

GRACE NOTES

September 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!



So that was Summer 2020!

Ya, I hope we never have another one like that again!

We can sit in our misery that we had to give up so many plans—reunions, weddings, even funerals! Yes, there is much to lament. Lament is a strong tradition in the Hebrew Bible, what we call the Old Testament. In many different situations over many centuries, when the Israelites got themselves in trouble, they called out to God to hear their cry and save them. Lament may sound like despair but, in fact, it is an expression of hope and even trust. The one who laments the present, ultimately trusts that God will intervene to bring about God's will.

At Grace, we lament that we can no longer gather as we once did. We cannot embrace. We can't even shake hands. But, as of August 16th, at least a few of our members chose to physically gather for worship, even while abiding by health recommendations. It was a strange feeling to—finally—be in the same room with two dozen saints of Grace, and not be able to interact with them on a personal, individual level. I was so pleased that we were able to integrate those gathered in the sanctuary and those gathered vis Zoom into a single community. I am convinced that as we become increasingly adept at the new technology, we will be able to experience a meaningful worship service in-person or at home.

But nothing replaces the sense of community and fellowship that we used to experience OUTSIDE our worship gathering. I think it is time for us to acknowledge that small group gatherings are important to the sense of community in the congregation. And time to mobilize ourselves around building community even while physically separated.

In September, I am introducing two separate and different opportunities for small group fellowship. On Tuesday and Thursdays at 11am I will convene a Zoom Coffee Hour for anyone who is available to participate. No agenda. Just conversation. Catching up with others. Sharing pictures of the latest grandchildren or great grandchildren or... I expect that the roster of people who log on will vary from week to week. Or it may be that certain circles of friends decide to choose a regular check in time via the Zoom Coffee Hour. The second fellowship opportunity is every Thursday evening at 7:00. Log on to a Grace Zoom BYOB Gathering. You don't even need to bring anything to share. Log in. Be prepared for lively conversation. To access either of these fellowship opportunities, use the same log in information you use for Sunday worship.

Also Monday evenings in September (except for Labor Day) we will continue our Zoom study of how to become antiracist Christians. And on Wednesdays beginning September 9 we will have two Bible Study opportunities, 11:00am and 7:00pm. We will be studying the Hebrew prophets, harsh critics of their own societies. Over many centuries, they decried the greed and injustice in Israel that made God sick.

Unusual times call for unusual response. We at Grace are more than up to the task!

In Christ's love, joy, peace and hope!
Pastor Daniel Schwick

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Worship*

Zoom Worship Service: Join us on Sundays at 10am for worship.

THE ALL GRACE ALL THE TIME CONNECTION INFORMATION IS:

**Grace Lutheran Church, Mount Prospect
All worship services, Bible Study and Meetings**

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86543729643> Meeting ID: 865 4372 9643

One tap mobile: +13126266799, 86543729643#

Dial (audio connection only) +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 865 4372 9643.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Fellowship*

Zoom Coffee Hour: Join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11am for a chance to catch up and share with others.

Zoom BYOB Gathering: Join us on Thursdays at 7:00pm for fellowship.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Learning*

Zoom Bible Study: Join us on Wednesdays at 11:00am or 7:00pm starting September 9th for a study on the Hebrew prophets.

Conversation about Race, Racism and Antiracism: Join us on Mondays (except Labor Day) at 7:00pm via Zoom to study how to become antiracist Christians.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Service*

Zoom Reader Schedule: We would like a few more people who will be watching the Sunday services from home to sign up to be readers. Kindly give Pam Walger a call at 847-827-7431 to let her know if you would be willing to participate.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR *Outreach*

La Trinidad: Future dates are August 16, September 20, October 18, November 15, December 20 and January 10, 2021. Until further notice, Grace will be delivering food that members of La Trinidad package for guests to pick up. If you would like to donate funds to help cover the cost of food, please send your donation to church and mark it for La Trinidad. Your support is truly appreciated.

