

Grace Lutheran  
Church is a caring  
community  
of disciples,  
proclaiming the  
good news of  
Jesus Christ.

# Grace Notes

## November 2017

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

If the above reading from Jeremiah seems familiar to you- you would be correct in recognizing it as one of the lessons from Reformation Sunday. While it is entirely possible that we may forget about Reformation Sunday, this letter serves as a reminder of the Reformation message worth remembering.

Last weekend, the presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Elizabeth Eaton, came to the Upper Peninsula to install Katherine Finegan as our Northern Great Lakes Synod Bishop. It was a celebration of great joy! There were many things Bishop Eaton said in her sermon that made me think, but one in particular captured my attention. She was talking about the many ways we put ourselves in a box. We limit ourselves by constructing a box around what we are comfortable with. We don't like to go outside our box. We don't like to think outside our box. One of the boxes we construct is to see God as a 'transactional God.' If we do

'something' then God will do 'something.' It is as if to say, in order to get God to move we need to do something first. If we do our part then God will do God's part.

Notice all the action on God's part in Jeremiah 31. Notice the many times God says, "I will." Notice the very few actions on the part of the people. In fact, I don't see any. There aren't any transactions going on here. There are no boxes we can construct to limit God.

This is the heart of the Reformation message. God is the initiator. We are saved by God's activating grace. For the Lord says, "I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more."

Know that you are saved by grace through the faith of Christ. The same faith the Son has in the Father to heal, to restore, to redeem, and to resurrect. It is worth remembering every day of our lives.

Go in peace, you are free!

Pastor Julie



Dear Grace family,

Thank you for all your prayers, love and support you have given us. We are incredibly blessed to have and be a part of such a wonderful church family.

♥ Katie

Paul

Chance



## Kiitos Paljon



Thank you to Tom Savola, Joe DeForge, Dave Aro and Karl Rundman for their work on fixing the roof. Also thanks to Joe DeForge for all his hard work on fixing the pole barn.

### Birthdays

Lawrence Parolini 1	Hannah Lowney 1	Jan Mikkola 4
Jean Simila 6	Dave Harju 6	Zach Nicholas 6
Sharon Maki 7	Laurie Aho 8	Chris DeForge 9
Ed Semmens 13	Cheryl Stimac 18	Ava Moore 18
Clyde Maki 20	Jeff Bloom 23	Karen Semmens 25
Sandra Mannisto 30		

### Anniversaries

George and Lorraine Makela 14  
 Karl and Carolyn Rundman 24

### Notes from the office

Would you like to start receiving a weekly devotion from the church office on Mondays? Please send Katie your name and email address.

Newsletter items are due in the office the last week of the month.

Please save your Econo receipts and return them to a box in the library. Grace receives 1% of the total receipts.

If we do not have your birthday or anniversary, please let us know.

### Quilters

Wednesday,  
Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>

### Knit, Pray, Crochet

Every Tuesday,  
1:00pm  
All are welcome.

Our kitchen is currently in need of supplies. A great way for our church to save a little money is by having members help supply our needs. In the narthex, there will be a box for donated items. Coffee, dish soap, sugar, bottled creamer, paper plates, napkins, and paper towels are greatly appreciated.



## Custodian Wanted

Grace Lutheran Church is looking for a custodian. Pennie has resigned and we are in need of someone to keep our church clean and safe. This position is approximately 8-10 hours a week. There is a job description and checklist available in the Narthex. If you are interested or have questions, please see Katie.

## Temporary Custodians Needed

Due to the custodian resigning, we are looking for volunteers to help keep the church clean until a permanent custodian can be found. This includes vacuuming the carpets, cleaning the restrooms, mopping floors, etc. We can all help by picking up things that are on the floor, putting items away, making sure the hymnals are in the racks the proper way, etc. We have had a few people helping to vacuum, mop, clean up the flies, but it would be nice to have some more. If you are interested, talk to Katie.

## November Worship Text & Pulpit Supply

### Sunday, Nov. 5

Cheryl Stimac  
All Saints Sunday  
Matthew 5:1-12  
Blessed who are the  
poor in spirit

### Sunday, Nov. 12

Rev. Soren Schmidt  
Matthew 25:1-13  
Wise and foolish  
bridesmaids

### Sunday, Nov. 19

Peter Norland  
Matthew 25:14-30  
Slaves entrusted  
with talents

### Sunday, Nov. 26

Peter Norland  
Christ the King Sunday  
Matthew 25:31-46  
The separation of  
sheep and goats



# CLOTHING GIVEAWAY HELP NEEDED

We are looking for help with the following:

- ♥ Help sorting clothes on Friday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, starting at 9:00am. Lunch will be provided.
- ♥ Supplying baked goods. Please bring them to the church by Friday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- ♥ Donations of paper or plastic bags

See Chris, Heather or Katie for more information.

