

## Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn

493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania

Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

[www.graceglenellyn.org](http://www.graceglenellyn.org)

Return Service Requested

West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod - ELCA

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### FROM THE PASTOR:

Here we go....

It's almost time to get those Halloween decorations down and plan for the Thanksgiving weekend. Which means it also almost time to start planning for the Advent Calendars, Holiday Bazaars, cookie-baking, craft-making, decorating, and shopping frenzy that immediately follows our time of Giving Thanks for All We Have, so we can get ready to Get and Give More in Celebration of Our Lord's Birth. It'll be here before you know it. Hoo boy.

Every year, I struggle with the tension between the *Time of Waiting* and the *Necessity of Scrambling*. Every year, I struggle to *not* write another "You're Doing It Wrong" article about how we prepare for "The Holiday Season"—stressing people out by telling them they shouldn't let themselves get stressed out. And every year I struggle with the reality that so many of us still seem to need permission to slow it down, take it easy, let it go.

The experience of seemingly non-stop never-before-seen catastrophes we've been witnessing in the second half of this year plays a part in the stress, too. We're burdened with grief and confusion, and it's tempting to want to use "The Holidays" to create enough cheer to erase the horrors of category 5 hurricanes and catastrophic wildfires and mass shootings and genocides and refugee crises.

But we won't lift the heaviness of those events by trying to forget about them. And if we succumb to the

temptation of trying to create joy by creating another perfect holiday season, it's only going to feel worse.

Still, I *do* wish you joy in the Holiday Season (Halloween all the way through Epiphany). And I guess I'd like to remind you that joy isn't something you need to create by giving the right gifts or hosting the most festive meal. Joy is something we *enter into*.

We don't have to create it because God has already created it *for us*. C.S. Lewis says that joy is "the serious business of heaven" (one of my favorite quotes). Which means that joy is to be found in all the spaces of our lives—even the dark ones. That doesn't mean that joy will make depression disappear, or the stark realities of financial crisis stop pressing on you. But it does mean that, if you want to, you can lay down the pressure and responsibility of trying to *create* joy for yourself or the people around you.

Instead of trying to duplicate moments of joy from the past, give yourself permission to find new ways of experiencing joy. Maybe give your parents the lumber to re-build a child's bedroom in Puerto Rico or California. Maybe replace the elaborate holiday dinner with a group outing to the blood bank, to replenish supplies that have become critically low around the country. Maybe gift a loved one with overnight child (or parent) care, or a book read aloud, or a meal made together. So much joy is discovered in small moments of tenderness and care and quiet. Don't let the Holiday Expectations rob you of all the possibilities for entering into God's joy.

*Pastor Melody*

# GRACE TO YOU

*Proclaim, Build, and Serve*





We would like to extend a much appreciated thank you to **Paula Ortmann** who is stepping down as a counter after 30+ years of service and to **Sandra Venturoni** who has lovingly tended to our beautiful gardens all summer. Thank you both for your continued dedication to the ministries at Grace.

### COUNCIL CORNER - GIVING THANKS

Faith formation is well underway. We are continuing discussion and education to prepare for January's Congregation Meeting. Sharing thoughts and information to understand and embrace our agreements and differences through listening is a way to give; giving consideration to our neighbor. As we approach Thanksgiving, we reflect the historical story of the Colonists and Indians sharing an autumn feast, the Indians teaching the Pilgrims to grow corn and two different cultures finding harmony and love for thy neighbor. Can you imagine some of the Colonists and Indians asking their leaders, "you want me to eat with who"? "You want me to give them what"? "Don't you know who they are"? As our congregation considers harmonizing with our neighbors that may have great differences, what will we give?

~Sue Pagnoni  
Council President

### AMAZONSMILE

Christmas is around the corner! Remember to shop at AmazonSmile when making purchases online. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. Here is the link for Grace Lutheran: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2496438>

When you sign on, you will see "Supporting Grace Lutheran Church" in the upper left hand corner. Then just shop as you normally do. There is no cost to Grace or to you, the customer. The shopping experience is identical to Amazon.com with the added benefit that the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate a percentage of your purchase amount to Grace.

