

AMAZING GRACE CONNECTIONS

OUR MISSION: faith | family | community



*The Grace
of Giving*

NOVEMBER 2021

**“But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us ... see that you also excel in this grace of giving”
(2 Corinthians 8:7).**

We are pleased to share with you that on October 24, 2021, we began a three-week stewardship program titled “Excel in the Grace of Giving.” This is an enriching time for our congregation. As we grow in the grace of giving, we will develop an even closer relationship with our Lord. Our faith will deepen, both as individuals and as a congregation. For some of us, the lack of faithful giving continues to be an obstacle to our spiritual growth. Growing in our giving deepens our trust in God.

Read more on page 3

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NOVEMBER 2021 ISSUE



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 by the 15th of
each month to be included in the next
newsletter!

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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

The Grace of Giving

By Nancy Schnaitman



**“But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us ... see that you also excel in this grace of giving”
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We are pleased to share with you that on October 24, 2021, we began a three-week stewardship program titled “Excel in the Grace of Giving.” This is an enriching time for our congregation. As we grow in the grace of giving, we will develop an even closer relationship with our Lord. Our faith will deepen, both as individuals and as a congregation. For some of us, the lack of faithful giving continues to be an obstacle to our spiritual growth. Growing in our giving deepens our trust in God.

- Giving of Time, Talent and Treasures is very prevalent at Grace. Our Rummage Sale recently had over 30 people donating time and gifts of items for sale to make it a success.
- After much work our Call Committee, of seven people completed and submitted Grace’s Ministry Site Profile to the Synod. The MSP describes our mission and is used by the ELCA Synod to search for a rostered minister for Grace.
- The Worship Team, under the leadership of George Theros, has faithfully given Grace a consistent Worship Service, an in-person service on Sundays, and on Thursdays recorded the next Sunday’s service for our on-line Worship Service shown on our web site.
- Many volunteers have carried on with all the needed church activities in our time without a pastor. Baptisms and Confirmation have continued. We have been blessed with many “pulpit supply” pastors leading our Worship Services.
- We also have many successful service projects, fresh vegetables for the congregation and the Elburn Food Pantry.
- Giving clothing donations to the homeless in Elgin, the poor in St. Charles, and to the ELCA projects.

Thank you to all who have supported and contributed to our service projects.

We give thanks to God for blessing us with resources. We look forward to having a pastor for our congregation. *We know that to have a new pastor at Grace we will need our income to increase.* Please keep in your prayers that an interested pastor will soon reach out to us through the Synod.

Scripture is clear that we are called to be faithful stewards and to share generously with others. Through our giving, God blesses us. Giving is our response to God's love and grace. We give willingly and cheerfully out of gratitude and thanksgiving to God. We pray that the Lord will truly bless this series and that he will reveal the true riches of his peace and joy when we give to him our first and best. We hope that you will be present all three weeks and that you will plan to attend the Bible studies, which also address the theme "Excel in the Grace of Giving."

The Stewardship Team is excited to announce that Pastor Jane Perkolup will be leading the 3 Bible Studies, Excel in the Grace of Giving! The Bible Studies will be held on 3 Tuesdays at 2 pm. in the Grace Room at Grace Lutheran Church of Lily Lake. The dates are October 26th, November 9th and November 16th. You are encouraged to bring your Bible. We will have refreshments and fellowship time after each Bible Study. Pastor Perkolup loves to lead Bible Studies especially about Stewardship. If you are unable to attend in the afternoon, the Bible Study will be recorded and will be available later on our web site.

Please bring your commitment form to church on commitment Sunday, November 14, 2021, or return it to the church office at your convenience. If you did not already receive the commitment form in the mail, they are also available on the counter in back of the Sanctuary.

May God's blessings remain with you as you continue your faithful stewardship of the many blessings entrusted to your care.

In Christ,

Stewardship Team,

Kay Kinsel, Nancy Schnaitman, Margaret Swanson, Cathy Whiteside and John Verner

FINANCIAL MATTERS



~ On-Line shopping soon?? Please remember AmazonSmiles is a program whereby Grace can capture some funds from your purchases on Amazon. Please sign onto www.AmazonSmiles to access your Amazon account and choose "Grace of Lily Lake" as your charity of choice. A direct link is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2806605>. Note: Please ensure your charity designation appears as "St. Charles, IL" as there are many organizations that will be closely named to our's.

