

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

# Grace Notes

## January 2018

*Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.  
Joel 2:28*

No, it is not the season of Pentecost which is typically the time of year we hear this text reference by Peter in the book of Acts from the prophet Joel. Joel speaks during a time of reconstruction for the house of Israel. He calls people to turn to God for help in times of trouble, coupled with the assurance that God is compassionate, slow to anger, and abounds in steadfast love. This passage pulls us into future hope. A place where God's spirit urges us to dream and imagine what God is capable of doing.

Several years ago I was fortunate to hear the Trans-Siberian Orchestra in Green Bay. One of their symphony pieces sang of the Christ child as he lay sleeping. "And he dreamed of another world, in another time, and another place. Where no man has to wear a sign saying where he's from, saying what's his race. And he wants us to believe- this world that he sees. What is the dream of this night? Why does it echo forever... here in the cold at the end of the year."

The start of a new year is a time for reconstruction. It is an invitation to dream and imagine a world as God envisions it to be. A world where all are equal. A world liberated from hatred and fear. A world of peace.

From Advent to Epiphany, the text for the thanksgiving at the table reads: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

The dream has been given. Christmas started the sound of the echo that vibrates through epiphany. Dare to dream... the world that he sees.

Peace to you this new year filled with God's compassion and steadfast love,

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Julie

# Mark Your Calendars

## January 7<sup>th</sup> Congregational Meeting

The Grace council has made some changes to the constitution and the congregation needs to vote on these changes. Some of the changes are mandated by the ELCA but others are changes that the Long Range Vision and Resource Team has recommended to the council. There will be constitutions available for you to read and check on before this meeting.

FYI... constitutional amendments require approval at two consecutive congregational meetings; the second meeting must be the annual meeting.

## January 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Congregational Meeting

This will be our annual meeting to pass a proposed budget, vote again on the constitutional changes from the Synod (if any), vote for council members and delegates for the Conference, Synod Assembly, and Fortune Lake Bible camp.



## Several ways to stay in contact or to contact Grace Lutheran

**Web site** ~ <http://www.gracesoutherange.com/>

**Facebook** ~ <https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranChurchSouthRangeMi/>

**E Mail** ~ [grace@gracesoutherange.com](mailto:grace@gracesoutherange.com)

**By Phone** ~ (906) 482-2011



## Kiitos Paljon



Thank you to Alice for looking over the bulletin every week, and also thank you to Janet for looking over the newsletter (and anything else Katie gives her). Thank you, both, for helping!

## 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.

## Birthdays

Jarod Butkovich 3

Sarah Hanner 6

Lauri Kneebone 7

Marianne Bohjanen 12

Andrew Lorenz 13

Brooke Tormala 22

Tina Puska 25

Shantel Lorenz 31

## Anniversaries

Gary and Emily Raffaelli  
Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>

# GAMES AT GRACE

Join us for games every Thursday starting at 12:30pm, with a light lunch, followed by games until 3:00pm.

This event is open to all – anyone from the community is invited.

