

Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn

493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Return Service Requested

West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod - ELCA

Weeks of February 12 & 19, 2012
6th Sunday of Epiphany & Transfiguration of Our Lord
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FROM THE PASTOR...



Lenten Plans & Disciplines

Remember those spiritual disciplines that I preached about last summer? Lent can be a great opportunity to begin practicing these disciplines. I want to suggest that we as a community focus on three disciplines this Lent:

1. Regular worship
2. Prayer
3. Alms-giving

First, Regular Worship -- We have additional opportunities to be in worship during the season of Lent. Of course we will have our regularly scheduled 8 am and 10 am worship services. In addition, as we have in the past, we will meet on Wednesday evenings as well. We'll meet at 6 pm for a simple supper and fellowship time, then gather for worship at 7 pm. Here is the schedule for Lent:

- Wednesday, Feb. 22 – Ash Wednesday: 6 pm meal, 7 pm - 8 pm Service of Holy Communion with imposition of ashes.
- Sunday, Feb. 26 – 1st Sunday in Lent: 8 am & 10 am worship with Holy Communion. Order for Healing will be included at 10 am.
- Wednesday, Feb 29 (yep, it's a leap year!): 6 pm meal, 7 - 7:30 pm Lenten worship.
- Sunday, March 4 – 2nd Sunday in Lent: 8 am & 10 am worship with Holy Communion.
- Wednesday, March 7: 6 pm meal, 7 - 7:30 pm Lenten worship.
- Sunday, March 11 – 3rd Sunday in Lent – 8am & 10 am worship with Holy Communion.
- Wednesday, March 14: 6pm meal, 7 - 7:30 pm Lenten worship.
- Sunday, March 18 -- 4th Sunday in Lent: 8 am & 10 am worship with Holy Communion.
- Wednesday, March 21: 6pm meal, 7 - 7:30 pm Lenten worship.
- Sunday, March 25 – 5th Sunday in Lent: 8 am & 10 am worship with Holy Communion.
- Wednesday, March 28: 6pm meal, 7 - 7:30 pm Lenten worship.
- Sunday, April 1 – **Palm/Passion Sunday: 10 am service only.** This service will be quite special – involving a lot of extra music and musicians. We want our whole congregation to be able to experience this moving worship service together.
- Thursday, April 5: 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday meal/worship. Location TBD. (Narthex or gym, depending on planned attendance). Watch for details to come. This will be an informal service – with an opportunity to share a meal and worship together in a different setting and format.
- Friday, April 6: 12 noon - 3 pm “Tre Ore” (3-hour) ecumenical Good Friday service at Grace sponsored by OneChurch Project of Glen Ellyn. This worship service will be co-led by participating congregations: St. Barnabas Episcopal, St. Mark's Episcopal, St. Luke Lutheran, Faith Lutheran and Grace Lutheran. We encourage attendance by anyone who may appreciate taking some time on this solemn day (come for 10 minutes, if that is what you can do, or stay the whole 3 hours) to contemplate the life and death of Jesus Christ. This will be open to the whole community.
- Friday, April 6: 7 pm traditional Good Friday worship with choir.
- Sunday, April 8: 8 am & 10 am traditional Easter celebration services; Easter Breakfast 8:30 - 9:45am (gym)

GRACE TO YOU

Proclaim, Build, and Serve



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Second, Prayer Consider committing to DAILY time for prayer and spiritual devotion. Grace will provide a devotional resource for anyone (one per family please) who wishes to commit to this discipline. The resource is titled, "Renewed for Life" by Henri Nouwen and will be made available on Transfiguration Sunday (2/19) and also on Ash Wednesday (2/22). It includes short daily scripture reading, meditation, and prayer. Please consider using this resource and committing to this discipline during Lent.

Third, Alms-giving We have a wonderful community resource that is housed right in our own building, and too often is less than visible to our congregation. The Glen Ellyn Food Pantry does wonderful work in this community and we are fortunate that they choose to be a part of our mission at Grace Lutheran Church! Let's say thank you to them and to our community, while also visibly showing our love for Christ and our thankfulness for our blessings this year during Lent. Each time we gather for worship during Lent (both on Sundays and on Wednesdays) I want us to "give alms" to this ministry partner. In addition to your regular offerings for Grace Lutheran Church, can you remember to bring at least one item for the food pantry each time you attend worship during Lent? We will have some form of a "visible display" in our sanctuary that we will invite you to add to during our Lenten services. This can be an ACTIVE way of offering what is most valuable to you to those in our community who are in need. When we collect the offering, you will be invited – each week – to bring forward any offerings that you have for the food pantry. I have spoken with Susan Papierski (Executive Director of the Food Pantry) and here is a list (in order) of the items that are "most needed". The top 3 items, Susan said are "like gold" to the folks in the food pantry:

Olive Oil (medium-size bottles) *"like gold"*
 Cooking Oil (medium-size bottles) *"like gold"*
 Mayonnaise *"like gold"*
 Salad Dressing
 Ketchup, Mustard, or Relish
 Coffee (1 lb. cans or instant)
 Canned Tuna
 Cold cereal

Diapers & wipes
 Toilet Paper
 Toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo
 Mac & Cheese
 Ramen Noodles – 12 ct. pack
 Peanut Butter
 And of course, cash...

