



GRACE NOTES

NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE LUTHERAN'S MISSION STATEMENT

As disciples in Christ, we support our faith community, encourage spiritual growth in everyone, and serve all creation with Christ-like love.

We accomplish this by:

- spreading God's Word,
- building relationships,
- serving the community
- reaching out to those in need



May 2022

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The people of Grace Lutheran Church have been ministering and serving so faithfully and so much, especially since the pandemic began! People of Grace have done this in merciful examples of sacrifice and love for neighbors, energetically following Jesus! With good reason, many people are also tired.

Whether Jesus and the disciples were on the move or settled in, there was always more work to be done. And Jesus knew that there was also need for sabbath, a time for worship and fellowship.

Some of what we saw and heard at our March Council was the awareness of just how many important ministries we are engaged in right now, and how so much of that service is being done by an active core. With the approval of our Council of Grace, we will take a sabbatical for people of Grace.

Sabbatical: a month of Sundays

July 2022 will be a month of sabbath rest @ Grace.

Worship and fellowship, period. No meetings.

When we prepare for vacation, we have to get ready ahead of time, we have to account for work and home while we are gone, and we have to plan for what will need to happen when we return. Each of our ministries, each of our committees, even the time sensitive work of the Grace Place Task Force and Property Committee, are invited to take sabbath rest during the month of July, and **not** meet, **not** work. We can use May & June to plan for our time of rest and restoration, as well as to prepare for re-engaging in August.

Food pantry work will obviously continue.

Emergencies (such as a funeral) will still be served.

Thank you for the gifts you have given during these many days of pandemic. May we thank God by taking the gift of sabbath for a month.
with Grace, Pastor Krieger

Join us for worship online:

FACEBOOK, YOUTUBE, OR BY EMAIL

You can go to either our website at www.gracelutheran-springfield.org on Facebook to *Historic Grace Lutheran Church* or to our YouTube Channel: Grace Lutheran Church Springfield IL and you will be taken to a link that will allow you to view the video of the services for the weekend.



Grace Sampler

New **membership** "classes" for anyone who would like to know more about becoming a member of Grace Lutheran Church

June 2022 Growing in Grace

Many of the people who are a part of Grace Lutheran Church are official members of the congregation, while others are not. Members are those who were baptized at Grace Lutheran Church, or transferred their membership to Grace Lutheran Church. These "classes" *after worship in June* are for those who would like to consider being a member of this congregation (there is no obligation to become a member; it is your choice).

If you are interested, please contact Pastor Tom Krieger **by May 15** at 815-848-5884 or tomkrieger63@gmail.com. You can participate in-person or online by Zoom. Here is a proposed schedule, subject to change based upon the needs of those who are interested:

Sundays 10:30am-11:00am

June 5 What membership does

June 12 What Grace does

June 19 What Lutherans do

Sunday 9:15am

June 26 Affirmation of Faith (join Grace during worship)

with Grace, Pastor Krieger

Look for
SUMMER



FORMS

beginning this week at the back of the church.



PENTECOST
June 5

SING SONGS OF PRAISE Notes from the Cantor...

JAMES 5:13

Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.

Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been: evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

All Creation Sings, #938, "Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers," stanza 4. Sung to ST. HELENA (the same tune as "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy.")

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949, ©1988 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-724651

Do some "find religion strange"? Put another way, are they *estranged* from religion? In spite of the good news that we proclaim in word and song this Easter season, some hear only judgment and condemnation from Christianity. I was reminded again by Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber's Easter sermon blog that this is not the way of Jesus. Jesus takes us AS WE ARE. He doesn't wait for the disciples to repent for abandoning him and get all brave before he appeared to them in the upper room. He comes to them just as they are: broken, afraid, guilty. In the last line of the above hymn, we are then to be "evidence of transformation." We too can love others as they are. We too can give grace.

Pastor Krieger and I will be volunteering at Pride Fest on May 21. This is a family-friendly festival in downtown Springfield celebrating the LGBTQ+ community (LGBTQ+ means *lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, plus others*).

We do this to show Christ's love to a community that has heard something else loud and clear: "Be something you are not, and *then*, Jesus will love you. Disappear, and *then*, we can *tolerate* you." That is not the gospel, my dear friends of Grace. You all exemplify the gospel of Grace in so many ways to me so often. Won't you join me in proclaiming that gospel far and wide, including in our own neighborhood at Pride Fest? They still need volunteers to help with things like hospitality, garbage pickup, and the like. Many folks at the festival do not have parents and grandparents that show them God's love. You can do that!