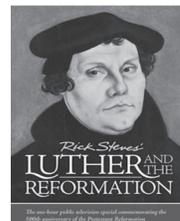
### SOCIAL COMMITTEE CORNER

**Coffee Hour** continues in the fellowship room each Sunday from 8:00 until after late worship. Coffee, bagels and other treats will be served. This is a great time for a little fellowship before moving on to your education hour activity.

**Faith and Friendship** is a time of fun, food and fellowship each month on the 3rd Wednesday. Everyone is invited to attend. Next date is Wednesday November 15 at 11:30 in the narthex for lunch. We be continuing our discussion on Grace's RIC process. Come join us.

### Fall Harvest Festival and Fundraiser for the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry Saturday, October 28th 11:00am-2:00pm:

This event will replace the Chili Supper as the GEFP fundraiser for 2017. There will be a free Barn Dance for the public, food for sale, games, and crafts for the children. This event will occur at the same time as the Halloween Costume Event in Downtown Glen Ellyn. Come join the Halloween Fun! We hope to make this a congregation-wide event and involve as many Grace members as we can. There are lots of different jobs to be done, none of which are difficult or time consuming, so please consider joining in this project. A signup sheet for volunteers will be posted in the Narthex.



As a final activity of Grace's recognition of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation we are planning a showing of Rick Steve's documentary "Luther and the Reformation" on **Friday, November 3.**

Supper will be served at 6:30 followed by the movie and discussion. Sign up in the narthex.

### THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

**NOVEMBER 22, 7:00PM**

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH - GLEN ELLYN**

A Thanksgiving Eve worship service will be held at Faith Lutheran Church. The night before Thanksgiving is a good time to reflect on all that we have to be thankful for that comes from God, our Creator.



**Thank You, LORD!**

## CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY

### **SUNDAY MORNINGS IN NOVEMBER 9:15AM-10:15AM**

***Spark (Preschool-Kindergarten), Shine 1 (1-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade), Shine 2 (4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade)***

9:15-9:30am: Craft Time, continuing the work on God's Wonderful World Creation Mural

9:30-10:00am: Class meets in classrooms

10:00-10:15am: Craft Time and/or music time with Mrs. Drager  
November 5th, 12th, & 19th

November 26: No Class but an Intergenerational Event is offered in the Fellowship Room

***Ignite Confirmation (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade) 9:15am-10:15am located in the Ignite Room***

November 5<sup>th</sup>: Reformation with Mrs. Ficarella

November 12<sup>th</sup>: Reformers with Mr. LoGalbo

November 19<sup>th</sup>: Baptism with Mr. LoGalbo

November 26: No Class but an Intergenerational Event is offered in the Fellowship Room

### **MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES**

We will need 4-8 students ages 2nd Grade through High School to commit to playing the hand chimes for December 17th 10:30am service. This commitment will include rehearsal on December 3, 10, & 17th from 9:15am - 9:40am. Students will return to their regular FF class after rehearsal. Please let Becky Ficarella know if you are interested!

Any students that wish to present a music solo or duet during Advent (December 3, 10, 17, 24) during any of the service times, please let Becky or Bradford know that we can schedule you!

***Fusion High School 9:15am – 10:15am located in the Fusion High School Lounge (the old Nursery)***

We will meet for Scripture study and fellowship on November 5<sup>th</sup> & November 12<sup>th</sup>. Come for the donuts, coffee, and hot chocolate; stay for the fellowship!

### **WEDNESDAY NIGHT EVENTS IN NOVEMBER**

***Ignite Confirmation***

We will meet from 6:00-7:30pm on Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>! See you there!

***Spark and Shine Advent Celebration Party***

Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm -7:00pm we will host students from Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade to attend a special dinner and create an advent craft! Please let Becky know if any parents or adults are willing to chaperone and/or contribute towards the dinner for these students. Confirmation students are invited to help with this event as well if they would like to utilize the Service portion of their IFP.

