

## 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 2019**  
**1085419-11**

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

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### FROM THE PASTOR

#### *Where can we meet you?*

A couple of weeks ago I mentioned in a sermon that I think this is the message we need to be sending out. Not, “Come join us,” which too often gets translated into “Change into us and then come on in!” But, “Who are you? Where are you? How can we hear your story? How can we know you better? How can we bring you hope/faith/God?”

Last month our council leadership met with Karen Ayla, the Executive Director of the DuPage County Health Department. She shared with us the pressing needs in our community, along with her excitement that a church is interested in partnering to meet these needs in significant ways. The issues she identified ranged from suicide to teen vaping to the current opioid addiction crisis to the needs for our aging population to have the support it takes to live safely in our own homes, since there aren't enough facilities for everyone to move to assisted living.

The needs of seniors in our community hit home for us in a lot of ways. The neighborhood around us has a high population of older adults—many of whom live without significant support from family members. Thinking about this, I began to realize what an important role Grace could play in *embodying* the love of Jesus here. There are several possibilities for grant partnerships that can help us stay in this location, providing services that our community needs while living out the Good News. (Which is, in my view, *way* better than gradually spending down our reserves and eventually being

forced to sell our building to make way for more luxury condos!)

Who might we partner with? Maybe LSSI, or the DuPage County Health Department, or the Metro Chicago Synod, or the Food Pantry (in some new ways). Or others. Or all of them.

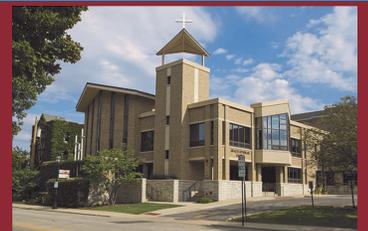
Ministry possibilities? Here are a few things I thought of or that have been suggested by members to me:

- A weekly or monthly gathering where seniors who live on their own come together to prepare and cook a variety of healthy meals to be packaged into single-serving containers. At the end, they go home with maybe five dinners to put in their fridge or freezer—encouraging them to eat well throughout the week.
- Free support groups for older individuals dealing with anxiety, loneliness or loss.
- A *staffed* exercise class for seniors, with a physically present leader who can act as coach and resource for individuals as well as leading group activities. (Sue Davison's video exercise class is *very* popular—maybe we could find a way to provide even more support for her program!)
- Afternoon fellowship/happy hour. (This is *very* popular in many of the assisted living facilities around us. Maybe we could make it possible for people who live in their own apartments.)
- Partnering with the Health Department on their 8-week sessions to help people stay safely in their homes, with staff support to evaluate and minimize risk of falls, dehydration, etc.
- Clinics for flu shots and blood pressure checks.

**Continued On Page Two**

# GRACE TO YOU

*Proclaim, Build, and Serve*



**Continued From Page One**

- Dance/music/singing/art gatherings specifically designed to meet the needs of seniors.
- Support groups for families who are providing care for older family members.
- Drawing from the community of Glenbard West students to create opportunities for intergenerational gatherings.

We're already offering weekly worship, monthly conversations around questions about faith and God, and twice-monthly quilting gatherings that draw as many or more non-members than members. So we've already got a start on outreach here.

There are other community needs we could also think about, but this need is significant and pretty easily reachable, and builds on our identity as a trusted and needed neighbor as well as a church.

**Let me be clear,** these are just my own thoughts about possibilities. This isn't a set who strategy or a council proposal or a mission plan. Just my own dreams and ideas—which I would be happy to hear your thoughts on. But I thought it important to let you know that we are indeed praying about and listening for God's guidance for our call and our future here at Grace. And possibilities are presenting themselves to me, and to members of council. To be honest, this is a pretty exciting time. If *you* have ideas or thoughts, bring them to me or to a council member—because that is exactly how the Holy Spirit gets things moving!

**COMING UP AT ADULT FORUM****November 3 – How Faithful People Disagree**

The ELCA recognizes that faithful people have different opinions on the tough issues facing us as a nation. Our Church provides some guidance on how to talk to one another, and live together well, when we disagree.

**November 10 – ELCA Social Statements: Abortion**

Does the ELCA have a stance? What happens if you don't agree with the Social Statement?

**November 17 – ELCA Social Statements: Racism**

Like abortion, this is an issue that keeps coming back. We've been talking about it a long time in the Church—but the conversation may not be exactly what you thought it was.

**SOCIAL CORNER**

There will be a "**LUTHER BRUNCHEON**" **POT-LUCK** on **Reformation Sunday, October 27** immediately following the service. Egg bakes and toasted sandwiches will be provided, bring a pot-luck side to share! More details to come.

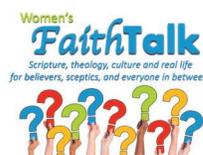
Would you enjoy a night out to get to know new church friends? Take a break from the kids? Come join us for our next quarterly gathering of **GRACE FOODIES** and enjoy a casual local meal! **We will meet on Tuesday, November 5 at Barone's of Glen Ellyn from 6-8pm.** The room holds a maximum of 30 so sign up early! Childcare will be provided at Grace downstairs in the kids Gathering Room from 5:45p-8:15pm. Please sign up in the narthex and indicate if you will require child care.

