

GRACE NOTES

June 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,



GRACE The fundamental understanding that God’s love for us is given freely to us but at great cost to God. A short-hand term is gospel—good news!

EVANGELICAL

Originally “evangelical” meant “gospel-centered Christians” (see gospel above). Lutherans were among the first real evangelicals. Unfortunately, in the 20th century, fundamentalist Christians claimed the name evangelical for their brand of legalist and judgmental Christianity. In my opinion, we “true evangelicals” have lost the term to the so called evangelicals. I think we should give up trying to rehabilitate the word. We can say “gospel centered.”

LUTHERAN

The Reformation of Martin Luther and others in the 1500s was intended to call the Roman Catholic church back to what the reformers called the gospel foundation of the church. Luther taught the centrality of God’s grace as the basis for our relationship to God. The Roman Catholic church at the time was not ready for reform. Out of necessity the Lutheran movement set up their own “parallel” church. Luther wanted to call it the Evangelical, that is, gospel-centered, church. His followers insisted on calling themselves Lutherans and the name stuck. For five hundred years, “Lutheran” has meant ‘a gospel-centered understanding of God’s relationship with us.

CHURCH

The word church comes from a northern European translation of the original Greek word meaning “the people gathered together.” The term was used by the early Christians to identify the communities “gathered in the name of Jesus” and “sent out” by Jesus to go into the whole world proclaiming good news (gospel) in his name. So the church was and is the community gathered to proclaim good news.

So when you look at the whole name of our church, you see Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. And since, as I have suggest above, each of the four individual words means “gospel-centered” perhaps we should expand our name to be “Gospel – centered, Gospel-centered, Gospel-centered, Gospel-centered community.” That’s quite a mouthful. Imagine the sign we would need in front of the church. No wonder we

conveniently shorten our name to GRACE. Let's just not forget how emphatically we claim to be gospel-centered. And that we are first and foremost a community gathered and sent in the name of Jesus, for the sake of the whole world.

In Christ's love joy, peace and hope,

Pastor Daniel Schwick

CONGRATULATIONS *2019 Graduates*

Advanced Degree

Deanna Carlson

University

Teddy Reimann

Julie Josten

Ellie Kjeldbjerg

Anthony Ryan

High School

Danielle Drelicharz

Andy Reimann

Adam Majczan

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Fellowship*

BuncoFest: Mark your calendars! BuncoFest is returning to Grace on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 11:30am. Plan to buy your ticket and join your friends for a fun afternoon of Bunco, lunch, and fabulous prizes. Tickets are \$10 each and will go on sale Sunday, May 26th. If you'd like to make a dessert or donate a snack for the event please let Pam Walger know at 847-824-7408. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

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 17th we celebrate June Brickwood's 95TH 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!

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*

College Scholarship Applications: are now available for all post-secondary college-bound or vocational (trade school) students. All students pursuing an Associate Degree, Bachelor's Degree or Trade School Certificates are eligible to apply for a scholarship for up to 5 years. Applications are available at the church office. Completed applications must be delivered to the church office by Sunday, June 30, 2019 at 12:00 noon, sharp. **No late submissions will be accepted.** Disbursements will be presented during the Sunday service on August 11th. The student's attendance at this service is strongly encouraged.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Service*

Help with our Grace Vegetable and Butterfly Gardens as They Grow: Please sign up on the poster in the atrium and tell us how you'd like to help. Also, if you have perennials in your yard and you'd like to share some of them for our butterfly garden kindly pot them up and bring them to church to be planted. Thanks!

Preschool Yard Signs: If you still have a yard sign, now is the time to put it back in your front yard. Grace Preschool is registering children for the 2019-2020 school year. If you would like a sign, please check with the church office. Thanks for your help.

Ushers Needed: for Sunday services. Please consider volunteering.

Mission Trip: During the week of July 15, 2019 people from churches and synagogues around the northwest suburbs will be traveling to southern Illinois for the 5th annual Interfaith Council Mission Trip. If you are looking for an exciting week of service to others, fun times with an amazing group of people, and really, really good food, talk to Margit Willis at 312/607-2684 or Terry-Ann Saurmann at 847/404-3042.

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, June 4th from 6pm to 7:30pm. There are twenty-five spots reserved for our group.

Sign-up sheets will be available starting Sunday, May 19th. 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!

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 23. Thank you for your support of this project.

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 29, 2019.

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 June 30. 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 28 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.

Shop for the Food Pantry: 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, Toothpaste & 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!

FINANCIAL *Update*

Financial Report ending April 30, 2019

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Weekly Envelope Income	\$ 94,667	\$ 89,069	(\$ 5,598)
Special Income	12,000	13,478	1,478
Prepaid Income	3,483	4,402	919
Total Income	\$110,150	\$106,949	(\$ 3,201)
Expenses thru April	114,589	115,158	
Surplus or (Deficit)		(\$ 8,210)	
<u>2018 Operating Surplus Carryover</u>		<u>38,696</u>	
Remaining Surplus		\$ 30,486	

The snow was wet and melted on its own so no bill to pay. We are still showing expenses over budget though only by \$600. The weather has turned and we enter planting time for our flowers and gardens. Your continued support will provide for the programs and activities we want to provide to our members and the community. Thank you for your support and participation.

Notes of THANKS

Thank You for helping the Social Ministry Committee raised \$770.00 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.

Sharing the Peace with Me: When sharing the peace with me on a Sunday morn, please look me in the eye when you shake my hand and say "Peace be with you". It really means a lot to me. Even though you don't mean to, looking away while taking my hand spoils the magic. Give it a try, please! Your Friend

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$620.00 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, The Rev. Robin Brown, Mission Funding Director, Congregations.

SPECIAL Events

- **Rummage Sale:** Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1
- **Growing Grace Roundtable:** Sunday, June 2 following the service
- **BuncoFest:** Wednesday, June 12 at 11:30am
- **Pentecost Sunday:** June 9, 2019, worship at 10:00am
- **Father's Day:** Sunday, June 16, 2019



Birthday LIST

June

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

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 Kiki Garza and family on the death of his father, Santiago Garza.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sheila FencI who died on May 9, 2019.



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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:* June 16