### **WOMEN OF GRACE**

Women of Grace is an evening gathering open to all women of Grace Lutheran Church. We will meet at Reserve 22, 485 Winchell Way in Glen Ellyn for drinks, appetizers, or dinner! 7:30 pm on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **OPEN GYM NIGHT**

6:00-8:00pm Open Gym Night at Grace on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Come join us for bags, basketball, crafts, and fellowship. Bring an appetizer to share with the group if you wish!

### **PLAYGROUP**

Meets on Fridays at Grace 8:30-10:30am in the lower level. Come join us for fellowship, coffee, and fun!

Please contact me with any questions!

With thanks!

Becky Ficarella

630-469-1555 x17 [bficarella@graceglenellyn.org](mailto:bficarella@graceglenellyn.org)

**21st Annual  
ESSE Pancake Breakfast**

Saturday, November 12, from 7:30-11am at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 515 S. Wheaton Ave. in Wheaton. Raffle and Silent Auction! Free face painting! All you can eat for a \$5.00 donation.



**DUPAGEPADS RUN 4 HOME**

Nine members (Ferrell Benefield not shown in picture) from Grace participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> DuPage Annual Run 4 Home on Saturday September 16th. It was a beautiful fall day for a walk or run in Wheaton. We raised \$1,157 for PADS to help end homelessness. Congratulations to Brad Goertzen for winning second place in his age group for the 10K race. Thanks to everyone for their support.



Will Swiston, Tracy Swiston, Andy Swiston, Zach Nelson, Susi Nelson, Jeff Nelson, Lisa Goertzen, Brad Goertzen

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn has a Facebook page and we would like you to like us! Stay in touch with events, ministries, ELCA news and check out the pictures!

**GRACE TO YOU**

**ARTICLE SUBMISSION SCHEDULE**

Submit articles and photos to the church office at [info@graceglenellyn.org](mailto:info@graceglenellyn.org).

**December Issue  
January Issue**

**Due November 1  
Due December 6**

**WEEKLY BUILDING USAGE**

Sunday	8:00 & 10:30am	Grace Lutheran Worship
Sunday	9:15-10:15am	Faith Formation Hour
4th Sunday	2:00-3:15pm	Family Barn Dance
Sunday	5:00-6:00pm	Support Group (WOW)
Mon-Fri	9:00-1:00pm	Senior Service Center
3rd Monday	9:00-11:00pm	Food Pantry Board of Directors
2nd Monday	10:00-11:00am	Food Pantry (Gr. Room)
Monday	11:30-12:30pm	Support Group (WOW)
Monday	1:00-3:00pm	Food Pantry for Clients
Monday (Oct)	4:30-7:00pm	Bright Lights Theatre (Sanctuary)
2nd Monday	6:00pm	Finance Ministry
Monday	7:00-8:30pm	Adult Ed Bible Study
3rd Monday	7:00pm	Grace Church Council
Monday	7:15pm	Yoga Class (Narthex)
Tuesday	1-3pm & 5-7pm	Food Pantry for Clients
1st Tuesday	9:30am	Social Ministry
1st Tuesday	11:00-1:00pm	Sr. Center Exercise Class
2nd Tuesday	11:00-1:00pm	Sr. Center Exercise Class
3rd Tuesday	11:00-1:00pm	Sr. Center Book Club
4th Tuesday	11:00-1:00pm	Sr. Center Exercise Class
Tuesday	3:00-7:00pm	Parish Counselor
4th Tuesday	4:00-5:00pm	Food Pantry (Gr. Room)
Tuesday	6:00-7:30pm	Pill Bottle Project
1st Tuesday	7:00pm	Property Ministry
Wednesday	7:30-8:30am	Bible Study
2nd Wed.	10:00-Noon	Sr. Center Movie
4th Wed.	10:00-Noon	Sr. Center Movie
Wednesday	1:00-3:00pm	Food Pantry for Clients
Wednesday	1:00-7:00pm	Parish Counselor
Wednesday	8:00-10:00pm	Support Group (WOW)
4th Wed.	7:30pm	Women of Grace (offsite)
Thursday	1:00-3:00pm	Food Pantry for Clients
Thursday	1:00-7:00pm	Parish Counselor
Friday	6:30-7:45pm	Support Group (WOW)
First three Saturdays of each month	8:30-11:00am	Sunflower Dancers
	9:00-1:00pm	Slancholedi Language School
3rd Saturday	7:00-10:00pm	Dance with Janet—Line Dancing

