

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 AUGUST 2022
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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

I'm excited about the concert we have coming up this month. But then, I'm always excited about the chance to hear live music—whether it's you all singing on Sunday morning, or stand-

ing and listening (sometimes with your mouths open!) to Bradford's amazing postludes, or Marty fiddling around on his guitar while I cook, or heading out to a folk fest. There is always just...something...about live music that I find healing to the soul.

Luther said that when you sing, you pray twice—in the words, and in the music. I think that's maybe true for instrumental music too. The melody itself rises as an offering, but it also reaches out and connects the people listening to it. Music becomes a prayer for community and connection, and it draws you in to find a place within it along with other listeners.

And live music, I think, does so even more than the many CDs and albums Marty and I own. As you might remember, my brother Chuck is a certified music practitioner. He is currently writing a book on his experiences providing live therapeutic music to people in hospital and hospice settings. What he (and others) have discovered is that somehow the vibrations from the instruments seems to have a profound effect on the body's regulatory systems. Even when playing open chord progressions rather than recognizable melodies, he finds that people's blood pressure lowers, their breathing regulates, and pain diminishes significantly. In short, the music provides healing, and some research studies he has participated in have yielded the statistical evidence to support that perception.

Beloved, we are carrying so much worry and pain in our hearts right now. The escalation of anger, violence and threat is overwhelming. I'm not saying we should—or can afford to—ignore that reality. But we also can't afford to let our anger and worry become what is most present to us in our day-to-day lives. If we succumb to hopelessness, we're only going to contribute to the cycle of pain.

So instead we will seek out (and share!) beauty in the midst of the world's struggles. I seek out musicians to perform at Grace because it brings people together for something lovely and positive. In music, there are no losers—everyone wins! Music can lift our spirits and center our souls. I find that music breaks my heart and lets the prayers hiding in there fly free—whether they are prayers of laughter or of lament. And I appreciate the musicians who have been gifted with the ability to help me lift my longing and my thanks to God. Whether the music is secular or sacred, it can reach in and connect me with something bigger. And that gives me hope.

By the way, I'm not *trying* to book only Irish musicians! It's just that the Irish music community is where so many of my connections lie—but I'm open to bringing in anyone who has hope and beauty to share. Let me know if you know someone who might like to play for us.

And in the meantime, go ahead and get your tickets for Emma Langford. She is different from the other musicians we've heard, her voice is a dream, and how can you go wrong with guitar, cello and flute? Bring a friend and join us for the healing power of music. Wednesday, August 17, 7:00 p.m.; tickets are \$15 and available at our website.

Pastor Melody

GRACE TO YOU
Proclaim, Build, and Serve



SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 9AM

Join us for worship with communion followed by fellowship and coffee in the Fellowship Room.

ZOOM WORSHIP

We will continue to offer a Zoom link for our Sunday worship service for those who are continuing to participate from home. If you need a bulletin, remember you can view (on another device) or download/print a bulletin from Grace's website. Just click on *Quick Link to Worship*.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89031586315>

Dial In: 1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 890 3158 6315

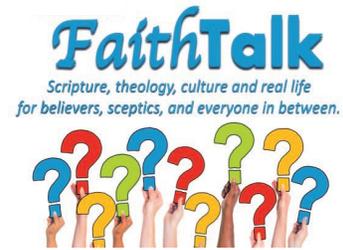
Please remember your offerings to Grace. You can mail them to the church, have your bank mail them to the church, or contribute through our website, www.GraceGlenEllyn.org.

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIME TO CHANGE IN SEPTEMBER

The Church Council received several requests from congregation members to review the start time of our Sunday Worship Service. After a thoughtful discussion, it was unanimously decided to make a change. **Beginning on Rally Day, September 11, 2022, Sunday worship at Grace will begin at 10am and Faith Formation will be at 9am.**

PEOPLE OF GRACE TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 7PM

Women of Grace and *Men of Grace* combined this summer into one for summer fellowship at Reserve 22 in Glen Ellyn. Please RSVP to Jeff Nelson or Becky Ficarella if you plan to join us. See you there!



**THURSDAY, AUGUST 4
12:30-2:00PM**

In August, bring your devices—laptops, smart phones, tablets, iPads, iPhones—and your questions on how to get the most out of them. We'll offer some tech assistance to help you stay connected and maybe even simplify your life!

FaithTalk is not a closed group—you are welcome to join us at any time! We meet on the 1st Thursday of the month in the basement kitchen/group room (formerly called the Youth Room). Discussion runs from 12:30-2:00pm.

GRACE GIVES AT BUONA BEEF IN GLEN ELLYN TUESDAY, JULY 26

We will celebrate our July Fundraiser at Buona Beef, 395 Roosevelt Road in Glen Ellyn. 20% of all orders placed, dine in and carry out, will go to Grace Gives when you bring your flyer (online and in the narthex) and mention Grace Gives. Want to eat with a group from Grace onsite? Attend Fellowship Dinner Hour at Buona Beef at 6pm. See you there!

GRACE GIVES AT MCCALISTER'S DELI IN WHEATON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

We will celebrate our August Fundraiser at McCalister's Deli, 1901 S. Naperville Road in Wheaton. Come in all day and order! Hours are 10:30am-9pm. **You will need to drop your receipt into the bin at the front counter to receive the 20% credit back for Grace Gives!**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: PROGRESSIVE DINNER SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

The Progressive Dinner has been RESCHEDULED for Saturday, September 17th. The signup sheet will be posted in the Narthex in August.

