

# GRACE NOTES

September 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,**



September 10<sup>th</sup> will mark the one year anniversary of my becoming the interim pastor at Grace. How time flies when you're having a good time! And yes, I am having a very good time serving as your interim pastor!

September also marks the renewal of many programs in the life of the church, from Sunday School to Confirmation Class to choir. This is an excellent time to renew your commitment to being a regular part of the exciting life of this congregation. I encourage you to stretch yourselves, try something like one of the midweek Bible Studies or participation in one of our parish committees. Throughout the fall we will be highlighting the variety of ways that Grace members can “roll up their sleeves” and take on some of many tasks that keep the church running. Throughout the fall I also hope to lift up, acknowledge and thank the many, many volunteers who contribute to the work of Grace, both within the congregation and in the larger community.

On Sunday, September 9, hundreds of ELCA across the nation will participate in God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, with special activities of service and renewal in their communities. Here at Grace it seems like every Sunday or at least every week is a God's Work, Our Hands Sunday or week. We have so many activities that invite our participation. Sometimes that means just offering financial support; sometimes it means literally getting your hands dirty. Whatever the activity, whatever way in which you dedicate a portion of your time, talent and treasure to the work of Grace, please know that your part is essential.

We are in this together...for Good.

In Christ's peace,  
Pastor Daniel Schwick, Interim Pastor

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR** *Worship*

***The Rite of Affirmation (“Confirmation”) to be celebrated on Sunday, September 23:*** Four young people from Grace—along with the whole gathered congregation—will affirm their baptism on September 23. They have completed two years of instruction in the most significant teachings of Lutheran Christianity. On September 23 each of the confirmands will present a Faith Statement. Then, they will be asked to join the whole congregation in affirming their baptisms by affirming their intention:

*to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.*

**Women of the ELCA (WELCA) Sunday, September 30:** Part of our worship service on Sunday, September 30 will be the celebration of the Women of Grace's WELCA chapter and the dedication of quilts made by members of the group for distribution through Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Join us to celebrate the warmth of God's love conveyed in the warmth of the quilts.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR Fellowship**

**Rally Day:** Plan to attend Rally Day on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> as we kick off a new year of Sunday School, Youth Ministry, and Adult Bible Study. Bring your family, friends and neighbors! Help us celebrate Christian Unity and Diversity. Joint worship with Petra Church begins at 10:00am. Following worship we will have a combined church picnic at 11:30am featuring FREE FOOD, games for all ages, and entertainment. Grace Lutheran Church and Petra Church are jointly sponsoring the day. Find out how you can help by viewing the volunteer sign-up sheet in the Atrium.

**Send Birthday Wishes:** to Lou Weiss who will celebrate his 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on September 17, 2018. Send Lou a birthday card or postcard to help brighten his day to 4701 Larch Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025-1414. Happy Birthday, Lou!

**2018-2019 Grace Book Club Selections:** Join us for a lively discussion each month. Check the bulletin for exact dates and times.

September: ***The Grapes of Wrath*** by John Steinbeck

October: ***Before We Were Yours*** by Lisa Wingate

November: ***The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey*** by Candace Millard

January: ***We Were the Lucky Ones*** by Georgia Hunter

February: ***Triangle: The Fire That Changed America*** by David von Drehle

March: ***The Chilbury Ladies' Choir*** by Jennifer Ryan

April: ***Rebecca*** by Daphne de Maurier

May: ***The Girl Left Behind*** by JoJo Moyes

June: ***News of the World*** by Paulette Jiles

### **September 30 "Roundtable" to Focus on Internal and External Communications:**

Sunday bulletins, Grace Notes, "the pink sheet", Constant Contact, Facebook, Twitter, the Daily Herald, external signage, direct mail... These are just a few of the ways that we do or could communicate both within the Grace family and to the outside world. How can we improve our communication so that everyone in the congregation stays informed and also so that the community around us hears of the good things going on at Grace. If you have ideas or concerns about any aspect of our parish communication, please plan to participate in the September Roundtable after coffee hour on September 30. Lunch is included. All are welcome!

