



# GRACE NOTES

**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

**OFFICE: (217)522-3965**

**FOOD PANTRY: (217)522-9707**

**[www.gracelutheran-springfield.org](http://www.gracelutheran-springfield.org)**

## **GRACE LUTHERAN'S MISSION STATEMENT**

*As disciples in Christ, we support our faith community, encourage spiritual growth in everyone, and serve all creation with Christ-like love.*

*We accomplish this by:*

- ♦ *spreading God's Word*
- ♦ *building relationships*
- ♦ *serving the community*
- ♦ *reaching out to those in need.*



# NOVEMBER 2021

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## ***From the pastor's desk,***

I've been pondering getting a tattoo, and wondered what you think of this design on my forearm...



**GRACE  
LUTHERAN**

Just kidding! While strategically placed tattoos are meant to be seen, perhaps it would be better if we had an image that we could put on and take off as easy as a change of clothes. Grace's Council agrees, and supports inviting the people of Grace to order clothing that boasts the above embroidered design (the company also does prints, in addition to embroidery). Each of the staff (Kim Gietl, J.B. George, Aaron Von Holten, Diana Weyhenmeyer, and myself) already have embroidered apparel, as well as Aaron Babel who put the image into graphic form for us; if you are interested, just ask to see them!

We have been using the color "Glow" for the steeple and font, since that color closely resembles the color of the building (it does not show up particularly great on hot pink, but you can ask Kim about that). Depending on the color of the apparel, we have most often been using "Silver" or "Grey" for the dome.



So, you are invited to go to **queensboro.com** (based in Wilmington, North Carolina) and look through the apparel they offer. If you are interested in clothing or outerwear that promote Grace, you can either place the order yourself (and perhaps get a quality logo yourself from Aaron Babel), or let me know the exact product, size and color, and I can place the order for you. I have been finding that *from* placement of order *to* delivery of product has been taking around a month. No promises that it will be here in time for Christmas, but it just might. P.S. Reports are that we may not be able to get what we need for Christmas from many places this year, because of shortages of products, workers, and backlogs. Here is a reminder that we *will* have the only thing that we need for Christmas this year, and we can celebrate that online, or in-person @ Grace on Christmas Eve, December 24 (Friday) @ 5:00pm and 11:00pm Christmas Day, December 25 (Saturday) @ 9:15am Sunday, December 26 @ 9:15am

with Grace, Pastor Krieger

## Notes from Cantor JB George...

*Behold the host arrayed in white like thousand snow-clad mountains bright, that stands with palms and sings its psalms before the throne of light! These are the saints who kept God's word; they are the honored of the Lord. He is their prince who drowned their sins, so they were cleansed, restored. They now serve God both day and night; they sing their songs in endless light. Their anthems ring when they all sing with angels shining bright.*

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship #425. Text: Hans A. Brorson, 1694-1764; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, alt. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted with permission under One License #A-724651.*

We use the image of the saints wearing white robes especially as we celebrate All Saints Day and the fulfillment of God's Kingdom. I love this image, as it also relates to our baptism: Christ covers us in love and forgiveness throughout our lives and in time to come.

In our tradition, pastors, assisting ministers, communion assistants, choir, cantors, and assisting cantors all wear robes as they serve the assembly. There is yet another beautiful imagery in our robes: they are not academic or government/judicial robes, as in some church traditions; they are *servant* robes. Our robes are neither a fancy color (they are unbleached linen) nor a fancy style (the choir appreciates the simplicity). We are here to serve as we lead.

Our current set of choir/assisting minister robes was purchased in 2007. They have worn well, for the most part, but a few need replacement and a few sizes are in short supply (usually meaning a scramble right before worship!) Thanks to Janet Conrady's help organizing them, we have a good catalog of robes we already have. Thanks to a recent gift by Betty Webb, we will be able to purchase additional robes. The company that makes them still has that exact style, and it is a good match. The factory is in Maine, so we will not likely have major supply chain issues.

Just as washing our face and hands can be a frequent reminder of our baptism, when I put on my robe, I am reminded both of my baptism and my calling to serve others through music.



### FALL BACK NOVEMBER 7

November 6—remember to turn back your clocks  
ONE hour before bed.

## **FOOD PANTRY REPORT**

*As Christ fed the multitudes, the mission of the Grace Lutheran Church Food Pantry is to feed the hungry.*

September was a pretty stable month compared to a year ago -- 499 households and 1,117 individuals served compared with 454 households and 1,184 individuals served in September 2020. This would seem to indicate that we are now getting apples to apples comparisons each month that are not skewed by the impact of the pandemic. That said, our annual statistics for 2021 will be down vs. 2020 because 2020 had three months pre-pandemic, and both 2021 and 2020 will be down vs. 2019 because of the pandemic. (Note: One of the reasons the pandemic reduced our client numbers has been the temporary increases in certain financial and food stamp benefits and stimulus payments that helped our clients.)

