

# AMAZING GRACE CONNECTIONS

OUR MISSION: faith | family | community



FEBRUARY 2022

I am writing this just after our Annual Meeting. This marks my last annual meeting as your vision team president. At the next Vision Team meeting on February 8th at 6:30pm in the Grace Room, a new Vision Team president will be determined. I of course will be a part of this meeting to help transition. I will also be assisting wherever needed to make sure nothing gets lost or forgotten. My first goal in February away from the vision team is to complete all the updates to the Constitution that we voted to adopt back in December.

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## FEBRUARY 2022 ISSUE



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Welcome to Amazing Grace Connections,  
Grace Lutheran Church of Lily Lake's  
newsletter!

For article submissions and announcements,  
please email your submission to  
[churchsec@graceoflilylake.com](mailto:churchsec@graceoflilylake.com) by the 15th of  
each month to be included in the next  
newsletter!

### VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday	4 PM - 7 PM
Tuesday	4 PM - 7 PM
Wednesday	4 PM - 7 PM
Thursday	4 PM - 7 PM
Friday	4 PM - 7 PM



# A Happy Farewell

Dear Grace Family & Friends,

I am writing this just after our Annual Meeting. This marks my last annual meeting as your vision team president. At the next Vision Team meeting on February 8th at 6:30pm in the Grace Room, a new Vision Team president will be determined. I of course will be a part of this meeting to help transition. I will also be assisting wherever needed to make sure nothing gets lost or forgotten.

My first goal in February away from the vision team is to complete all the updates to the Constitution that we voted to adopt back in December.

Serving as president of the vision team for the last 5 years has been full of ups and downs for sure. The last two years have been a challenge our world and church has not seen in any of our lifetimes. So much unknown with so many obstacles. But Grace, as it has done for over 125 years, overcame those obstacles. We learned how to worship in many new ways (both online and in-person), we learned how to communicate effectively, and we have persevered to still serve our community and members.

What we have also done over the last five years is truly figure out our budget. Each year our deficit budget has been passed, it has been a smaller and smaller deficit. And every year our year end financial status has a deficit that is much less than what we had budgeted. This is a true testament to you, our members. If not for the hard work and generosity of all of you, the last two years could have been about closing Grace and not dealing with the challenges of being Grace in a pandemic. Again, this is a true testament to the people of Grace.

Up until COVID, we were also getting in the habit of having events at Grace almost every month, serving our community more, and reaching out to our community. All things that can and should continue once we are able.

I just want to on a prayer of thank you to all of you for your support over the last five years.

Gracious God, I want to say thank you for this congregation of Grace. Thanks for all who have supported me and the vision team over the last five year. For those that have served on vision team, for those that volunteer in all capacities at Grace, for those that support Grace both spiritually and financially, and for all of your children. Your good works are seen everywhere in our world, but we see them up close and personal here at Grace. And for that, we are eternally grateful. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Nick Rex

Outgoing Vision Team President



# FINANCIAL MATTERS

Most of January has been focused on the annual meeting planning. I pray that you have taken the time to review the Annual Report that gives you a recap of the 2021 year at Grace – by absorbing the team’s reports, it should spark questions & introspect as to how you can become involved. We all need to convey our sincere thanks to Cathy Whiteside who graciously has taken on this task of assembling this report in the past several years (she appreciated receiving the submitted reports in a timely manner – thank you all! ).

Just a couple of reminders in the next month:

- ~ if you receive offering envelopes, please take note of the “Initial Offering” envelope included to help offset the cost of these envelopes. The cost is approx. \$9 per person, each year. Please consider making an extra donation towards this cost & thank you for your giving support.
- ~ THRIVENT members - please review your accounts and consider designating your CHOICE DOLLARS to Grace of Lily Lake. In 2021, Grace received \$1,205 from your CHOICE DOLLARS – let’s see if we can reach our proposed budget amount of \$1,500 in 2022.
- ~ Yes, it has been chilly in our sanctuary! At our Congregational Meeting on Dec. 19, members approved the heating addition to our current HVAC system for the sanctuary (cost \$11,650) - we anticipate this installation in Feb 2022. If you would like to make a contribution towards the “Keep the Church Warm” (fund of sorts), please indicate this on your contribution check. This will go into our General Fund and to date, we have received \$650 earmarked for this tally.
- ~ Monthly Treasurer’s report are available around mid-month. Hard copies are available in the white “Finance” envelope on the bulletin board or please contact me for a copy.

