

November
2018
Edition

The Lamp

Grace Lutheran Church

Growing in Grace—Making Christ Known

PASTOR'S

Ponderings

One of my favorite things about being part of a congregation is the sense of community that develops. Community is a special sense of belonging to a group of people that you can depend on. And conversely, they feel they can depend on you. It's a realization that none of us exists on an island. Our lives are dependent on each other, and what's good for my sister in Christ is good for me. What burdens my brother in Christ burdens me too.

Because of my love for community, I love to get to know people. I enjoy hearing people's stories: who they are, how their journey has unfolded so far, where they feel they're headed, how they see the world and themselves. That's part of what drew me to be a pastor in the first place. I tend to feel more energized and hopeful about the future when I know the people around me and recognize our shared humanity. I wouldn't be surprised if you experienced that too.

In light of all that, I want to share with you that I'll be seeking opportunities to connect with individuals and families over the next few months. I want to hear your story. I want to connect with you wherever you feel most comfortable. That may be in your home, that may be over coffee, that may be at the church, or a dozen other places. I want you to know that I'm available, and if you're interested in meeting, I want you to approach me about that.

I'll be asking various members of our congregation to meet as well. It's ok to say "now's not a good time" or "let me think about it." I won't be offended in the slightest. But if you're ok with meeting, we can find a common time and place to meet and talk.

In short, I'm here for you. I'm listening, and I want to understand so I can care for you, pray for you, and love you in the best way I'm able to. Thank you for being involved in this family of faith. I look forward to hearing more about you whenever and wherever works best for you.

In Christ,

Pastor Seth

**There will be a Congregational Meeting on November 11th.
The reason is to pass a budget for 2019. Please try to attend!**

Church Council Meeting—September 2, 2018

Present Council Members: Pastor Hecox, Dave Phillips, Lynn Christian, Phil Keller, Diane Carr, Debbie Robertson, Joshua Wilkes, Regina Bauer

Opening Devotions: Dave opened with prayer & Josh opened with devotions.

Minutes of July Council Meeting

Minutes reviewed from previous Council Meeting. Josh motioned to accept, Debbie second. All in favor.

Treasurer's report: Treasurers report reviewed. Lynn motioned to accept, Debbie second. All in favor.

Old Business:

None

Pastors Report

Pastor provided his monthly report. Pastor provided 8 home visits in the previous month. Pastor also provided the following updates:

Gathering Day September 9th- Service will be held inside with communion and meal being held outdoors. Grace Members will be asked to sign up to bring a dish to pass. Games will be provided by Council Members.

Programs- Pastor continues to organize and provide leadership for following education programs:

- Pre-school
- Women's Bible Study
- Men's Bible Study
- Evening Bible Study
- Confirmation

Pastor continues to work on creating Grace Teams and what responsibilities would fall under these teams.

Committee Report

Properties- Debbie Robertson provided the properties report. Report was reviewed and discussed. A reminder will be sent out that Custodian Day is October 2nd. Dave stated that there will likely be additional cost to the boiler for unanticipated insulation. Cost is still to be determined. A Grace Lutheran property cleanup day will be announced.

Youth- Youth will attend Feed My Starving Children on September 26th. On September 28th Youth are invited to attend the "5th Quarter" a community event during the Half Time of the Wilmington Football game sponsored by several congregations, including Grace Lutheran.

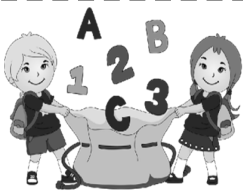
New Business

Dave stated that the Budget Committee will be meeting soon to prepare the 2019 budget.

Next Council Meeting- October 14, 2018. Dave will provide the devotion.

Closing Prayers by Dave.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynn Christian



Grace Lutheran Preschool News

This past month we learned about fire safety and had a special visit from the Wilmington Fire Department. They brought the big fire engine and ambulance for us to in in and look around. They answered our questions we thought of asking. They also gave us fire hats! It was an exciting day for us.

We have taffy apples for sale from our fall fundraiser. There are extras if you'd like to purchase some to help us reach our fundraiser total of \$568.00. They will be available after service on Sunday or at the school during the week.

Mary Kay Hays, Preschool Director

"Clean Up Day, November 11th 12:00-2:30p.m.

The work will be mostly outside however if someone wants to help with minor cleaning inside, it would be great. Inside would be dust cobwebs out of windows, wash windows, scrub tables, clean balcony, clean water fountains, clean chapel.

Outdoor clean up would include: raking leaves, washing windows, cleaning gutters, covering air conditioners, winterizing the fountain and more. Please wear or bring work clothes to church. If we start early, we'll get done early.

If you'd like to do another day (during the week or a Saturday), please sign up and talk to Cindy Filas. Thank you!

The Christian Help Association (CHA)

So many dates will be announced and explained further in the tri-folds that are upcoming as well as next month's Lamp.

Toy Tags will be distributed in mid-November and due in on December 9th, Also due to be turned in on December 9th are gently used coats (for all ages), the green beans we collect, mittens and hats for children 0-18.

This year they are making scrubbies and dish clothes for the seniors (they estimate the seniors at 155). If you don't have a pattern for them, we should be getting directions shortly.

If you have any questions, please see Bonnie Hill.

