

# GRACE NOTES

September 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,

Where did the summer go?

Here we are with fall approaching. New routines getting established. New challenges being faced.

This is also the time to reinvigorate our commitment to the church and our ministry together. Rally Day, September 8<sup>th</sup>, is not just the beginning of a new Sunday School year. It marks the start up of many activities that have been kind of on the back burner through the summer months.

This fall, I expect several new initiatives to be launched. I am asking the Church Council to create a Grace Green Team to lead us in a review of our life together with an eye toward adopting practices that are environmentally sound and sustainable. What and how do we make use of “consumables”? How efficiently do we use the energy that we consume? How do we let our land itself express our concern for the environment? At the most recent Growing Grace Roundtable, the following persons volunteered to be a part of the Grace Green Team: Nancy Greaves, Dan Reimann, Sharyl Hanna, and Greg Linwood. Additional members will be recruited from the Church Council and from the congregation at large. If you are interested in serving on the Grace Green Team, please speak with me.

The second initiative will be the creation of working group to plan and implement our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at the end of this year. We would especially like to recognize members who joined Grace from 1959 to 1969. If you would like to be a part of the Anniversary Working Group, please speak with me ASAP.

A third noteworthy event in September will be the Committee Crawl after worship on Sunday, September 22, to help Grace members and friends become more familiar with the various committees, and other working groups that make Grace run. Find out how you can get involved!

Here's to a productive fall!

In Christ's love, joy, peace and hope,

Pastor Dan

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Worship*

**Rally Day:** Join us on Sunday, September 8, 2019 at 10am for a joint worship service with Petra Church to kick off the fall schedule.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Fellowship*

**Rally Day** is September 8, 2019. A joint worship with Petra Church and others from the Northwest Roundtable of Churches is at 10:00am followed by a church picnic at 11:30am. There will be free food, games and service projects to participate in. How can you help? Please sign up in the East Entry for a number of opportunities.

**Mail Birthday Wishes:** to Lou Weiss who will celebrate his 94th birthday on September 17, 2019. Send a card or postcard to brighten Lou's day to 4701 Larch Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025-1414. HAPPY BIRTHDAY LOU!

**2019-2020 Book Club:** Following are the selections for our next year of Book Club. All are welcome to join us. Check the bulletin for the date and time of each monthly meeting.

September: Great Expectations by Charles Dickens  
October: Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens  
November: Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café by Fannie Flagg  
December: No book club  
January: Whistling Past the Graveyard by Susan Crandall  
February: The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin  
March: The Great Alone by Kristen Hannah  
April: The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt  
May: Crazy Rich Asians by Kevin Kwan  
June: Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Learning*

**Baptized, We Live!**—an eight-session adult study on what it means to be a Lutheran.  
Tuesdays at 1:00pm  
Thursdays at 7:00pm  
Everyone is welcome!

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Service*

**Donate Prizes for Rally Day:** Please donate some fun and fabulous items for us to use as prizes for both children and adults for Rally Day. Leave the prizes outside Pam Walger's office door or in the church office. THANKS!

**Calling All Bakers!:** We need your help in making a sweet treat for our Rally Day picnic. We have the luncheon menu planned but we need dessert to make it complete. Please sign up on Pam Walger's office door and let her know if you will be bringing a sweet treat to the picnic. THANKS!

**Volunteer to Deliver Meals on Wheels in September:** Contact Betty Carlson at 847-803-9646 to sign-up.

**Caregiver Support Group:** People have expressed an interest in starting a caregiver support group here at Grace. If you are interested in participating in a group like this please contact Pam Walger at 847-824-7408. Let her know what day and what time would be convenient for you to meet with the group.

**Committee Crawl:** Sunday, September 22, 2019, immediately following the worship service. Come and learn about the many opportunities to participate in activities here at Grace. Examples are: committees, group activities, short-term commitments for event planning and the opportunities we have for rewarding fellowship. In addition to information, there will be snacks and some fun giveaways.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Outreach*

**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 October 6.. All donations need to be in the box by 10am on October 27 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 13. 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 29, 2019.

**"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 6<sup>th</sup>. We had eight volunteers from Grace, and on a slow night compared to other visits, only about fifty-five volunteers in total were there. Nonetheless, we packed a total of 61 boxes, (more than one box per

person, the standard measurement) totaling 13,176 meals, enough to feed 36 children for an entire year! This food is being sent to Kenya.

Our last group outing for 2019 is scheduled for Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheets will be available at church starting Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Or, alternatively you can go to [www.fmssc.org](http://www.fmssc.org) and sign up at the Grace Lutheran Church group, headed by me. Or you may contact me at [gregorylinwood@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gregorylinwood@sbcglobal.net) or 847.502.7744 and I will add you to the list.

God's work. Our hands. Indeed.

