

## 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 MAY 2018  
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Grace To You is the monthly newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn.

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### FROM THE PASTOR:

Last month several of our members took a class in Mental Health First Aid. Most of us are familiar with the “regular” first aid classes that are offered at schools, or through scouting or the American Red Cross. Those classes don’t turn you into a doctor or an EMT, but they do give you enough information to help someone in a crisis until they can get professional treatment.

Mental Health First Aid classes are like that. People who take these classes have a better understanding of mental health issues they might run in to—and they’ll know how to offer appropriate support until professional medical assistance is available.

Why is this so important? Because in any given year, one out of five people in the US will experience a mental illness—depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, or something else. Four percent of adults will suffer from an illness that is severe enough to impact their day-to-day life. And out of the almost 43 million people who will have to deal with mental illness this year, almost half will not receive treatment. A lot of that is due to the stigma.

The fact of mental illness is still a really difficult thing to acknowledge in the church, too, because of that same stigma. We’re afraid our friends will judge us or think we’re lazy, or gossip about us. Or worse, we’re afraid people will pity us, or even fear us. We’re afraid people will think mental illness represents a fundamental character flaw, or a lack of faith: “If you just prayed more, you wouldn’t be so depressed.” (sigh)

Or, if we’ve never experienced mental illness ourselves or in the life of a loved one, we may feel afraid or nervous when we come into contact with someone who is struggling. Media often tell us that “mentally ill” people are “dangerous.” Media *don’t* tell us that suffering from a mental illness actually puts you at greater risk of being attacked or abused, rather than presenting a risk that you’ll attack someone else.

The stigma and ignorance surrounding mental illness is incredibly destructive to our whole society. The Church can counter that stigma, and be a place of compassion, understanding and healing. It’s all just part of being a Resurrection people. And for those who have felt marginalized because of mental illness, having a safe place where you can name your reality feels like a downright miracle.

*Pastor Melody*

# GRACE TO YOU

*Proclaim, Build, and Serve*



## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our summer worship schedule will begin on **Sunday, May 27**. One service will be offered at 9am. Faith Formation does not meet during the summer. Please note, there will not be a mid-week service offered this year.



## HOLY COMMUNION FAITH MILESTONE



Holy Communion Sunday, when we celebrate those young people in our congregation who have completed the Faith Milestone of instruction in the gift of the Lord's Supper, will be Sunday, May 6.

Young people participating in this Faith Milestone will have met with Pastor Melody, Becky Ficarella, and their parents/families for a workshop on April

22nd that explores the meaning of the sacrament in a variety of ways.

Holy Communion Instruction is meant both for young members who have never received communion, and for those who have already been receiving the sacrament (following the ELCA's decision in 1997 to re-open the Lord's Table to baptized people of all ages, as was the original practice of the Christian Church). In this celebration, we want to emphasize that we never earn the right to receive the sacrament by our work or understanding, because it is always the free gift of God. But in this milestone, we celebrate our children's growing in faith and rejoice in their deepening relationship with Christ, and with the Church. Such a celebration is appropriate for those who have been receiving communion for years, and for those who are receiving it for the first time.

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY



On May 20th, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will affirm their baptismal vows at the 10:30 service. Please come and join our youth as they celebrate this important faith milestone. There will be a reception for our confirmands between services.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE CORNER

**FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP:** Come to *Faith and Friendship Lunch*. This is our last gathering before the summer break. Come join in the fellowship on **Wednesday, May 16 at 11:15**. Weather permitting we hope to have a cook-out.

**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY RECEPTION:** Join the family of Grace as we celebrate our confirmands on Sunday, May 20 at a reception between services.

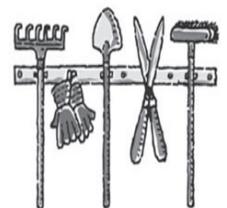
The **SOCIAL COMMITTEE** is involved in many different events throughout the year, and always in need of extra hands. If you are interested in helping out at any of our events, please indicate so by signing up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Room. We hope to develop a list of volunteers we can go to when we need extra help. Thank-you!

## GROUNDS CLEAN UP

Your Landscape Ministry team is planning their annual grounds clean up for the exterior of the church. Cleanup will take place on **Saturday, May 5 from 9am-Noon**.

Please join us as we spruce up the grounds to create a welcoming first impression for members and guests attending our Holy Communion and Confirmation Sundays, summer worship services, and programs. If able, please bring your own gardening tools or use that that we will supply. We have a long list of items we would like to accomplish so all hands are welcome. We will not be spreading mulch this year.

There will also be projects and materials available for those who would rather work indoors. Thank you.



## FOUNDATIONS

Join us **April 25 and May 16 at 7:30pm** as we 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.) We'll use these two session to cover Chapter 3: The Apostles' Creed.

**CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY PAGE****SUNDAY MORNING FAITH FORMATION IN MAY**

May 6<sup>th</sup> will be the final day of Faith Formation for the school year. See you in September!

**Spark and Shine 1 & 2 (Preschool-5th Grade Students)**

**May 6<sup>th</sup>:** These groups will enjoy an end of the year celebration from 9:15-10:15am in the Gathering Room. If you would like to contribute a snack to this day, please contact Becky.

**IGNITE CONFIRMATION**

Final Sunday Class is May 6<sup>th</sup>, meeting with Pastor Melody from 9:15-10:15am.

**Wednesday Programming for Ignite Confirmation**

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>:** *End of Year Celebration 6:00-7:30pm.*

We will celebrate our year together, review what we have learned, and congratulate our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade classmates!