Sign up at <https://www.springfieldpride.org/2022-volunteer-application/> or go to [The Phoenix Center: PrideFest 2022 \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com)

Serving the Assembly in May

May 1

Greeter: Sally Erickson
 Ushers: Frank Beckman &
 Paul Derlitzki
 Reader: Pat Casper
 Communion Asst.: Sara Oehlert

May 8

Greeters: Gara Hurst &
 Arlene Honeycutt
 Ushers: Kim & Pam Schlicht
 Reader: Annie Ellis
 Communion Asst.: Randy Heidorn

May 15

Greeter: Laurie Farrell
 Ushers: Chris & Mary Schofield
 Reader: Addison Downey
 Communion Asst.: Diana
 Weyhenmeyer

May 22

Greeter: Cindy Anderson
 Ushers: Mark Anderson &
 Amelie Janssen
 Reader: Mark Anderson
 Communion Asst.: OPEN

May 29

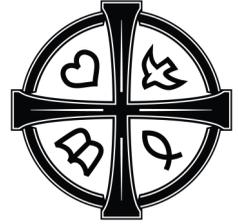
Greeter: Pat Ekle
 Ushers: Jack & Judy Wheaton
 Reader: Jack Wheaton
 Communion Asst.: Pat Ekle

Weekend	Date	YouTube	Facebook
Lent 3	3/20/2022	76 In-person	
Lent 3	3/20/2022	31	57
Midweek Wednesday	3/23/2022	16 In-person	12 ZOOM
Lent 4	3/27/2022	76 In-person	
Lent 4	3/27/2022	28	55
Midweek Wednesday	3/30/2022	27 In-person	6 ZOOM
Lent 5	4/3/2022	87 In-person	
Lent 5	4/3/2022	28	50
Midweek Wednesday	4/6/2022	26 In-person	5 ZOOM
Palm Sunday	4/10/2022	96 In-person	
Palm Sunday	4/10/2022	28	48
Maundy Thursday	4/14/2022	43 In-person	
Good Friday	4/15/2022	47 In-person	
The Three Days Video	4/14-16/22	65	58
Easter Vigil	4/16/2022	32 In-person	
EASTER	4/17/2022	153 In-person	
EASTER	4/17/2022	36	99

Stewardship Stories...

From Julian Janssen

These are my first memories associated with Grace Lutheran Church, at least the ones that I can still remember. With memories of the Holiday Happening, I remember watching movies every year, and playing in the gym while the older kids would lead us.



I also remember my first Communion. I thought to myself how every young person at the church will go through this someday. It felt like it was a big deal, and it was. But now looking back, it really was just my first step to becoming an adult member of the church.

It wasn't until I was confirmed that I started to realize what believing in God, and being a member of a church actually meant. When I was confirmed, I had a feeling of warmth that happens every time I walk into Grace and talk to people. It also happens when I go to the Communion rail.

When I was confirmed, I was overcome with feelings of acceptance and love. Like some kind of high. It felt like I wasn't just a kid who people have to keep a watch on. I was a person of faith. I knew I was put in the community of Grace to serve God, and have a place.

—Written by Mary Plymire

A Stewardship Suggestion

This month our Stewardship Committee would like to suggest that you investigate giving your monthly offering electronically.

It saves the church sending you envelopes.

It saves you time and energy in filling the envelopes.

It assures the church that your giving will be uninterrupted.

If you wish to proceed with this suggestion, call the church office and request that Kim tell you what banking information she needs to set up direct deposit to our church bank account from your checking account. Once you have followed Kim's instructions, the process is set in motion and you do not have to worry until you want to change your pledge. Thank you for prayerfully considering this change to the way in which you support Grace Church financially.
The Stewardship Committee.

STEWARDSHIP FOR ALL SEASONS: *Our first time together will be Tuesday, May 17th from 9-11.*



Diana Weyhenmeyer

With summer around the corner, I thought a refresher on sunscreen and some sun tips might help remind us to stay safe in the sun. Apply sunscreen at least 15-30 minutes before going out in the sun. This keeps you protected and has time to be absorbed. I have a bad habit of putting it on and going especially when golfing.

