

Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn

493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137
www.graceglenellyn.org
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West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod - ELCA

MONTH OF MAY 2020
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Grace To You is the monthly newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn.

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GRACE ACTIVITIES LISTED IN THIS NEWS-LETTER ARE CONTINGENT ON THE STATEWIDE SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER AND LIMITS ON GATHERING SIZE BEING LIFTED. PLEASE GO TO GRACE'S WEBSITE AT WWW.GRACEGLENELLYN.ORG FOR FURTHER UPDATES.

FROM THE PASTOR

At a time when we should be remembering the joy of last month's Easter celebration, we're still dealing with a lot of grief and loss. We've lost community worship. We missed the Triduum as a gathered community--although I hope you were able to enter into that sacred space at home with the worship materials we provided you. Still, it's not the same, is it?

Sometimes there is nothing you can do about loss except mourn it. You can't make up for it, and "better than nothing" replacements don't really fill the hole.

We're getting a crash course in that these days, and (at least as I write this) it doesn't seem to be letting up. We're being told that the impact of the pandemic is still going to get worse. So between this writing (when our faith community is primarily dealing with loss of worship and our members are dealing with loss of income) and your receiving this newsletter, we could be mourning the loss of a lot more. And if that's the case, we're also mourning the loss of the ability to mourn *together*.

This isn't the post-Easter message I anticipated writing. So much is different, and I have no idea when things will "get back to normal." I don't know if we'll be without community worship through April, or through July. No one knows how to plan or what to expect. We were kinda counting on the Lenten experience of uncertainty and loss being

done by now. But it's still very much present.

But even though we've missed the date on the calendar that's labeled "Easter," I'll remind you that we haven't missed Easter. We *can't* miss Easter, because Easter isn't a day. It's a promise, and that promise doesn't have an expiration date. And in recognition of that fact, we at Grace are going to celebrate Easter on the first day we are able to worship together again. It doesn't matter if it's May or July—we are going to *celebrate* the promise of Life out of death with all the right hymns and full-on organ and flowers. And daggone it, we'll have an Easter Egg Hunt if we want to! And if we miss Pentecost too, then maybe we'll just combine them all into one big festival. (Don't plan on a 50-minute service that day.)

In the meantime, I hope you are still worshipping. I'll keep putting sermons online, and we'll create home liturgies for you to use. I'm calling the season that comes after Palm/Passion Sunday but before we celebrate Easter "Post-Lent Sheltering-in-Place"—or First Sunday in PLSIP for short. And I'm choosing texts that reflect our ongoing longing for, and expectation of Easter.

In the meantime, keep worshipping. Remember to call each other. Not just your friends, but other members of the church. Even if you don't know each other, reach out to remind one another that you are the Body of Christ, joined together with Cords That Cannot Be Broken. Pray with each other. Video chat on Sunday morning, and take turns leading the liturgy with a friend. Mourn that we can't be physically together to pass the Peace and hug and share the Lord's Supper. Look forward with hope to the celebration of Easter.

And remember what a gift it is, and will be, when we can do that together.

GRACE TO YOU

Proclaim, Build, and Serve



COMING UP IN APRIL AT ADULT FORUM

May 3 - The Church

What exactly *is* The Church? And why does it matter if it can't stop bad things from happening? Our last gathering this spring will be an intergenerational conversation with our confirmands and adults doing a post-pandemic analysis. That is, if we're actually post-pandemic.

FAITH TALK

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 10:00-11:30AM

Faith and Pandemic: What's the point of faith in times of crisis? Is there more to it than just trying to make ourselves feel better? A time to process the past months, ask the real questions, and re-discover what hope is really all about. FaithTalk meets on the second Thursday of the month from 10-11:30am.

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD: EASTER DAY

To Be Determined - Worship at 9:00am followed by refreshments in the Fellowship Room.

Easter Egg Hunt in Grace Gym @10:30am or so.