Year-to-date through September 30, we had served 3,341 households, a decrease of 8 percent from 2020, and 8,025 individuals, a decrease of 4 percent from 2020.

Children make up 37 percent of this year's clients, and seniors account for 25 percent.

Financially, September was boosted by income of \$7,042 from the August 29 golf outing -- well in excess of the \$5,000 goal we had set when we first started planning this event back in early 2020. Thanks again to Jim Hobbs for his leadership on this.

For the year, donations of \$72,602 have exceeded expenses of \$67,429 by \$5,173, leaving us with a Sept. 30 account balance of \$83,412. Absent the income from the golf outing, expenses would exceed donations by \$1,869. Based on our current position, we should be able to continue providing bread, milk and eggs for all clients indefinitely, and we'll continue to add items like toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo and deodorant to the personal bags unless and until the balance is drawn down significantly.

In short, client services are very stable, and enhancements we've made this year appear sustainable for the foreseeable future. Finances continue to be strong with a big boost from the golf outing, from a monthly donation from First Presbyterian that is new this year, and from the ongoing and consistent generosity of the churches and members of Grace, St. John's and Peace that always anchor our finances.

Perhaps as important as any recent development, we have been blessed to add several new volunteers from Grace -- Josie Anderson, Fran Appleton, Art Carlson, Robin Mahnken and Rosie O'Fallon. -- to work our outdoor distribution setup. They have been a game-changer for meeting our volunteer staffing needs. Doug McFarlan, Director

## Financial Update:

At our January 2021 congregational meeting, we adopted a budget for 2021 with a projected **\$47,617 deficit**. In April, the Church Council sent all members a letter requesting that they consider increasing giving to help reduce the projected deficit. The Council would like to brief the congregation on the status of the projected deficit.

As of September 30, the Church is running a **\$47,786 deficit**, which is actually higher than the deficit budgeted for the entire year. In the remaining three months of 2021, we will continue to pay routine monthly expenses (e.g., payroll and fringe benefits, utilities, etc.) which will further increase the deficit (much like what occurred from January through September).

While the size of the deficit at the end of September is not ideal, there are several positive trends that are occurring. First, in prior years, coming out of the summer months, member giving has been below what was budgeted. However, this year, member giving is closely on pace with the amount budgeted: member giving is at 74 percent of the total current and building income budgeted for 2021 (\$290,000 budgeted and \$214,617 given), and September 30 marks the 3/4 point in the year.

Second, in responding to our April appeal to consider increasing regular giving, members have given \$15,070 to the Deficit Reduction Account established to receive contributions designated by members for deficit reduction. Without this additional giving, the deficit would have stood at \$62,000 as of September 2021. Thank you for the additional giving to date to help reduce the deficit.

Third, later this year, we will receive our annual distribution from the Grace Trust which will be over \$50,000. Finally, some of the Church's programs will not spend all funds budgeted to them, which should also have a positive impact on our year-end financial position.

Hopefully the above information provides an update of where the Church's budget stands to date, as well as a perspective on some factors that will impact the budget in the remaining three months. Clearly, members have responded positively to the projected budgetary shortfall by keeping their regular contributions up-to-date, as well as making additional contributions to help address the budgeted deficit. Thank you for supporting the ministries of Grace.

**CALL A VETERAN...**November 11 and thank him or her for their service to our country.



**Have an extra  
coat  
in your CLOSET?**

**COATS FOR THOSE IN NEED...** Many of you have generously supported our local Salvation Army's Annual coat distribution. That being said, they are distributing coats, hats, gloves, this year. We will have a large collection box in back of the church and I will deliver from there. As always, gently worn is fine, in all sizes from infant through XXXL adult. If any of you choose to donate

but can't shop, please allow me to do that for you. I can be reached at [kshrn2@aol.com](mailto:kshrn2@aol.com) or 341-7893. Thank you in advance for your support of those less fortunate in our community. Most sincerely, Kendal Hoselton

**Kid's Holiday Happening** is tentatively set for December 5 from 11:30 am—2:00pm. For those who would like to help and be a part of this long standing tradition, join us **Sunday, November 7 via ZOOM at 6:30 pm** for our planning meeting. All are welcome!