Peace to All in 2022 - Tricia Painter, Treasurer



# GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD

During the month of December, 2021, the Rebecca Circle again sponsored the “God’s Global Barnyard” project. For several years this gifting effort has helped families across the globe to climb out of the darkness of poverty. This year the funds given reached \$4,280.00. Awesome! Rebecca wants to express its appreciation for all the families who donated to this project. And they thank those members who prayed and gave their support to Rebecca Circle.

Barnyard supporters (alphabetical order):

Fredrika and Teddy Ballard

Marty Bradley

Jan & Jack Docherty – In honor of blessings received

Eulalie Gerke - In honor of Roy Lilly & Family

-In honor of Josh Lilly & Family

Suzanne Girsch – In honor of all my blessings in life

Kay & Paul Kinsel – In memory of Kay’s brother, Bruce

In memory of Paul’s sister-in-law, Sharna

David & Carol Langseth-In honor of our caring family

Vicki Linden – In memory of Chad and Hunter Johnson

Paul & Dottie Mantsch Charitable Fund

Kurt Redemann

Linda Smykowski – In memory of John T. Smykowski

Twyla & Lee Strom – In honor of God’s Blessings

George & Gloria Theros

Cara Turner – In honor of Cara’s Aunt Beverly Soupar

Shirley & Norm Turner – In honor of our grandchildren:

Kelsey, Colin , and Linsey

-In honor of our greatgrandson, Henry

Bill & Lori U’Ren

Cathy Whiteside

With grateful thanks,  
**THE REBECCA CIRCLE**



# LINE DANCE LESSONS



**What:** Line Dance Lessons

**Who:** Beginner & seasoned dancers welcome, teen to adult

**When:** Wed. Jan 12, 6-7pm, every Wed. for 2mo. (or more)

**Where:** Elburn Community Ctr. 525 N Main St. (a.k.a. Rt.47)

**Why:** Fundraiser for local family

**Cost:** Free, except, accepting free-will donation for Peterson Family Medical Relief Fund

**Contact/Instructor:** Nancy Corbige 847-212-0237 [www.facebook.com/rtdfj](https://www.facebook.com/rtdfj)

This started as an idea to raise money for a local family struggling, but there are so many other benefits.

We need this for exercise, community, camaraderie, mood, memory, and fun!

The Peterson Family is in need of funds due to medical needs. They are family of long-time members of Grace Lutheran Church of Lily Lake. An individual/anonymous donor said they would match up to \$5,000 if we as a church also raised up to that amount. I am doing this class for free. I will not be paid to run the class. The rental of the room is \$35/hr. I will pay that. However, I will take any cash donations at the door to help me off-set the cost of the rental, and all the rest will go to the family. Or, if you'd like, go to the link directly and donate. Please put in the notes GLOLL and then let me know you did and the amount. I will keep track and update notes at each line dance class so you can see our progress.

I have taught Line Dance for 7 years at Park Ridge Park District and many other special events. To see more, check out my FB link above. Questions? Call or text me at cell above. Thanks!!

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/peterson-family-medical-relief-fund?  
qid=f045503068233df22357b53980ed716d](https://www.gofundme.com/f/peterson-family-medical-relief-fund?qid=f045503068233df22357b53980ed716d)

BTW: I will mask. I am triple vaxxed. Asking that no politics be discussed. I will not make people mask. However, I ask that all be mindful of each other, mask or distance as need. If ANY symptoms at all, please don't come. I will have a sign-in sheet each week, asking for name, email, phone number. This way, if class needs to be cancelled due to weather or health, I can inform. These are tricky times. We need this class. Please help me keep it going. Thank you! Bless you!!



# BIBLE STUDY

Nancy Corbige will be holding Bible Study at Luau Café in Wasco, IL in 2022! Join us for morning bible study and coffee every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 9 AM! Please contact Nancy via phone or email if you have any questions.