Bring a basket and join in the fun! Find eggs filled with stickers and special treats! No candy or sweets will be in these eggs. We will hand out a fruit snack to children after the hunt is complete. See you there!



FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP: Join us for soup and fellowship with Grace friends. We will meet for lunch and fellowship on **Wednesday, May 20 at 11:15am**. All are welcome! Come join us!!

CONFIRMATION

MAY 17, 9:00AM

Join us as we celebrate the Confirmation of Thomas Danly, Ellie Danly, & Matthew Langner on Sunday, May 17th. We will celebrate this special occasion with a cake and punch reception immediately following service. Please stay to congratulate our 8th Grade students for all of their hard work in their Confirmation program.



A QUICK NOTE FROM YOUR TREASURER

Thank you to all who have continued to donate during these trying times. Despite being scattered, Grace members managed to come together and bless us with a financial lifeline thru this ordeal. Your continued support thru Grace's Website, the mail, or other electronic means will help ensure that when this ordeal is over, there will be a great welcome back at Grace Church!

Yours in Christ!

Joe Jacobo

FAMILY MINISTRY PAGE

SUNDAY MORNING FAITH FORMATION 10:15-11:00AM

Sunday, May 3 park (Preschool-K), Shine (1st-5th grade), & Ignite Confirmation (6th-8th Grade) will meet. Please bring your bibles to class with you.

This is the last day of Faith Formation for the 2019-2020 School Year!

Have a wonderful summer break. Come join us for Community VBS in June!

Ignite Confirmation: You will be finishing your Sunday Morning Faith Formation study in May with Pastor Melody upstairs in the Adult Forum on **Sunday, May 3. Topic: The Church.**

8TH GRADE FAMILY DINNER & CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL

It's time to honor our 8th Grade students for their work in their Confirmation studies! All 8th Grade students and their family are invited to enjoy dinner together on Wednesday, May 13 from 6:00-7:30pm. We will enjoy dinner and rehearse for Sunday morning's Confirmation Service, May 17 at 9:00am. We look forward to seeing you there! **Confirmation Service is at 9:00am on Sunday, May 17th!**

FUTURE 2020 DATES FOR GENERATIONS CHOIR

Bring a potluck item to share for dinner. We will meet for dinner from 6:00-6:45pm and then sing in the choir loft from 6:45-7:15pm. Young and old are invited! You do not need to read music to join this group. ALL ARE WELCOME!

May & June: Generations Choir is on break!

July: Rehearsal is Wednesday, July 15th, presenting at 9am Service Sunday, July 19th

August: Rehearsal is Wednesday, August 12th, presenting at 9am Service Sunday, August 16th

WOMEN OF GRACE MEETS MAY 28, 7:00-9:00PM

Come join us for fellowship and food. We will gather at Wok n Fire in Wheaton from 7:00pm-9:00pm. Bring a friend and join in the fun!

COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RETURNS IN JUNE: 6/22-6/26

We are excited to announce that Grace will continue our VBS partnership with First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn and Faith Lutheran Church. This year Community VBS will take place at First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn, just one block north of Grace. Registration can be found on the main page of the Grace Website.

Middle School and High School students serve as wonderful leaders and assistants for this event. If your student would like to serve the community in this way, please reach out to Becky Ficarella.

Adults!!! We need as much help as we can get with this event! Whether it's prepping in the weeks ahead, serving during that week, or being a set up/clean up helper, we would greatly appreciate your love and commitment to this wonderful week.



BOTH PARTICIPANTS & VOLUNTEERS MUST REGISTER

<https://forms.gle/8SRv38WhYLVWMZ2K7>

GRACE YOGA SUPPORTS THE MORTGAGE REDUCTION

Grace Yoga meets on Tuesdays in the Great Room from 5:30-6:30pm. Class is \$10 and all proceeds will go towards the Mortgage Reduction Campaign! We meet **May 12, 19, & 26**. Mats and props are always available. Bring a friend, support a good cause, and get fit!