Clothing Giveaway will be held  
Saturday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to 2pm.

## Welcoming Ways

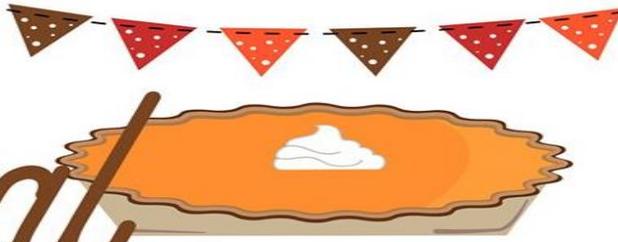
(from NGLS Resources)

### Some follow up ideas:

- ~ Send a card to the visitor expressing how glad you were that they joined you for worship and your hope that they found it meaningful.
- ~ Try a phone call, simply touching base, asking if they have any questions or any ways that the pastor/congregation could be praying for them.
- ~ Some churches even send a note with a coffee gift card.
- ~ During the holidays, send them a note with holiday worship times.

In the next few months, there will be a few tips on talking with visitors coming to worship with us here at Grace Lutheran.

# Pie Social



Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>  
Bring your favorite pie  
to share for fellowship.



Grace  
Lutheran is a  
member  
of the  
Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church  
in America.



Range VFW  
Breakfast  
Every Wednesday,  
9am to 11am  
\$6.00

## Our Hearts to Their Homes

Nancy Harris at home  
Susan Koskela at home  
Delores Paavola at home  
Elaine Aro at Gardenview  
Eleanor Maki at the Bluffs  
Jan Mikkola at at the Bluffs  
Amanda Mountjoy at home  
Laurel Johnson at Lighthouse  
Bill & Sandra Mannisto at home



## Gentle Reminder

The office and financial staff do not work on  
Sunday mornings. Thanks for respecting their  
worship time with their families.

# Service Workers for November

	Nov. 5	Nov. 12	Nov. 19	Nov. 26	
<b>Counters</b>	K. Bridgers J. Baillod	A. Harju C. Wightman	K. Johnson C. Davis	H. Aro M. Bohjanen	
<b>Fellowship</b>	Harju & Jeanotte		Pie Social	Potluck	
<b>Ushers</b>					
<b>Acolyte &amp; Bell Ringer</b>	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth	
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Jeanine Baillod	Cara Wightman		Pam Long	
<b>Reader</b>	Tammy Harju	Carolyn Rundman	Chris Davis	Pam Long	
<b>Sunday School</b>	Janet Kokko	Heather Aro	Chris DeForge	No Sunday School	
<b>Pulpit Supply</b>	Cheryl Stimac	Rev. Soren Schmidt	Rev. Peter Norland	Rev. Peter Norland	

passages taken from  
**“Planned-Giving: Monthly Newsletter Articles”**

[www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org)

## November Charitable Gift Annuities

Charitable Gift Annuities are the most popular way for seniors to make gifts to ELCA ministries while providing themselves with the life income. Gift annuity life income distribution rates are based largely on age. A significant income tax deduction is received, and a major portion of the annual income from the gift annuity is received tax-free. If the intent to make a gift exists, when compared with the current rates of return fixed investments, gift annuities represent a significant improvement in life income for seniors. ELCA charitable gift annuities are thus an excellent way for seniors to enjoy the benefits of a life income gift.

For more information contact:

Timothy Knutson, ELCA Foundation at (414) 477-9979

Pastor Larry Westfield, ELCA Foundation at (262) 224-9574

Bishop Katherine Finnegan at (906) 228-2300

## October Council Highlights

Grace Ministry Site Profile is completed and submitted. The MSP needs to be approved by Bishop Katherine Finnegan, and after she approves the MSP, it will be published on line.

The council reviewed the LRVRT suggested changes for the constitution, along with other possible changes. We will continue, starting with chapter 13, at the next meeting.

Cheryl has tried, but could not make contact with Pennie, after her appointment. Cheryl will try to contact her again for an update.

The Stewardship Committee will have an Always Being Made New presentation on Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Christmas greeting and offering will go to the Omega House.