My challenge to you: consider what you spend on an average week of groceries for your family and think about spending 10% of that amount on a weekly gift to the food pantry. Some can do more. Some may need to do a little less. But do NOT do this as an act of legal obligation – or out of guilt. Rather – do this with JOY! Knowing that 100% of that gift will go to benefit someone who walks into our doors in need. And this happens every week!

I asked Susan what she would do if we collected 300 bottles of olive oil. Would it go to waste? She said they'd be gone in a few weeks. And they'd have to ration it out. My point? I think we forget how great the need is right here in our community. Let's make a "Food Mountain" to demonstrate the abundance of God's love and grace and to show our love for Jesus, giving thanks for the gifts that come from God.

Pastor Rich Likeness

We give thanks to God and seek God's blessing as two of our members, Joshua Lawrence and Rodger Plant, leave for service in the military. We ask your blessing upon Josh and Rodger as they leave us to serve our nation – Josh to the US Army, and Rodger to the US Air Force. Keep them safe and prosper their work and learning. May their service be a blessing to them and to those whom they encounter as they serve.

Organ Recital at Grace a Success!

Our thanks to Jean Spyksma, our Minister of Music, for her time and efforts in preparing a beautiful organ recital at Grace Lutheran Church on Sunday, January 22. Close to 100 people from the community and various congregations gathered on a dreary Sunday afternoon to hear Jean perform for about an hour. And while the weather outside was gray and overcast, in our sanctuary there was light and joy as our hearts were lifted by beautiful music, beautifully played! A free-will offering was collected and we received almost \$600 toward Grace's music program. Thank you to all who helped make this a great success and a wonderful afternoon! Thank you to our hospitality committee for providing and serving refreshments, which allowed for wonderful fellowship time after the performance. Thank you to Austin, for ushering and being a source of levity and fun. And of course, thank you Jean for sharing your talents with us and with the community and helping us find ways to open our doors to those who may be unaware of Grace Lutheran Church and our mission to Proclaim Christ, Build Community, and Serve beyond our walls.

Grace Events

Week of February 12th

Sun 2/12 8 & 10am Worship Services
 8:30am Parish Nurse
 9:00am Sunday School, Adult Ed
 11:00am Ex. Comm. Meeting
 9:15am Cradle Roll Sunday School

Mon 2/13 7:00pm Bible Study
 7:00pm Finance Meeting

Tue 2/14

Wed 2/15 7:30am Bible Study
 Noon Faith-N-Friendship Lunch
 5:30-7pm WOW
 6-7:30pm Confirmation Class

Thurs 2/16 11:45am Prayers & Staff Meeting
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Fri 2/17

Sat 2/18

Week of February 19th

Sun 2/19 8 & 10am Worship Services
 8:30am Parish Nurse
 9:00am SS, Adult Ed
 2-6:00pm CNS Support Group (fellowship)

Mon 2/20 7:00pm Bible Study
 7:00pm Council Meeting

Tue 2/21 7:00pm Koinonia Meeting

Wed 2/22 7:30am Bible Study
 6:00pm Simple Supper
 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Worship
 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal

Thurs 2/23 11:45am Prayer

Fri 2/24

Sat 2/25

Building Usage

Sunday	5:00-6:00 pm	SA Group (basement)
Mon-Fri	9:00-1:00 pm	Senior Service Center
Tue-Thur-Fri	9:00-3:00 pm	Glen Ellyn Food Pantry
Monday 1pm & Thur.	7:30 pm	Yoga Class (narthex)
Monday	5:30-8:30 pm	Highland Dancers
Saturday	6:00-8:00 pm	Sunflower Dancers



Current Prayer Requests:

Congratulations to Justin & Vanessa Pfaff (New Members) for the birth of their son Harrison Arthur Pfaff; Charley Stange for Healing & Strength; Farewell & Godspeed to Josh Lawrence and Rodger Plant as they both leave for basic training.