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

**Grace's CSIS sister congregations now through May 2022**

The Wartburg Parish ([wartburgparish.org](http://wartburgparish.org)) is a Geographical Parish made up of four Lutheran congregations located in southwestern Illinois. The congregations of the Parish include: Peace Lutheran Church in **Chester**

St. John Lutheran Church of **Bremen**

St. John Lutheran Church of **Post Oak**

St. Peter's Lutheran Church of **Wine Hill**

**We are looking for a liaison from the congregation** to be in contact with this parish. If you are interested please call Kim in the office or speak to Pastor Tom about more information. If you would like to see more information about the Parish itself visit: <https://www.wartburgparish.org>



## **YOUR HEALTH NEWS**

**Parish Nurse...Diana Weyhenmeyer**

I thought I would conclude the Alzheimer's articles by discussing what I learned from a two hour seminar titled, "Ministering to Those Who Live with Dementia and Those Who Love Them Through It." I watched it on Zoom last night and was sponsored by the Evangelical Lutheran Parish Nurse Association.

Two people mostly talked one was a navigator with many years of experience in this field and the other person was a nurse working with the elderly. One fact I found interesting is only 50% of Alzheimer's patients are actually diagnosed with the disease. Many are left undiagnosed.

The navigator said you really had to be a detective and look for clues when you first meet the client. For example the exterior of the house-how is the upkeep? Is the home in disrepair? She said she always asks to meet at the kitchen table with people. For one reason, this puts people at ease and she can observe the kitchen. Are dishes done or stacked up? This gives her a better picture of daily functioning of the household. Red flags for the navigator included the following:

- Paper clutter-people can't tell what is important so they save it all to go through and never go through it.
- Poor housekeeping inside the house. They have lost initiative to keep the house clean. The house may be in disrepair in the inside.
- The person's appearance may indicate a lack of personal hygiene and grooming. They forget easily and may not realize it has been a week or two without a bath or shower.
- Burned pots and pans can be easily seen in the kitchen. She often times checks the frig when the client allows this to happen. She looks for moldy food and frozen TV dinners are often times in the frig instead of the freezer. I remember when we cleaned out my father in law's fridge we found many moldy items.

Helpful tips included the following:

- \* People with dementia have a shuffling gate. Remove throw rugs and extension cords to prevent falls.
- \* She was very much an advocate of handrails out of the shower placed sideways to help prevent falls and assist with getting out of the shower. Continues on Page 8

- \* Many with dementia have forgotten 911 to call in an emergency. She suggested doing the following to help them. Take a bright piece of construction paper and write with a magic marker on it: EMERGENCY 911. This was placed by every landline phone in the house. I thought that was an excellent idea to help people. This was done in case caregivers need help and the clients can see it. It was a very good program and I enjoyed the education. I hope some of these ideas are helpful for you.

In Christ's Love, Diana

# Savvy Caregivers

Are you struggling with caring for a loved one who is experiencing Dementia related issues? You are not alone!

You are invited to a 6 week course designed to assist you in meeting your needs as a caregiver. Our goal is for you to leave each session feeling revived and having learned new coping skills.



November 15th, 22nd, 29th  
December 6th, 13th, and 20th  
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Please RSVP at (217) 528-4035 by November 10th.



Senior Services of Central Illinois

## Mask Update as of July 27, 2021

Per new CDC Recommendations along with the Illinois Department of Public health, **masks** will be required in the building for worship/large gatherings by **everyone.**



## November 7

Please come for worship Sunday as we remember and names are spoken aloud for the Saints who have gone before us. If there is a person(s) that you wish remembered in our prayers on All Saints weekend, please fill out the form below and return it to the church as soon as possible. You can also email Kim in the office

k.gietl15@yahoo.com by Wednesday, November 4 or call her in the office 217-522-3965.

Name(s) of Saints I would like to have remembered at worship:

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**TIME AND TALENTS...** At the beginning of November, Covenant Cards and Time and Talents sheets will be sent to the homes of all members. Please take time to prayerfully consider what your support of Grace Lutheran Church will be in 2022. Remember, it takes all of us working together using our **TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES** to make mission and ministry come alive in our congregation, into our community, and around the world. Take a step of faith and possibly try something new. Time and Talent sheets will be available at worship November 21. They will be collected the weekend of **December 12** at the time of the offering and we will have a special prayer of blessing.

### ADVENT IS ON THE WAY!

The Advent Season is just around the corner and we have some things planned. **December 1, 8, 15** We will have a prepackaged light supper each night and devotions following. We will also be streaming the devotion time via ZOOM LIVE so you can also join us in that way as well.



