

AMAZING GRACE CONNECTIONS

OUR MISSION: faith | family | community



OCTOBER 2021

George and Gloria Theros attended the 2020 and 2021 annual Chicago Metro Synod Assembly.

The title for this year's assembly **GOOD STEWARDS**: Like Good Stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10

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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 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



Synod Assembly

By George Theros

George and Gloria Theros attended the 2020 and 2021 annual Chicago Metro Synod Assembly.

The title for this year's assembly GOOD STEWARDS: Like Good Stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10

This assembly was none like any has been held in the past, a fully virtual ZOOM meeting, a fully electronic voting for all ballot items.

Were there glitches/problems yes, did we start on time no; however, Gloria and I were very tolerant of all their troubles since Grace has had to endure a number of their own technical problems and changes over the last 2 years. Many thanks to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Naperville for providing the facility and technology to host this assembly.

The email and links we received could easily report on the business conducted, which will be at the bottom of this note.

However, there was so much more as we experienced music for worship, some we have had and others not experienced along with messages for a very different approach to what is Stewardship and how over the past year congregations have found ways to add their gifts to the synodical "STEW".

Bishop Yehiel Curry's opening address set the tone. Grace will have the opportunity to experience that message on October 10, 2021 when it will be used as the message for that Sunday's worship.

The experience of the heartfelt story of a congregation that dissolved, but made

many gifts before and after shuttering their doors. Stories and scripture of true Stewardship were shared – going well beyond financial gifts and the melding together to meet an awesome Mission Statement of service.

Following is the brief synod report:

Metropolitan Chicago Synod, ELCA

Meeting virtually in assembly on June 5, 2021, from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Naperville, Illinois, the morning began with a litany and song, followed by a framing of the Assembly by Bishop Yehiel Curry, who described the “good stew” that results when each, from their own context and community, brings their best gifts forward for the good of all. This reflection introduced the full bishop’s address later in the morning. This framing was augmented by video highlights of new missions and mission stories throughout the virtual assembly. The Bishop also announced the release of new funds for a new Congregational Recovery Grant, and Ministry From the Margin funds, as well as the opportunity for participation in various working groups in the synod.

Mr. Terry Henderson and Pr. Erin Clausen were re-elected on the first ballots as Vice President and Secretary to the Synod Council, respectively, each committing to another term. Ms. Mary Richardson was presented with the Sunergos Award by Vice President Terry Henderson.

A proposed budget was passed, and amendments to the MCS constitution were passed, as recommended by the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Elections to synod council, the committees on discipline and consultation, and for voting members to the Churchwide Assembly, were conducted using Eballot software. In the election results below, PC/L indicates People of Color or People Whose Language is Other Than English. The conference of each nominee is indicated in parentheses.

Elected as lay MCS voting members to Churchwide Assembly were: Selene Partida (Near West); Ariolye Frost (Northeast) PC/L; Sherri D'Agostino (West); Ismael Calderon (North) PC/L; John Nicholas (Northwest); Zachary Howell (Southwest);

Elisabeth Trost (Northeast); and Frank Imhoff (Northwest); Yvette Newberry White (South) PC/L; and Kayshawn Colbert Jones (Near West) PC/L (Youth Delegate).

Elected as rostered voting members to Churchwide Assembly were: the Rev. Erin Clausen (Near West); the Rev. Alison Bengfort (Northeast); the Rev. Jason Glombicki (Central); the Rev. Nathan Klein (Southwest); and the Rev. Lester White (South) PC/L.

Elected a lay members of synod council were: Kristina Adamczeski (Near West); Nancy Arnesen (West); Ivan Perez (Central) PC/L; and Robert Langlois (Northwest).
Elected as rostered members to synod council were: the Rev. Maria Rojas-Banda (Near West) PC/L; the Rev. Joel Lohafer (Northwest); and the Rev. Lester White (South) PC/L.

Elected to the Committee on Consultation were: Barbara Hiller (Northeast) and Thomas Weglarz (North).

Elected to the Committee on Discipline were: Wayne Giampietro (North); Angela Bell (Southwest); the Rev. Melody Eastman (West); the Rev. Carla Powell (Central); and the Rev. Josh Evans (Northeast).

The Assembly concluded with a brief litany, prayer, and song. Both [the entire assembly](#) as well as the [Bishop's Address](#) on its own may be viewed on the MCS YouTube page. Detailed results of the First General Ballot [may be found at this link](#). The evaluative survey which was sent out after the event to gather feedback about the first-ever MCS virtual assembly [may be found at this link](#). The Book of Reports [may be found at this link](#).

