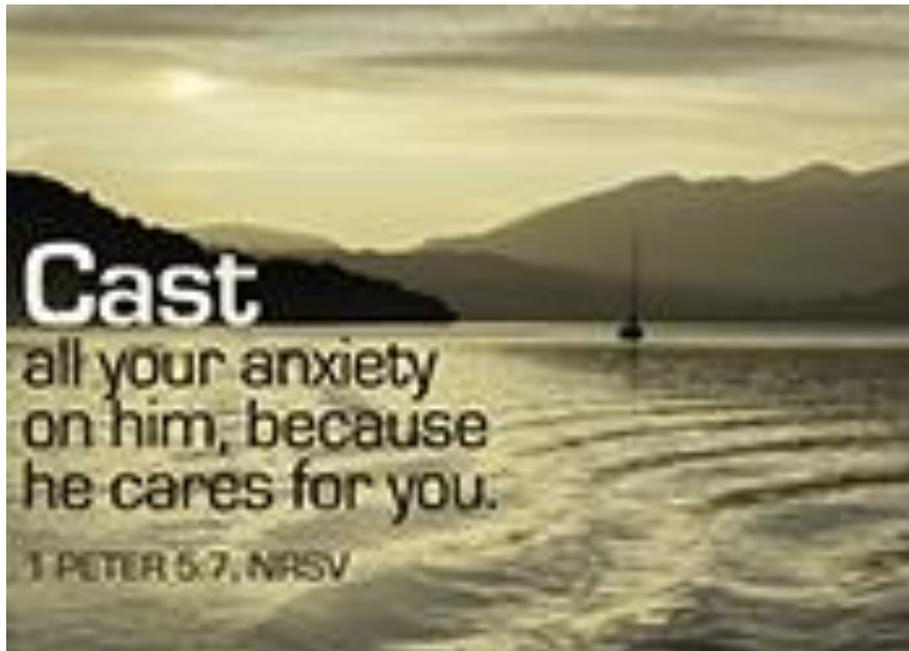


GRACE NOTES

May 2020



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:



What a joy it has been for the last two Sundays to see so many of you via our Zoom service. I know that some of you are not able to participate “LIVE” but are able to see the rebroadcast on our Facebook page or via our website. Although we don’t have all the technological challenges out of the way, I hope you have seen steady progress. Thanks to the many folks who have contributed to our e-worship. As I shared in an earlier message to the congregation, it is our intention to send a weekly bulletin by Constant Contact or by USPS. That will include the weekly Bible readings and the hymn, at least the lyrics. We are very open to suggestions as to how we produce this service. Feel free to make your suggestions to me or to Mike Drelicharz, who is managing the technical side of our services.

As I announced on Sunday, next Sunday, April 26, will be our first remote celebration of the Lord’s Supper. I invite you to gather bread (any kind) and wine (or grape juice) in preparation for the service. If you cannot do that yourself, please notify the church office and we will find a way to bring the unblessed elements to your home before Sunday. Special thanks to Danielle Drelicharz who has stepped forward to offer assistance in this effort! I can’t tell you how much I look forward to communing again with the Saints of Grace.

Reminder: we now have two midweek Zoom Bible Study opportunities, Wednesdays at 1:00pm and 7:00pm. Log in to participate by video or call in to participate by audio only. The contact information is detailed elsewhere in this edition of Grace Notes.

Also, this past Sunday, I announced the creation of numerous opportunities for informal conversations with me and with a few other members of Grace. In an article below, you will see the calendar for these “Coffee and with Pastor Dan” sessions and the information for how to participate by video or audio. Please feel free to “drop in” to any of the listed sessions at any time. Think of it as a virtual Coffee Hour.

Yes, dear Saints of Grace, the life and ministry of our church continues and, at least in some ways, gets stronger as we face the challenges of our new environment. Thanks to the many, many of you who are continuing your financial support for our mission and ministry! No one knows yet when the “new normal” is going to get here or what it will look like. But, we can trust Jesus who gave up his very life for our redemption! Jesus whom God raised from the dead! Jesus who goes with us into the future!

