

# GRACE NOTES

October 2018



*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  
Call Committee Update
- 3 Congratulations Confirmands  
Opportunities for Worship,  
Fellowship
- 4 Opportunities for Learning,  
Service
- 5 Opportunities for Outreach
- 6 Shop with Scrip
- 7 Financial Report  
Notes of Thanks
- 8 Special Events
- 9 Birthday List

## A Note FROM THE PASTOR

### *From the Pastor*



It's been a year now since I had the good fortune to arrive in your midst as your interim pastor. This has been a time for some honest evaluations of the challenges Grace is facing and the many strengths you all bring to this ministry. It is my assessment that this congregation is healthy, well organized and well administered, with talented staff that serve the congregation faithfully. It feels to me that Grace, while continuing to carry out its normal ministries month after month, is poised to focus on a few new opportunities to get our name "out there" so that we can become even better at telling the good news of God's love. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find an update regarding the call process here at Grace. Suffice it here for me to say that I am very hopeful that I will have years of ministry as the pastor—no long *interim pastor*—at Grace.

If you are experiencing a new hopefulness and even joy at Grace please:

- join the celebration
- tell your family and friends
- consider volunteering for one or one more activity in support of our ministry (Bible Study, Altar Guild, Property Committee, Usher, etc.)
- pray for Grace Church and Preschool and for our friends at La Trinidad and Petra churches
- pray for one another
- pray for your pastor (interim or not!)

In Christ's peace,  
Pastor Daniel J. Schwick

## CALL COMMITTEE *Update*

### Update on Call Process for Permanent Pastor

Just a quick note to advise you on the status of the call process for calling a permanent pastor. The Call Committee has provided a recommendation to the Church Council regarding a candidate to be our permanent pastor.

The Council reviewed and discussed the Call Committee's recommendation at their August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Council anticipates reaching a decision on this issue regarding this candidate at the September 25<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

Yours in Christ,

Greg Linwood, Council President

## CONGRATULATIONS *Confirmands*

Cory Cordier, Connor Dietrich, Gianna Lauletta and Andrew Stutheit made their Affirmation of Baptism on Sunday, September 23, 2018. They have made a huge commitment to follow Jesus and become adult members of our congregation. Please continue to support and encourage Corey, Connor, Gianna and Andrew to be active in worship, learning, community, service and outreach at Grace.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Worship*

***Pet Blessing:*** A pet is a blessing to many families. Why not bring your pet to church and have it blessed. The blessing will take place on Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. Hope to see you there. Arf! Meow!

***New Preschool Chapel Schedule!*** Beginning this school year, our Grace Preschool is having weekly instead of monthly chapel times with Pastor Dan. At the first chapel time, Pastor Dan gave each child in the four year-old class a children's Bible Story book. Each Bible was personally addressed to the child with the note, "Welcome to the "extended family" of Grace Lutheran Church and Preschool. We look forward to growing together! Love, Pastor Dan"

Each week in chapel—Mondays at 11am—Pastor Dan reads one of the stories to the kids and they talk about it. The children are also encouraged to ask their parents or other caregivers to read them stories from their "Bible".

Members and friends of Grace are welcome to join our little chapel service any Monday at 11am!

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Fellowship*

***Deliver Altar Flowers:*** Please consider making someone's day a little brighter! 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?

***Mail Holiday Wishes:*** Share Halloween fun by sending a card to those on our list of homebound members and "Just Because Friends" who will be cheered by receiving your greetings. An updated list of their names and addresses can be found on the poster with the large pumpkin in the communications area.

**October Birthdays to Celebrate:** On October 17<sup>th</sup> Jules Kastens will celebrate his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Send celebratory wishes to him at 5 West Central #503, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. On October 19<sup>th</sup> Eleanor Kehr will celebrate her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday. Send wishes to her at 804 S. Owen Street, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056-4340 WISHING YOU BOTH THE HEALTHIEST OF BIRTHDAYS!