The Synod Assembly Team and leadership would like to extend a sincere and heartfelt thanks to the many leaders, volunteers, and pinch hitters who managed to make this assembly a success. We'd also like to thank Good Shepherd, once again, for the use of their space, their staff, and their technologies. We could not have pulled this off without the help of each and every person who pitched in. Thank you!

FINANCIAL MATTERS



Please visit our Rummage Sale on October 1(9am-4pm) and October 2 (9am-2pm
** 1/2 price sale at noon) . Invite family, friends and neighbors to this popular
community event!

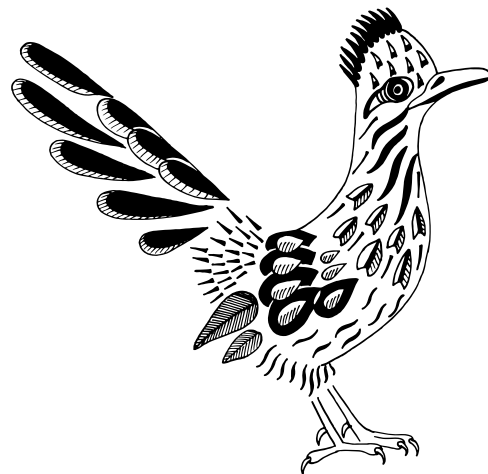
Please contact Tricia Painter (treasurer@graceoflilylake.com) if you would like a
copy of the prior months' Treasurer's report via email. Copies are available at
church also (in envelope on bulletin board in common entry area).

The holidays are coming and many are doing their shopping on-line ! -
AmazonSmiles is a program whereby Grace can capture some funds from your
purchases on Amazon. Please sign onto 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.*



ROADRUNNERS 2021



French Lick Here We Come!

Roadrunners set a record of having three motor coaches and three different drivers for our four day trip to French Lick, IN! Gratefully we had a wonderful time and arrived back home safe and sound. We ate well (as usual) and saw some amazing sites-West Baden Springs Hotel, elephants and giraffes up close and personal at Wilstem Park and the Indy 500 Racetrack and Museum. We were happy to be back on the road again! We'll gather at noon on Sunday, October 17th for a potluck and vote on where to go September 2022. Bring a dish to pass and your own table service and join us as we reminisce about our adventure!



REBECCA CIRCLE



The October meeting for the Rebecca Circle is scheduled for Tuesday, October 19th at church. They plan to work on the "Mail Gift Boxes" for our college students. Do you know or have someone who would be eligible? The student can live at home and still qualify. WE NEED: their name and current college or home address; the name of the school; and the name of a contact person/parent. Please get the information to a Rebecca member or to church as soon as possible. Forms are also available in the coffee area at church. Thank you for your help!



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”

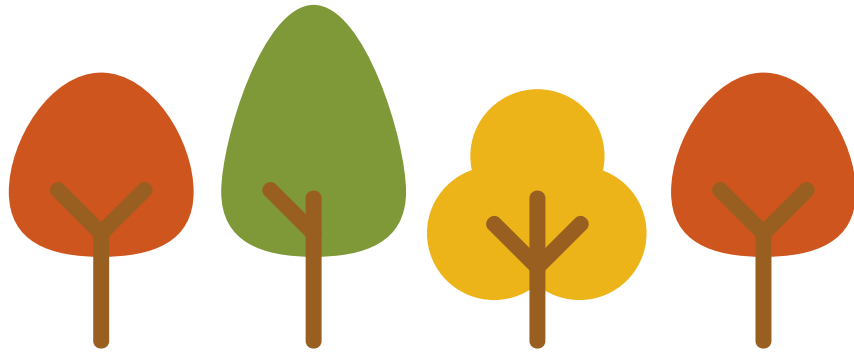
Please bring your commitment forms to church on Commitment Sunday, November 14, 2021, or return it to the church office at your convenience.

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

PASTOR'S OFFICE



Thank you to all that helped complete the refurbishing of the pastor's office. The windows got washed, carpet was shampooed, excess furniture removed and the walls were painted. Thank you to everyone for all the generous donations, mat for desk chair and desk chair. A round wooden table was donated for the Gathering Space to replace the octagon wooden table that was then put in the pastor's office. Currently the monetary donations came to \$775. The painting bill came to \$486.71. That leaves the Refurbishing project with a positive balance of \$288.29. What a blessing to have a successful and rewarding project done.