Halloween Care Packages: We are planning to ship care packages to our college kids this fall. Please let the church office know college addresses by October 18, 2020. If you would like to help fund these packages, please send your donation to church by October 18th.

Lutherans in a Lather: The Social Ministry Committee is collecting new bars of soap for the Shirley Koenig Memorial Soap Drive. Lutheran World Relief 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. A covered tub will be outside the east entry door by the circle drive. Boxes will be put at each side door into the sanctuary starting 8/16/20. We will end the drive on Sunday, September 20, 2020.

Food Pantry: On line donations can be made to the **Mount Prospect** Human Services Department, for the Emergency Assistance Fund via PayPal at <https://www.mountprospect.org/departments/human-services/online-donations>. You may request that your donation go to a specific cause like the **food pantry**.

On line donations can be made to the **Northfield Township Food Pantry** with a credit card or PayPal at <https://twp.northfield.il.us/pantry/#>. Check donations can be mailed to the Northfield Township Food Pantry at 2550 Waukegan Road, Suite 100, Glenview, IL 60025.

On line donations can be made to **Compass Northwest** with a credit card or PayPal at <http://northwestcompass.org/how-we-help/food-connection/>. Please note that donations go to Compass Northwest in general, rather than just to the food pantry. Besides providing food, donations may be used for counseling clients about additional sources of food and benefits.

Donations can be made to **Lutheran Church of the Cross** by writing a check to the church and adding "food pantry" to the memo line of the check. Checks should be sent to 2025 South Goebbert Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005.

AROUND *The Parish*

Happy Anniversary to Dick and Gloria Ohman who are celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary on August 28.

A Special September Birthday: On September 17, 2020 Lou Weiss will celebrate his 95th birthday. Please shower him with birthday blessings at 4701 Larch Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025-1414, Happy Birthday Lou!

Scholarship Recipients: Congratulations to Jack Dietrich, Danielle Drelicharz, Alex Garza, Dan Garza, Jenni Josten, Samantha Pracko, Andy Reimann, and Rachael Rogers who received scholarships for the 2020-2021 school year. We wish them God's blessings as they continue their higher education.

Notes of **THANKS**

Thank you to those members of our Grace family who showered me and my family with cards, greetings, and memorials in Harv's honor during this difficult time for us. We are so blessed. The family of Harvey Willis

Dear Grace, Many thanks to all for all the greetings and to make my birthday something super. Celebrating was before, during and later and I'm still celebrating #36! Now, I'm aiming for 100.

Please stay well so we all can be together. It's so wonderful to know and feel that God is there for us.

Lovingly, June (Brickwood)

Birthday LIST

September

2	Connor Riordan James Riordan	15	Richard Herman
4	Bradley Schulze	17	Lou Weiss Marcia Rovani Madeleine Stephanie
6	Taylor Greaves	19	Laina Kjeldbjerg
8	Ward Schirmer	20	Marge Martinez
10	Natalie Jannusch	22	John Pracko
11	Justin Schirmer	23	LaVonne Cooke
13	Paul Pfeffer Michael Menelle	26	Terry Saurmann Greg Hammond
14	William Dietrich Minda Josten Samantha Nickl	29	Rachael Cacchione

CELEBRATIONS OF *Life*

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 express our deepest sympathy to Barbara Willis, Margit, Michael, Matthew, Kari and families on the death of husband and father Earl "Harvey" Willis on August 2, 2020. Harv was a charter member of Grace Lutheran Church and on the committee that planned the first worship service. He taught Sunday School and was involved in many projects and events. A visitation and service was held on August 8. A memorial service will be held at Grace at a point in the future when the restrictions are less strict.

We extend our sympathy to Barbara Nagle and family on the death of her father Clarence Rand Burdette on August 2, 2020 at the age of 102. The family had a closed military style burial at Abraham Lincoln Cemetery in Joliet. Rest in Peace, Soldier!



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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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ARTICLE *Deadline:* September 13