**October Friendship Group:** Buncofest will make a return on Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30am. We will have a “BUNCHO” fun. Stay tuned for details. Tickets will be available on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Clear your calendars and invite your friends. Don’t miss it! Tickets are \$10 each and include: lunch, dessert and FABULOUS prizes.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Learning*

### New Fall Schedule for Bible Studies at Grace

Beginning in October we will no longer have the Sunday morning lectionary study.

Bible Study opportunities will be Thursdays at 12:30pm for “Wired Word” with a focus on current events and Thursday evenings at 7:00pm for “Thirty Key Stories in the Old Testament.” This study is designed so that you can attend when you’re able to and pick up where you left off. No prior Bible study experience is necessary. All are welcome. If you need transportation to either Bible Study, please call the church office. Special thanks to Mike Pirron who serves a substitute Bible Study leader when Pastor Dan has a scheduling conflict.

In October, the stories we will study are:

- Oct. 4: Tower of Babel and Introduction of Abraham and Sarah  
Genesis 11 and 12
- Oct. 11: Abraham and Sarah (and Hagar!) Genesis 12-21
- Oct. 18: Isaac and Rebecca Genesis 22-25
- Oct. 25: Jacob and Esau Genesis 26-36

**You’ve known the stories since Sunday School. What do they mean to you as an adult?**

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Service*

**Offering Counter:** 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

**Project Days:** At Project Day we make many quilts for Lutheran World Relief which are sent all over the world to people in need of comfort and warmth. The little stuffed toy animals are given to Ronald McDonald House in Chicago where they are warmly received and loved by the children.

We meet once a month on the second Tuesday from 9:30am until noon in Charter Hall. We have fun and fellowship while working. You're invited to join us to help with this most worthwhile mission. Sewing is not required as we have simple tasks for everyone. Bring a lunch and stay to socialize.

For more information contact Joanne Coy at 847-699-0198.

## 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, 1072 National Parkway, will be Tuesday, October 2nd, from 6pm to 7:30pm. There are thirty-three spots reserved for our group.

Sign-up sheets will be available starting Sunday, September 16<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!

**Halloween Care Packages:** The Social Ministry Committee is collecting treats to put into the care packages for our college kids. They enjoy both sweet and salty treats. Watch for the poster and donation box in the Atrium starting September 30. All donations need to be in the box by 10am on October 21 when the committee will pack the boxes for shipping. If you would like to donate money towards the cost of postage for the care packages, place your donation in a pink pew envelope marked "College Care Packages."

The church office will be printing labels for the packages. Please make sure that your college student's address is on file with the church office by October 14. We do not assume that last year's address is still valid. Let's make sure all our college kids get a box of goodies this year.

**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 date of the October community dinner is October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**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."

### *Shop with* **SCRIP**

Council granted the Social Ministry Committee permission to set up a Shop with Scrip account for the church. Shop with Scrip is a fundraising program that lets you earn dollars while you shop. You can buy gift cards from over 780 retailers and earn a rebate on every gift card you purchase at face value. The rebates will be deposited in the church account and be designated to help offset the cost of mailing Valentine & Halloween care packages, hygiene kits to LSSI, and school supplies to Rosebud; purchasing food for the monthly La Trinidad community dinners; and purchasing items to complete hygiene kits or backpacks.

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. More information will be available at church and in the bulletin.

**FINANCIAL** Update

Financial Report ending August 31, 2018

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Weekly Envelope Income	\$176,000	\$172,546	(\$ 3,454)
Special Income	21,360	23,692	2,332
Prepaid Income	13,278	13,386	108
Total Income	\$ 210,638	\$209,624	(\$ 1,014)
Expenses thru August	223,422	223,515	
Surplus or (Deficit)		(\$ 13,891)	

The primary reason for the budget deterioration the last couple of months has been major property expenses. These include the removal of the bell tower before it fell down and the relighting of the 2nd pre-school room. Also, have you all noticed the new signs leading the way to the pre-school. We prepare for the future and that future requires your continued and increased support.