**May 16<sup>th</sup> 5:45pm Confirmation Dinner & 6:15pm Rehearsal:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students and their Family are invited to dinner to celebrate their Faith Formation milestone. Rehearsal for the service on Sunday morning begins at 6:15. This is a required event to prepare for the Sunday service.

**SPECIAL EVENTS TO CELEBRATE IN MAY****May 6<sup>th</sup> 8:00 & 10:30am Services: Holy Communion Sunday**

Come and celebrate with Evelyn Dieter, Camden de Leon, and Zachary Kregor as they honor their Holy Communion Celebration.

**May 20<sup>th</sup> 10:30am Service: Confirmation Sunday**

We will celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students with a reception from 9:15-10:15am in the Narthex with cake and punch. Please come lend your support to Katie Anderson and Alexis Murawski on this special day.

**PLAYGROUP MEETS ON FRIDAY MORNINGS 8:30-10:30AM**

We will meet at Lake Ellyn Park on Friday's in May. If weather is bad, we will meet in the Narthex at Grace! Friends are always welcome. Please bring a healthy snack to share with the group.

**WOMEN OF GRACE**

Women of Grace will meet at **Reserve 22 in Glen Ellyn on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.** We are hoping for beautiful weather to begin sitting outside again. Come gather with women from Grace Lutheran Church for snacks and refreshments. Friends are always welcome!

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> -21<sup>ST</sup>**

**Fruits of the Spirit Monday-Thursday 9:00am-Noon:** Grace will be teaming up with First Congregational Church for Vacation Bible School this year. First Congregational is located just 1 block North of Grace on Forest Avenue. This program is offered to children ages 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade (entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade this fall). Registration can be found on Grace's website. There is no fee for this event, but we are accepting donations towards the program if you are so inclined. Any volunteers will also register on the same site. Please let Becky know if you would like your student paired with a particular friend as we will accommodate those requests to the best of our ability. Child care is available to any parents that have younger children but would still like to volunteer.

Please contact me with any questions!

With thanks! Becky Ficarella 630-469-1555 x17

bficarella@graceglenellyn.org

# CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



St. Paul Lutheran Church, 515 S. Wheaton Avenue in Wheaton. **Sunday, May 6.** Registration begins at 1pm, walk starts at 2pm. If you would like to participate or donate you can join our team at Grace by signing up online at [www.crophungerwalk.org/glenellynil/gracelutheran](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/glenellynil/gracelutheran). If you have questions contact Mike Pertle at [mike.pertle@gmail.com](mailto:mike.pertle@gmail.com), 630-488-0880, or connect with him on Sundays before or after worship. Thank you!

## WOMEN OF GRACE Thursday, May 24 at 7:30pm



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, or dinner! Join us!!

### START WITH A SMILE AT SMILE.AMAZON.COM

Support Grace and find all of your daily essentials including gifts, decorations, and more.

**You shop. Amazon gives.**

Here is the link for Grace Lutheran:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2496438>

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate a percentage of your purchase to Grace Lutheran!



tell your friends and family

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! Share us with your friends!

## WEEKLY BUILDING USAGE

Sunday	8:00 & 10:30am	Grace Lutheran Worship
Sunday	9:15-10:15am	Faith Formation Hour
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
Monday	11:00-12:30pm	Sr. Center Exercise Class
Monday	11:30-12:30pm	Support Group (WOW)
Monday	1:00-3:00pm	Food Pantry for Clients
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 (Lower Level)
Tuesday	1:00-3:00pm	Knitting Group
Tuesday	1-3pm & 5-7pm	Food Pantry for Clients
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	3:00-7:00pm	Parish Counselor
Tuesday	6:00-7:30pm	Pill Bottle Project
1st Tuesday	7:00pm	Property Ministry
Wednesday	7:30-8:30am	Bible Study
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 Thursday	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	Slanchogledi Language School

### GRACE TO YOU

#### ARTICLE SUBMISSION SCHEDULE

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

June Issue

Due May 2

July Issue

Due June 6

### NOSES AND NUMBERS

DATE	ATTENDANCE		OFFERING
	8AM	10:30AM	
3/4	42	82	\$ 8,476
3/11	31	90	\$ 7,250
3/18	31	92	\$ 3,148
3/25	38	98	\$ 2,766
3/28 7pm	22		\$ 352
3/29 7pm	60		\$ 321

Grace's total income through March, 2108, was \$91,239 while expenses incurred during that same time period were \$122,156 leaving Grace with a month end deficit of \$30,917.



**EASTER EGG HUNT ON EASTER SUNDAY**



**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

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**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**

Mark Danly, Noah Ankrom, Kim Jokela, Donna Gerhardt, Rodger Haga; Cindy Carlson, Barbara Cooper, Rosie Lee Benefield, and Jack Dean for healing and strength.



Celebration of new life for Robert Henry Noncek-Eastman, grandson of Pr. Melody and Marty Eastman.

The families of Laurie Huizenga; Richard Fumea; and Robert Rumpf for comfort in grief.

Birthday Wishes to Marilyn Goodrich, 90 (5/5); Bob Stein, 90 (5/14); Dolores Nosal, 94 (5/18); Evelyn Elson, 94 (5/19).

**Prayers for our Homebound Members:**

Florence Kracke-at Laurels Peak in Mankato, MN

Julie Trout-at Wynscape Health Ctr. in Wheaton

Werner Kroeger-at Belmont Village in Carol Stream