*IF A FAMILY HAS A ROUTINE OF PRAYING AT MEAL TIME & BED TIME & ATTENDING WORSHIP & SUN SCHOOL EVERY SUN, CHANCES ARE THE CHILDREN WILL NOT DEPART FROM THESE ROUTINES WHEN THEY LEAVE THE HOME.*

**Holiday Food Baskets** have been a long tradition of Grace Lutheran Church. We partner with other Lutheran churches and schools in the area to provide food to help make the holidays a bit better for families in need. Baskets are provided before Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. It is time once again to look toward funding and implementing the holiday basket program. Though funded separately from Grace Food Pantry by Grace, Peace Lutheran and St Johns Lutheran, we use obtain the food through the pantry and reimburse it for the costs. We have already begun stocking up for the baskets for Thanksgiving. Those baskets will go out the week of November 14.

Please consider donating to the Holiday Baskets, which cost about \$50 per basket. Grace pays for 60 baskets per holiday. That is \$3,000 for each of Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. Your help is appreciated. Each family receives a tote with about \$50 worth of groceries and personal items, including a ham, milk, bread, eggs, potatoes, apples, numerous non-perishable cans and boxes of food, and a bag of toiletries. You can support this ministry by donating cash (earmarked for Holiday Food Baskets) and/or the nonperishable foods listed below:

**Non-perishable Needs for Holiday Food Baskets:**

- \* Cans of green beans, corn, peaches, pears, pork and beans, ravioli, and pasta sauce
  - \* Boxes of spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, saltine crackers, and cereal
  - \* Jars of peanut butter, jars of jelly (plastic, not glass, please)
- 

**Help make someone’s Thanksgiving special...**

If you would like to sponsor a basket, or half a basket, to honor someone, or remember someone who is no longer on their earthly journey, please fill out the form below, tear or cut it out and mail it to Grace. We will print your name and the name(s) of those you honor or remember in the December Grace Notes. Thank you for helping this special ministry. Your gift will be recorded on your giving statement.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) Name(s) to honor or remember: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of gift: \_\_\_\_\_

# Christian Education News

## SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL/ADULT FORUM/CONFIRMATION CLASSES/BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY



**All are welcome !!**

***"Hearts and Hands for Jesus"*** will be our main theme this year and we have awesome teachers and creative ways to learn. **Sunday school** meets on the second floor each week in the large Sunday School room **at 10:30 am.**

We will also have weekends of service projects for all to participate in throughout the year to share God's love. Our next project will be on **January 9** during Education hour.

**We will not meet for Education hour on November 28.**

**ADULT FORUM...**please join us **Sundays at 10:30 am** in the fellowship hall. Our topics for Forum are as follows:

**October 31** Invitational Christian

**November 7, 14, 21** we will return to the study of the ELCA Social Statements, which use our scriptural understanding of the Bible and Christianity to address social issues. Helen Appleton will lead discussion of the ELCA social statement of "Human Sexuality." This had been started before COVID so rudely interrupted our classes! On November 7, Helen will review what had been explored in 2020. The next week, we will explore the scriptures and the social statement regarding sexual orientation. On **November 21**, we will have a guest speaker from Phoenix Center, an agency providing services to the LGBTQ community in Central Illinois. Adult Forum has been having some very interesting discussions.

**December 5** Puppet Ministry

**December 12** Annual Congregational Budget Meeting

**\*\*December 19 Youth led worship**

**December 26 & January 2** no Education hours

**January 9** we will be joining together with children of all ages to write and decorate Epiphany cards for homebound and military.

January remaining tentatively: Racial Justice issues

Please let us know if you would like to participate via ZOOM and we can set up Owl Bert. Please join us!

**CONFIRMATION CLASS...**will meet regularly on Sunday afternoons at 1:00 pm.





**Brown Bag Bible Study** will continue **Thursdays at 12:10pm.** Please join us as we continue studying God's word.

# NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue
	1 <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i>	2 9:30 am Staff Meeting with Mutual Ministry <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i> 4:00 pm Stewardship 6:00 pm Twisted Stitchers
7 <b>ALL SAINTS</b> 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am Education Hour 1:00 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Kid's Holiday ZOOM meeting	8 <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i>	9 9:30 am Staff Meeting 10:30 am Property <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i> 12:00 noon Admin & Finance 6:00 pm Evangelism
14 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am Education Hour 1:00 pm Confirmation	15 <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i>  1:00 pm Savvy Caregivers at SSCL	16 9:30 am Staff Meeting <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i> 11:00 am Worship & Music 6:30 pm Ruth Circle
21 9:15 am Worship with Thank Offerings and Time & Talent <i>Blood pressure checks</i> Butter braids 10:30 am Education Hour	22 <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i>  1:00 pm Savvy Caregivers at SSCL	23 9:30 am Staff Meeting <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i> 1:30 pm Pastor & JB at Concordia Village 6:30 pm Council
28 9:15 am Worship NO Education Hour	29 <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i>  1:00 pm Savvy Caregivers at SSCL	30 9:30 am Staff Meeting <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i>