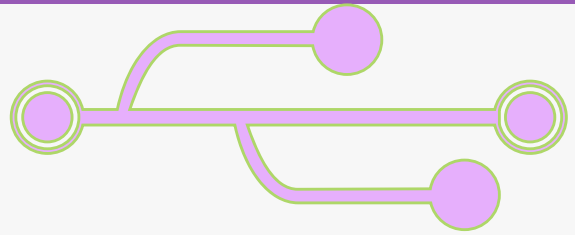
Thank you again to everyone.

Refurbishing Pastor's Office Team:
Cathy Lindquist, Linda Smykowski, Cathy Whiteside



Getting to Know You

NICK, MANDY, AND EMRIC REX



Nick was born in Jacksonville, IL in December of 1981 to Pastor Ernie Rex and Doris Rex. They lived in Jacksonville until he was 5 years old when they moved to Lily Lake as his father took the call here at Grace Lutheran Church. Nick attended Lily Lake Elementary, Central Middle School, and graduated from Central High School in 2000. Nick attended Marquette University for 2 years as a civil engineer before leaving to attend Northern Illinois University and get his degree in Organizational Communications. He has worked many jobs but has spent the last 12 years in construction project management of varying degrees and seniority. He currently works as a Contracting Project Manager for Trane Technologies.

Mandy was born in Breese, IL and raised in the small town of Bartelso, IL, both located about an hour east of St. Louis. She graduated from Central High School (Breese, IL) in 2003 and immediately attended Northern Illinois University where she graduated with a degree in Early Childhood Education. She spent 12 years teaching in private preschools before transitioning to part-time at a Kumon learning center. She just recently was able to start a new transition... full-time stay-at-home-mom.

Nick and Mandy met at NIU while attending college and the rest is history. They were married on Nick's grandparent's farm in Missouri in 2009 (the farm where his mother grew up). They were married by Nick's dad of course, Pastor Rex. They have one son, Emric Emil, who was born on August 16, 2018. He was baptized at Grace, again by Pastor Rex.

Nick and Mandy have been active at Grace over the years, most notably heading the Contemporary Worship Team since around 2012 when it started along with the help of Chad Johnson who passed away. They have also led multiple community events at Grace each year.

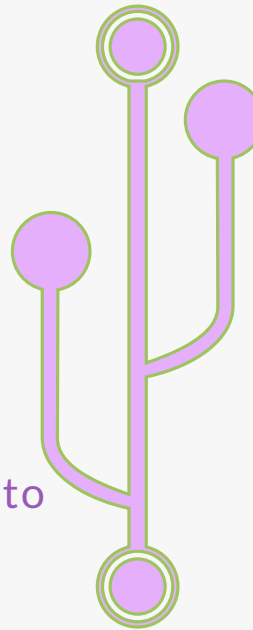
Nick currently serves as the Vision Team president until January of 2022. He has been on the Vision Team for 6 years and as president for 5. He is looking forward to turning over the reigns to a new president and spending more time with his family.

Outside of Grace, Nick and Mandy are also very active in Leadership Lab, a weeklong youth leadership camp at Augustana College sponsored by the ELCA. Nick just transitioned this year from leading the college age level to being one of the directors of Leadership Lab. A true product of Leadership Lab, Nick attended as a youth from 1998-2003, as a staff member from 2004-2012, a level coordinator from 2013-2020, and now one of the directors. Mandy has also served on the staff of Leadership Lab for the last five years. Nick and Mandy have both made life long and some of their closest friends at Leadership Lab.

Nick's parents now live in Dekalb. His brother Andrew lives in Dekalb, and his sister Inge lives in Paw Paw. Mandy's parents still live in Bartelso. Her brother lives in Aviston, IL and her sister lives in Yorkville. They have 5 nieces and nephews.



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

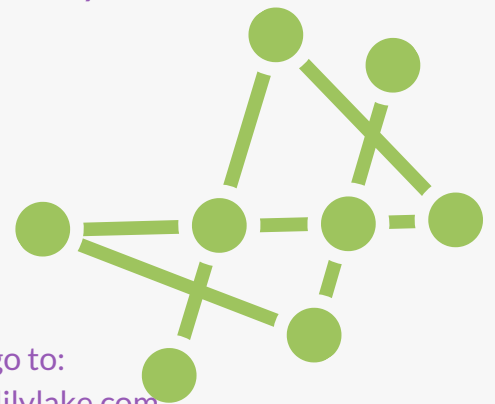
FELLOWSHIP – on Zoom - check weekly eblast for weekly particulars

BIBLE STUDY – Zoom the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 9 AM. Contact Nancy Corbige at 47-212-0237 or Cathy Gjerde 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
OCTOBER 15,
2021**

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

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



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