Join us for our next **FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP LUNCHEON** on **Wednesday, November 20.** Everyone of any age is welcome to join us for good food and good fellowship. Come join us!

**MORTGAGE REDUCTION,  
ONE COMMA AT A TIME!**

Grace's current mortgage will be renewing in the fall of 2021. Between now and then, we're proposing a Mortgage Reduction campaign. Ideally, we'd like to collect \$100-150,000. This would bring the mortgage below one million dollars (thus eliminating a comma!). This financial move would relieve stress on the operating budget. We know collecting that much money sound challenging but we have a generous spirit and will provide additional detail as to how we think we can make this happen. Envelopes can be found in the attendance pads in the pews and on the slat wall. Thank you for your prayers and participation to help eliminate the comma.

**Join us every third Thursday of the month from 10:00-11:30am for Women's FaithTalk,** a conversation and study group facilitated by Pastor Melody.



**FAMILY MINISTRY PAGE****SUNDAY MORNING FAITH FORMATION 10:15-11:00AM**

**Sundays, November 3, 10, 17 & 24** Spark (Preschool-K), Shine (grades 1-5), & Ignite Confirmation (grades 6-8) will meet. Please bring your bibles to class with you!

**Fusion High School Monthly Gospel Study:** This group will meet monthly in the Great Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor). Dominic LoGalbo will lead this discussion on **Sunday, November 10, 10:15-11:00am.**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT IGNITE CONFIRMATION**

Grace Lutheran Church & Faith Lutheran Church have partnered together for Wednesday Night Confirmation. This group will meet each Wednesday Night at Faith Lutheran Church (41 Park Boulevard in Glen Ellyn) from 7:00-8:30pm. The sessions will feature a lecture from Pastor Joe Yucha, following with the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students breaking into small group discussions to dive even deeper into the topic. Becky Ficarella and Pastor Melody will be on site to assist with Small Group Leadership. This group will meet every Wednesday in November, except for November 27 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**FUSION HIGH SCHOOL WEDNESDAY NIGHTS WITH FLY (FAITH LUTHERAN YOUTH)**

Grace Fusion High School students are invited to attend Wednesday Night FLY with the Faith Lutheran Youth. Students will gather from 7:00-8:30pm at Faith Lutheran Church (41 Park Boulevard in Glen Ellyn).

**November 6: Small & Large Group Discussion**

**November 13: Small & Large Group Discussion**

**November 20: Fall Flannel Fiesta: Wear your favorite flannel and enjoy a taco bar!**

**November 27: No Youth Group: Happy Thanksgiving!**

**FUSION & FLY 30 HOUR FAMINE LOCK-IN @ FAITH**

Friday, November 8-Saturday, November 9 Grace Fusion & FLY will team up to experience 30 hours of hunger, gaining a better understanding of those who experience famine on a regular basis. More details to come via E-Mail.

**Special Events in November****Grace Foodies Tuesday, November 5 6:00-8:00pm**

Grace Foodies returns for a new season of good food and fellowship! This time, we will visit an old Glen Ellyn favorite, Barones Pizza. Child Care will be available at Grace from 5:45pm-8:15pm, including a pizza and veggie dinner, movie and games for the kids. There are 30 spots available for this event, so plan to sign up early! Signup sheet will be at the Welcome Slat Board Wall in the Narthex.

**All Ages Barn Dance: Sunday, November 10 2:00-3:30pm**

The Barn Dance season begins again at Grace! Come join us in Grace Gym for live music, which includes a dance "caller" to tell the group which dance steps to follow. This is a great work out and a joyful time for all. Bring a friend and step to the beat!

**Generations Choir: Wednesday, November 13 6:00-7:15pm**

Have you always wanted to join choir, but you can't read music? Does your four year-old long to sit in the choir loft and sing with the adults? Are you just too busy to commit to choir on a permanent basis? Are you already in Grace Choir and want to join this group too? Well, you all have a place in Generations Choir! This group will meet four times this year. We gather at 6:00pm to enjoy a potluck meal together. Check out the slat wall to sign up to bring a dish. We will finish up dinner by 6:30 or so, and plan to learn our song from 6:40-7:15pm. The group will present the song on Sunday, November 17 during the worship service.

Please let Becky Ficarella know if you have any questions!  
bfcarella@graceglenellyn.org 630-469-1555 x17

WOMEN OF GRACE



We will gather at Reserve 22 in Glen Ellyn on Thursday, November 21 from 7:00-9:30pm for fellowship, snacks and a beverage. Friends are always welcome to join us.

GRACE YOGA FALL SESSION 2  
TUESDAYS, 6:15-7:15PM

Fall 2 Session will begin on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> and run through Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> in the Great Room. This session may be purchased at \$8 per class when a package is purchased at \$48, or you may come anytime for a \$10 drop in fee. All are welcome to join us in this calm and soothing practice. Please see Becky Ficarella with any questions!