COME  
**ONE** ★ **ALL!**  
COME

## Quilters

Wednesday,  
Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

## Knit, Pray, Crochet

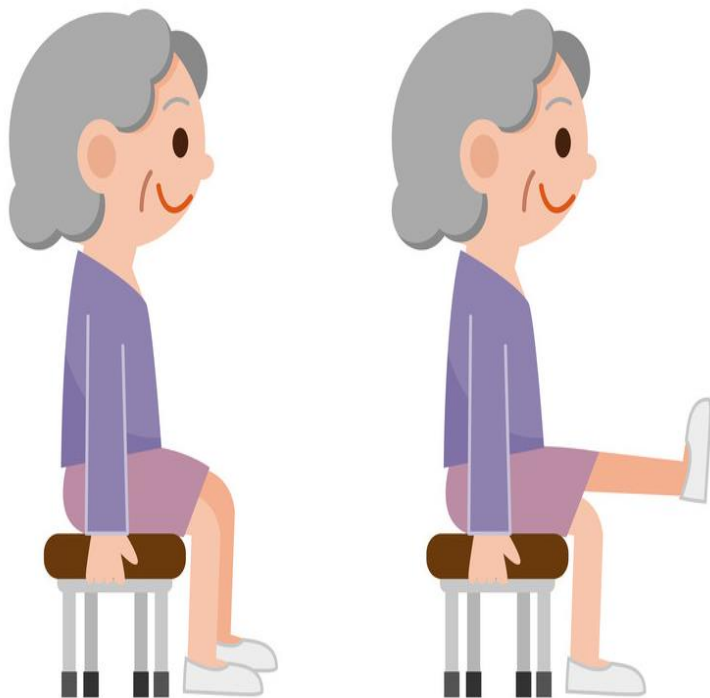
Every Tuesday,  
1:00pm  
All are welcome.

