

# GRACE NOTES

November 2018

## For All the Saints



*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  
Special Congregational Meeting
- 3 Opportunities for Worship,  
Fellowship
- 4 Opportunities for Learning, Service
- 5 Opportunities for Outreach
- 7 Shop with Scrip, Financial Report
- 8 Notes of Thanks
- 9 Special Events
- 10 Birthday List
- 11 Life Celebrations

*A Note* **FROM THE PASTOR**

Dear Saints of Grace,



I am in a very strange but wonderful situation as I write this message: as I write this, the congregational meeting that will vote on whether or not to call me to be your permanent pastor has not yet occurred. I do not, of course, know the exact outcome of that meeting but I am hopeful that soon we will be celebrating the official beginning of my pastorate at Grace! [If Grace extends me the call and if I accept it, it is likely that my official start date will be November 1 while by official “installation” by synod Bishop Wayne Miller will not take place until January 13, 2019.]

And so I write this message in a context of hope. I hope that the grace that I have experienced as your interim pastor will only be expanded and deepened as I shed the word “interim.” I look forward to celebrating the upcoming holy days of All Saints (Nov. 4), Christ the King (Nov. 25), and the Season of Advent and Christmas with you and your families. During that time I expect that some of our everyday parish activities to be cut back somewhat to encourage us to focus on the amazing gift we will celebrate at Christmas. But then, come the new year, I expect that we will buckle down to plan and implement a large spring event to which we can invite our surrounding community. Maybe outdoor worship. Maybe the dedication of a garden. Maybe ANOTHER PET BLESSING! Maybe an Earth Day/Care of Creation community celebration. We will “preview” all those possibilities and many more at the November Roundtable on Sunday, Nov. 4. EVERYONE is encouraged to participate!

As we go forward into our future, we go forward in hope, in love and in GRACE!

Interim Pastor Daniel Schwick

**Special** *Congregational Meeting*

Dear Fellow Members of Grace,

This notice is to officially inform you that there will be a special meeting of the congregation on **Sunday, October 28**, starting at approximately **11:15 a.m.**, immediately following the 10 a.m. Sunday service.

This meeting will be held in the sanctuary, and is for the sole purpose of considering whether or not Grace will extend a call to Pastor Daniel J. Schwick to be Grace’s permanent full-time pastor.

All members of Grace are encouraged to attend in order to participate in this important meeting which will determine the immediate future of pastoral leadership here at Grace

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Worship*

**Remember All the Saints:** On Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, we will again remember the saints from our congregation who have joined the church triumphant in God's presence, and give thanks for all the saints past, present and future who are giving a witness to our Christian faith in eternal life with God.

Three things to make the day special:

1. Bring your baptismal certificate or at least the date of your baptism
2. Bring a candle (or candles) in remembrance of loved one(s). Please make sure that your candles are freestanding and will not drip or in an appropriate candle stand. Candles will be placed on and around the altar that morning.
3. Wear white, the color of resurrection!

**Thanksgiving Eve Service:** Join us on November 21, 2018 at 7:00pm.

**Looking Forward to Advent and Christmas:** Throughout December our worship will focus on the ways we care for ourselves, for one another, for the church, and for the world.

- December 2: Caring for Ourselves and One Another (focus on Stephen Ministry)
- December 9: Caring for our Children/ Passing on the Story -- our annual children's program (Possible combined worship with Petra Church)
- December 16: Caring for our Church—giving of our time, our talent and our treasure
- December 23: Care for the World –Lutheran World Relief, ELCA Hunger Program, etc.
- December 30: Care for the next generation of leaders in church and community ("Homecoming" for young adults home from school)

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Fellowship*

**Ultimate Youth Lock-in:** will take place November 2 beginning at 10pm and going to 5am the next morning at Enchanted Castle in Lombard. The night starts with a concert given by Rachel Kurtz and continues with games, go karts, laser tag, and pizza. Cost for the night is \$10.00. Don't miss the fun. Contact Margit Willis at 312-607-2684 or the church office at 847-824-7408 by October 24 if you would like to go.

**Mail Holiday Wishes:** Please share a Thanksgiving blessings by sending a card to those on our list of homebound members and "Just Because Friends". They will be cheered when receiving your greetings. An updated list of their names and addresses can be found on the poster with the large pumpkin.

**November Friendship Group Meeting:** is November 14, 2018. Stay tuned for more information regarding our trip to see a musical at one of the high schools. Watch the pink sheet for more details.