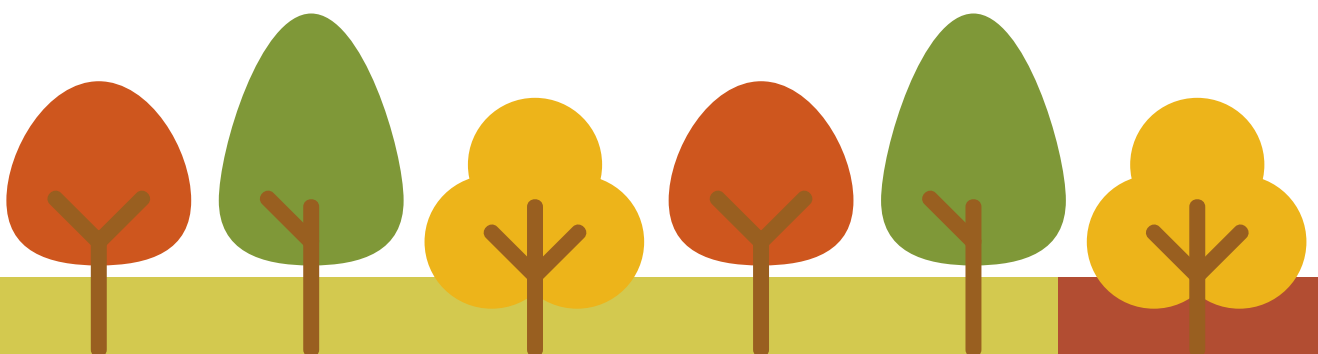
~ Our offering collections in August and September were down and we had to borrow from our savings to cover some maintenance expenses. We need to keep our physical church in safe and working order and some maintenance items were put on hold, due to being closed most of 2020 and early 2021.

** We are in the midst of further boiler maintenance repairs to get our heating systems in efficient working order. If you are able/would like to make an extra contribution to the (building Maintenance) "Keep the Church Warm" fund, please indicate that on your offering envelope - we will just keep a running tally, but it will be indicated on your general giving totals.** The Fall Maintenance start-up cost is \$1,600; and we have been advised that some other parts are needing replacement so there will be a further cost.

~ If you would like to receive a copy of the Sept. Treasurer's Report, please email your request to treasurer@graceoflilylake.com. Hard copies of the Treasurer's Report and Vision Team meeting minutes, are available on the bulletin board in the Narthex - please take a copy.

~ We are thankful for our Stewardship Team organizing this year's campaign - Excel in the Grace of Giving. Team includes: Nancy Schnaitman, Cathy Whiteside, Margaret Swanson, Kay Kinsel and John Verner. More information in this newsletter, in your USMail, and forthcoming Sunday services.

~ Many volunteer helping hands, time and team efforts made for a successful Autumn Rummage sale. We have netted over \$4,200 as of mid-Oct. Please see the recap in this month's newsletter.



ROADRUNNERS 2021/2022



Thirty five Roadrunners and Roadrunner Wannabes met Sunday, October 17th for a potluck to reminisce about our trip to French Lick/Indianapolis IN and to vote on where we would travel in 2022. After our delicious lunch we narrowed our trip choices to Arkansas, Frankenmuth/Detroit, MI and Minneapolis, MN. It was a unanimous decision to go to Minneapolis, Minnesota September 19-23/24, 2022. The planning committee will begin meeting the first Tuesday of the month starting in December to start brainstorming and planning things to see and do. Mark your calendars and begin thinking about joining us for this motor coach adventure!



REBECCA CIRCLE



Rebecca Circle will hold its December meeting as a luncheon at Sorrento's on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at noon. Members and guests (including men) are welcome. Meal choices include Chopped Sirloin, Sorrentos Chicken, Broiled Haddock, and Lasagna and includes: relish tray, bread and cracker basket, cheese spread, soup or juice, dinner salad, potato. The ticket prices range from \$25.00 to \$30.00 which include tax and gratuity. A lunch style cheeseburger served with fries is available for smaller appetites at \$18.50. Our Christmas Cookie dessert will again be featured. For reservations, contact Jan Docherty (815) 901-0910 or Kathy Hooey (630) 365-2293.



EXCEL IN THE GRACE OF GIVING!



On Sundays October 24, 2021, November 7, 2021, and November 14, 2021, our worship theme will be “Excel in the Grace of Giving.” We hope you will make every effort to be present on all three Sundays.

As your Stewardship Team, we hope and pray that the messages offered will help us in our journeys as faithful and generous stewards. By the power of the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament, we are molded and transformed into stewards who follow God’s ways and become more Christ-like in our giving. As Christians, we are motivated to give by the gift of God’s grace through his son. With hearts filled with God’s love and grace, we can give faithfully.