**Phone: 847-212-0237**

**Email: [ncorbige@gmail.com](mailto:ncorbige@gmail.com)**

## **Dates:**

**January:**

1/11

1/25

**February:**

2/8

2/22

**March:**

3/8

3/22

**April:**

4/12

4/26

**May:**

5/10

5/24

**June:**

6/14

6/28

**July:**

7/12

7/26

**August:**

8/9

8/23

**September:**

9/13

9/27

**October:**

10/11

10/25

**November:**

11/8

11/22

**December:**

12/13

12/27

# thank you



**Thank you to Nick Rex and the rest of the vision team for all your service! We'll all miss you so much!**

Nick- you've been my primary contact for the last year and it's been a joy working with you. Thank you for everything you've done for the church and the vision team as a whole. Everyone truly appreciates all the hard work and effort you've put into being our president and while we're sad to see you go, we all hope to see you continue to do wonderful things!

**-Cheyenne Watkins, Church Secretary**

Thanks for carrying on the tradition of service to Grace by the Rex family!

**-Dottie Mantsch**

In so many ways, Nick has been a rock all turn to in he tenure as president of the vision team of Grace. I'm sure he has faced so many varied problems from the virus to furnace and roof problems and many more we, the average congregant know nothing about. Thanks you and we would love to be able to watch their son grow up to be as helpful and nice as his parents...and grandparents too.

**-The Gerkes**

Nick, thanks for all your efforts at Grace, and my special thanks for your quick and "saving" responses to my calls for rescue! You gave us alot, when there was alot going on in your own life. It was fun watching you grow up and become a leader in Grace's work for God. Thanks to Mandy and Emric for sharing you with us and for all the ways they shared their love too.

**- Kathy Hooey**

# thank you



Thank you for all the extremely hard work you have been saddled with in the past few years. Please know we could not have moved forward without you and hope we can continue to call on you for extras.

In Love and Service,  
**-Helen Gruber**

Nick, I have only been on Vision Team one year, but during that year I have been very impressed with your knowledge about Grace, how it is run, your knowledge of the physical building and the go to people who get things done. A job well done. You will be sorely missed.

**-Nancy Schnaitman**

Nick - your leadership on the Vision Team has been most appreciated over the years. I look forward to your continued support of Grace & will see you at an upcoming event? Oktoberfest? Zoom? and definitely thankful we can still tap into your plethora of knowledge on behalf of Grace. My gracious thanks to you ~

**-Tricia Painter**

Dearest Nick, you are gifted with leadership skills that come from your heart and soul; truley doing God's work. Your family at Grace appreciates you and all you have shared.

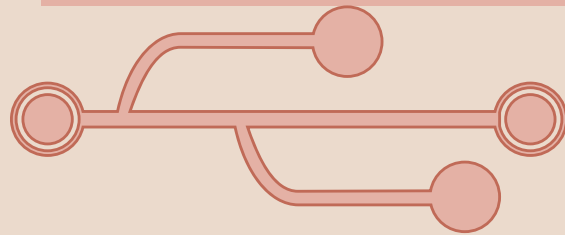
We pray God's continued Blessings to you and all your family. Shalom,

**-Heidi, Mark& Nathan**

-Nick, Your continued care for Grace and its members has been a true blessing. I know how it feels to have a congregation be a part of your soul. Thank you,

**-Marty Bradley**

# Getting to Know You



Greetings to my family at Grace.

It seems as if I have been a member of Grace forever, and actually, I have been here for quite a while – since 1975. It will soon be 50 years!

My husband Kirk and I both grew up in NJ, in small, country towns. We met during high school and married after college. I started my nursing career and Kirk, his, as a designer/draftsman for Bell Telephone Labs. We stayed in NJ (in bigger towns though) to begin our family. Tracy born in 1963. Earl Michael in 1964 and Katie in 1968. Then in 1972 we were offered an opportunity to move to ND with Bell on a government job and stayed there for 3 years. Oh, how we loved the ND life. Yes, even the blizzards and snow from Oct. through May. We rented a farm outside a small town (perhaps the size of Elburn), and I did Public Health Nursing. I loved it, caring for and having coffee with my patients in their homes. We just loved the way of life there, slow and fundamental. We were part of a small Lutheran Church there and the people welcomed us warmly. In fact, the whole town of 1500 welcomed the 1500 government workers warmly. We really became part of them and made many friends. But then, after the Salt Talks, the job was finished, and we were transferred to IL and settled here in rural Maple Park. I continued my nursing career at Delnor on the Maternity Unit and as a Family Practice nurse in the practice of Dr. Terry West. I am retired now, not because I want to be, but because all the doctors I have worked for have retired! After 20 years with Bell Labs, Kirk opened a woodworking business in Elburn and stayed happy there until he retired in 2009. Still in the same house since 1975, we are very content and happy here.