Another tip is to wear a hat with brim on it to protect your ears from the sun. If you wear a ball cap be sure to put some sunscreen on your ears for protection.

You need to reapply sunscreen every two hours when in the sun. Read the label if in doubt of when to reapply. The sun's rays are harshest between the hours of 10am and 4pm.

The SPF factor varies widely. I will never forget when a doctor told me the only difference between sunscreen is percentage of sun's rays. For example a sunblock with SPF 15 blocks 90% of sun's rays, while an SPF of 50 blocks 96% of sun's rays. Nothing is 100%.

Give babies and children extra care in the sun. Ask a doctor before applying sunscreen to children under age 6 months. Apply sunscreen to children older than 6 months every time they go out. Develop good sun safety habits and practice them together.

Your eyes are also important to protect. Wear sunglasses that offers 99%-100% UV protection. This assures you the glasses block both UVA and UVB rays. The label will tell you this on the glasses. Be wary of dark tinted eyewear sold as fashion accessories that may provide little or no protection from UV light. Don't assume you get more UV protection with pricier sunglasses or glasses with a darker tint. This is a misconception of people. The darker the glasses doesn't necessarily mean better protection. Cataracts can be a result of sun exposure. I am at high risk for skin cancer because of habits I had as a teenager. Risk factors for skin cancer include two or more blistering sunburns in one year, and fair skin. I do monthly mole exams using the ABCD's of Melanoma when checking my moles.

A= Asymmetry (half of the mold doesn't look like the other half)

B= Border irregularity (moles have smooth edges, melanoma moles have jagged edges)

C= Color (say a brown mole all of a sudden turns black or changes color this should be checked)

D= Diameter (any mole bigger than a pencil tip eraser should be checked out)

Have a nice and safe summer in the sun!

In Christ's love, Diana 7

PRAYERS OF GRACE MINISTRY

Not sure about how or what to pray for? The Holy Spirit does and will offer our prayers for us. Romans 8:26 tells us, *"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words."* Romans 8:26 If you have a specific prayer request that you would like added to the Prayer Chain or if you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain email list please contact Kim, in the office, k.gietl15@yahoo.com, Pastor Krieger, or Sara Oehlert soehlert@aol.com

Prayers

Total from Ukraine Benefit Concert came to \$13,422.00:

Doctors without Borders \$3,894.00

Lutheran Disaster Relief \$4,559.00

Presbyterian Disaster Relief \$4,969.00



Thank you to those who came, played music and coordinated this important ministry event joining many groups and churches.

Evangelism... The last paragraph of the seventh chapter of *The Invitational Christian* by Dave Dauert reads in part: "Remember that a vibrant church life includes more than Sunday worship. Perhaps there is a meaningful topic being discussed in adult education or...the congregation is very involved in service... This may be a chance to invite someone."

The Grace family offers many service opportunities from once-a-year meals on wheels to seasonal food baskets to the on-going food pantry.

The Grace Forum (formerly Adult Forum) will present "Grace Spaces" two Sundays in May in which the

historic and symbolic aspects of the art and architecture of our worship space will be discussed. All are opportunities to invite a friend to join you. Concluding Chapter Seven, Dauert writes:

"Inviting someone to learn with you, enjoy something with you, or serve with you may not be a Sunday worship invitation but it can be a great and meaningful starting point for connecting a friend with something that matters to you, to them, and to God."





EASTER BASKET HONOREES

91 Easter Baskets were taken to Black Hawk, Franklin, McClernand and Jefferson as well as some in need. We thank you for your generosity and this will help with Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets too.

Joyce Abrams - Remembering Bob Abrams

Anonymous - In honor of Charlotte Blumle

Aaron & Jaymie Babel - Remembering Kevin Krone, Eunie Krone, and Clarence Krone

Curt & Valerie Benanti - Remembering Clara and John Benanti, Carolyn Benanti, Elizabeth and George Clough, Edna Nation and Adysen Lowery

Bob & Annie Ellis - Remembering Charles and Tom Wilhelm

Sally & Tom Erickson - Remembering members of the Bryden, White and Erickson families

Ann Evans - Remembering my parents

Faith/Grace Circle - Remembering Eunie Krone

Laurie Farrell - Remembering loved ones

Gloria Gagnon - Remembering Leslie Gagnon

Larry & Leona Garrison - Remembering Charles and Laura Thompson, Verne and Florence Garrison, Jim Harry, and other family members

Anna Mae Handshy - Remembering Marshall, Mary Handshy, and Beth Booker

The Hoselton family - Remembering loved ones



EASTER BASKET HONOREES continued

Trudy Israel - Remembering Pastor Bertrand and Maxine
Petrick, Bernice and Charles Israel

Corinne Kircher - Remembering Frank Kircher, Helen
and Ray Howell

John & Toni Klit - Remembering Beth Booker

James Krieger - Remembering Karen Krieger S.A.M.

