

Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn

493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137
www.graceglenellyn.org
Return Service Requested

West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod - ELCA

MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2018
1085418-11

Grace To You is the monthly newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn.

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
Permit #104



FROM THE PASTOR:

That congregations face financial challenges isn't new. How we think about addressing that reality is. In Protestant churches, operating costs have been paid for by the members. When congregations could save up enough extra money, they built a building to worship and learn in. In our grandparents' day, so many Christians followed the biblical principle of tithing—giving *at least* 10% of the household income to the church—that this worked. That's what made the beautiful church buildings we see all around us possible. (That and the fact that sometimes members even took out second mortgages on their homes to fund the building.)

Over time, member giving has declined—the average now is around 3% of income for Christians. (Interestingly, studies indicate that Christians give far less of their income to their worship community than do Muslims and Jews.) This, of course, leads to budget shortfalls. Sometimes congregations respond to this reality by holding fundraisers—bake sales, yard sales, whatever—to raise money. I've always had a problem with this, because I think it turns our calling inside out; instead of serving the community, we end up asking the community we're here to serve to take care of us.

Another response is to “bring in more members” so we have more givers. I've talked about this before; *no one* is interested in joining a church so they can help us pay

our mortgage. It hasn't worked for 70 years, and it's not going to start working now.

We're beginning some exciting conversation and work on renewing our mission focus, and stepping out in ministry. But we should understand that ***the people we reach out to are probably not going to provide the financial support we need.*** At least, not initially. That's not how (or why) mission works. The people who need us the most may very well not have the spiritual foundation of giving generously. Or they may not have the fiscal capacity. At any rate, people we bring in through mission outreach are not going to meet our immediate need for financial viability. (Although for long-term stability, a mission that captures people's passion is absolutely foundational.)

Which means that our discernment should have *two* foci: 1. **What is our mission calling?** (that is, “*Why are we here?*”) and 2. **Who will be our significant mission partners?** (that is, “*Who else can we share space and financial load with so we can continue our mission?*”) Whether the Food Pantry moves to a new site or not, we need to address both of these questions in an intentional way, because we are not using the capacity we have. (There is a *lot* of empty space in the building during the week. I'm thinking Jesus can probably use it.)

Thank you so much for your participation in the Coffees with Council and Brunch Church! Keep praying with us as we move into the new things God is calling us to.

Pastor Melody

GRACE TO YOU

Proclaim, Build, and Serve



MUSIC FOR THE LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICE

Any students that would like to present an instrumental solo or duet are invited to share their talents during our **Lessons & Carols Service on December 6th** during the 10:15am Service. Please let Becky Ficarella know if you are interested!

COMING UP IN THE ADULT FORUM IN NOVEMBER

In November we continue our exploration of what Lutherans bring to the faith mix. This is a great series for people considering Grace as a faith home. (Read: You can count this as your New Member classes!) It's also a great exploration for everyone who has been here for a while but never had a chance to talk about this stuff. There will be lots of questions and great conversation!

11/4 – What exactly is the ELCA?

How big are we? Who makes the decisions? What about the "other" Lutherans—like the Missouri Synod and Wisconsin Synod; are we pretty much the same or really different? Bring the questions you were always afraid to ask!



11/11 – Global and Interfaith Connections

And what about Lutherans around the world? How many are there, and do we ever connect with them? And who makes decisions for *all* of us? (*Whoa--do we have a pope??*)

11/18 – What do we believe about Confession? Part 1

This is a combined class with our middle-school confirmation students (fun, right??) to take a look at the Lutheran understanding of confession and forgiveness. Is confession a sacrament? Do Lutherans have individual confession? The answers might surprise you! Part 2 picks up in December.



11/25 – Intergenerational Event

This is always a great time for *all* of our faith formation folks to get together for a project or conversation. We're all about bringing all the generations together!

NOVEMBER 4, 2018



ALL-CHURCH WORSHIP LEADERSHIP TRAINING!

Take a look at the back of the bulletin on Sunday and you'll realize how many people it takes to make worship happen every single Sunday. It works best when everybody shares the leadership. Maybe you've thought that you'd like to help out, but weren't sure what to do or who to talk to. Maybe you've been thinking about signing up for a week or a month. Or maybe you don't want to commit to a schedule but you'd like to know enough to jump up and help out if needed. This training is for all of you!

On **Sunday, November 18 at 11:30**, you're invited to our first **All-Church Worship Leadership Training**. We'll provide some simple sandwiches (sort of an eat-as-you-go thing) and offer three training sessions of 15 minutes each. You choose what you want to learn: how to usher, read lessons, set up communion, carry the cross, assist with communion, greet worshippers and visitors, open and/or close the building, manage the sound system.

It'll be fun! And there will be plenty of folks to support you and answer questions. Your participation keeps our worship running smoothly and honors the Body of Christ in this place. There's a sign up in the narthex so we know how many to prepare for.