How I came to Grace. One day Pastor Arne Walker came knocking on my door to introduce himself and Grace. Our children were 12, 10 and 7 years old then and Grace had an active youth program and he thought that would be a good fit. We came and have never been sorry! My mom died shortly after we began coming, so we were gone for the new member service. But the women (and men) of Grace were so kind over the loss of my special mom and remain “moms” to me to this day. I have made some very special friends at this church who have touched my life and helped me grow in so many ways.

Our children are all grown now, greatly influenced by their time at Grace. Tracey is an Autism Counselor, Michael (after 14 years in the Marine Corps) is a designer/computer aided draftsman and Katie is a nurse. (She is third in the line of Kathleen nurses, my mom, me, and herself). They all have settled within 1 ¼ hours from here, so we feel so blessed. We have 6 wonderful grandchildren and enjoy them all.

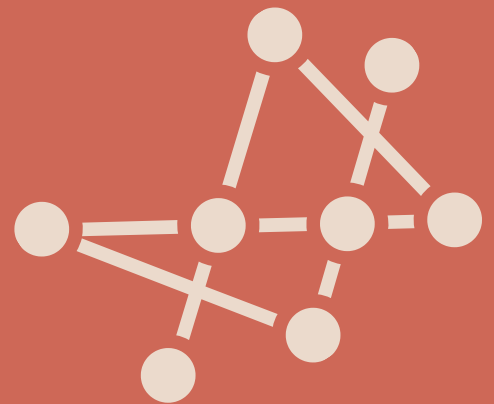
Our years at Grace have seen many changes, but Grace continues to touch the lives of so many in this community and the world, sharing God’s love. This is a church with a big heart, and I am so happy and proud to be part of it.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



**Bible Study** is taking place every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at Luau Café in Wasco, IL at 9 AM. Please contact Nancy Corbige for more information.

**Line Dancing Lessons** will continue every Wednesday for 2 months from 6-7 PM at the Elburn Community Center. Contact Nancy Corbige for more details.



# LOOKING FOR WHERE TO FIND US?



**WORSHIP** – on our website every week! Click the media tab to find every current and past service! [graceoflilylake.com](http://graceoflilylake.com)

**FELLOWSHIP** – on Zoom - check weekly eblast for weekly particulars

**BIBLE STUDY** – At Luau Coffee in Wasco the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 9 AM. Contact Nancy Corbige at [ncorbige@gmail.com](mailto:ncorbige@gmail.com) for details.

**PRAYER** - For emergencies, call Nick Rex, our congregational president, at 630-742-5836

For prayer or other needs you can leave a message on Grace's answering machine (it is checked daily at 5pm), or call Kathy Hooey at 630-341-2293 or email her at [kandkhooey@aol.com](mailto:kandkhooey@aol.com)

# LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ELSE?



While we are apart and you have a need or a question, here is who to go to:

Financial questions or how to give – Tricia Painter [treasurer@graceoflilylake.com](mailto:treasurer@graceoflilylake.com)

Building questions – Kurt Redemann 630-918-4509

Other questions - [churchsec@graceoflilylake.com](mailto:churchsec@graceoflilylake.com)

DO YOU WANT YOUR ARTICLE IN THE NEWSLETTER?

**SUBMIT BY  
FEBRUARY 15,  
2022**

**YOUR ARTICLE WILL APPEAR IN OUR  
MARCH EDITION!**

Submit by emailing your article to  
[churchsec@graceoflilylake.com](mailto:churchsec@graceoflilylake.com). All submissions  
welcome. Share your voice with us!



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