# From The Foot Up Exercise For Seniors

**Starting the third  
week of January**

**10:30am on Tuesday**  
Emphasis on seated Tai Chi

**11:00am Thursday**  
Emphasis on standing  
with optional



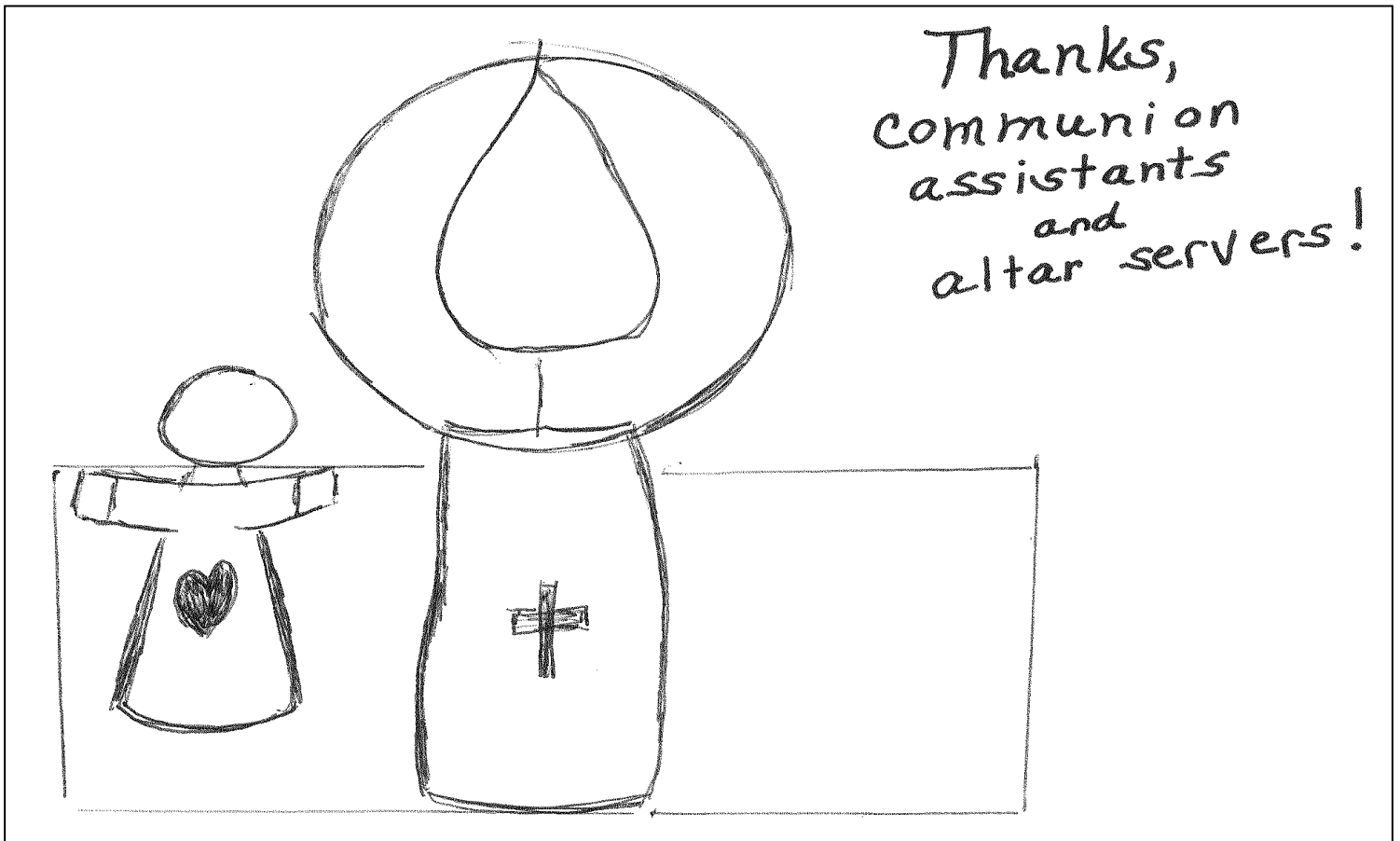
## January Worship Text & Pulpit Supply

**Sunday, January 7**  
Micah Cavaleri  
Mark 1:4-11  
Jesus revealed as  
God's servant

**Sunday, January 14**  
Rev. Soren Schmidt  
John 1:43-51  
The calling of the  
first disciples

**Sunday, January 21**  
Cheryl Stimac  
Mark 1:14-20  
The calling of the  
disciples at the sea

**Sunday, January 28**  
Rev. Soren Schmidt  
Mark 1:21-28  
The healing the one  
with an unclean spirit



## Lutheran Dictionary

by: Walter Lieder  
Concordia Publishing House  
Saint Louis, Missouri

**Farthing:** a copper coin worth about one-fourth cent. (Luke 12:6)

**Kyrie, eleison:** from Greek, "Lord, have mercy upon us." A response or petition beginning with these words, usually chanted.

**Song of Solomon, Song of Songs:** a poetical book of the Old Testament, portraying the mutual love of Christ and His bride, the Church.

**Vicar:** one who acts as a substitute for, or a representative of, another; one who fills a vacancy or a (temporary) position as pastor or religious worker, especially a theological student or candidate. The Roman Catholic Church holds the Pope to be the Vicar (representative) of Christ on earth.

If you would like to look at the changes made to the constitution before the Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>, congregational meeting, please feel free to take a constitution in the narthex. All changes are highlighted for you. Please try to make time to go over the changes prior to the meeting. Thanks.

Annual packets will be distributed at the Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you do not get a packet at that time, they will be located in the narthex. Please try to make time to go over the annual packet prior to the annual meeting. Thanks.



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 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 January

	January 7	January 14	January 21	January 21	
<b>Counters</b>	M. Bohjanen K. Bridgers				
<b>Fellowship</b>				Potluck	
<b>Ushers</b>	Bridgers Family				
<b>Acolyte &amp; Bell Ringer</b>	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth	
<b>Communion Assistant</b>					
<b>Reader</b>					
<b>Sunday School</b>	Janet Kokko	Heather Aro	Janet Kokko	Chris DeForge	
<b>Pulpit Supply</b>	Micah Cavaleri	Rev. Soren Schmidt	Cheryl Stimac	Rev. Soren Schmidt	



## December Council Highlights

1. The Nominating Committee is still needing to find one council member, and delegates for Fortune Lake, the Synod Assembly and Fall Conference. Katie will contact the Nominating Committee for an update.
2. Constitution was sent to Pastor Doug Johnson, he had three minor changes which, were changed. We reviewed those changes; the constitution is now ready to be presented at the congregational meeting on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.
3. Cheryl informed the council that Darin Butkovich was hired as our new janitor.
4. A budget was presented that reflects paying for a "Vicar"(Micah Cavaleri) rather than an interim Pastor. (this is approximate since we don't yet know his start date)
5. Congregational Meetings January 7<sup>th</sup> which will be a meeting to vote on the constitutional changes and the 28<sup>th</sup> will be the annual meeting.
6. Annual Meeting Agenda Items. We will vote on our budget, constitution changes, and a council vacancy, and delegates for Fortune Lake, Synod Assembly, and the Fall Conference.

