:Susan.Greeley@Issi.org) or 847.635.4617.

## **BISHOP'S** *Letter*

April 30, 2018

Dear Friends,

I am writing today to inform you that, after much prayer and careful thought, I have decided to retire as Bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago at the end of my current term, on August 31, 2019. I will not be standing for re-election at the 2019 synod assembly.

In the spring of 2007, I made the decision to open my hand to whatever God had in mind for the next phase of my ministry, and, quite unexpectedly, this position of leadership was placed in that open hand. Now, to be true to my own teaching and my own belief about faithful Christian living, it is time to open my hand again and to release this trust back to the Church for the sake of our mission to the world on Christ's behalf and in Christ's name.

I cannot overstate the honor and gratitude I feel for the opportunity to be the steward of this office. However, in the rapidly-changing mission field around us, I believe that it is time for a fresh perspective and new leadership imagination to carry the work forward. I have chosen to make this announcement now so that I can talk about it openly in my 2018 report to the assembly, and so that you will have ample time to pray, to engage in open conversation together, and then to discern who God is preparing to be the next bishop, to guide you, to pray for you, and to learn from you for the next six years.

In the meantime, we will still have more than a year to continue the work we have begun. I pray that this may be a time of joy and hope as we live toward our common call into God's open future.

In Christ,

Wayne N. Miller, Bishop  
Metropolitan Chicago Synod, ELCA

## COUNCIL Highlights

### **Petra Church to Share Space at Grace**

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, the Reverend Christian JinHo Kim of Petra Church in Glenview met with Pastor Dan Schwick and Greg Linwood to discuss the possibility of renting space at Grace for worship services on Sunday afternoons. Their congregation has been renting space at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Glenview for many years, but Holy Trinity has recently changed pastoral leadership and they have been asked to find a new space to rent.

Pastor Kim's congregation currently has 25 to 30 worshipers. They began as a first-generation Korean-American congregation, but now consists mostly of younger people with mixed backgrounds. Most of the congregants regularly converse in English. Their church, until recently, was Presbyterian, but is now non-denominational.

After Greg and Pastor Schwick received approval from the Council on April 24<sup>th</sup> to negotiate an agreement with Petra, an agreement was reached early in May, which the Council approved via e-mail vote on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The agreement begins on July 1<sup>st</sup> and runs for a year. They will be paying us \$500 a month for use of the sanctuary, Charter Hall and the kitchen on Sundays from 1 to 4, the sanctuary on Saturday mornings from 6am to 7am, and Friday evenings for short business meetings. At the nine-month period (about April 1<sup>st</sup> next year) we will have discussions about possible renewal of the agreement and a possible adjustment in the amount of the monthly payment.

Any questions, please contact Greg or Pastor Schwick.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR Fellowship

**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.

**Birthday Card Shower:** To distinguish our members who are 90 or better we ask the congregation to shower them with birthday wishes (cards & postcards) to brighten their special day. On June 17<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate June Brickwood's 94<sup>th</sup> birthday. June is a charter member of Grace. Please shower her with birthday wishes at 420 S. Dale, Arlington Heights, IL 60004. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JUNE!

**Father's Day Recital:** Celebrate Father's Day with music! Erik Matson, organist and Susan Nelson, soprano will perform a wide variety of repertoire for both you and your dad! Compositions include works by Langlais, Bach, Bernstein, Debussy, Parry and our own Erik Matson! Join us at 2pm. A free will offering will be taken to benefit LSSI!

***Interested in Becoming a Member of Grace?*** The Outreach and Welcome Committee invite all those considering membership at Grace as well as recent new members to an “on boarding” dinner at church on Sunday, July 29. Other members of Grace who are interested in welcoming newer members are invited to join the dinner as well. If you’re interested, please speak with Pastor Schwick or with Outreach and Welcome Chair, Mike Pirron.

***Grace to Participate in Mount Prospect Block Party on Saturday, July 28:*** Our Outreach and Welcome Committee is making plans for Grace’s return to the Mount Prospect Block Party after several years in which we didn’t participate. We are planning to have a booth at which we can showcase portraits of life at Grace Church and Grace Preschool. We intend to have give-aways and also to offer blessings for children or dogs that come to our booth. We will need plenty of volunteers before during and after the event which runs from 11:00am to about 5:00pm. Watch for a sign-up sheet in the Atrium and please plan to participate!

***Our Missionary in Jerusalem to Visit Grace:*** Pastor Carrie Smith is an ELCA missionary serving the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. Her ministry, assisting the Bishop of the ELCJHL, is supported by Grace and also by our neighbor, St. Mark Lutheran Church in downtown Mount Prospect. Pastor Smith is going to be home in Illinois this summer and would like to “touch base” with the churches that support her ministry. Plans are currently being made for Pastor Smith to preach at both congregations on Sunday, July 15, and then to be the guest of honor at a mission luncheon to be held at St. Mark. Details will be shared as they develop.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Learning***

***Summer Midweek Bible Studies, Wednesdays at 10:00am and 7:00pm:*** Throughout June, July and August, there will be two opportunities for Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:00am and 7:00pm.