GRACE LUTHERAN'S CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY MINISTRY

RECONNECT RALLY DAY IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

Come celebrate Rally Day on September 11th as we "Reconnect" as a Congregation. Whatever has made it a challenge to get to Grace Worship this past season, we invite you to return to Grace on this day of "Reconnection." We will have stations to rotate to enjoy food, dessert, a get to "know" you game, prizes, games, bubbles, and two Mission Projects! We invite EVERYONE to come join us as we begin our new Worship Service time at 10:00am, and then stay after for the Reconnection Rally Day Fun!

Backpacks & Briefcases Blessing during the service.

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is the ELCA churchwide day of ministry. We will celebrate this day with two mission projects to support during our Reconnect Rally Day festivities after the 10am Service.

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH WILL BEGIN ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH AT 9:00AM. MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF GTY.



FAITH FORMATION TEACHERS FOR CONFIRMATION AND HIGH SCHOOL ARE NEEDED!

We have a lot of opportunities to connect within our local church community in Glen Ellyn and Wheaton in these age groups. As the Community VBS partnership continues to grow for our younger children, the five Congregations will continue to see these children grow into Confirmation and High School Ministry. We are looking into connected Summer Service Trips and other fellowship and service events together throughout the school year.

Do you have a heart for these age groups? They will need your support to stay connected within this greater community framework as well as within the Grace Community.

Confirmation Teaching Needs

Can you assist on some Wednesday nights at Faith Lutheran Church from 7-8:30pm September-April? Can you lead a discussion, mission activity, or craft for the Middle School students on a Sunday morning,

September-April?

High School Teaching Needs

Can you lead a discussion, mission activity, or craft for the High School students on a Sunday morning, September-April?

Can you help lead the group and accompany them for a Community High School retreat in June 2023, meetings for the retreat to be determined by you and the group?

Please let Becky Ficarella know if you are interested in helping in these much-needed ministry groups for our youth bficarella@graceglenellyn.org

Peace Be Upon You Grace Family and Friends.

Becky Ficarella, Ministry Associate

bficarella@graceglenellyn.org

847-347-0928



**EMMA LANGFORD AND ALEC BROWN
IN CONCERT AT GRACE!
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 7:00PM**



Join us for an outstanding evening of music with this folk duo before they head north to appear at the famous Milwaukee Irish Fest! Emma plays acoustic guitar and performs her own songs, many of which are inspired by traditional Irish and folk music (with, she says, a hint of Joni Mitchell and Janis Ian thrown in), and Alec is a wonderful cellist, flautist and singer in his own right. Together they create a delightfully unique take on traditional tunes and songs with a warm and folksy approach. Tickets are \$15 and are available through the office or on Grace’s website.

SR. CENTER CHAIR EXERCISE

The exercise class meets Mondays and Tuesdays at 10am. The Thursdays class will not meet in June, July, or August. Registration is required as the number of attendees will be limited. Please contact Sue Davison at 630-858-6343 to register.

QUILTING MINISTRY

This ministry meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 9-10am. Everyone is welcome, bring a friend!



**VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE
THURSDAY, JULY 21**

Our next blood drive will take place on **Thursday, July 21 from 2:30-7:00pm.** Registration information is available in the narthex and on Grace’s website.



COMMUNITY VBS

A Great BIG THANK YOU! Community VBS was a wonderful success and we couldn't have done it without you! Thank you to ALL of our members who prayed, purchased supplies, washed and prepped supplies, lead students, made snacks, watched babies, etc!! Over 100 kids had a complete blast all because five congregations came together and shared what the message of Christ's Compassion in our world is all about!

Here is our Grace Crew in their Yellow Village! Thank you so much to Cindy Drager for leading our crew through Compassion Camp.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Dorothy Tracy, Dolores Nosal, Norma Petersen, Brittany Huizenga, for healing and strength.

Prayers for our Homebound Members:

Dolores Nosal, Carol Petersen, Norma Petersen

Birthday Wishes: Beth Bruning, 95 (8/9); Shirley Sauerman, 95 (8/17); Carol Wandke, 92 (8/22); Norma Petersen, 95 (8/26)

AN UPDATE FROM DUPAGE PADS IN WHEATON

Hello, amazing DuPagePads Volunteers!

Are you having fun this summer? In July, kids and their families were treated to a very fun event, our first DuPagePads Family Movie Night! Kids won raffle prizes, ate lots of yummy treats, and watched Pixar's "Turning Red." They even got to meet one of the voice actors from the film! Thank you to Holy Cross Lutheran, Peace Lutheran, and individual volunteers who made this event come together and helped every child feel special!

URGENTLY NEEDED: Non-Refrigeration required microwavable food and other items that guests can prepare in their rooms.

Microwavable foods include: Hormel Compleats (60 Second Meals), Mac & Cheese Cups, Chef Boyardee (with Pop Tops), Instant Rice & Pasta Pouches, Meat Sticks, Instant Oatmeal, Microwavable Veggie Steamers.

Other popular items include: Vienna sausage or jerky, Tuna & Chicken (all pop top), Granola Bars, Cheez-Its, Cookies of all kinds, Microwave Popcorn, Fruit Cups, Juice.

Guests have only a small fridge and a microwave oven in their rooms. Food items that require preparation must be completely microwavable.

Drop off Location and Time:

DuPagePads Client Service Center Donation Box:

703 West Liberty Drive in Wheaton

Donation Attendants are available to help Wednesday - Friday 12pm-4pm.

To schedule a donation outside of these times, please contact volunteer@dupagepads.org



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

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 1:00pm - 3:00pm



ATTENDANCE

DATE	IN-PERSON	ZOOM
6/5	40	0
6/12	43	11
6/19	47	15
6/26	41	10

Remember also that Grace receives cash back when you shop at Amazon Smile. **Sign up for AmazonSmile and select *Grace Lutheran Church* as your Charity of Choice** and 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>