**Cookie Walk:** Our 11<sup>th</sup> annual Jayne Boom Cookie Walk will be held on Sunday, December 16 after the worship service. We look forward to enjoying your homemade cookies so please plan to bake and bring them to church with you by 9:00am on that morning. Proceeds will go to youth activities.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Learning*

**Grace on You Tube:** If you miss a Sunday, why not tune into recent Grace sermons on You Tube. Go to Grace's website at [www.gracemtprospect.org](http://www.gracemtprospect.org) and click on Sunday Worship. Then click on the link Grace Lutheran Church – Mount Prospect You Tube Channel to watch and listen. We extend a special thank you to Ray McCollim for doing this ministry for Grace.

**Two Midweek Bible Study Opportunities:** Thursdays will be Bible Study Day at Grace this fall. Each Thursday at 12:30pm the Wired Word Bible Study group gathers to look at contemporary issues through the lens of the Word of God. Thursdays at 7:00pm we will begin a year-long study of Sixty Key Stories in the Bible, led by Pastor Schwick or by Mike Pirron. Although each story builds somehow on the story before it, participants can come into the study as their schedules permit and still benefit from the study.

November 1 The Joseph Story

November 8 Moses and Pharaoh

November 15 Ten Commandments

November 22 THANKSGIVING

November 29 from Wilderness to Promised Land

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Service*

**Bake for the Thanksgiving Eve Service:** Volunteer to bake cookies to be served after the 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship service on Wednesday, November 21st. Please let Pam Walger know if you will be baking.

**Hanging of the Greens:** Save Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 9:00am for the annual Hanging of the Greens. Help us decorate the church for Christmas.

**Offering Counters:** A few new volunteers are wanted to become offering counters. Please consider being a part of a counter team. If you would like to volunteer or receive more information on the process please contact Jerry Sharlog at 847-253-0636.

***Deliver Altar Flowers:*** Please consider brightening someone's day by delivering the altar flowers to them. We need a few more people to volunteer to deliver the altar flowers on Sunday afternoon or on Monday to someone who is sick or who can't attend church for some reason. You will benefit from the visit as much as the person who receives the flowers. Contact Eileen Clark at 847-296-5840 and volunteer today. You won't have to do it that often so why not consider it?

***Altar Guild:*** Thank you to all our current Altar Guild members for your faithful service. If you haven't already done so, please sign up on the Altar Guild sign-up sheet on the table in the Parlor. If you would be willing to help on a Saturday or Sunday morning, please talk with Betty Carlson who will give you a quick tour of the sacristy and explain the steps involved in setting up and cleaning up communion.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Outreach***

***"Feed My Starving Children" – Our Latest Contribution:*** A heartfelt thank you to all of you who were able to volunteer and come out to work at the Feed My Starving Children location in Schaumburg on Tuesday, October 2nd. We had about twenty-five volunteers from Grace, and were joined by many additional volunteers! Altogether we packed a total of 132 boxes, totaling 28,512 meals, enough to feed 78 children for an entire year! As in August, this food is being sent to Kenya.

We will not be scheduling any more outings in calendar year 2018. Stay tuned to this space for notice on the next group date.

God's work. Our hands. Indeed.

***Turkeys for La Trinidad:*** The Social Ministry Committee is collecting frozen turkeys (14-16 pounds) for the needy families of La Trinidad in the Humboldt Park area of Chicago.

Please bring your turkey to church by Sunday, November 11. In past years the Committee has accepted cash donations and we will again this year, We do, however, ask that if at all possible you purchase the turkey and take advantage of the many special deals available. It will make the dollars go further. If that's not possible, place a donation in a pink pew envelope marked TURKEYS and place in the offering plate by November 4. Your donations to this project are greatly appreciated.

***La Trinidad:*** Once a month members of the Social Ministry Committee and other volunteers travel to La Trinidad Lutheran Church in the city to help cook, serve and clean up after the monthly community dinner. There is a poster in the Atrium with the date of the next dinner and contact information for anyone who would like to join the group going or would like to contribute funds to offset the cost of the food items. For more information about these visits, please contact Greg Linwood, Libby Reimann,

Debbie Bodett, Nancy Greaves, Sue Buerger, or Greg Hammond. The next dates are November 18 and December 23.

***Bring a Non-Perishable Food Item to the Thanksgiving Eve Service:*** The food brought to church for this service will be delivered to a food pantry in our area. Please remember those less fortunate during this season and throughout the year.