Adam, Heidi & Adalyn Lowery - Remembering our daughter,
Adysen Lee Lowery

Cathy & Bruce Loyd - Remembering Joe and Betty McCue,
Margy and Richard Loyd

Sara Oehlert - Remembering Allen Oehlert, Dorothy Oehlert,
Walter Oehlert

Wilbert Rehwald - Remembering Barbara Rehwald

John & Debbie Rigg - In honor of grandchildren; Emma, Nolan,
and Chelsie Best, Oliver and Isabel Middleton

Chris Schofield - Remembering Sylvia Crawford

Salli Shields - Remembering beloved Patrick Shields, the Pope family
and McVey family

Betty Webb - In honor of my many friends who help me get
through my senior years

Chuck & Diana Weyhenmeyer - Remembering family and friends

Ed & Judy Wollet - In honor of family

FOOD PANTRY REPORT

As Christ fed the multitudes, the mission of the Grace Lutheran Church Food Pantry is to feed the hungry.

The week of April 17 was National Volunteer Appreciation Week, a reminder that every week is volunteer appreciation week at the Grace Lutheran Food Pantry. We have about 60 volunteers whose tasks include picking up food from the Central Illinois Food Bank and local grocers; unloading, sorting and storing the food; cutting up bulk meats; packing casserole ingredients and bags of canned fruit; packing bags of food and personal items for the homeless; packing grocery bags of non-perishable foods for all clients; logging clients into our data base; keeping our client distribution area stocked, and distributing food and personal items to the clients. Thank you every day of every year to them – and to the congregation of Grace for the significant in-kind donations and staff support you contribute to our operation.

Our volunteer appreciation extends this month to Grace member Dan Hoselton and a crew he arranged from Henson Robinson to deliver and install our new (500-pound), double-door, stainless steel cooler to give us badly-needed additional storage for the milk, eggs and produce we provide to clients. It was an incredibly challenging job to navigate such a large piece of equipment into the building, down the stairwell and into position in the basement.

One more special note of appreciation this month goes out to longtime friend of the Pantry Mary Loken whose Loken Family Fund at the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln made a donation to cover the cost of a replacement refrigerator we needed in the Pantry.

Also this month the Pantry again supported the annual Easter food basket project sponsored (and paid for) by Grace and Peace churches. Ninety households – including 80 from McClernand, Franklin, Blackhawk and Jefferson schools – were given a tote of non-perishable foods, a 10-pound hams, a gallon of milk, a loaf of bread, a 5-pound bag of potatoes, a dozen eggs, a sack of snacks and a bag of personal items.

As for regular Pantry business, the month of March was one our busiest since the onset of the COVID pandemic. For the month we served 561 households and 1,423 clients. Year-to-date through March 31, we had served 1,467 households and 3,855 individuals, representing increases of about 60 percent over the same period a year ago as we return to 2019, pre-pandemic levels of clients. About one-fourth of our clients are over age 55 and about 10 percent are homeless.

We ended March with a Pantry account balance of \$72,806. This is about \$15,000 less than our balance at the start of the year, but that is due in large part to the \$3,000 cost of our new cooler and about \$5,000 in pending reimbursements to the Pantry account that Grace and Peace will make in April to cover the costs of the Easter food baskets they sponsor.