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Learning*

**Two Midweek Bible Study Opportunities This Fall:** Thursdays will be “Bible Study Days” 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.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Service*

**Altar Guild:** Please sign up to help set up the altar and communion service on Saturday mornings and/or to clean up the altar after the service on Sunday morning. A sign up sheet is on the table in the parlor.

**Rally Day Donations:** Please donate some fun and fabulous items for our Rally Day picnic. Prizes are needed for both children and adults. Leave these outside Pam Walger’s office door or in the church office.

**Rally Day Bakers:** We need your help in making a sweet treat for our Rally Day picnic. We have the luncheon menu planned but need desserts to make it complete. Please sign up on Pam Walger’s office door or let her know if you will bring a sweet treat for the picnic. Thanks.

## 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, August 7<sup>th</sup>. We had about twenty volunteers from Grace, and were joined by many additional volunteers! Altogether we packed a total of 106 boxes, totaling 22,896 meals, enough to feed 63 children for an entire year! This food is being sent to Kenya.

Our next group packing opportunity is Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6 to 7:30pm. Sign-up begins at Grace on Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Or, you can go to [www.fmssc.org](http://www.fmssc.org) now and join the group.

God’s work, Our hands. Indeed.

**Meals on Wheels:** Grace volunteers to deliver meals to shut-ins during the month of September. Please contact Betty Carlson at 847/803-9646 for more information or to sign up.

**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.

**Lutherans in a Lather:** The washtub in the East entryway is waiting for your contribution of new bars of soap for the Shirley Koenig Memorial Soap Drive. 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.

**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. The dates through the end of the year are: August 26, September 16 (cookout), October 28, November 18 and December 23. 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, Nancy Greaves, or Sue Buerger.

**Shop for the Food Pantry:** Please help fill the grocery cart in the east entryway with non-perishable food items and paper products for the local food pantries Grace supports. Items always needed include: peanut butter, jelly, rice, beans, soup, crackers, pasta, sauces, granola bars, juice, cake mix, frosting, cereal, powdered milk, fruit, nuts, coffee, tea, catsup, mustard, mayonnaise, salad dressing, flour, sugar, mac & cheese, toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissues, shampoo, soap, deodorant, detergent, fabric softener, cleaning products, toothpaste, mouth wash, razors, shaving cream, diapers and diaper wipes. If you would like to make a cash donation for grocery store gift cards, please place your donation in a pink pew envelope and mark it "Food Pantry Certificates." Thank you for your generosity.

## FINANCIAL Update

Financial Report ending July 31, 2018

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Weekly Envelope Income	\$154,000	\$152,162	(\$ 1,838)
Special Income	18,690	21,864	3,174
Prepaid Income	11,618	11,726	108
Total Income	\$184,308	\$185,752	\$ 1,444
Expenses thru July	195,495	192,267	
Surplus or (Deficit)		(\$ 6,515)	

Thank you for your ongoing support of the mission of Grace Your faithful regular support thru the weekly envelopes kept us within 1.2% of projected income Expenses through July remain under budget for the year.

## AROUND The Parish

**Scholarship Recipients:** Taylor Greaves, Joanna Josten, Julie Josten, Jennifer Josten, Samantha Pracko, Alan Rogers, Rachael Rogers and Anthony Ryan

### **Welcome to new member received August 12:**

Lorene Loiacano  
214 Rob Roy, Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
847-483-0308

**New Organist:** We welcomed Jeremy Zimmer to our worship team on August 19. Please take a few minutes on Sunday to introduce yourself to Jeremy and welcome him into the Grace Family.

**Sermons on YouTube:** Did you know that Sunday sermons are being recorded and uploaded to YouTube? 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 YouTube Channel" and watch and listen to recent sermons. We extend a special thank you to Ray McCollim for doing this ministry for Grace.