**NOSES AND NUMBERS**

DATE	ATTENDANCE		OFFERING
	8AM	10:30AM	
9/03	9am 52		\$ 6,372
9/10	50	82	\$10,970
9/17	41	65	\$ 4,060
9/24	26	88	\$ 3,769

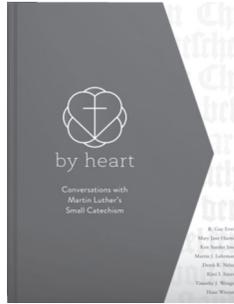
Grace's total income through September 2017 was \$263,671.37 while expenses incurred during that same time period were \$313,829.28 leaving Grace with a deficit of \$50,157.91.

**USED CAR WANTED**

A Grace member is looking for a reliable used car in the \$4,000 price range. Please contact Pr. Melody if you know of one that is available. Thank you.

**FOUNDATIONS**

**Foundations** is a monthly Wednesday evening gathering where we'll revisit Luther's Small Catechism—but with adult questions and adult beverages! (Bring a libation of your choice, a dessert to share if you like, and a willingness to go ahead and ask the question you thought you shouldn't ask.) Our next session will be **November 15 at 7:30pm.**



**RIC Informational Opportunities**

Do you have questions, or are you looking for more information on Grace's RIC (Reconciling in Christ) process??

Everyone is welcome to attend our **Faith and Friendship Luncheon** in November to learn more and have an opportunity to ask questions. We meet at 11:30 for lunch and devotion followed by the forum. The dates are October 18 and November 15. Come join us.



**ALL-AGES BOOK FAIR**



Grace is hosting an All Ages Book Fair to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. This is a great way to dive into Martin Luther's life, ministry, and teachings. All titles will offer free shipping and up to 50% off of the cover price. Order forms and books will be available for viewing in the Narthex. Please contact Becky Ficarella with any questions regarding the sale.

**ALL-AGES FAMILY BARN DANCE AT GRACE  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12 2:00-3:15PM**

Come on out for an afternoon of fun, friendly community dances taught by caller Meg Dedolph. You don't need any experience for these easy-to-learn folk dances that kids and adults can enjoy together. Dance to live fiddle music by Jonathan and Friends. The fine print: Please wear comfortable shoes and come dressed to move. Kids should be able to walk independently and easily, or be content to ride on a parent's back. Invite a friend! Add these future dates to your calendar: Nov. 12, Jan. 28, Feb. 25, Mar. 25, Apr. 22, and May 20.

Questions? Need a little encouragement?  
Email Meg at  
meg.dedolph@gmail.com



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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
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**Every Member: Minister & Missionary!**

Melody Eastman, Pastor  
Bradford Thompson, Minister of Music  
Barbara Sudds, Office Manager  
Becky Ficarella, Children & Youth Coordinator  
Carole LoGalbo, M.S., LCPC Parish Counselor

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday 9:30am - 3:00pm

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Elaine Roete, Greg Barber, Farrel Benefield, Lois Pertle, Dorothy Stein, Laurie Huizenga, Donna Gerhardt, Joan Schonstore, Leo, Nancy Hubbard, Kay Mahnke, and Jack Dean for healing and strength.



The families of Jim Rasins and Paul Rosland for comfort in grief.

**Prayers for our Homebound Members:**

Ardena Klenk-at home in Glen Ellyn  
Florence Kracke-at Laurels Peak in Mankato, MN  
Julie Trout-at Westbridge Asst'd Living in Wheaton

**Prayers for our member in the Armed Forces:**

Rodger Plant, Air Force

**NOVEMBER 5, 2017**