# ER 2021

	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	3 12:30 pm Faith/Grace Circle	4 <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i> 12:10 pm Brown Bag Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir practice	5	6 9:00 am Landscaping clean up day  FALL BACK
e	10 4:00 pm Community Ministry	11 <b>VETERAN'S DAY</b> 9:30—12:00 pm West Central Conference <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i> 12:10 pm Brown Bag Bible Study 5:00 pm Food Pantry board 6:30 pm Choir practice	12	13
	17 Food Baskets 6:30 pm Choir practice	18 <i>11:00-1:30 Food Pantry</i> 12:10 pm Brown Bag Bible Study <b>Aaron V. on vacation</b>	19 Food Baskets Grace Notes Butter braids 2:00-5:30 pm	20
	24	25 	26  Office Closed	27
				

## Prayers of Grace - Stephen Ministers

Our Prayer Ministry is alive and well and the email responses that many of you have offered to each prayer are uplifting and greatly appreciated by those we pray for. Keep 'em coming! Pastor Krieger had another great idea to help us continue to build our prayer ministry. He suggested that once a week we share the names of people who are "Still in our Prayers" so that we are mindful of their ongoing needs. This is another way to keep our prayer ministry strong and I am grateful for this suggestion. To make this happen I will send out a weekly list on Saturday or Sunday. You are an active part of this ministry so feel free to hit "reply all" and add others to the list. If you would like to join the Prayer Chain, have updates you want me to add to the "Still in our Prayers" list, or if you want to be taken off the list just let me know. Thanks, Sara Oehlert In need of prayer? - Call the church office (217) 522-3965 - Email Sara Oehlert at [soehlert@aol.com](mailto:soehlert@aol.com)

HAVE YOU  
TALKED  
TO GOD  
TODAY?



### What is a Stephen Minister?

A **Stephen Minister** is a caring individual who can help others navigate their present situation. Stephen Ministers are trained to help when people encounter loss, grief, relationship challenges, and a myriad of things that can throw one's life into a tailspin. They are not counselors. They are not "know-it-alls." They are not individuals who try to fix everyone's troubles.

They simply provide love, care, and support when it is needed the most. Let us know if you are in need.



**HOSPITAL VISITS...**Let us know if you are going into the hospital so that we may call on you. Also if you or your family has welcomed a baby to your family also let us know so that child can be recognized with a rose!

**Join us weekly for worship in person or online:**

**FACEBOOK and YOUTUBE**

You can go to either our website at  
[www.gracelutheran-springfield.org](http://www.gracelutheran-springfield.org)

on Facebook to *Historic Grace Lutheran Church* or to our YouTube Channel: Grace Lutheran Church Springfield IL and you will be taken to a link that will allow you to view the video of the service for the weekend. If you need pastoral assistance please call the church office.

### **IN-PERSON/ONLINE ATTENDANCE**

Pentecost 19	10/3/2021	93 In-person	
Pentecost 19	10/3/2021	50	118
Pentecost 20	10/10/2021	74 In-person	
Pentecost 20	10/10/2021	30	80
Pentecost 21	10/17/2021	80 In-person	
Pentecost 21	10/17/2021	23	73
Pentecost 22 with Baptism	10/24/2021	102 In-person	
Pentecost 22	10/24/2021	15	63

### **Serving the Assembly in November**

#### **November 7**

Greeters: Verne & Carolyn Nelson  
Ushers: Frank Beckman & Paul Derlitzki  
Assisting Minister/Reader: John Rigg

#### **November 14**

Greeter: Jean Scherer  
Ushers: Mark Anderson & Amelie Janssen  
Assisting Minister/Reader: Cindy Anderson

#### **November 21**

Greeters: Mary Jo Anderson  
Ushers: Galloway family  
Assisting Minister/Reader: Addison Downey

#### **November 28**

Greeter: Laurie Farrell  
Ushers: Chuck & Diana Weyhenmeyer  
Assisting Minister/  
Reader: Adalyn Lowery

*COME WORSHIP  
WITH US!*



## **STEWARDSHIP: What a Difference...!**

Pairing shoes with dresses or a wine with a meal provide charming possibilities of laughter and great discussion. A more important and enduring pairing is selecting an opportunity for spiritual and personal growth with a path for using them in service to the well - being and growth of a broad and inclusive community. Judy Wollet feels very blessed that she and Ed discovered the Grace Lutheran Community through the kind and reassuring guidance of John Rigg. As a lifelong Christian, Judy very much wanted to belong to an embracing, active, and caring church community, especially one that welcomes all individuals and where the equality of women is a fact, not simply an aspiration.