## 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	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)





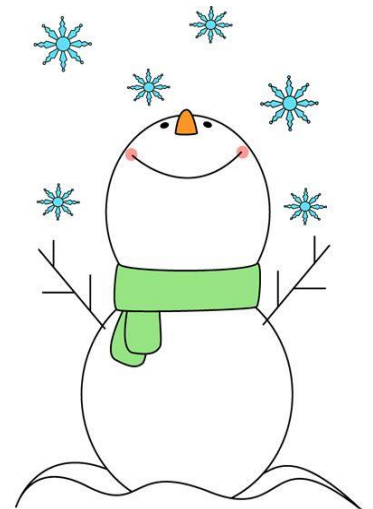
*Wise men still seek Him*



**Thank you to those who shared the Christmas Greetings**



Pam Long  
Janice Mikkola  
Alice Kolehmainen  
Janet Kokko  
Chris and Marianne Bohjanen  
Karl and Carolyn Rundman  
Chris Davis  
Delores Paavola  
Tom and Cheryl Stimac  
Tom and Patty Savola




**Thank you for supplying a poinsettia**

Karl and Carolyn Rundman  
in memory of their parents.

Don and Sally Rule with Keith Raffaelli  
in memory of Roxanne, MaryAnn and Robert Raffaelli.

Joe and Chris DeForge  
in memory of Roy and Lila Lystila and Theresa DeForge

Janet Kokko  
in memory of Jacob and Irene Kokko

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b> Office Closed	<b>2</b> 11:30 Knit, Pray, Crochet at Quincy's  1:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet	<b>3</b> 10:00 Cup of Grace 11:00 Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 3:00 After School Program	<b>4</b>  12:30 Games at Grace	<b>5</b>  8:00 AA	<b>6</b>  Epiphany
<b>7</b> 9:30 Choir 10:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 11:00 Worship 12:00 Congregational Meeting	<b>8</b>  12:00 LCW	<b>9</b> 1:00pm Primetimers at Pilgrim River 1:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet 2:00 Stewardship Meeting	<b>10</b> 10:00 Cup of Grace 11:00 Bible Study 3:00 After School Program	<b>11</b>  12:30 Games at Grace	<b>12</b>  8:00 AA	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9:45 Choir 10:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 11:00 Worship 4:00 – 6:00 “Let’s Eat”	<b>15</b>  6:30 Prayer Service	<b>16</b> 1:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet  6:30 Council	<b>17</b> 10:00 Cup of Grace 11:00 Bible Study 1:00 Quilting 3:00 After School Program	<b>18</b>  12:30 Games at Grace	<b>19</b>  8:00 AA	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:45 Choir 10:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 11:00 Worship	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 1:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet	<b>24</b> 10:00 Cup of Grace 11:00 Bible Study 3:00 After School Program	<b>25</b>  12:30 Games at Grace	<b>26</b>  8:00 AA	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:30 Choir 10:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 11:00 Worship 12:00 Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 1:00 Knit, Pray, Crochet	<b>31</b> 10:00 Cup of Grace 11:00 Bible Study 3:00 After School Program			