## *Notes of* **THANKS**

**Thank You** to all the volunteers for our Habitat for Humanity build in Carpentersville.

**Dear Grace,**

Thank you very much for the scholarship money. I will be using the money towards textbooks. It was very generous.

Anthony Ryan

**Dear Scholarship Committee,**

Thank you so much for the scholarship check. For the past 5 years these gifts have helped so much with school expenses, like covering textbooks and school supply needs. I am so grateful for the continued support from Grace and I look forward to being able to attend Church more frequently now that I am home.

Sincerely, Joanna Josten

**Dear Grace Lutheran Church:**

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois – Prisoner and Family Ministry would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for your generous donation of Hygiene Kits. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated by the women who are recently released from prison.

Again, thank you and may God richly bless you.

Sincerely, Michael Davis, Associate Executive Director

## **SPECIAL** *Events*

- **Rally Day:** Sunday, September 9 with worship at 10am followed by a picnic at 11:30am
- **La Trinidad Community Dinner:** Sunday, September 16 leaving church at 9am
- **Confirmation Sunday:** September 23
- **WELCA Sunday:** September 30
- **Roundtable:** September 30 following the service
- **Feed My Starving Children Packing Event:** Tuesday, October 2, 6:00pm

*Birthday* LIST

**September**

- |    |  |    |   |
|----|--|----|---|
| 2  | Margaret Torres<br>Connor Riordan<br>James Riordan | 17 | Louis Weiss<br>Marcia Rovani<br>Madeleine Stephanie |
| 4  | Bradley Schulze                                    | 19 | Laina Kjeldbjerg                                    |
| 6  | Michael A. Nauert<br>Taylor Greaves                | 20 | Marge Martinez                                      |
| 8  | Ward Schirmer                                      | 21 | Taylor Chantry                                      |
| 10 | Natalie Jannusch                                   | 22 | John Pracko   |
| 11 | Justin Schirmer                                    | 26 | Terry-Ann Saurmann                                  |
| 13 | Paul Pfeffer<br>Michael Menelle                    | 26 | Cheryl Tyrcha<br>Greg Hammond                       |
| 14 | William Dietrich<br>Minda Josten<br>Samantha Nickl | 27 | Tyler Anderson                                      |
| 15 | Richard Herman                                     | 29 | Rachael Cacchione                                   |
|    |  | 30 | Zachary Nauert                                      |



## **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 Carissa Carlson (daughter of Tom and Barb Carlson) and Steve Sustman who were married on August 18, 2018.

### ***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 Tom and Nancy Eschbach and family in the death of their granddaughter Olivia.

We extend our sympathy to Sharyl Hanna and family on the death of her brother in Sioux Falls.

We extend our sympathy to Cathy Hoffman in the death of her mother, Dorothy Czernia on August 8.



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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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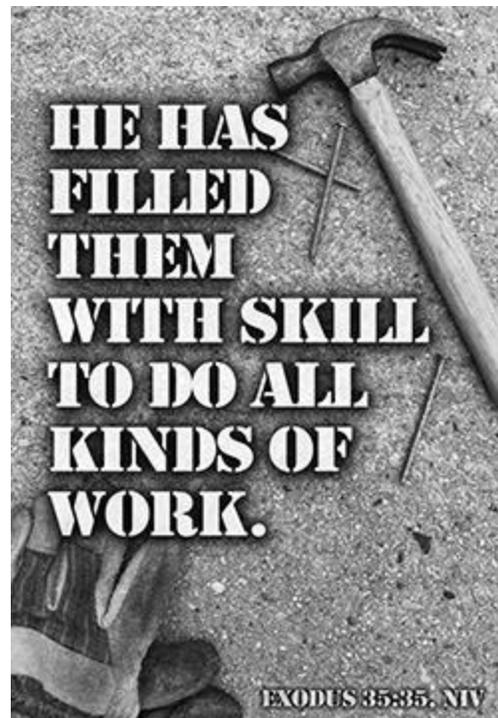
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**ARTICLE** *Deadline:* September 16