Giving is our faith response to God’s gifts. God wants us to give willingly and cheerfully out of hearts filled with love and gratitude for our present and eternal lives. We also give out of obedience because God’s Word directs us to give. The Apostle Paul said, *“But just as you excel in everything ... in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us... see that you also excel in this grace of giving”* (2 Corinthians 8:7). Just as Paul urged the people in Corinth to give, we are urged to *“excel in this grace of giving.”*

The themes of the Bible studies during these three weeks will be:

*“Why Christians Give”
“Outrageous Giving”
“Principles of Giving”*

Please bring your commitment forms to church on Commitment Sunday, November 14, 2021, or return it to the church office at your convenience.

May God bless and keep us in His peace and joy as we give to him!

Stewardship Team,

Kay Kinsel, Nancy Schnaitman, Margaret Swanson, Cathy Whiteside, John Verner

STEWARDSHIP COFFEE HOUR



Stewardship Bible Studies: The Stewardship Team is excited to announce that Pastor Jane Perkolup will be leading 3 Bible Studies, Excel in the Grace of Giving!

The Bible Studies will be held on 3 Tuesdays at 2 pm in the Grace Room at Grace Lutheran Church of Lily Lake. The dates are October 26th (already past), November 9th and November 16th. Bringing your Bible is encouraged. We will have refreshments and fellowship time after each Bible Study.

By the way, Pastor Perkolup loves to lead Bible Studies especially about Stewardship. Looking forward to having you attend the Bible Studies.

Please direct any questions to Cathy Whiteside 630/605 -1096 or Nancy Schnaitman 630/365-9595. Thank you!



RUMMAGE SALE RECAP



RUMMAGE SALE – was a successful autumn sale on Oct 1 & 2, with the help of many hands!

We had our 2nd successful rummage sale in 2021 bringing in visitors from our surrounding communities. Thank you to the many who had accumulated and saved your donations. Our 'sale sites' were expanded as it was in the springtime: clothing, shoes, etc. was staged under the pavilion, we utilized the garage area for 'outdoor related' items and some furniture, and used Fellowship Hall and only one SS classroom for other items. This again allowed many shoppers to peruse areas and not be very congested. The weather cooperated with us on Friday and most of Saturday where we had to scamper to beat the downpours that came mid-afternoon. I am certainly appreciative and proud of all of your support and assistance from many of our members with the numerous tasks before, during and after the sale. Some pre set-up in Fellowship Hall volunteers Ian Engberg, John Verner, Nancy Corbige, Cara Turner, Twyla Strom. Cathy Whiteside's expertise on organizing the clothing with the assistance of many before, during and after the sale too – Karen Patterson, Marty & Craig Bradley, Lee Gerke, Dianne (Gerke) Lily, Chris Gerke, Jon Whiteside, Helen Gruber, Gloria Theros, Jan Myers, Nancy Corbige + Danny. Linda Smykowski led the organization of the items from the garage, along with Ian and even more organization in the garage by John and Ian. Sale signs were set up/placed by Bill + Lori U'Ren, Helen Gruber, Nancy Corbige, Ian Engberg, Cara Turner.

The success of this sale comes from a church-wide effort with all of your 'material' donations and contributions along with your time and talents. Many of you reading this report were a part of this sale, in big and small ways, from donating items (and we don't always know who the donors were) to volunteering at the sale = I am so grateful for YOUR participation and helping hands. Cathy Whiteside, Twyla Strom, Ian and Casey Engberg, Margaret Swanson, Suzanne Girsch, Kay Kinsel, Helen Gruber, Marty Bradley, Lee Gerke, Karen Patterson, Dottie and Paul Mantsch, Linda Smykowski, Kathy Hooey, Rebecca Hooey, Nancy Corbige (+ Danny), Cara Turner, Kurt Redemann, Andra, Bre, Andrew Nordwind. It was great to have my friend Kathy Fritschel (from Lockport) be able to join us again and support Grace's sale with her time as well (she really feels welcome and enjoys visiting all of us at Grace). Rika Ballard even