Thanks!

FAMILY MINISTRY PAGE

Sunday Morning Faith Formation Schedule

Spark (Preschool-K), Shine 1&2(1st-5th Grades): 9:15-9:45am Class in Session; 9:45am-10:00am Music in the Gathering Room with Mrs. Drager*

*Please note that students must be picked up at 10:00am in the Gathering Room or they will be brought to the Quiet Play Area at the back of the Sanctuary.

Ignite Confirmation (6th-8th Grades): Class meets 9:15-10:00am in the Ignite Room

Fusion High School: Students meet in the Fusion Lounge 9:15-10:00am.



There will be no Faith Formation classes on November 25th! Advent Hymn Sing will take place between services.

Special Music Presentation November 11th, 10:15am Service

Spark and Shine 1 will present music at the very beginning of 10:15am Service. Spark 2 students are welcome to serve as helpers to the younger children during this music time.

Ignite Confirmation Wednesday Nights in October

Ignite Confirmation will meet from 6:00-7:30pm on November 14th & 28th. See you in the Narthex!

NEW GLC Fusion High School Bible Study Pop Up!

We would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to Dominic LoGalbo for the creation of this new ministry. What is it?

A Pop Up Opportunity to meet in a student's home, at Starbucks, Grace; wherever our students happen to be. Dominic will be reaching out to High School family's to look for a place to host a 45 minute Bible Study as it works that particular week with a student's schedule. If even only two students can attend, it is still worth our time to gather and keep focused on our faith in the midst of our week. Friends are definitely welcome as always.

Be on the lookout for an email invitation each week from Dominic. Come join for a moment of reflection and faith.

Spark & Shine Advent Party

When: Wednesday, November 28th, 5:30-7:00pm

Spark & Shine students and their parents are invited to come celebrate Advent with dinner and crafts on Wednesday, November 28th! Come join in the fellowship and fun!

Upcoming Intergenerational Event: Advent Hymn & Carol Sing!

November 25th: 9:00-10:00am in the Narthex

Come join Becky and Bradford for music around the piano in the Narthex. We will sing old favorite hymns and carols to welcome the Season of Advent!

November 11th is "Undie Sunday"

Grace will be hosting an undergarment drive for **DuPage PADS** clients during Services on November 11th. All sizes of men's and women's undergarments, especially sports bras, are desperately needed. Please consider bringing items to help our neighbors in need.

The Book Fair

Adult & Children's **Book Fair runs through October 28th** in the Narthex of Grace. We will place the order by November 2nd to ensure delivery for the Advent Season. Please see Becky Ficarella with any questions.

Grace Foodies Dinner Group

November 8, 6-8p @ Fire & Wine in Glen Ellyn

(Childcare provided at Grace in downstairs kids Gathering Room from 5:45-8:15pm)

Would you enjoy a night out to get to know new church friends? Take a break from the kids? Come join us as we kick off this quarterly gathering and enjoy a casual local meal. Or simply stop by for a drink, whichever works for you!

With thanks! Becky Ficarella

630-469-1555 x17

bficarella@graceglenellyn.org

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

NOVEMBER 21, 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!

**ESSE PANCAKE BREAKFAST
IN HONOR OF OUR VETERANS**

Saturday, November 10, 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.



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! **Be sure to share the good news and events with your friends.**

**ONE VOICE OUTREACH CHOIR
TO PERFORM AT GRACE LUTHERAN**

Grace Lutheran Church will one again host the **ONE VOICE OUTREACH CHOIR FOR A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT 4:00PM ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2.** One Voice Choir is a unique musical experience. The choir is comprised of over 50 high school students from the Glen Ellyn and Wheaton area who represent several high schools and houses of worship. Together these teens give their time and lend their hearts to this special choir. One Voice performs around Chicago visiting Nursing and Retirement homes. The goal of One Voice Choir is to bridge the generational gap and create positive connections within their communities. All Grace members and friends are invited and encouraged to attend.