**Shop for the Food Pantry:** Coffee, cookies, dry milk, cereal, canned chicken, hash or ham, noodles and condiments, ALSO toothpaste, deodorant, and shampoo. 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"

### AROUND The Parish

**Scholarship Recipients:** 2019 scholarships were presented at the worship service on August 11. The recipients are Danielle Drelicharz, Danny Garza, Taylor Greaves, Jeni Josten, Samantha Pracko, Andy Reimann and Rachael Rogers.

**Happy Birthday:** Our First Pastor, Al Weidlich, is celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 5. He has also completed 65 years as an ordained ELCA Lutheran Minister. Greetings can be sent to him at 910 South Pine Hill Drive, Decatur, IL 61521-4157. A reception is being held for him on September 1 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Decatur.

### Welcome to new member received July 28:

Lorraine Beidler  
201 Rob Roy Lane  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
224-735-7002

Ryan & Laura Bell, Elyse, Brady  
409 Nawata Place  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
847-989-9120 (Ryan)  
847-366-7097 (Laura)

G. Lavonne Cook  
700A Burr Oak Lane  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
847-749-2250

George & Bridget Doerner  
730 Creekside Drive  
Mount Prospect, IL 60056  
847-255-2825

Erwin & Margaret Hagemann  
209 Rob Roy Lane  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
847-788-0058

Mary Meschbach  
662 Regal Lane, Unit C  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
224-735-7417

Iris A. Noto  
2016 East Hopi Lane  
Mount Prospect, IL 60056  
847-297-5389

Joyce Schwarz  
708 Burr Oak  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
847-259-0595

Todd & Nicole Soukup, Olive  
670 Bending Court  
Des Plaines, IL 60016

Michael & Jenna Swiatkiewicz,  
Thomas, Ally, Kaytlin  
303 E Olive  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
847-913-2162

***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.

***Lutheran Churches Discovering Possibilities:*** Members of seven local area Lutheran Churches have been meeting to share ideas on how we can work together to reach out into the community to connect with new members, to share youth and confirmation events, to share Pastoral Call experiences, and to share how facilities and administrative tasks are handled. If you would like more information on this endeavor or you would like to be a part of the group representing Grace, please contact Pastor Dan, Margit Willis, Greg Linwood, or Dan Reimann.

***Do you shop at Amazon?*** A little bit? Maybe a little more than that? How about pretty darned often? Did you know you could have Amazon donate one-half of one percent (that's .005%) of your qualifying purchases to the charity of your choice? It doesn't cost you anything to participate. Amazon does not add the donation to your tab. There are thousands of charities to choose from, including medical research, churches, schools, etc. Personally, I have chosen to have my donations sent to LSSI. See the email below from Amazon detailing their contributions to LSSI as well as all charities combined.

If you choose to participate, you simply change the way you login to Amazon.

Instead of [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

Use [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)

The first time you use the new login, you will be asked to select the charity you want to donate to. Once selected, all future donations will continue to go there unless you change the designation. You just have to remember to use SMILE when you login.

One of Grace's members has designated LSSI as her charity. **LSSI**, recently received a quarterly donation of **\$472.52** thanks to customers shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

To date, AmazonSmile has donated a total of:

- **\$2,221.90** to LSSI
- **\$134,890,393.33** to all charities

Please consider using AmazonSmile the next time you shop. Your charity of choice will appreciate your thoughtfulness by shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). You can track your impact throughout the year at your [My Impact page](#).

## FINANCIAL Update

Financial Report ending July 31, 2019

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Weekly Envelope Income	\$165,667	\$171,249	\$ 5,582
Special Income	21,000	22,358	1,358
Prepaid Income	6,095	7,012	917
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$192,762</b>	<b>\$200,619</b>	<b>\$ 7,857</b>
<b>Expenses thru July</b>	<b>200,531</b>	<b>196,044</b>	
Current Year Surplus or (Deficit)		\$ 4,575	
<i>2018 Operating Surplus Carryover</i>		<b>38,696</b>	
Remaining Surplus		\$ 43,271	

Thanks to the generosity of some members of Grace who stepped forward with a sizable donation, we are reflecting very favorable results through July. It is still early in the year with 5 months remaining and expenses thus far for 2019 are trending closer to budget than in previous years. It is important for all of us together to maintain consistent giving patterns to finish the year in this excellent position.

## Notes of THANKS

**Thank You** for your generous donations to the Social Ministry Committee's requests for items to fill 21 Hygiene Kits for women leaving the prison system and for all the school supplies that filled 10 backpacks each for Rosebud Indian Reservation, Euclid School and School District 21. You are helping make a difference in our community and showing God's Work, Our Hands. Indeed.

**Thank You** to everyone who helped swat mosquitos this year. \$456 was raised to help fight malaria. What an impact this will have on buying netting and drugs to fight and cure malaria!