## Prayer Calendar – January 2018

1	Pray that this New Year may find you to be a faithful disciple of Jesus in all that you do. Listen for the Spirit to guide you to provide help in just the right places.
2	Pray for the members of Tandika Lutheran Church, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and their NGLS Companion Congregation, Faith in Sault Ste. Marie (Rev Bre Kinnunen, pastor.)
3	For Bishop Finegan as she attends the Bishop's Academy in Vancouver Jan 3-8
4	For the Lay School campuses and all of the busy pastors who give their time and efforts to teach folks eager to learn more about our theology and scripture.
5	Pray for pastors both active and retired celebrating birthdays this month: Greg Mileski 1/05, Doug Johnson 1/13, and David Jensen 1/16.
6	Pray that as the Magi brought gifts of great value to the newborn king, you too would be willing to give not what's left over, but your First Fruits and your time.
7	We celebrate the Baptism of our Lord! Remember that in your baptism you are claimed as a child of God, held, nurtured and blessed by a loving God who sends you into the world to witness the love of Jesus.
8	Pray for members of All Saints Lutheran Church, Baltimore MD (Rev Sharon Kelly) First English Lutheran Church, Baltimore MD (Rev Sandra Alexis) and Saint Mark, St Paul St, Baltimore MD (Rev Dale Dusman.)
9	Send a prayer of thankfulness for all the teachers who help to enlighten and shape our children's lives with patience and kindness.
10	Pray for those attending the Lutheran Campus Ministry meeting today in the Synod Office at 11:00.
11	For your tireless Synod Staff as they meet today at 11:00.
12	For those enjoying the Winter Wonderland weekend at FLLC Jan 12-14. Play hard, warm up, and sleep soundly!
13	Pray for our retired pastors and their spouses – Rev Rell and Louise Spickerman and Rev La Vonne Stephenson.
14	For those attending the Companion Synod Meeting today at 3:00 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Marquette today
15	As we observe Martin Luther King Jr's birthday today, pray for our nation – and our world – that divisions of race, culture, and faith that still exist in this day may be overcome, not by power and violence, but by love for all of God's children!
16	Also pray for all of our seminary students, this month we pray especially for Bill Wendorf.

17	Pray for those who are struggling with gender orientation and identity issues. Show them your love and acceptance so they can live safely in our communities and congregations.
18	The Confession of St. Peter– this day begins the week of prayer for Christian unity. Pray that all who confess that which Peter confessed, that Jesus is the Messiah may come together as partners in the work of the gospel! May Christians throughout the world be truly on their way to unity.
19	Pray for those traveling for all corners of our synod to attend the Synod Council Meeting today and tomorrow at First Lutheran Church in Gladstone
20	Pray for the unemployed and underemployed. Keep them and their families warm and well-fed this winter.
21	Pray for the members of Bethany Lutheran Church, Negaunee and their interim pastor, Rev. Warren Geier, as they continue in the call process during a pastoral vacancy.
22	For those addicted to alcohol and drugs. May we keep looking for ways to help them break the cycle of addiction and live lives free of their demons.
23	Pray for those in Africa and the rest of the world suffering water-borne diseases. May we do our best to help them obtain clean water every day for the rest of their lives.
24	Pray for pastors both active and retired celebrating birthdays this month: Margaret Johnson 1/24, Soren Schmidt 1/27 and Fran Strong 1/30.
25	Keep us safe and warm as ice and snow envelope all places in our synod.
26	For pastors Margaret Johnson, and Jesse Brown as they celebrate anniversaries of ordination this month.
27	For those attending the Youth Committee Meeting today at 11:00 at the Synod Office.
28	For those women, men, and children who are victims of domestic violence. Keep them safe and heal their physical and emotional wounds.
29	Pray for members of St. John, Edgemere, Baltimore MD (Rev Richard Rutkauskas), Hope Lutheran Church, Middleborough, Baltimore MD (Rev Donald Burggraf), and St. John Lutheran Church, Franklin Ave, Baltimore MD (Rev Charlene Barnes.)
30	Pray for men’s ministries in our synod – that they may take root in prayer and bible study and grow.
31	Pray for the spouses of our deceased pastors –Kaaren Ness and Valdora Otto.

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