Doug McFarlan, Director 11

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue
<p>1 RACHEL'S DAY 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am Education Hour 11:30 am Christian Ed</p>	<p>2 <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i></p>	<p>3 9:30 am Staff Meeting <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i> 2:00 pm Stewardship 6:00 pm Twisted Stitches</p>
<p>8  9:15 am Worship NO Education Hour</p>	<p>9 <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i></p>	<p>10 9:30 am Staff Meeting 10:30 am Property <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i> 12:00 noon Admin & Finance 6:00 pm Evangelism</p>
<p>15 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am Education Hour</p>	<p>16 <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i></p>	<p>17 9:00—11:00 am Stewardship Cohort 9:30 am Staff Meeting <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i> 6:00 pm Ruth Circle</p>
<p>22 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am Education Hour</p>	<p>23 <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i></p>	<p>24 9:30 am Staff Meeting <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i> 6:30 pm Council</p>
<p>29 9:15 am Worship</p>	<p>30 Memorial Day <i>Food Pantry AND Office Closed</i></p>	<p>31 9:30 am Staff Meeting <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i></p>

2022

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4 12:30 pm Faith/Grace Circle</p> <p>4:00 pm Community Ministry</p>	<p>5 <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i></p> <p>12:10 pm Brown Bag Bible Study</p> <p>PK at Conference Gathering</p>	<p>6 Church Women United ZOOM</p>	<p>7 8:30 am CSIS Synod Council at Grace</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>12 <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i></p> <p>12:10 pm Brown Bag Bible Study</p> <p>5:00 pm Food Pantry Board</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19 <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i></p> <p>12:10 pm Brown Bag Bible Study</p>	<p>20 6:00 pm Sheedy Shores Outing</p>	<p>21 Pride Fest Downtown</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>26 <i>11:00-1:00 Food Pantry</i></p> <p>12:10 pm Brown Bag Bible Study?</p>	<p>27 Grace Notes</p>	<p>28</p>



April
Showers

bring May
Flowers

Servant Opportunities

- Help in the Food Pantry
- Bring undies for students at McClernand
- Help spread the word about our cookbook
- Volunteer with Washington Street Mission
- Volunteer at Pride Fest
- Sponsor a Little Lamb



Downtown Partner in Ministry

Things continue to be very busy at Washington Street Mission. We are still serving more than 120 community members almost every day. Those in your church who wish to volunteer can find opportunities at www.washingtonstreetmission.org/volunteer. As we enter Spring, many may be looking to retire some items from their wardrobe. We would be glad to receive any donations to provide for the needs of those in our city.

Community Ministry is, again, asking for needed items for McClernand School. They are in need of younger children's underwear, specifically children ages 4-7. No socks are needed at this time. There will be a basket, placed in our Narthex during the month for your contributions. Thank you for your continued love and support for the children at McClernand!



Stephen Ministry

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.... Encourage the faint and help the weak. —1 Thessalonians 5:11, 14b
See the people telling these stories, and many others, at stephenministries.org. Pick up a confidential request to meet with a Stephen Minister in the box on the wall in the Fellowship Hall, near the main stairway door. Place it in a plain envelope back in the that box. Stephen Ministry is available in our congregation! We are here to help.

Greetings from Little Lambs Uganda...

We are grateful for God's continued providence for our little learning center. His Hand has been with us from the very beginning through all the highs and lows! This term we were able to add to our numbers.. we currently have 50 little Lambs and 10 members on staff. Our kids are healthy and thanks to the generosity of our friends from Grace we had all the supplies we needed for school for this term and we have been able to pay our teachers in time every month. We continue to provide breakfast and lunch every day and our kids are the best fed in the community...you can see a tremendous change in them from the time we got them! All thanks and Glory goes to God!



We have so much planned ahead of us; we want to reach out to even more children in our community. Everyday at our learning center is a step of faith and the Lord has not failed us yet!

We have been invited to reach out to other Christian schools in Kampala sharing our teaching methods and style...this has given us an opportunity to help bring Christ back into our schools.

Our annual three day camping trip was a success! The children visited the zoo again and we took them to lake Victoria too! That was exciting for them.

We currently have 14 children sponsored and sometimes it is hard to stretch our resources . If you are interested in taking up one of our children we would be grateful as any help goes a long way in feeding and educating our children. Please contact Kim Gietl if you are interested in sponsoring a child at Little Lambs learning center Uganda. We have children between the ages of 3 and 14....our oldest is in the 5th Grade. Our aim is to provide a better way of learning that is going to benefit these children later on in life....our curriculum (ACE) is by far superior to our local curriculum and so we have strongly incorporated it into our daily learning and I can proudly say that all of the children we started with can now read and write! A big feat in a community where no one speaks English! Our dear Kristin's class is in the second Grade now! And they are still excited about learning and can't wait to get to school everyday because of the foundation she laid.

Continues on Page 16

Greetings from Little Lambs Uganda continued...