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

Pastor Daniel Schwick

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Worship*

Sunday Worship with Grace: Time: 10:00am Every Sunday!

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86543729643>

Meeting ID: 865 4372 9643

Dial in: 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 865 4372 9643

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Fellowship*

Tuesday mornings "Coffee and with Pastor Dan"

Time: 11:00am

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89219795993> Meeting ID: 892 1979 5993

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 892 1979 5993

Tuesday afternoons "Coffee and with Pastor Dan"

Time: 3:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82925514384> Meeting ID: 829 2551 4384

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 829 2551 4384

Tuesday evenings "Coffee and with Pastor Dan"

Time: 7:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88646436940> Meeting ID: 886 4643 6940

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 886 4643 6940

Thursday mornings "Coffee and with Pastor Dan"

Time: 11:00am

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89208660579> Meeting ID: 892 0866 0579

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 892 0866 0579

Thursday afternoons "Coffee and with Pastor Dan"

Time: 1:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85073421140> Meeting ID: 850 7342 1140

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 850 7342 1140

Thursday evenings "Coffee and with Pastor Dan"

Time: 7:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84411220080> Meeting ID: 844 1122 0080

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 844 1122 0080

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Learning*

Zoom Bible Study: On Wednesdays you will have an opportunity to join members and friends of Grace for a Zoom Bible Study of the Book of Acts. This book, the sequel to the Gospel of Luke, tells the story of the very first Christians, struggling to make sense of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus in a very precarious time. What can we learn from our grandmothers and grandfathers in the faith? One hour sessions will begin every Wednesday at 1:00pm and 7:00pm. The connection information is below.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study 1:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87384577561> Meeting ID: 873 8457 7561

One tap mobile: +13126266799, 87384577561#

Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 873 8457 7561

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88033765109> Meeting ID: 880 3376 5109

One tap mobile: +13126266799,,88033765109#

Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 880 3376 5109

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Outreach*

A Season of Hope: The baskets are still in the east entryway and, hopefully, we will have a chance in the not too distant future to fill them and send the items to Lutheran World Relief.

La Trinidad: Thanks to the Reimanns who drove to La Trinidad on April 19 to drop off a donation of food items for sack lunches. The lunches were distributed to the people who usually come for the community dinner at the church. Our next scheduled date to help with the community dinner is May 17. The Social Ministry Committee will let you know what the arrangements are for that meal.

AROUND *The Parish*

Dear Members of Grace,

While we are all working through this difficult time, I pray everyone is staying safe and practicing good Social Distancing habits.

In the event that some of you may need some assistance, I am offering to pick up groceries, prescriptions or even just a meal from a local restaurant, etc. My pick-up and delivery services are FREE, just pay for the items I pick-up for you and I will deliver them to your door.

Please call, email or text me if you are interested and we can work out the arrangements.

Please stay safe! *With God's Blessings*

danielledrelicharz@gmail.com

224-805-2409

Using Zoom On-line Video Conferencing Services in lieu of Face-to-Face Gatherings:

Since Easter Sunday, we have been using Zoom on-line video conferencing service to host our Sunday services, Bible Study sessions and other meetings including "Coffee and with Pastor Dan."

This service is easily accessed and fully experienced from your smartphones, tablets or computers. All you need is your device and an Internet connection (cellular or Wi-Fi). If you have none of these devices, you can still participate in an Audio Only manner dialing in from your basic cellphone or your traditional home phone. No one is excluded and all are welcome.

Let's review some of the details:

- Pastor prefers everyone who is capable, to connect with your camera so everyone can see you and you can see the rest of the congregation. This is important since we are so accustomed to congregating together prior to this pandemic. This electronic way to connect is the next best thing to being there face to face.
- Before the Sunday services, your microphones are open so you can all talk throughout the group. Say hello, ask a question, etc. The microphones will be muted before the service begins and only allow those scheduled to deliver a portion of the service. But, what is important to know: as soon as you connect, your microphone is open, so be aware that everyone can hear what you are saying.