Prayers for our Homebound Members:

Bernie Arendt – at their home in Glen Ellyn
 Helga Gruenberg – at Lexington Care Center Lombard
 Ardena Klenk – at home following rehab stay Glen Ellyn
 Florence Kracke – at Beacon Hill Care Center Lombard
 Chris Lipke – at Batavia Rehab. & Health Center Batavia
 Elizabeth Milleville – at Brighton Gardens Wheaton
 Audrey Stephan – at Belmont Village Carol Stream

Date	Attendance		Offering
	8 am	10 am	
1/15	31	120	8767
1/22	30	132	5022



Think Spring!

Here are some upcoming important dates at Grace to mark down on your calendar for 2012:

- Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday
- Mar. 7 Last Little Lights
- Mar. 11 Daylight savings time
- Mar. 21 Last WOW
- April 1 Palm Sunday
- April 6 Good Friday
- April 8 Easter Sunday
- April 22 Congregational Meeting
- April 29 First Communion
- May 13 Last Sunday school, Confirmation
- May 20 Confirmation Sunday
- May 27 Summer worship begins



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday February 22, 2012

Again this year we will have Wednesday meals and worship services throughout Lent. Meals at 6 pm, Worship at 7 pm. Our focus this year will be on Luther's Small Catechism. Stay tuned for details to come...



“Social Committee” will now be called “Hospitality Committee”

The main responsibilities of the current “Social Committee” are that of food-related hospitality. Our committee coordinates receptions, lunches, Sunday morning coffee, and other special events requiring food. We have decided to change our name to the Grace Hospitality Committee. *If you would be interested in being on this committee please talk to one of our members. If you just want to help out when needed please sign up in the Fellowship Room. We are always in need of bakers, servers, people to help set up, etc.*

Our committee will also be overseeing the downstairs kitchen area, helping to maintain this space in a clean and efficient fashion. We are currently in need of a few gently used kitchen towels. If you have one you don't need, please drop it off in the kitchen. Thank you.

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West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
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Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137
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Richard Likeness, Pastor
Jean Spyksma, Minister of Music
Patti Lewis, Church Coordinator
Barbara Sudds, Business, Facilities & Youth Coordinator
Brenda Ciero, Children's Coordinator
Cathy Milleville, Parish Nurse
Carole LoGalbo, Parish Counselor

Church office hours

Mon.-Thur. 9:30am - 3:00pm
Friday 9:30am - 12:00pm

Cradle Roll Sunday School

Sunday morning class continues for our littlest ones, on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month at 9:15 am in the nursery. This special time allows parents to get to know each other and helps the children get to know Grace as their church home. We invite all children birth through 3 years to join us for stories and songs.



Adult Education Opportunities

Starting in Lent (2/26) we will begin a study on “**Making Sense of the Christian Faith.**” This could be an excellent additional discipline for Lent. There is a book that relates to this study.



Please let Pastor Rich know if you would like a copy, so that he can order them ahead of time. (Cost is \$15).

Here's the schedule:

- 2/26 “God Talk” (Theology)
- 3/4 “Original Blessing” (Creation)
- 3/11 “Missing the Mark” (Sin)
- 3/18 “East of Eden” (Covenant, Law, & Community)
- 3/25 “God Con Carne” (Incarnation)
- 4/1 No Class (Palm/Passion Sunday)
- 4/8 No Class (Easter)
- 4/15 “Life Wins” (Atonement)
- 4/22 “The Body of Christ” (Church & the Holy Spirit)
- 4/29 “The End of All Things” (Eschatology)

2012 Costa Rica Mission Trip Cancelled

There will be no mission trip to Costa Rica this year. Not enough people have signed up to go, so we will look forward to going next year. Start thinking about it now and saving for it. Chuck Miller

Yoga Classes at Grace

Come and check out one of the yoga classes taking place here at Grace lead by a certified yoga instructor. Chair Yoga (or Gentle Yoga) meets in the narthex on Monday afternoons at 1pm. The class uses traditional yoga techniques in seated position and standing holding onto the chair. A traditional yoga class meets on Thursday evenings at 7:15pm in the narthex where it is warm, quiet and carpeted. This class uses more traditional yoga poses standing and on the floor. Both classes provide a great way to exercise, stretch and tone muscles, work on balance and relaxation. The cost is \$5 per class. Come see what yoga is all about!!!

****See pink insert to learn about FREE Yoga February!****

February Faith and Friendship Lunch

We gather the 3rd Wednesday each month for a prayer service with communion followed by lunch, fellowship and sometimes learning opportunities. Come Wednesday, February 15 at noon and join us! Anyone is welcome to come.