**Dear Grace** Scholarship Committee and Congregation: Thank you so much for the scholarship gift. I am truly blessed to have been chosen and am so grateful. I will be putting the money towards books for the semester. I am looking forward to seeing everyone when I return during my breaks from school.

With gratitude, Danielle Drelicharz

**Thanks to** Grace Lutheran Church for the very generous scholarship of 850 dollars that you gave me. It will be extremely useful to defray the cost of books for my classes. I have looked at the prices and should be able to buy all the books both semesters with this money. Beyond the money I want to thank Grace for being such a supportive community. It really helped me to develop in my faith and as a person.

Thanks for everything, Andy Reimann

**Dear Friends of Northwest Compass,** Thank you for your donations to Northwest Compass. We are a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization serving the homeless, hungry, heroes and unaccompanied young adults in Chicago's Northwest suburbs. The support of individuals like you is essential to our mission of enhancing ur community by providing emergency services, education and empowerment which foster personal responsibility for those who are vulnerable of in crisis. We appreciate your contribution. Without the support of a caring community we would not be able to continue helping our neighbors turn crisis into opportunity.

**From JOURNEYS/The Road Home:** On behalf of the Staff and Board of Directors please accept our heartfelt thanks for your generous support of JOURNEYS/The Road Home. Your support is crucial to our neighbors in need as they find their way home. The \$251.00 donation from Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is greatly appreciated!

As the only provider in north/northwest Cook County to offer both shelter and social services to the homeless and at-risk, your support is so important to our mission. We are working to empower individuals to take control of their lives and find an independent way to a more stable and secure life's journey.

At our HOPE Center, we provide over 60 social services including vocational counseling, health care and access to a clothing closet and food pantry. In an average month, we help five clients get housed. Most importantly, no matter where a client is on their journey they know that we are here for as long as they need.

Again, thank you for lending a hand to those along *The Road Home*.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Nabors, Executive Director;

Susan Ploger, Development Director



## **SPECIAL** Events

- **Adult Bible Study:** Thursday, September 5, start of a new series
- **Rally Day:** Sunday, September 8
- **Grace Roundtable:** Sunday, September 15 following the worship service
- **La Trinidad Community Dinner:** Sunday, September 15
- **Committee Crawl:** Sunday, September 22
- **Lutherans in a Lather:** soap deadline is Sunday, September 29
- **Halloween Care Packages:** help fill the boxes on Sunday, October 27
- **Feed My Starving Children:** Tuesday, November 5 at 6:00pm



## *Birthday* LIST

### **September**

- |    |  |    |   |
|----|--|----|---|
| 2  | Margaret Torres<br>James Riordan<br>Connor Riordan | 17 | Louis Weiss<br>Marcia Rovani<br>Madeleine Stephanie |
| 4  | Bradley Schulze                                    | 19 | Laina Kjeldbjerg                                    |
| 6  | Taylor Greaves                                     | 20 | Marge Martinez                                      |
| 8  | Ward Schirmer                                      | 21 | Taylor Chantry                                      |
| 10 | Natalie Jannusch                                   | 22 | John Pracko   |
| 11 | Justin Schirmer                                    | 23 | LaVonne Cook  |
| 13 | Paul Pfeffer<br>Michael Menelle                    | 26 | Terry Ann Saurmann<br>Greg Hammond                  |
| 14 | Bill Dietrich<br>Minda Josten                      | 27 | Tyler Anderson                                      |
| 15 | Richard Herman                                     | 29 | Rachael Cacchione<br>...                            |

## **CELEBRATIONS OF** *Life*

### ***Baptisms***

Receiving Christ's gifts of grace with water and word, we are welcomed into God's family of the church.

Elyse Carolyn and Brady William Bell, daughter and son of Ron and Laura Bell were baptized on July 28, 2019.

Janeesa Marie, daughter of Ruth Ann Courtice, was baptized on July 28, 2019.

Kaytlin Ryan, daughter of Michael and Jenna Swiatkiewicz, was baptized on July 28, 2019.



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[www.facebook.com/gracemtprospect](http://www.facebook.com/gracemtprospect)



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Evangelical Lutheran Church  
in America (ELCA)

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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  
[d.schwick@gracemtprospect.org](mailto:d.schwick@gracemtprospect.org)

**Church Secretary:** Barbara Willis  
[b.willis@gracemtprospect.org](mailto:b.willis@gracemtprospect.org)

**Director of Lay Ministry:** Pam Walger  
[p.walger@gracemtprospect.org](mailto:p.walger@gracemtprospect.org)

**Director of Music:** Susan Nelson  
[sopranosusannelson@gmail.com](mailto:sopranosusannelson@gmail.com)

**Organist:** Jeremy Zimmer  
[jeremyzimmer@gmail.com](mailto:jeremyzimmer@gmail.com)

**Pre-school Director:** Jaime Wright  
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## VEGETABLE *Garden at Grace*



**ARTICLE *Deadline:* September 15**