Judy feels that Grace has met her needs in multiple ways during the past ten years. She felt at home the first time she and Ed attended a service at Grace. They were warmly welcomed and felt that they made instant friends during the fellowship time after the service. Given the enthusiastic engagement of the membership and receptive leadership, Judy's opportunities for discerning and meeting her spiritual needs has been a rewarding gift. Debbie Rigg encouraged her to join the Community Ministry and Parish Life committees. She has served the Food Pantry, participated in the James Project and the Storybook Project. In addition, she has enjoyed participating in the Salvation Army bell ringing engagements and the good time gatherings with the Twisted Stitchers. She has also shared her musical talents with us.

All of our lives have numerous ups and downs. To confront and accept these challenges in life, Judy has adopted Philippians 4:6-7 NIV as her life verses. These verses, most certainly, provide both a comforting and energizing companion for daily life.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

The warm embrace of the Grace community and the generous giving of Judy Wollet is, indeed, an excellent pairing for the Grace Community.

## **Faith / Grace Circle**

Meet the first Wednesday of the month. Our next get together will be **November 3 at 12:30 pm.** We will have a treat and discussion on the Gather Magazine. All ladies are welcome!

## **Ruth Circle**

Meet Tuesday, **November 16 at 6:30 pm** here at Grace. We have discussion and enjoy time with our sisters. All ladies are welcome!

## **TWISTED STITCHERS**

The Twisted Stitchers meet **November 2 at 6:00 pm.**



## **Butter Braids, Pizzas and Cookies...**

### **Deadline to order: Sunday, Nov 14**

Date to pickup order at church: Friday, Nov 19, 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm and Sunday, Nov 21, 9:00 am - 11:30 am

How to order: There is an order form on the white board in fellowship hall or Contact Kim or Harold Janssen at [docwho1@comcast.net](mailto:docwho1@comcast.net) or 217 753-0338. Charlotte put a note about our last sale in the doors of 15 neighbors. 5 neighbors bought 10 items. Please consider doing this in your neighborhood. If you would like help writing a note please contact Charlotte, [charblume@gmail.com](mailto:charblume@gmail.com) or 217 546-5573

Butter braids \$12 apple, strawberry cream cheese, cinnamon, cherry, raspberry, cream cheese Caramel Rolls \$12

Cookies \$12 (40 pre-portioned frozen dough balls. They do not all have to be baked at the same time.) Triple chocolate, white chunk macadamia nut, chocolate chip, peanut butter, snickerdoodle

Pizzas \$14 (two 11" pizzas of the same kind in a box) four cheese, ultimate pepperoni, meat lovers, meat with vegetables, bbq chicken

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.... FRIDAY, NOV 19, 11:45-2:00.**

CHARLOTTE needs one person to help her put the butter braids in the Food Pantry and basement freezers.

Friday, Nov 19, 1:45-5:30 or any part of that time we need someone to hand out butter braids through the food pantry window to people who come to pickup their order.

## **THANK OFFERINGS- Mark 12:41-44 The Widow's Mite November 21, 2021**

For more than 100 years, Lutheran women have given thanks to God and dollars to mission through Thank offerings. Each year, in thousands of congregations, Thank offerings are collected and sent to support the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA. Together, we do more than we could ever do apart.

In gratitude for all God has given to us, and with hope for all that is to come, in the month of November Women of Grace may send checks made out to Women Of The ELCA with a footnote of "Thank Offering" or cash can be placed in the offering plates. We will have a special prayer of blessing and time of thanks at offering during worship that day.

Thank Offerings go entirely to support mission projects such as scholarships for pastors, construction of hospitals, assistance for women' shelters, and support for organizations that are combating human trafficking.



**COOKIES It's on again.....**we have been given permission to hold our annual "cookies for the homebound" event **Saturday, December 11**. Breakfast will be served at 9:00 a.m. followed by everyone packing the cookies. We will need 744 cookies. Everyone

in the congregation is invited to supply the cookies. Your cookies may be brought to the church from Sunday, Dec 5 - Saturday Dec 11 9:00. If there is a person to whom you would like to deliver their cookies let charlotte know (217) 546-5573 or [charblume@gmail.com](mailto:charblume@gmail.com).

If you plan to attend the free breakfast please signup on the reservation sheet on the white board in fellowship hall.

SEEING YOU PRAY OR READ THE BIBLE  
CAN BE A POWERFUL  
INFLUENCE ON TODDLERS, TEENAGERS,  
STRANGERS, ANYONE...