***Shop for the Food Pantry:*** Cans of tuna, chili, Spam, stew, corn, green beans, peaches, pears spaghetti sauce, chicken noodle/or rice soup, vegetable or vegetable beef soup, Spaghetti O's, or pork & beans. Boxes of Tuna Helper, macaroni & cheese, boxed potato mixes, toilet paper, dish soap, laundry soap, hand soap, cookies, Kleenex, crackers, cake mix, frosting and birthday candles. Thanks for your generosity. If you don't have time to shop, why not donate money toward a grocery store gift certificate this month. Place your donation in a pink pew envelope and mark it "Food Pantry Certificates." THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

***Lions Club Collection Box:*** Just a reminder that we have a collection box in the East entry area for people to drop off their unused glasses. The glasses frames are then distributed by the Lions Club to those in need.

***The Giving Tree:*** A Grace tradition of collecting Christmas gifts for children in need begins on Thanksgiving Eve. Gift tags with the gender and age of the child in either School District 21 or School District 26 will be available. New, wrapped gifts of approximately \$15 should be brought to church by Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> and placed under the tree in the East entryway. Toys or games are especially welcomed. All other necessary details can be found on the tags.

On Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> any tags not picked up on Thanksgiving Eve along with tags for La Trinidad will be available on the tree in the East entryway. La Trinidad is asking for hats, scarves and gloves and hygiene kit gift bags containing hand wipes, packet of facial tissues, hand warmers (the little packets you can put in your shoes or gloves), toothbrush, toothpaste and chapstick. The unwrapped gifts for La Trinidad should be placed under the tree by Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks for your continuing support of this special holiday Social Ministry Committee project.

***Mallternative:*** Soon the Christmas season will be upon us, which means it is time for Mallternative once again. Please consider buying a gift in honor of a friend or relative. This year you can purchase the ever popular farm animals, provide school kits or help hurricane victims' right here in the United States.

Don't worry. After you buy one of these gifts, your friend won't have to worry about taking care of a pig or repairing electrical grids! Instead, the gift will go to someone in need in an underdeveloped country or here, and your friend will receive a card saying

that you gave a gift in his or her honor. It is a wonderful way to share the bounty of our lives with those who are less fortunate. What better way to celebrate the birth of Jesus?

Order forms will be in the Church bulletins after Thanksgiving. Orders will be accepted December 9<sup>th</sup> and December 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Shop with **SCRIP**

Do you shop for groceries at Jewel, Marianos, Whole Foods? Or, pick up items at Menards, Lowes, Home Depot? Or, shop Target, Kohls, Walmart? Or, stop for coffee at Starbucks? How about fundraising as you shop?

Shop with Scrip is just another way to pay for everyday purchases using gift cards in place of checks, cash or credit cards. Scrip offers over 700 of the country's biggest retailers, including grocery, department stores, gas stations, restaurants, hotels, home improvement, and more. For each gift card you purchase, the church gets an automatic rebate (2-10% depending on the vendor). It's time to put your shopping dollars to work.

The church has an account at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). Our Family Enrollment Code is D7CLAF5A6L882. Once you've entered the enrollment code click register and follow the prompts. You will be able to order physical gift cards or eCards with several different options. We ask that you set up a PrestoPay account that does an electronic debit from your checking or savings account. Shop with Scrip does not take credit cards to avoid the service fees that would eat into the rebates that are offered. You can write a check payable to church and your order will not be processed until the check clears and our site coordinator submits your order. If you do not use the internet, members of the Social Ministry Committee are available to help you. Funds received will be used to purchase the food taken to La Trinidad for the community dinners and to help with shipping costs for our other projects.

### **FINANCIAL** Update

Financial Report ending September 30, 2018

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Weekly Envelope Income	\$198,000	\$197,800	(\$ 200)
Special Income	24,030	24,858	828
Prepaid Income	14,937	15,046	109
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$236,967</b>	<b>\$237,704</b>	<b>\$ 737</b>
<b>Expenses thru September</b>	<b>251,350</b>	<b>245,972</b>	
Surplus or (Deficit)		(\$ 8,268)	

These numbers represent projected income thru the first 3 quarters of the year against budgeted and actual expenses for the same period. Up to here, we are meeting the

projected income for the year-to-date, but because a deficit budget was approved in February, we are showing a \$8,200 deficit for the year. We thank you for your faithful support and ask you to continue as best you can.

### *Notes of THANKS*

**Thank You:** Curt and I would like to say “Thank You” to all of you for all your prayers and cards for Curt during his recent medical crisis. We want you all to know that all of your thoughts and prayers, along with your words of encouragement, really help. Curt is getting better now and we are working on a full recovery.