*Notes of* **THANKS**

**Dear Grace Members:** Thank you. The school supplies arrived. I plan to deliver them tomorrow. They made it in record time. Praise God for all these ministry angels.

Dorothy Peterson, Rosebud Indian Reservation

**Dear Councilman Linwood:** Thank you for allowing the Indian Guides and Princesses programs to use the church for our annual car wash fundraiser. We greatly appreciate the generosity of the entire church for their support!

David Droll, Chief of Indian Guides & Princesses

**Thank you:** Thank you to the congregation from Ralph and Dorothy Martinson for prayers for Ralph this past summer. Things are going well for him now and he is out and about again.

**Dear Grace Lutheran Church,** Thank you so much! I really appreciate the scholarship money and constant support from Grace. I am very grateful to be a part of such a wonderful church. Thanks again, Julie Josten

**Thank you** to everyone who helped swat the mosquitoes in August. \$201 was raised to help fight malaria.

**Thank you** for your generous donation of school supplies. 10 filled backpacks were sent to Rosebud Indian Reservation, 10 went to River Trails Euclid School and all the rest of the supplies were given to School District 21 who makes them available to students who "shop" for what they need for their classes.

**Thank you** to Mike Pirron for coordinating Rally Day from setting up the committee to plan the event, recruiting the volunteers who set up, decorated, cooked, cleaned up and welcomed everyone with open arm, and treating the members of Petra and Grace to a wonderful day of interacting. Thank you to all the volunteers who made Rally Day happen and to all who came to partake in the fellowship.

**Dear Grace Lutheran Church Scholarship Committee,** I wanted to thank you for helping my family and me with my college tuition. Receiving this scholarship is a type of assurance for me in knowing that there are people in my community that want to see me succeed and are willing to help me achieve my goals. I am truly grateful for being selected to receive this scholarship and am determined to make it worthwhile and prove that I was deserving of being a recipient. I am going to do my best to continue to be as active as I can with Grace when I am home as well as keep myself updated while I am at school. I truly am thankful for being awarded with this scholarship and am thankful that I have a group of people in my community that are encouraging me to succeed in college and whatever may be in store for me after I finish my education. Thank you for selecting me as a recipient and standing behind me. I am so appreciative of the community that Grace has and am forever grateful to be a part of it. Thank you again for this opportunity. Samantha Pracko

**Dear Friends of Northwest Compass:** On behalf of everyone at Northwest Compass and our neighbors in need, thank you for showing compassion. Your gift changes lives.

### **SPECIAL** *Events*

- **Feed My Starving Children:** Tuesday, October 2 at 6:00pm
- **Friendship Group BuncoFest:** Wednesday, October 3 at 11:30am
- **Pet Blessing:** Saturday, October 6 at 3:00pm
- **Project Day:** Tuesday, October 9 at 9:30am
- **Daylight Savings Time Ends:** Sunday, November 4

## Birthday LIST

### October

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 2 Zach Trunda                        | Clyde Randmark   |
| 9 Carl Storz                         | 22 Melba Panhorst<br>Laura Polfuss<br>Grayson Walger                     |
| 10 Becka Chantry<br>Anthony Ryan     | 23 Pam Nauert<br>Jennifer Stutheit<br>Jacki Kochanski<br>Samantha Pracko |
| 11 Bob White                         | 24 Cathy Hoffman<br>Kiki Garza   |
| 12 Ralph Martinson<br>Diane Isenberg | 26 Laura Caraba  |
| 13 Darlene Sacco                     | 27 Sandy Drelicharz<br>Karen Rude<br>Ehren Jannusch                      |
| 14 Ellie Ashbrook                    | 31 Cynthia Hanson<br>Kendall Grimpe                                      |
| 15 Christopher Nauert                |  |
| 16 Kim Kintzle                       |  |
| 17 Jules Kastens                     |  |
| 19 Eleanor Kehr                      |  |





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

## 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:* October 14