We will begin the series with some basic questions: 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?

In July, we will turn our attention to specific books of the Bible, starting with the classical prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Amos, Micah, etc. )

In August we will compare and contrast the four Gospels and search for the keys message in each presentation of the life and ministry of Jesus.

***Congregational Forums on “Justice for Women:”*** Our Social Ministry Committee and WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) will cosponsor congregational Forums on the draft ELCA social statement on “Justice for Women.” The proposed statement is the culmination of almost ten years of listening and studying by a task force created by the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in 2009. It is a powerful

examination and critique of sexism and patriarchy in church and society. The task force is asking for feedback from congregations and individuals by the end of September as they prepare to create a final draft of the statement to be presented for adoption at the 2019 Churchwide Assembly.

All women, men and youth of the congregation are invited to join the discussion at two sessions, Monday, June 11 at 7:00pm and Monday, June 25 at 7:00pm.

**College Scholarship Applications** will be available in the Information Center in front of the church office beginning May 27<sup>th</sup>. You are eligible to apply if you are attending a post-secondary school in the fall. Completed applications are due back to the church office by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Questions? Contact the church office at 847-824-7408.

**Sermons on You Tube:** Did you know that recent sermons were taped and uploaded to You Tube? You can watch them by going to Grace's website at [www.gracemtprospect.org](http://www.gracemtprospect.org) and clicking on Sunday Worship. Then click on the link Grace Lutheran Church – Mount Prospect You Tube Channel to view recent sermons. Your feedback to this ministry will help decide if it should be continued.

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Service*

**Grace Preschool Lawn Signs:** Please take a sign from the Atrium and put it in your front lawn to help us advertise for fall enrollment. Your help is gratefully appreciated.

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

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Outreach*

**Interested in Working on a Habitat Project?** Grace has two dates to help build with HFH. The dates are June 9<sup>th</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>. Sign up sheets are in the Atrium or contact Cory Olson at 847/909-5509 or at [CORYGERARD@gmail.com](mailto:CORYGERARD@gmail.com) for more information.

**Mission Trip:** From August 1<sup>st</sup> through August 5<sup>th</sup>, the Interfaith Council, which includes members of areas churches (including Grace) and synagogues, will be in Detroit helping to rebuild and restore areas of the city on their annual mission trip. If you would like to be part of this rewarding experience, contact Margit Willis at 312-607-2684 or Terry-Ann Saurmann at 847-392-3042.

**Feed My Starving Children:** 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, June 5<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. There are thirty-three spots reserved for our group.

Sign-up sheets will be available starting Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. 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!

**Hygiene Kits:** The Social Ministry Committee is asking for your help to assemble 20 hygiene kits for women re-entering the community from prison. 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 kits include the following items assembled in a one-gallon Ziploc bag:

- Deodorant, 2.6 ounces
- Feminine wipes, 20-count box
- Moisturizing lotion, 2.5 – 2.7 ounces
- Small nail clippers
- 10 band-aids (in a small plastic bag, for packing)

Watch for a poster in the Atrium. To help us get 20 of each item on the above list, the poster will contain 20 tear-offs for each item. There will also be a collection box for the items which we would like to collect by June 30. Thank you for your support of this project.

**Refugee Ministry Update:** The Egahle family has moved to Minnesota so our weekly monitoring visits have ended. We think that they have moved to be near family. We will miss them, but we know that they are excited to be with family. We were around a month shy of completing six months of weekly visits and feel that those visits helped them improve their English speaking skills and helped them get acclimated to life in the United States. We are grateful for all your support to the Egahle family. Thank you! Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

**Lutherans in a Lather:** It's that time of year again when we collect soap for Lutheran World Relief. There will be a washtub in the East entryway starting in June 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.

**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 August 6 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)

Thanks so much for your support.

**The Wheeling Township Food Pantry** is requesting the following from the P List – Paper Products, Personal Essentials and Pantry Pairs: Peanut Butter & Jelly, Rice & Beans, Soup & Crackers, Pasta & Sauce, Granola Bars & Juice, Cake Mix & Frosting, Cereal & Powdered Milk, Fruit & Nuts, Coffee & Tea, Ketchup & Mustard, Flour & Sugar, Mayonnaise & Salad Dressing, Toilet Paper & Kleenex, Shampoo & Conditioner, Soap & Deodorant, Detergent & Fabric Softener, paper Towels & Cleaning Products, Tooth paste & Mouth Wash, Razors & Shaving Cream, and Diapers & Wipes. 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!

**Collection Box:** You can drop off used clothing, shoes, towels and linens, etc. at Grace's green box located in the back of the parking lot. Donations will be sent to people in need in the U.S. and around the world or be recycled into useful goods. For more information, take a flyer from the table outside the church office.