RUMMAGE SALE RECAP



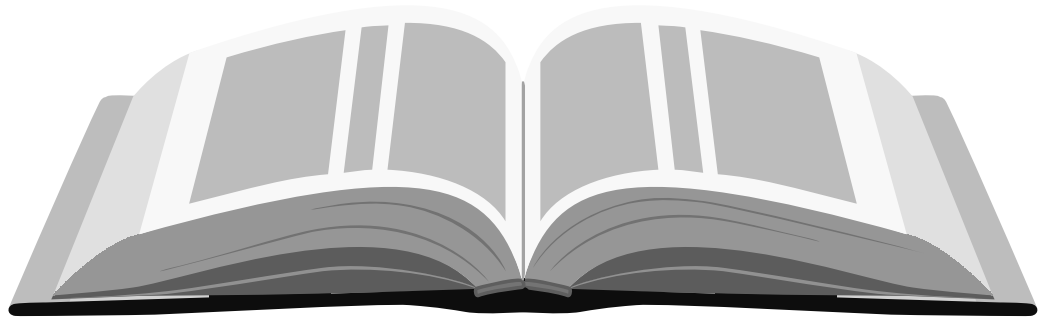
stepped in to help with our customers -- she is our youngest volunteer! I was exhilarated (yes, even at the end of the sale) by the clean-up help - we're getting this down to a science - great routine! Several loaded their cars up with some leftovers with a trip to Salvation Army. (** I apologize as I may have missed a name or two - but try to track the willing hands that are with us during the plethora of sale tasks.)

Heidi / Heidi's Bakery surprised all of the volunteers with scrumptious sweets for Saturday morning. Thank you! Cathy Whiteside continues to coordinate several avenues and charities before and after the sale, taking clothing items that are very welcomed : Redeemer Fellowship Church (St Charles) , Elgin Homeless and small items to be used to fill some Operation Christmas Shoeboxes.

I feel so blessed that so many of you dedicated time out of your schedules to help with this fundraiser for Grace. I would not be able to coordinate these sales without all of you. Our 2-day sale netted just over \$3,800 (and as of Oct 12th over \$4,200) and with some on-line ads and sales before and after the sales, over \$10,000 has been collected in 2021. These funds have definitely helped our finances as we are incurring pulpit supply expenses, as we continue our search for a new Pastor for Grace. I thankfully pray for all of the support that so many of you gave - many hands makes the tasks at hand run smoothly and provided a very successful fundraiser.

In Peace, from Your Fellow Grace Member,
Tricia Painter, Rummage Sale Coordinator

BIBLE STUDY



Join us for Bible Study at Luau Coffee in Wasco!

Our Bible Study class will take place every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. Each meeting will be at 9 AM at Luau Coffee in Wasco. Come join us for a fun and educational morning!

Even if you can't attend, you can join our mailing list! Please email Nancy at ncorbige@gmail.com in order to be included! The emails will also include bonus features and a prayer list. You can send Nancy your thoughts, prayers and content to be include in the emails.

Upcoming dates for Bible Study are: 10/26, 11/9, 11/23, 12/14, 12/28.

Mark your calendars, and we look forward to seeing you!

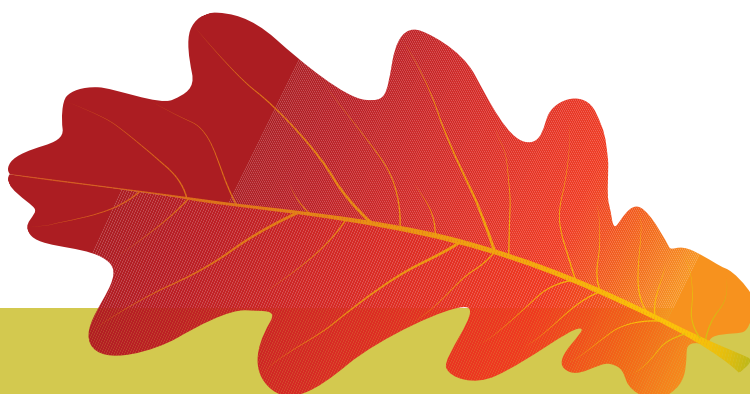




Many volunteer helping hands, time and team efforts made for a successful Autumn Rummage sale. We have netted over \$4,200 as of mid-Oct. Please see the recap in this months' newsletter.

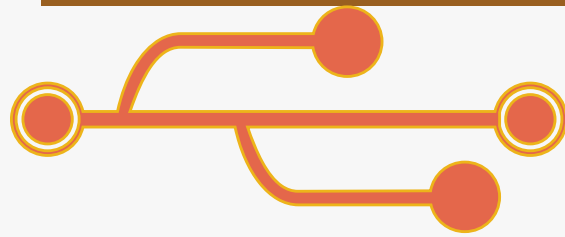
Cathy Whiteside continues the outreach ministry with the clothing from our rummage sale and the continuing efforts year-round. With chillier months coming up, please gather your warmer unwanted clothing articles and bring them to church. Bless you Cathy - you are a Martha and a Mary, rolled into one!

Our thanks again to Ken Kusch who has donated his time, labor (talents!) and hardware/parts for our sound system (working with George), the family bathroom downstairs, tightening up wobbly ceiling fans in Fellowship Hall. He will be helping with high ceiling lightbulb replacement in the future as well. Our gracious thanks to Ken!