## **COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

The September Council meeting was held on September 28 at 6:30 pm

**MOTION** - To enter into contract with Berners Schober to do an analysis of the entire church building to include architectural, structural, mechanical, electrical and HVAC/plumbing – at a cost of \$8,500 up to \$10,000. **Approved.**

**MOTION** - Move to accept wording on Historic Grace Lutheran Church brochure and to authorize Sharon Knop to secure a prototype to be presented at October 26 meeting. **Approved.**

This will be used primarily for tourists and will be displayed outside the church building towards the 7<sup>th</sup> street entrances.

**MOTION** to approval all three staff (J.B. George, Kim Gietl and Aaron VonHolten) employment contracts. Motion was amended to vote together for all three. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MOTION** - Approval of Budget Meeting for December 12<sup>th</sup>. **Approved - unanimously**

**Food Pantry:** New Hours to begin December 6<sup>th</sup> 11:00 am – 1:00 pm  
December 21 – January 2 Food Pantry closed

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

#### **September 2021**

Income: \$37,404  
Expense: \$34,949  
SURPLUS: \$2,454

#### **YTD 2021**

Income: \$263,749  
Expense: \$311,535  
DEFICIT (\$47,786)

#### **September 2020**

Income: \$29,770  
Expense: \$27,028  
SURPLUS: \$2,742

#### **YTD 2020**

Income: \$261,703  
Expense: \$221,187  
SURPLUS: \$40,516

***NEW CHURCH BROCHURES*** for both visitors to worship at Grace as well as tourists of the Lincoln area will be produced very soon. Keep a look out and thank you to Aaron Babel for his leadership for both!

### **NOTICE: Annual Budget Meeting**

Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 10:30 am.

Budgets will be ready by the end of November by email, by mail and/or at the back of church.

## **GIVING THANKS...**

- ♦ Thank to Susan LeMasters for her many years serving as Grace Treasurer. And a special thank you for her patience as she taught me how to follow in her footsteps. Brenda Poston
- ♦ Thank you to those who donated for the homeless bags for our neighbors and for those who came to help pack them!!
- ♦ A big thank you to the congregation for helping support the annual Lutheran World Relief project this year. Your donations helped us prepare 62 Personal Care Kits. The kits have been assembled and will be sent to LWR for distribution. Pat Casper
- ♦ To Robin Mahnken for all her hard work putting together the CROP WALK event. To John and Debbie Rigg who attempted to coordinate an after-walk event. Thanks to those who walked and also gave towards the walk.
- ♦ To Doug McFarlan for his leadership and ALL THOSE who continue to volunteer in the Food Pantry each week and to Freddy Drake who is our constant helper.
- ♦ Dear Grace Lutheran Friends, I can remember the days like they were yesterday — Tim telling me in the summer of 2016 after he visited Grace Lutheran on his own that he thought it was the church we'd like to join and my attending worship with him the following Sunday and feeling comparable joy. And then, in October 2016, Tim and I became members of Grace Lutheran! Now, this Sunday, Oct. 3, I am joining the ELCA Gethsemane Lutheran Church in St. Louis. The first time I walked into the Gethsemane sanctuary, tears of happiness welled up in my eyes. I felt joy to be back in church after so long because of COVID — and because Gethsemane felt as right to me that Sunday as the Sunday I walked with Tim into the Grace Lutheran sanctuary! My five years with Grace Lutheran mean more to me than I can adequately describe. Grace Lutheran's outreach and the support of wonderful friends after Tim's unexpected death helped me—and by extension, my adult kids—get through the worst time of our lives and move forth with new life chapters with Tim always in our hearts and God guiding us. Ruth Circle, Adult Forum, Grace Lutheran music, pastoral sermons, and being a member of Grace Lutheran in general made me think, helped me learn, aided my spiritual journey and deepened my faith. I was honored to serve on the Evangelism Committee and Church Council. Thank you, all, for all you have done for a church that will forever hold a special place in my heart, and thank you for welcoming Tim and me as new members as you did five years ago this month. I am feeling grateful and blessed as I reflect back and look ahead. Peace, joy and blessings, —Debbie Landis