## Grace Lutheran Congregational Contact Information

### Volunteer Coordinators

Acolytes/Bell Ringers	Katie Bridgers	482-2011
Altar Duty	Chris Davis	482-5567
Communion	Chris DeForge	482-8068
Counters	Marianne Bohjanen	482-8459
Funeral Servers	Patty Savola	281-5100
Readers	Cheryl Stimac	281-7909
Fellowship	Carolyn Rundman	482-6344
Ushers	Pam Long	482-4065
Greeters	Heather Aro	482-0341
Ride Coordinator	Katie Bridgers	482-2011
Office Volunteers	Katie Bridgers	482-2011
Gardening	Janet Kokko	482-2368

### Building & Grounds Maintenance

Paul Bridgers	482-3665	Dave Aro	487-6161
Tom Stimac	281-7910	Pennie Makela	281-4667
Joe DeForge	482-8068	Heather Aro	482-0341

### Parsonage Maintenance

Paul Bridgers	482-3665	Dave Aro	487-6161
Katie Bridgers	482-2011	Cheryl Stimac	281-7909

### Grace Lutheran Council

Cheryl Stimac (President)	281-7909
Joe DeForge (Vice President)	482-8068
Laurie Aho (Treasurer)	482-0817
Julie Belew (Interim Pastor)	
Heather Aro (Secretary)	482-0341
Chris Bohjanen	(482-8459)
Pam Long	(482-4065)
Janet Kokko	(482-2368)
Dave Aro	(487-6161)

# Annual Reports Due!

All committee reports need to be given to Katie by the end of November.

**It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas**

**Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>,**

**10:00am to 12:00pm**

**Come help decorate the church for Christmas.**

**Enjoy cookie decorating and ornament making.**

**Lunch will be provided.**

**All Are Welcome!**



## Grace Lutheran LWR Kits October, 2017

Items	# of Boxes	Total Weight	# Shipped
Quilts	16	305	94
School Bags	7	163	54
Layettes	3	30	10
Health Kits	4	51	32
Blankets	1	15	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>195</b>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>November</h1> 			<b>1</b> 10:00 Cup of Grace 11:00 Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 3:00 After School Program	<b>2</b>  12:30 Games at Grace	<b>3</b>  9:00 Set up for clothing giveaway  8:00 AA	<b>4</b>  9:00-2:00 Free Clothing Giveaway
<b>5</b>  9:45 Choir 10:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 11:00 Worship Cheryl Stimac 12:00 Fellowship for Jan Mikkola's Birthday	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  11:00 From The Foot Up Exercise for Seniors 1:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet 2:00 Stewardship Meeting	<b>8</b>  10:00 Cup of Grace 11:00 Bible Study 3:00 After School Program 6:30 Joint Council at Grace Lutheran	<b>9</b>  12:30 Games at Grace	<b>10</b>  8:00 AA	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>  9:45 Choir 10:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 11:00 Worship Rev. Soren Schmidt 4:00 Fall Conference 4:00 – 6:00 "Let's Eat"	<b>13</b>  12:00 LCW	<b>14</b>  11:30 Kint, Pray, Crochet lunch at Bamboo 1:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet 1:00 Primetimers at Quincy's 6:30 Worship & Music Meeting	<b>15</b>  10:00 Cup of Grace 11:00 Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 3:00 After School Program	<b>16</b>  12:30 Games at Grace	<b>17</b>  8:00 AA	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>  9:45 Choir 10:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 11:00 Worship Rev. Peter Norland 12:00 Pie Social	<b>20</b>  6:30 Prayer Service	<b>21</b>  1:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet 6:30 Council	<b>22</b>  10:00 Cup of Grace  11:00 Bible Study	<b>23</b>  Little Brothers Thanksgiving Meal	<b>24</b>  8:00 AA	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>  9:45 Choir 10:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 11:00 Worship Rev. Peter Norland 12:00pm Potluck	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  1:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet	<b>29</b>  10:00 Cup of Grace 11:00 Bible Study 3:00 After School Program	<b>30</b>  12:30 Games at Grace		

# LCW NEWS

For their Christmas project this year, the LCW has decided to collect money for **31 Back Packs** and wish list items for **the Omega House**. There are envelopes for you to put the money donated to 31 Back Packs. They are on the table in the Narthex. The money will be used to purchase food items for students to have during the Christmas break. Because food needs to be purchased and back packs need to be filled before the students go on break, the money needs to be to the church by November 26<sup>th</sup>. There is a box for you to bring items for the Omega House wish list in the Narthex. Included in the wish list are:

- \*First class postage stamps
- \*Copy paper
- \*Hand sanitizer
- \*Laundry detergent (HE)
- \*Kitchen storage bags
- \*Regular and decaf coffee
- \*Gift cards to area stores
- \*Liquid hand soap & refills
- \*Dishwashing detergent
- \*Laundry bleach
- \*Kitchen & bathroom cleaning supplies
- \*Kitchen & bathroom paper products

*Merry Christmas*



## SECRET SISTERS REVEALED

On Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, following the worship service, we will meet shortly in the fellowship hall to reveal who our secret sister was for 2017. We will also draw names for 2018. If you would like to participate, fill out a pink Secret Sisters form found on the table in the Narthex and turn it in to Cheryl Stimac. We will then draw a name on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Secret Sister is open to all ladies in our church. The idea is to do something for your sister during the year. It could be sending a card, buying a gift, making a craft or art project for that special person, praying for them, going for coffee or lunch (without them knowing you are their sister). You can do as much or as little for them as you want or are comfortable with. It's exciting and its fun trying to imagine who your secret sister is.