## **YOUTH GATHERING 2018**

The Youth are in their final preparations for the ELCA trip to Houston at the end of the month. The fundraising efforts are complete and thanks to your generosity, everything is falling into place. Please keep our youth and the adult leaders in your prayers as they

leave for Houston on June 27<sup>th</sup> returning on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Representing Grace are Danielle Drelicharz, Amy Drelicharz, Matthew Pracko, Andrew Stutheit, Cory Cordier, Jordan Nagle, Adam Majczan and chaperones Rachael Rogers, Alan Rogers, Rachel Thompson, Margit Willis and Pastor Schwick.

**Youth Trip Send-off Scheduled for Sunday, June 24:** The Grace Youth and their adult chaperones, including Pastor Schwick, will be sent off to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston with the blessings of their families and friends at Grace. Please plan to send them off with an enthusiastic *bon voyage!*

## FINANCIAL Update

Financial Report ending April 30, 2018

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Weekly Envelope Income	\$ 88,000	\$ 87,401	(\$ 599)
Special Income	10,680	14,501	3,821
Prepaid Income	6,639	6,746	107
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$105,319</b>	<b>\$108,648</b>	<b>\$ 3,329</b>
Expenses thru April	111,711	110,173	
Surplus or (Deficit)		(\$ 1,525)	

The Lenten and Easter season is now over and the numbers above reflect the additional income of the season. The projected income against actual income shows a surplus thru the first 4 months. Special income surplus will level out over the summer before the next influx of seasonal income of Thanksgiving and Christmas. We continue to monitor expenses closely. We thank you for your continuing support as we move forward in our mission to spread His word.

**Good news is always appreciated:** As of this date into May, we have received an additional \$2,000 towards the Parking Lot expense and the unpaid balance has been reduced to \$1,517.68. The end is in sight for this major improvement to our property. Anything you can do to help eliminate this small remaining balance by the end of June is greatly appreciated. Even Pastor Peter was pleased to see this project done when he had occasion to visit Grace for a meeting.

## CONGRATULATIONS...

to Kyle Siebert on his graduation from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago on May 20, 2018. Kyle served as Grace's MIC (Ministry in Context) in 2015-16 and is now an ordained minister serving Our Savior Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry in Hanover, New Hampshire.

## Notes of THANKS

**Thank you!** A great big THANK YOU to everyone who worked so hard on the Rummage Sale. To all who put in one hour or 30+ hours, donated items, or baked, many, many thanks. We appreciate all your efforts. The 2018 Rummage Sale was a success!!

**Thank you** to all who visited, sent cards and kept us in their prayers.  
Joan Russell, Sheri Conover and Joy Shaw and family.

**Thank You** for helping the Social Ministry Committee raise \$800.00 at the Mother's Day Bake Sale. The funds will be divided between the River Trails Park District for pool passes and District 21 Robert Frost School for summer programs. It is truly a joy to have such wonderful support for this ministry.

**We would like to thank you** for your generous donation of twenty-two \$25 Aldi gift cards 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

## SPECIAL Events

- **Feed My Starving Children:** Tuesday, June 5 at 6pm
- **Metro Chicago Synod Assembly:** June 8 - 9 in Tinley Park
- **Growing in Grace Roundtable:** Sunday, June 17 following the service
- **Father's Day Recital:** Sunday, June 17 at 2pm
- **Youth Gathering 2018:** June 27 – July 1 in Houston
- **Growing in Grace Roundtable:** Sunday, July 8 following the service
- **Missionary Visit:** Sunday, July 15
- **Mt. Prospect Block Party:** Saturday, July 28
- **New Member "Onboarding Dinner:"** Sunday, July 29

## Birthday LIST

### June

2	Jackie Pracko	15	Amy Li Drelicharz
4	Peggy Gosell Michael Hanson	17	June Brickwood
5	Alan Rogers	18	Jack Kintzle
7	Jerry Sharlog Tom Roth	19	William Rovani
8	James Rude	20	Jerry Riordan
9	Jennifer Josten	22	Jared Polfuss
11	Pete Varley	24	Carol Fey
13	Matt Adams	25	Suzanne Walger
14	Betty Carlson Connor Dietrich	28	Jack DeCarlo
		29	Nick Kochanski

## CELEBRATIONS OF *Life*

### **Weddings**

Couples promise their faithfulness to one another as we surround them with our prayers for God's blessings in their marriage.

Congratulations to Tori Menelle and Jarrett Austin who were married at Grace on April 21, 2018. Proud grandmothers are Joanne Coy and Mary Jo Menelle and parents Cindy and Mike Menelle.

### **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 Janet Gaiser and family in the death of John Giaser on April 28. The Gaisers joined Grace in 1982. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

We extend our sympathy to Joan Russell and family in the death of her husband Stanley Russell on May 8, 2018. The Russells joined Grace in 1963. Services were held on May 12 in Rolling Meadows.



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Experiencing God's Amazing Grace!*

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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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**ARTICLE** *Deadline:* June 17