Getting to Know You

PAT PENFOLD



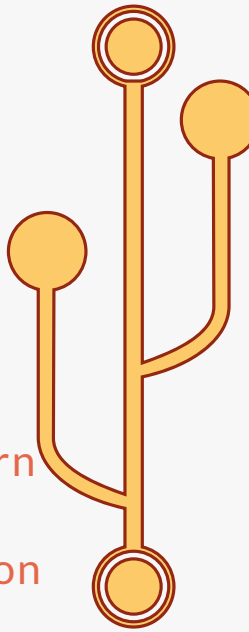
My name is Pat. I am a first generation American. My parents are immigrants from Guatemala, Central America and I am the oldest of 4 girls. I was born and raised in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs. We moved a LOT, especially after my parents divorced. I am divorced and the mother of 2 girls, Ceara (pronounced Sarah) and Maia (pronounced Maya) and I have a dog named Punky. I also have two 4 legged grandchildren, Freddy Meowcurey (cat), and Hoagie (dog).

I live in St. Charles and currently work for the Northern Illinois Food Bank as a bilingual member of their SNAP Outreach team. I help our neighbors in need apply for public assistance benefits and can help connect them to other needed community resources. I have worked in social services for many years and in many different capacities. I have worked as a substitute teacher, a toddler teacher at Kindercare, and as a doula (a non-medical labor support person) and participated in 100 births! I have also worked for the state of TN Department of Human Services helping people apply for benefits very similar to the work I do now at the Northern IL Food Bank.

I officially joined the congregation of Grace Lutheran about a month or so ago but I have been attending for the last 3 years or so. I have previously helped with the Sunday school program and currently participate in the worship team meetings. I look forward to what the Lord has in store for me next!



UPCOMING EVENTS



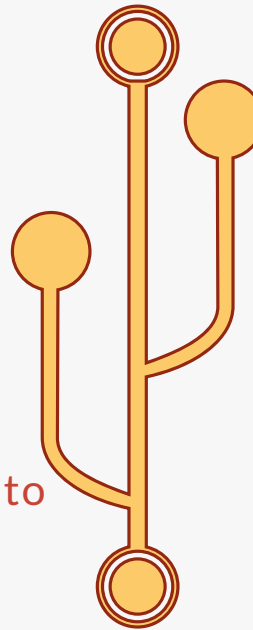
Coffee Hour after services will begin on Sunday, November 7th. Thank you Linda Smykowski for coordinating this cherished fellowship time (Nancy Corbidge will assist and learn the tasks involved.) This will take place in Fellowship Hall to allow more openness. **Presently only planning Coffee Hour on the first Sunday of the month (or other special occasions**). Look for the sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up on Empire Road -- Sunday, November 7th @ 11:15 a.m. (after Grace coffee hour). We will be coordinating this project with some Boy & Girl Scouts, as we embark on Empire Road for the Adopt-a-Highway cleanup. Please plan to bring your own snack/light lunch (outside of the coffee hour) before we meet at 11:15. Reminder to bring/wear sturdy shoes/boots, good gloves and a poking stick if you have one, and we will spend several hours on Empire Road. Contact Tricia Painter if you have further questions.

Commitment Sunday Celebration - Sunday, November 14th, join us at coffee hour after our service, in celebration of our commitments and joining in fellowship. Coffee Hour will be held in Fellowship Hall and hosted by the Stewardship Committee - please plan to join us!



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

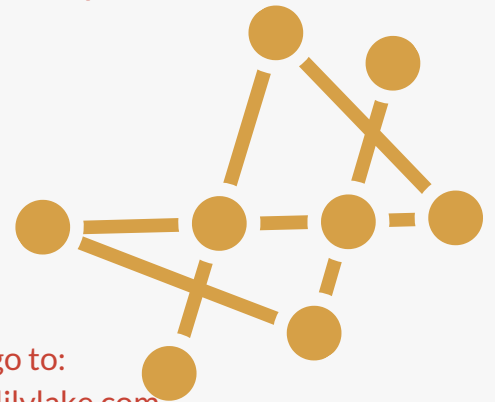
FELLOWSHIP – on Zoom - check weekly eblast for weekly particulars

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 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

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

Building questions – Kurt Redemann 630-918-4509

Other questions - churchsec@graceoflilylake.com

DO YOU WANT YOUR ARTICLE IN THE NEWSLETTER?

**SUBMIT BY
NOVEBER 15,
2021**

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

Submit by emailing your article to
churchsec@graceoflilylake.com. All submissions
welcome. Share your voice with us!



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