In Our Prayers

Members: Kurt Fox, David Kirstein, Larry Welegala, Lori Domzalski, & Norma Siebring

Friends and Family of Grace: David Houston (friend of Dan Bell),

Shirley Biernat (Marjorie Soda's mother), Tina McBride (friend of Maryann Ricken),

David DeWald (Irving DeWald's brother), Ewald Stefans (friend of the Warkes),

Jordyn Bell (Dan Bell's granddaughter), Rylee Gowens (friend of the Filas),

Irma Wagner (sister-in-law of Joann House), Dorothy Ann Milling (Joann House's niece),

Lori Jordan (sister of Lynn Christian), Jack Zdanowski (Warkes' nephew),

Lynn Drozd (niece of Jackie Danalewich), Jeanne Kieffer (friend of the Warkes),

Marilyn Butzow (friend of the Warkes), Sarah Hazelrigg (granddaughter of Jean Peterson),

Matt Prodehl (son-in-law of Dan Bell)

Home-bound: Jean Goodwin (*home*), Theresa Klager (*Heritage Woods, Minooka*), Andrew Nielsen (*home*) (Karen Nielsen's husband), Dolly Hoover (*Sunny Hill, Joliet*) (mother of Karen Nielsen), Edie Hess (*Heritage Woods, Manteno*)

Serving overseas in the Armed Forces: Captain Erik Gundersen (Grandson of the Warkes)

Birthdays—November 2018

11/08 Jace Christian

11/11 Jody Godsey

11/18 Wendy Gorges

11/22 Jaime Ray

11/24 Dan Bell

11/24 Brian Melvin

11/25 Helen Warke



Ladies of Grace, let us take a few minutes to reintroduce you to WELCA. We are a group of Grace women who meet monthly for the pleasure of companionship, fellowship, evangelism and fun. Besides the yearly Christmas party, we have gathered for Bunco, Bible study, informational speakers, dessert night, Day at the Races and wine tasting to name a few. We would love to have you come for a night or for a year.

To start the 2019 year out on a new foot, we are asking for everyone to come up with new meeting ideas. We have a few but would love to hear what you enjoy doing. For those that are actively participating in the group, pick a partner, they can be someone that already participates or even better, someone who you think might like having a bit of fun, choose a date and pick a topic from a list or discuss something new.

Starting November 4th, a member of WELCA will be sitting in the narthex with a signup sheet. You will find a calendar with a list of meeting dates and a list of suggested event ideas. And of course, we will be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Please come join us or at least talk to us about our group.

Quilt Raffle

As a group fund raiser, we are raffling off a beautiful quilt. Come by our table in the narthex for the following three Sundays, November 4th, 11th and 18th to buy your tickets. Tickets are \$1 per ticket or "an arm length" for \$10. The winner will be drawn after the 9am service on November 18th.

What a beautiful Christmas gift this would make. Remember you can't win if you don't buy at least one ticket.

2019

January							February							March							April							
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May							June							July							August							
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September							October							November							December							
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29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					

WELCA usually meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month. You will be deciding if the meeting is in the afternoon or evening as well which event you would like to have. You may use the list of topics below or we welcome something new.

Please sign up at the WELCA table in the narthex.

List of Topics

Luncheon at a location of your choice

Dessert/Tea party

Bunco

Horse Races

Bible Study

Bingo

Snitch

Coloring

Shopping

Rock painting

Cakes for nursing home

Paint by numbers

Play/concert at the Rialto

Planning church kitchen cleanup

Scrapbooking

Slammers game

Garden Party

Dinner and a movie

Movie night

Guest speaker

Midewin

Idea of your choice



Missionary for a Day ~ November 2018

11/11	Gary Gruhn	In Honor of Veterans' Day
11/12	Joann House	In Memory of Gene House
11/12	Joann House	In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Theo Wagner
11/17	Susan Trimby	Thankful for Sisters
11/22	Women of the ELCA	For Thanksgiving
11/24	Teri Dicken	In Memory of Steven
11/26	Stan Long	In Memory of Sandra Long
11/29	Jackie Danalewich	In Honor of Andrew's Birthday
11/30	Susan Trimby	In Memory of Grankparants



Continuing our Mission Tradition...Missionary for a Day!

Since the early 1980's the generous members of Grace have been supporting a missionary overseas through the ELCA's Missionary-for-a-Day program by supporting the Vigen family in Madagascar for many years and now supporting the Friberg family in Tanzania.

We will continue to ask for your support into November for the 2019 calendar yea. The cost is \$20 per day. We know that the cost of living for the Friberg family is more than that, but there are other ELCA congregations that support them as well.

Remember the days you sponsored last year and the people you honored on those days? Stop by the table in the fellowship hall and select the dates you wish to sponsor for 2018 and the occasion or person you want to remember. Our goal will be 100 days, but it would be wonderful to surpass that. We would like to have our goal met by mid November. If it would be easier for you, feel free to mail a check to the church and indicate the dates you would like to sponsor and the reason. In addition to our financial support, please pray for the Friberg family, their health and their very important work. They are in Tanzania on our behalf.

"Change for a Change"

This year we are raising funds for the ELCA's World Hunger Appeal. Keep your coins for the donation jar every Sunday (bills are also welcome!). Let's see how much we can raise for this worthy program by Reformation 2019.

Thanks so much for supporting this Worthy cause.

The Stewardship Team



Anniversaries ~ November 2018

11/01	Lori & Bill Quigley	11/25	Janelle & Jeff Reents
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