ESSE ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Please support the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual ESSE Pancake Breakfast on **Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-11:00am**. We are one of 32 local churches that support ESSE (Ecumenical Support Services for the Elderly). They are a non-profit organization that provides daily respite care for elderly adults with dementia in Glen Ellyn, Wheaton, and Warrenville Centers. As a board member I am selling tickets to the pancake breakfast for \$5/each. We are also looking for donations to be part of the ESSE Angels. Your gift is fully tax-deductible. Please see me for tickets or donation forms. Please let me know if you would like more information on ESSE.

Thank you.

Susi Nelson

snelson003@comcast.net  
(630)297-3620

Daylight-saving time ends

- Turn your clock back one hour tonight before going to bed.
- It's also time to change batteries in your smoke detectors.



Set Clocks Back 1 Hour  
First Sunday in November  
November 3, 2019

WEEKLY BUILDING USAGE

Sunday	8:30am	Grace Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	9:00am	Grace Lutheran Worship
Sunday	10:15am	Faith Formation
Sunday	1:00-5:00pm	FCCC Classes & Worship Service
Sunday	5:00-6:00pm	Support Group
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
2nd Monday	5:30pm	Executive Committee
2nd Monday	6:00pm	Grace Finance Ministry
3rd Monday	7:00pm	Grace Church Council
Monday	7:00pm	Bible Study
1st Tuesday	10:00am	Social Ministry
3rd Tuesday	10:00-Noon	Sr. Center Book Club
1st Tuesday	11:00-12:30pm	Sr. Center Exercise Class
2nd Tuesday	11:00-12:30pm	Sr. Center Exercise Class
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	6:00-7:30pm	Pill Bottle Project
1st Tuesday	6:00pm	Grace Property Ministry
Tuesday	6:15-7:15pm	Grace Yoga with Becky!
Tuesday	6:45-9:30pm	Society for Creative Anachronism
1st Wednesday	9:30-11:15am	Community Quilters
3rd Wednesday	9:30-11:15am	Community Quilters
4th Wednesday	10:00-Noon	Sr. Center Movie
3rd Wednesday	11:15am	Faith & Friendship Luncheon
Wednesday	1:00-3:00pm	Food Pantry for Clients
Wednesday	7:00pm	Grace Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	8:00-10:00pm	Support Group
3rd Thursday	10:00-11:30am	Women's FaithTalk
Thursday	1:00-3:00pm	Food Pantry for Clients
4th Thursday	7:00pm	Women of Grace (Reserve 22)
2nd Thursday	7:30-10:00pm	Trad Irish Music Session
Friday	6:30-7:45pm	Support Group
Saturday	8:30-11:00am	Sunflower Dancers
Saturday	9:00-1:00pm	Slancholedi Language School
Saturday	6:00-8:00pm	FCCC Worship

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

NOVEMBER 27, 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!

GRACE TO YOU

ARTICLE SUBMISSION SCHEDULE

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

December Issue  
Due November 6

January Issue  
Due December 4

**COMMUNITY QUILTERS**

We meet in the Gathering Room downstairs on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 9:30-11:15am to create quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

You don't need to be an experienced quilter to join us—you don't even have to know how to sew! We need folks to sort fabric, cut out squares, lay out patterns, thread needles (we have threaders to make it easy!) and tie knots. If you would like to do some of the work from your home, you can do that too.

**We are accepting donations of fabric (any size and shape), sheets, and thread.**

These quilts provide hope and comfort to people who have lost everything. You can be part of someone's Good News! Hope to see you soon.

**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.

**ALL-AGES FAMILY BARN DANCE  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 FROM 2-3:30PM**

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. Invite a friend! Questions? Need a little encouragement? Email Meg at [meg.dedolph@gmail.com](mailto:meg.dedolph@gmail.com)



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

**Every Member: Minister & Missionary!**

Melody Eastman, Pastor  
Becky Ficarella, Ministry Associate  
Carole LoGalbo, M.S., LCPC Parish Counselor  
Barbara Sudds, Office Manager  
Bradford Thompson, Minister of Music

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:30am - 3:00pm  
Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 - 3:00pm

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Shirley Sauerman, Joe Jacobo, Jan Miller, Dolores Nosal, Fred Warnke, Rich Davison, Lucy Soorey, Marty Friend, Scott Kacz, Jay Malo, Benjamin Cuatzo and Susan Papierski, for healing and strength.



Family of Russell Lantz for comfort in grief.

**Prayers for our Homebound Members:**

Farrel Benefield, Anita Blakemore; Bob Clauss, Evelyn Elson, Patricia Moore, Carol Peterson

**NOSES AND NUMBERS**

DATE	ATTENDANCE		OFFERING
	9:00AM	12:30PM	
9/1	61		\$5,223
9/8	100		\$6,758
9/15	97		\$9,167
9/22	69	8	\$5,145
9/29	83	6	\$1,626

Grace's total income through September 2019 is \$286,084 while expenses incurred during the same period are \$347,572.