We see a difference in how our children see the world because of her influence...our prayer is to be able to get small teams in the summer who can volunteer at our learning center in anyway they can so as to continue her legacy of making a difference, also the children love getting visitors, it makes their learning experience even more exciting.



We are still believing for provision for our Kristin Memorial Academy so we can make Kristin's vision for literacy for the neediest in this community a reality. Please pray for the funds to build a community center where we will have a community library open to all the children in the community and extra classrooms so we can serve even more children in need.

Ndigaze Children's choir is another project of ours that brings healing and hope through music and dance....we are still believing for open doors for this group to experience a world bigger than they inhabit spreading the love of Jesus through song wherever they go. Thank you for standing with us...we are still here because you continue to choose us. We do not take it lightly. We pray for you everyday and we are truly blessed! May God bless you all.

Love from Uganda

Helping Little Lambs With School Supplies

Little Lambs in Uganda is starting a new school term this week, thus continuing the dream that Kristin Schattschneider and Barbara Sebulime had to help the children in Uganda. The school has grown this year, and Barbara has provided a list of items that would enrich the students' education. It is my hope that more people become part of the team to obtain these items. I will have the credit card from Thrivent to get some items, and I would welcome help shopping for some of the items. Unfortunately, this money will go quickly. To try and involve more people and get additional items, I will post a list of needed items on the message board in the fellowship area. My hope is that members will sign up to purchase some items and bring them to church by June 15th. Little Lambs is spreading God's word and love to many children and their families. However, they still have many children who could benefit from a sponsor from Grace. Call Kim if you are interested in that. Please call or email Cindy Anderson if you have questions or you'd like to help.(217-971-7847, csanderson112@gmail.com)

Thank You's

- * Thank you to Chuck & Diana Weyhenmeyer who helped with Holy Week services for communion as we began again we appreciate you!
- * Thank you to all those who jumped in and took parts, acolyte, acted out and did what was good for all our special worship services.
- * To JB George and Randy Heidorn for all their expertise with video and sound for our worship experiences.
- * We cannot begin to thank teachers, Kari, Mary, Katherine and Cindy as well as Adult Leaders and Pastor Krieger for teaching in these extraordinary times and getting us back to a little normalcy in classes each week. We thank families for joining us when you are able each Sunday. We love you and hope for restful summers. God's blessings.
- * Thank you for the prayers and concern for Verne and myself as we had COVID. And a BIG thank you to Chris and Mary Schofield for bringing dinner and grocery shopping for us. Carolyn Nelson
- * Once again thank you to the Safer Worship group who have guided us through the year for safety during the pandemic.
- * Thanks for all the help we received for all the Lenten dinners including set-up, clean-up and desserts.

***BIBLE QUIZ!* Identify the book of the Bible by the clue**

1. Statutes passed by Congress
2. Grade on a test (e.g. A-, C+)
3. English band who sang "Land of Confusion" & "Invisible Touch"
4. Court officials
5. Silver medal winners from Asia Minor
6. Biggest Billboard hit of the year
7. Top Ten 1973 Elton John song
8. Cicero, Brutus, & Mark Antony
9. What a tea maker does
10. Person whose attention The Beatles tried to get

Answer key on page 22

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATES...

Join us each week - All are welcome!

Sunday School, Jr/Sr High and Grace Forum regularly meets each week on Sunday morning for Education hour beginning at 10:30am. Grace Forum in the Fellowship Hall and Sunday School and Jr/Sr High group on second floor.

Hearts and Hands for Jesus is our main theme this year and we have awesome teachers and creative ways to learn.

Grace Forum has been studying the book "**Growing Young**". For April 24 we reviewed the Chapter discussion notes, considering action steps, and developed a beginning youth committee. You can join us weekly in person or by ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88044188524>

Meeting ID: 880 4418 8524

May 1 & 15 Grace Forum will be "Grace Places" hosted by Roberta Volkmann with JB George

May 8 Mother's Day we will not have Education hour

May 29 is Memorial Weekend and Education hour will be ending.

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY in person and via ZOOM is held each Thursday at 12:10 pm. We are finishing this spring session with Job. Come join us and bring a lunch.

For when we are not in session here's a suggestion: Some people were interested in reading the Bible in chronological order. Here is a plan which I found online. <https://hisways.org/steward/BibleInChronologicalOrder.pdf> Chris Schofield



If you are graduating high school or getting a college degree —let us know.

We want to recognize you in the June Grace Notes!