## **GIVING THANKS continued...**

- ♦ Many thanks for the cards, texts, phone calls, emails, flowers and prayers before, during and after my recent surgery! A special thanks to Cindy Anderson who took over the Prayer Chain responsibilities while I was recuperating. I always feel blessed by my Grace family but never more so than now. Your love and support will not be forgotten. Peace and love be yours. Sara Oehlert
- ♦ Dear Pastor Krieger and Grace Council... Just wanted to take a moment to again thank you for the consideration and use of the grace Lot for my daughter's wedding on September 11. We feel blessed that the day was finally able to happen and we could not have asked for a more lovely, perfect da. The use of the parking lot added to the accessibility and joy of the day. Thank you Cheryl & Victor Lindermann and Ellen & Matthew Bilyeu
- ♦ Grace Lutheran Food Pantry—Thank you for your gift of flats and pails. Gifts such as yours allows us to continue to care for our animals. Thank you again for your thoughtfulness. Sincerely APL staff

## **November Birthdays**

November 1	Isabella Behl	November 14	Todd Howe
November 2	Hallie Christell Gloria Gagnon	November 16 November 18	Richard Hutton Kim Janssen
November 3	Jeff Menke Amy Thompson	November 20 November 21	Miles Galloway Carol Morris Andrew Thannen Deb Wakefield
November 5	Chuck Weyhenmeyer	November 22	Lee Ann Carlson Jim Orr Gary Thompson
November 6	Gerald Orban	November 23	Drake Ervin
November 7	Elaine DiGiovanna	November 24	Mary Jo Anderson Lyn Kennedy
November 9	Ann Beckman	November 28	Ashleigh Butler Debbie Rigg
November 10	Liam Darling Roberta Volkman	November 29	Todd Bandy Nick Loyd Kathy Sakris
November 12	Ron Clark		
November 13	Chelsie Best Susan Cane		



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND GOD'S BLESSINGS!**

## November Strategic Planning Committee Report

A lot of things are happening at Grace...

Representatives from the architectural/engineering firm of Berner Schober, LLC will be conducting a study of Grace's physical building. The study will involve five areas of review: architectural, structural, plumbing, electrical, and mechanical. The cost of the study is capped at \$10,000 and will result in a written long-range plan that will include immediate repairs/replacements and longer term, (1-year, 5-year, 10-year, and 20-year) projected building needs. This document will help our congregation, the standing committees, and the church council plan for the future of Grace. The final document should be ready for presentation at our next annual meeting. The work on this project is a combined effort with the Property Committee.

A tourist pamphlet has been developed. The pamphlet is in the final stages of development and will be placed outside Grace for tourists. This tourism pamphlet is distinct from the worship visitor pamphlet being developed by the Evangelism Committee.

The committee completed a demographic study of Grace's congregation. It shows a total of 389 members and 129 non-members that include 253 males and 265 females. The median (middle) age of the congregation is 51 years, the mean (average) age is 48.9 years, and the mode (age with the most members) is 71 years. This analysis has been shared with the church council and the standing committees to help them with planning.

Currently, the committee is considering developing a master building plan and an overall strategic plan for the church. As always, we would welcome church members to come and join the committee.

Ed Wollet

### **MEMBERS HOMEBOUND/LIMITED MOBILITY**

DIXIE ALVIES  
DOROTHY BAHRE  
GLENDA BOWLES  
GEORGIANN  
BREDEHOFT

GLORIA GAGNON  
JOHN GEORGE  
MARGE HANNER  
EUNIE KRONE  
HELEN MOORE

ELEANOR SAKRIS  
ANN SCHLICHT  
CRYSTAL SHADID

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THE COMMITTEES THEY REPRESENT**

**Vice President,** Randy Heidorn

**Treasurer,** Brenda Poston

**Secretary,** Phil Galloway

**Administration & Finance** Ed Wollet

**Christian Education** Jessica Thannen, Amy Monahan, Mary Plymire

**Community Ministry** Diana Weyhenmeyer, Randy Heidorn

**Evangelism** Josie Anderson, Amy Monahan

**Fellowship** Mary Schofield, Wanda Williams

**Parish Life** Rosie O'Fallon, Josie Anderson

**Property** Mark Anderson

**Stewardship** Mary Plymire, Phil Galloway

**Strategic Planning** Ed Wollet

**Worship & Music** Wanda Williams, Rosie O'Fallon, Randy Heidorn

**Youth** Katy Gietl

**Stephen Ministry Representative**

**REMINDER:** Committee chairs and/or secretaries please stop at the work room every week so that you can sign off on transactions vouchers. Thank you for giving your time.

**Church in Office Hours:** Tuesday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Monday by remote. Please call the church office for any information. Phone (217) 522-3965

**Grace Food Pantry** is open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday  
11:00 am– 1:30 pm Food Pantry Phone (217) 522-9707



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

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**PASTOR**

Rev. Tom Krieger

**PARISH NURSE**

Diana Weyhenmeyer

**CANTOR**

JB George

**CHURCH CUSTODIAN**

Aaron VonHolten

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Kim Gietl