# Happy Fall

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

GALATIANS 6:9



### Prayer Calendar – November 2017

1	On this All Saints' Day remember with thanksgiving those extended family, friends, pastors and teachers who have gone before us – their care and support, their love and strength, their guidance and their faithful example – all of their gifts to us of God's grace.
2	Pray for those attending the Constitution Committee Meeting today at the synod office at 11:00.
3	Pray for members of Jerusalem Lutheran Church, Westminster MD (Rev. Lisa Alford), St. Benjamin Lutheran Church, Westminster MD (Rev. David Schafer), and Jerusalem Lutheran Church, Whiteford MD (Rev Hugo Schroeder.)
4	Pray for retired pastors and their spouses: Rev. Eleanor & James Russey and Rev. Douglas & Marilyn Schoen.
5	For all those attending the First Call Theological Event in Marathon WI., Nov. 5-8.
6	Pray for pastors both active and retired celebrating birthdays this month: Katherine Finegan 11/03, LaVonne Stephenson 11/09, and George Candea-Kromm 11/11.
7	November is National Adoption Month. Pray for those children who are now part of a family and have a sense of belonging. Pray for those children who continue to be a part of God's family, while they wait for parents. Pray for all those who open their hearts and their lives to a child.
8	Pray for the spouses of deceased pastors – Betty Linna and Oradell Lindblad.
9	For those attending the World Hunger Committee meeting at noon at the Synod Office.
10	Pray for those attending the Synod Endowment Fund Board meeting at the synod office tomorrow, Nov. 11 at 11:00.
11	On this Veterans Day, we pray for all of the brave men and women who served in our armed forces whether dead, retired from the military, or still serving our country. We thank them for defending our nation, its people, and standing up for oppressed people everywhere.
12	Pray for those attending the Conference 2 meeting today at 4:00 at Finlandia University's chapel.
13	In these days of emphasis on stewardship, we pray that we may become better stewards of all that God has given us, our planet and its resources, ourselves, our time, our talents, and our possessions; all signs of His gracious love.
14	For Ass't to the Bishop, Rev. Jim Duehring as he travels to Iowa to attend the Region 5 Assistant to Bishops and DEM Gathering at Wartburg Seminary Nov. 13-15.
15	Pray for pastors both active and retired celebrating birthdays this month: Micheal Laakko 11/13, Warren Geier 11/13, and Kevin Kaiser 11/17.

16	For those attending the Synod Finance Committee meeting today at the Synod Office 12:30 -2:00.
17	Pray for children who are victims of bullying by others; that their teachers, counselors, and especially other children will help to support them.
18	Pray for Pastors Jennifer Johnson-Wrege, Tom Skrenes, and Jim Wendt as they celebrate anniversaries of ordination this month.
19	Pray for the members of the Christ Lutheran Parish in Ironwood and their interim pastor, Rev. Lisa Ubblelohde as they continue in the call process during a pastoral vacancy.
20	Pray for the members of Yombo Lutheran Church, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and their NGLS Companion Congregation, Immanuel in Negaunee (Rev. Steven Solberg, pastor.)
21	Pray for pastors both active and retired celebrating birthdays this month: Earl Bergh 11/20, Tom Wickstrom 11/22, and David Van Kley 11/25.
22	Pray for prayer ministries across our synod – prayer services, prayer chains, prayer shawls, prayer beads, whatever ways we offer prayer to God for those in need and those who rejoice.
23	We give thanks this day for the blessings God has bestowed upon us – the blessings we see around us in our daily lives; our health, families, and friends; the blessings that we overlook; and most of all the blessings of hope which we have in our Lord, Jesus Christ.
24	Pray for members of Zion Lutheran Church- City Hall Plaza, Baltimore MD (Rev. Eric Deibler), Ascension Lutheran Church, Towson MD (Rev. Nancy Kraft), and St. Benjamin Lutheran Church, Baltimore MD (Rev Michael Guy.)
25	Also pray for all of our seminary students, this month we especially pray for Bill Wendorf.
26	Rejoice! Christ the King is here, on his throne, on the cross, and here in our midst. Give thanks to God this day for Christ our King.
27	Pray for church choirs everywhere, and their musicians and directors. Thank them for the hours spent practicing to send joyful praises to our Lord.
28	For those attending the NGLS Worship Committee meeting today at Bethany, Republic, at 10:30 E.T.
29	Pray for our government leaders at every level that they will work to protect and strengthen those who live on the margins of our society.
30	For those attending the Synod Stewardship Committee Meeting today at the Synod office 10:00 – 1:00.

“We pray for congregations in the Delaware-Maryland Synod as part of our domestic partner synod relationship.”