Please let Becky Ficarella know if you have any questions!

bficarella@graceglenellyn.org 630-469-1555 x17

FOOD DRIVE FOR GLEN ELLYN FOOD PANTRY

Over Spring Break, Grace member Dominic LoGalbo organized a Shopping Cart Brigade Food Drive. 146+ bags of food were collected and donated to the pantry. That same week a “drive up” food drive, hosted by the Glen Ellyn Park District and the Glen Ellyn Kiwanis, resulted in 1,000+ bags. Financial support was also given online through the Pantry’s website. You may donate at <https://www.glenellynfoodpantry.org/financial-support>. These photos are from those two drives. Thanks to the generosity of friends and neighbors in our amazing community many people in need will be served in the coming weeks.



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	9:00-11:00am	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	Grace Executive Committee
3rd 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	6:45-9:30pm	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	12:30pm	Grace Lutheran Worship
Wednesday	1:00-3:00pm	Food Pantry for Clients
Wednesday	7:00pm	Grace Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	8:00-10:00pm	Support Group
2nd Thursday	10:00-11:30am	Women’s FaithTalk
Thursday	1:00-3:00pm	Food Pantry for Clients
4th Thursday	7:00pm	Women of Grace
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

GRACE TO YOU

ARTICLE SUBMISSION SCHEDULE

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

**June Issue
Due May 6**

**July Issue
Due June 6**



WOMEN OF GRACE

Come join us for fellowship and food on **Thursday, May 28**. We will gather at **Wok n Fire in Wheaton** from 7:00-9:00pm. Bring a friend and join in the fun!

**CROP WALK
SUNDAY, MAY 3**

This mission has not changed due to COVID-19 and, in fact, the need for local and global food supply is even more imperative - so let's stay focused and do everything we can to raise funds to fight hunger!!

The event on May 3 will adapt to the limitations in place at that time - while we cannot predict exactly - we have decided the following:

1) Let's Walk: May 3 at 1pm separately but together in our cause!! You can walk anywhere and any distance - but let's all walk at 1pm. You can walk three miles in a park or one mile in your neighborhood or three feet in your living room!!

Action: Sign-up on this website so we can see everyone who will be walking!! Or contact me, Mike Pertle, and I can sign you up!! Even family and friends in other cities and states can participate!! There will be no gathering or check-in - just walking!

2) Donate: Please continue to encourage people to donate to this cause. This web page enables online contributions and we welcome donations now through May!!

Action: Send this link to family and friends anywhere in the U.S. who want to help support our local and global food supplies!! If you sign up to walk, they can donate directly to you or to Gary Church as a whole. Any amount is appreciated!! To donate, sign up to walk, or both the website is available now!!

crophungerwalk.org/glenellynil/garyumc2020

What's important is that we remain purposeful to this cause and stay in community even if we are not physically together! Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 3 to participate any way you can!

Thank you,
Mike Pertle
mike.pertle@gmail.com
630-488-0880



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GLEN ELLYN

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania Avenue
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137
Office: 630.469.1555
Emergency Pastoral Contact: 630.674.2887
Email: info@graceglenellyn.org

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

Nancy Lantz, Norma Petersen, Dorothy Tracy, Sigrid Elliott, Rich Davison, Chris Danly, David Dean, Marty Friend, Bob Beckman, Chuck Beckman, Susan Papierski, and those infected with the Covid-19 virus for healing and strength.

Birthday wishes to Marilyn Goodrich, 92 (5/5); Robert Clauss, 90 (5/6); Bob Stein, 92 (5/14); Dolores Nosal, 96 (5/18); Evelyn Elson, 96 (5/19).

Family and friends of Russell Lantz, Rita Webster, and loved ones lost to the Covid-19 virus 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
	SUNDAY	WEDNESDAY	
3/1	78	5 & 20	\$ 5,978
3/8	72	6 & 21	\$ 4,265
3/15	xx	xx	\$ 6,236
3/22 & 29	xx	xx	\$ 8,750

Grace's total income through March 2020 is \$94,257 while expenses incurred during the same period are \$118,934.