WEEKLY BUILDING USAGE

Sunday	8:00 & 10:15am	Grace Lutheran Worship
Sunday	9:15-10:00am	Faith Formation - All Ages
Sunday	5:00-6:00pm	Support Group (WOW Room)
Mon-Fri	9:00-1:00pm	Senior Service Center
3rd Monday	9:00-11:00pm	Food Pantry Board of Directors
Monday	11:00-12:30pm	Sr. Center Exercise Class
Monday	1:00-3:00pm	Food Pantry for Clients
Monday	4:30-9:00pm	Bright Lights Theatre
Monday	5:30-8:30pm	Thistle & Heather Highland Dancers
2nd Monday	6:00pm	Finance Ministry
3rd Monday	7:00pm	Grace Church Council
Monday	7:00pm	Bible Study
1st Tuesday	9:30am	Social Ministry
1st Tuesday	11:00-12:30pm	Sr. Center Exercise Class
2nd Tuesday	11:00-12:30pm	Sr. Center Exercise Class
3rd Tuesday	10:00-Noon	Sr. Center Book Club
4th Tuesday	11:00-12:30pm	Sr. Center Exercise Class
Tuesday	1:00-3:00pm	Wooly Knitters
Tuesday	1-3pm & 5-7pm	Food Pantry for Clients
Tuesday	3:00-7:00pm	Parish Counselor
Tuesday	6:00-7:30pm	Pill Bottle Project
1st Tuesday	6:00pm	Property Ministry
Tuesday	6:15pm	Grace Yoga with Becky!
Tuesday	6:45-9:30pm	Society for Creative Anachronism
Wednesday	7:30-8:30am	Bible Study
3rd Wednesday	11:15am	Faith & Friendship
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 Room)
4th Thursday	7:00pm	Women of Grace (Reserve 22)
Thursday	1:00-3:00pm	Food Pantry for Clients
Thursday	1:00-7:00pm	Parish Counselor
Thursday	3:30-5:30pm	Kiwanis Club Backpack Snacks
Thursday	4:30-9:00pm	Bright Lights Theatre
Thursday	7:00-8:30pm	Titans Basketball
Friday	6:30-7:45pm	Support Group (WOW Room)
Saturday	8:30-11:00am	Sunflower Dancers
Saturday	9:00-1:00pm	Slancholedi Language School

GRACE TO YOU

ARTICLE SUBMISSION SCHEDULE

Submit articles and photos to the church office at info@graceglenellyn.org.

December Issue **Due November 7**
January Issue **Due December 5**

NOSES AND NUMBERS

DATE	ATTENDANCE		OFFERING
	8AM	10:15AM	
9/2	xx	64	\$ 5,195
9/9	27	100	\$ 4,896
9/16	31	77	\$12,263
9/23	22	85	\$ 5,315
9/30	23	88	\$ 2,740

GRACE YOGA WITH BECKY! TUESDAYS 6:15-7:15PM



Do you need to unwind from the hectic pace of life? Looking for a way to stretch and build muscular strength? Searching for a yoga class that offers a biblical view?

Grace Yoga with Becky meets on **Tuesdays from 6:15-7:15pm** in the Narthex. The next session will run from

November 13-December 18 (no class on Nov. 27), with a cost of \$8 per class when purchased in a five-week bundle. Walk-in's are welcome at \$10 per session. Please reach out to Becky Ficarella with questions and more details.

WOMEN OF GRACE

**Thursday, October 25 and November 29
at 7:00pm**

Women of Grace is a monthly evening gathering open to all women of Grace Lutheran Church. We meet at **Reserve 22** (Village Links Golf Course) in Glen Ellyn for drinks, appetizers, and/or dinner! Join us!!



FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 AT 11:15AM



Join us for our monthly **Faith and Friendship Luncheon**. Everyone of any age is welcome to join us for good food and good fellowship. We gather in the narthex for lunch and various activities. Come join us!!

AMAZONSMILE

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 Amazon-Smile Foundation will donate a percentage of your purchase amount to Grace.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GLEN ELLYN

West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania Avenue
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Office: 630.469.1555

Fax: 630.469.1561

Email: info@graceglenellyn.org

www.graceglenellyn.org

Every Member: Minister & Missionary!

Melody Eastman, Pastor

Bradford Thompson, Minister of Music

Barbara Sudds, Office Manager

Becky Ficarella, Ministry Associate

Carole LoGalbo, M.S., LCPC Parish Counselor

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

Tuesday and Thursday 1:00-3:00pm

PRAYER REQUESTS

Greg Barber, Kathy Maras, Dolores Nosal, Rich Davison, Dorothy Tracy, Farrel Benefield, Carrie Wiebe, Marty Friend, Joan Rosland, Anne Marie Keenan, Tammy Rollo, Aimee Gerhardt, Cindy Carlson, Zachary Gallian for healing and strength.



Prayers for our Homebound Member:

Anita Blakemore

The families of Roy Miller and Alex, Dan & Tim Goertzen for comfort in grief.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

It has been five years since our last directory and we would like to gather the flock together for new photos of our members! The last photography date is set for **Saturday, November 17, 11- 6pm**. Every individual or family that has their picture taken will received a free 8x10 photo plus a free copy of the directory. Additional directories will be available for purchase for those who do not have their picture taken but we encourage everyone to please help make our directory complete and sign up for a time. **PHOTO DIRECTORY ONLINE SIGNUP!** All members can use the link below to sign up for a photo time! Check out the link early to get the best time. Contact Susan Jacobson at susan.lb.jacobson@gmail.com if you have any difficulties, or need to change an appointment that you have already made. <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/yj035514/>