Peace, Curt and Betty Carlson

**We want to thank** all members and friends of Grace for the cards,. notes, and prayers over the last two months during a time of injury and illness and the subsequent healing and therapy time. We are still at it but enduring and your support has been so important. Thank you. Darlene and Jerry Sharlog

**Halloween Care Packages:** Thanks to everyone who donated candy and treats that filled the boxes to overflowing for our college kids. Also, thanks for the monetary gifts to help with the shipping costs. We have 13 college students on the list. Thank you for supporting the Social Ministry Committee in this project. The next planned sugar rush is the Valentine’s Day packages. Watch Grace Notes for details.

**I would like to take** this opportunity to acknowledge the members of Grace who participated in the Wheeling Township Meals on Wheels program. This is a very rewarding program to be a part of. We deliver meals on a daily basis, Monday through Friday, to people in our area who can no longer get out to do their own shopping for food. The township provides the service and then the volunteers pick up the meals at the Lutheran Home in Arlington Heights. We deliver these meals to the people who need this service. Many times the drivers are the only people that these people get to see on a regular basis. Our route is in the local area and depending on the number of meals that have to be delivered we can be done, from pickup to drop off, within an hour to an hour and a half. The members who volunteered this year are Jules and Martha Kastens, Bob and Carolyn White, Bob and Kay Holzer, Cynthia Lauletta and Chris Rogers who volunteers on a year round basis. Thank you all for providing this very necessary service. Betty Carlson, Grace Church coordinator.

**2018 Shirley Koenig Memorial Soap Drive:** 200 pounds of soap was collected and donated to Lutheran World Relief. That’s over 700 bath-sized bars. Think of the cleanliness, comfort and dignity it brings to the people who receive it.

A big THANK YOU to the people of Grace who shared your blessings with those in great need in other countries as well as those dealing with natural disasters here in our country.

***Dear Grace Lutheran Parishioners,***

On behalf of the Frost staff and students, I want to thank you for your continued support. We want to thank you for the generous donation of \$300.00.

We take great pride in the partnership that has developed between your church and our Frost families. Thank you to all of the parishioners who supported the bake sale. I hope that they realize how many lives they touched. Thank you again for brightening the spirits and lives of our students

Sincerely, Jeffrey Brusso, Principal, Frost School

***Dear Congregation,***

Thank you for the generous donation of \$800 to Escorted Transportation Services, Northwest. We continue to be grateful for the Grace Lutheran Church's generosity and ongoing support. We are very pleased that you recognize the value and importance of being able to help our community's seniors get to their crucial medical and dental appointments.

All of us affiliated with ETS/NW thank you for recognizing our efforts in the community. We simply would not exist without benefactors like you.

With gratitude, Dallas Ann Tomlin, Executive Director, ETS/NW

**SPECIAL *Events***

- ***Special Congregational Meeting:*** Sunday, October 28 following the service
- ***Ultimate Youth Lock-in:*** November 2-3
- ***All Saints Sunday:*** November 4
- ***Friendship Group Outing:*** Wednesday, November 14
- ***La Trinidad Community Dinner:*** Sunday November 18, leaving church at 9am
- ***Thanksgiving Eve Service:*** Wednesday, November 21 at 7pm
- ***Christ the King Sunday:*** Sunday, November 25
- ***Hanging of the Greens:*** Saturday, December 1 at 9am
- ***Advent Begins:*** Sunday, December 2
- ***Mallternative:*** Sundays, December 9 and 16
- ***Jayne Boom Cookie Walk:*** Sunday, December 16 after the service
- ***The Giving Tree:*** Gifts due back to church on Sunday, December 16
- ***La Trinidad Community Dinner:*** Sunday, December 23 leaving church at 9am
- ***Christmas Eve Worship Services:*** Monday, December 24 at 4:30pm & 10:30pm

*Birthday* **LIST**

**November**

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 2 Daniel Ellertson                   | 18 Cindy Pirron  |
| 3 Joanne Panzer                      | 19 Robin Greaves   |
| 5 Dan Reimann                        | 21 Jeff Greaves  |
| 8 Jane Hartfelder<br>Kristin Grimpe  | 25 Betty Benson<br>Lynn Shaffer<br>Jill Stephanie<br>Christopher Vasanth |
| 9 Cory Cordier                       | 27 Wendy Kjeldbjerg<br>Elizabeth Gharagozlou                             |
| 10 Nancy Eschbach                    | 28 Lisa Sayers   |
| 14 Steve Hanna                       | 29 Joanna Josten   |
| 15 Jack Dietrich<br>Samantha Knopoff |  |
| 16 Gianna Lauletta<br>...            |  |



## 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 Christine (Rovani) and Scott Lunardini on their marriage on October 13.

### ***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 Lorene Loiacano in the death of her daughter, Laura Konicek on October 1.

# Happy Thanksgiving!





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**

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**ARTICLE** *Deadline:* November 11