A MOTHER'S A MOTHER THE REST OF HER LIFE...

Her heart is no longer her own. She'll never quite ever sleep soundly again. Long after her baby has grown... but she wouldn't trade it for anything else. Don't ask her to try to explain. She'll just smile and tell you she's happy to have more love than one heart can contain.

-Sent in by Charlotte Blumle for all Mothers

HAPPY
Mother's day
May 8

The Fellowship Committee is planning an evening outing to **Sheedy Shores Winery** on Friday, May 20.



The talented duo, Rogers & Niehaus, with a rock 'n roll history including playing with The Byrds, is performing from 6:00-10:00 PM. Typical artists they cover include Crosby, Stills & Nash and The Beatles. You are allowed to bring your own food and/or snacks to share with all others attending. Last summer we met at Sheedy Shores for an afternoon, and everyone had a wonderful time! Please be sure to sign up in the Fellowship Hall.



Liturgical Arts Festival of Springfield (LAFS) *exhibition open April 20 - May 28*

Fri, May 6 @ Immaculate Conception = 7-8pm concert series

Sat, May 7 reception

Mon, May 9 @ Sacred Heart Convent Chapel, Aquinas Hall = 6pm tour, 7pm art, architecture, lecture

Tues, May 10 @ Cathedral of St. Paul = Temple Israel host 6pm wedding arts & apparel, 7pm concert of wedding music

Wed, May 11 @ Springfield Art Association = 4:30-6:30pm Children of Abraham (not open to the public)

Fri, May 13 @ 1st Presbyterian = 6pm spoken word & music – celebrating life's journey; theatrical presentation

Sat, May 14 @ Staab Funeral Home = 7-9pm life & death; funeral artifact exhibits, poetry, music

Sun, May 15 @ 1st Christian Church = 6pm Jazz funeral brass band parade & concert tarfakhan@hotmail.com and delindac@gmail.com

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Council met April 26, 2022

- We thank Peter Reuss from GSB for taking our questions for "**Stewardship for All Seasons**" program as well as Council and committee members who joined us early. Main points are 1. Inform 2. Motivate 3. Ask 4. Thank. Plan will give structure and new ideas with greater involvement.
- **Motion** to accept Frank "RC" Curry into membership—**approved unanimous**
- **Motion** during the month of July Grace Lutheran congregation take a sabbatical. Worship, fellowship and Food pantry only—**no meetings** — **approved unanimous**
- **Motion** for doorway motto "*Grace Belongs Here, You Belong Here*" above the door going from and to fellowship and sanctuary —**approved unanimous**
- Admin & Finance will get recommendations from committees for funding sources not recommend through that committee
- Food Pantry regularly serving individuals and families more like weekly and monthly especially homeless community not just every 30 days as previously needed. Group will discuss sustainability.
- Fellowship winery Outing May 20
- Mutual ministry needs one more female member for the year.
- **Two Motions** were presented through Property to be in verbal contract with Anderson Electric (conduit work) not exceeding \$1000 and Henson Robinson (sewer camera inspection) not exceeding \$1500 both coming from Pree Trust —**approved unanimous**
- **Motion** to approve and prayerfully support participation in "Stewardship for All Seasons" program. The stewardship committee accepts responsibility to lead and implement, with the request that Admin & Finance will a lot an appropriate funding source. —**approved unanimous**
- **Safer Worship** to have "normal" Fellowship hour following services in the summer where committees and members bring food for the hour. With the understanding that those who are feeling ill please stay home and that masks are optional but those who feel comfortable are welcome to wear them as always.

March 2022

\$31,145 Income
\$35,424 Expense
Deficit (\$4,279)

YTD 2022

\$89,445 Income
\$97,659 Expense
Deficit (\$8,214)

March 2020

\$20,127 Income
\$38,149 Expense
Deficit (\$18,022)

YTD 2021

\$81,691 Income
\$97,252 Expense
Deficit (\$15,561)

ALL WOMEN of Grace are welcome at the Women's Circle meetings and other WELCA events.