- If you would like to make a comment or you have an announcement, it is best to inform Pastor in advance of the service so he can call on you to share your thoughts. We certainly can take unscheduled comments and announcements, but any advanced notice helps the flow of the service.
- MOST IMPORTANT – For the foreseeable future (could be several more weeks) we will be holding our Sunday service via Zoom with the same access codes. We will send out a Constant Contact to everyone on the distribution list on Saturday with a reminder. If you do not yet receive electronic communication from Grace, please contact the office to add your email address. If you cannot receive email, please make sure Barb has your information and details will be delivered via US Mail.
- We will continue to work to enhance our worship services and utilizing the Zoom technology where possible. Please stay tuned in to your email for any and all updates. We will work diligently to ensure minimal surprises.
- We will be recording the Sunday services and uploading the recording to both our public Facebook page as well as our private Facebook page shortly after the service concludes, in case you miss the service at 10:00am.
- If you have any suggestions, please call the church office to let Barb know.
- If you have any trouble connecting to Zoom or you would like to connect for the first time and you would like some assistance, please reach out to Michael Drelicharz at 847.942.3086 to test the connection and get you comfortable connecting to Zoom.

Thanks,
 Michael Drelicharz
 847.942.3086

FINANCIAL *Update*

Financial Report ending March 31, 2020

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Weekly Envelope Income	\$ 73,350	\$ 65,834	\$ (7,516)
Special Income	9,510	7,500	(2,010)
Prepaid Income	2,731	2,731	0
Total Income	\$ 85,591	\$ 76,065	\$ (9,526)
Expenses thru March	89,533	85,436	
Current Year Surplus or (Deficit)		\$ (9,371)	
<i>2019 Operating Surplus Carryover</i>		<i>40,001</i>	
Remaining Surplus		\$ 30,630	

It has been a month of new experiences and new learning. Does anyone remember a time when we were told “don’t go to church, just send money”? That is the newness we are now experiencing. Our thanks go to all of you who have sent in or dropped off your normal contributions at Grace. Remember that the expenses continue though we are not present with some decreases but also with some new ones to keeping us informed.

A reminder to all Grace members: We currently offer what is referenced to as EFT or ACH. What's that? It is automatic withdrawal of your designated amount from a savings or checking account you designate on a weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly basis going directly to Grace. I would guess many of you may already use some sort of online payment plan through your bank or financial institution. If interested in enrolling, please contact the church office for an enrollment form.

How many of you might be interested in a manner of giving through our website where there would be a link to an electronic service for you to go to entering your contribution yourself?

May God, our ever present Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit be with us all during this time and keep us in good health until we meet again at Our Church.

Jerry Sharlog, Finance Committee

Notes of **THANKS**

Thank you:

We would like to thank you for your generous donation of nine \$25.00 Aldi gift cards and three \$25.00 Jewel 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 Department, Village of Mount Prospect

Birthday LIST

May

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | Mark Pfeffer | 17 | Mary Ryan |
| 2 | Hannah Nimal | 18 | Phyllis Began |
| 3 | Julie Josten | 19 | Fiona Kochanski |
| 4 | Lorida Nauert
Carl Imburgia | 21 | Hanna Kjeldbjerg |
| 6 | Richard Panzer
Betty Dietrich | 23 | Rick Johnson
Susan Mueller
Andrew Gharagozlou |
| 10 | Char Bogdan | 24 | Rebecca Ornoff |
| 12 | Suzanne Grimes | 26 | Gunda Hirth
Colleen Adams |
| 14 | Emma Riordan | 29 | Lynn Sivertsen |
| 16 | Irene Berg
Laura Ashbrook
Mariah Fontaine | 31 | Geri Keasling |





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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.

Staff *DIRECTORY*

Pastor: Daniel Schwick
d.schwick@gracemtprospect.org

Church Secretary: Barbara Willis
b.willis@gracemtprospect.org

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

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sopranosusannelson@gmail.com

Organist:

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preschool@gracemtprospect.org

Mission Partner: Rev. Carrie Smith
carrie.smith@elca.org

Grace Notes Editor: Debbie Bodett
bodettdeb@sbcglobal.net



ARTICLE *Deadline: May 17*