Rachel's Day is May 1st. In 1994, one woman urged her Bethel Lutheran Church Congregation on the West Side of Chicago, to support children who were facing violence. In 1996, the convention passed the Memorial, resolving that "ELCA Women encourage their Congregations to recognize the first Wednesday in May each year as 'Rachel's Day' (wherein Rachel grieved for her children, based on Jeremiah 31:15-17) Did you know that every 30 minutes a

child or teen dies or is injured from a gun? Rachel's Day is observed by Women of the ELCA annually on the first Sunday in May, though it can be observed any time of the year. It is a time set aside to mourn the loss of our children and to renounce the forces of violence and fear.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

May Friendship Day Celebration on Zoom May 6, 2022. Layette item collections should be completed and delivered after this date.

Time: May 6, 2022 1:00pm Central Time

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88961991610?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88961991610?pwd=dGJnOFdWV0NlVtXZEthd0djaU1MZz09)

[pwd=dGJnOFdWV0NlVtXZEthd0djaU1MZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88961991610?pwd=dGJnOFdWV0NlVtXZEthd0djaU1MZz09)

Meeting ID: 889 6199 1610

Passcode: 818584



Faith/Grace Circle May 4 at 12:30 pm

Ruth Circle May 17 6:00pm

The Women of the ELCA annual picnic is planned for **June 21. Look for details to be coming soon!**

TWISTED STITCHERS... is a group of ladies that get together the first Tuesday evening of the month and have an evening of fellowship and stitching crafts (knitting, crochet, cross-stich, quilting or anything else). Twisted Stitchers will meet **on May 3rd** 6:30 at the home of Cathy McGuire.



May Birthdays

May 2	Jenny Jackson	May 16	Harmon Janssen
May 3	Toni Krone		Ardina Voelker
	Joseph Matteson	May 18	Jerry Janssen
May 4	Jackson Fyans	May 19	Alaina Hawker
	Robin Mahnken	May 20	Page Rehwald
May 5	August Appleton	May 21	Karen Carlson
	Ellie Tarr		Ed Wollet
	Judy Wheaton	May 22	JP Fyans
May 7	Brandy Filson	May 24	Marcella McGowan
	Reddington Luckey		Linda Dunbar
May 11	Nick Behl		Chris Puckett
	Anna Cheek	May 25	Paul Derlitzki
	Phil Galloway		Judy Wollet
	Kelly Zoelzer	May 28	Annabelle & Danielle
May 12	Monica Weakley		Clemons
May 13	Jim Schlouch		

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY and
GOD'S BLESSINGS TO YOU!*

*MAY YOUR birthday
BRING YOU AS MUCH
happiness
AS YOU give*

MEMBERS HOMEBOUND OR LIMITED MOBILITY

DIXIE ALVIES
DOROTHY BAHRE
GLENDA BOWLES

GEORGIANN
BREDEHOFT
GLORIA GAGNON
MARGE HANNER

ELEANOR SAKRIS
ANN SCHLICHT
CRYSTAL SHADID



****Answers to Bible quiz**

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Acts | 2. Mark | 3. Genesis |
| 4. Judges | 5. 2 nd Corinthians | |
| 6. Song of Songs | 7. Daniel | 8. Romans |
| 9. Hebrews | 10. Jude | |

COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THE COMMITTEES THEY REPRESENT

Vice President, Randy Heidorn

Treasurer, Brenda Poston

Secretary, Annie Ellis

Administration & Finance: Ed Wollet

Christian Education: Amy Monahan, Jessica Thannen, Mary Plymire

Community Ministry: Randy Heidorn, Annie Ellis, Diana Weyhenmeyer

Evangelism: Josie Anderson, Aaron Babel

Fellowship: Wanda Williams, Mary Schofield

Parish Life: Mary Schofield, Rosie O'Fallon

Property: Mark Anderson

Stewardship: Mary Plymire

Strategic Planning: Ed Wollet

Worship & Music: Wanda Williams, Randy Heidorn, Rosie O'Fallon

Youth: Julian Janssen

REMINDER: *Committee chairs and/or secretaries please stop at the work room every week so that you can sign off on transactions vouchers.*

Thank you for giving your time.

OUR STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Tom Krieger

CANTOR

J.B. George

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Kim Gietl

CHURCH CUSTODIAN

Aaron VonHolten

PARISH NURSE

Diana Weyhenmeyer

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God's work. Our hands.

To what is God's Holy Spirit calling us?



gracelutheran-springfield.org



Grace Food Pantry operating schedule is:

Mon, Tues, Thu 11:00 am-1:00 pm

OFFICE PHONE: 217-522-3965 FOOD PANTRY: 217-522-9707

www.gracelutheran-springfield.org