

AMAZING GRACE CONNECTIONS

OUR MISSION: faith | family | community



*Costuming
for Christ*

OCTOBER 2020

**"PUTTING ON JESUS" AND REGULARLY
OUTFITTING ONESELF IN HIS SPIRIT IS HOLY**

"When you know and adopt the truth nature of Christ Jesus,
you throw off your old masquerade garb and costume
yourself in the new God-given, Christ-like nature - holy &
good, forever letting the Holy Spirit redress your thoughts
and attitudes."

PDRV* OF EPHESIANS 4:20-24

Read more on page 3

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OCTOBER 2020 ISSUE



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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

FOR ARTICLE AND ANNOUNCEMENT SUBMISSIONS CONTACT

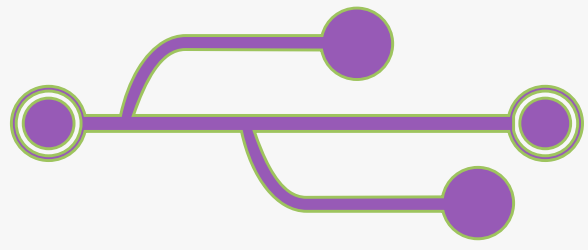
churchsec@graceoflilylake.com

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!

Are you Cloaked in the converting message of Christ?

WRITTEN BY PASTOR DAWN ROUCKA



You can tell a lot about people by what they wear. The clothes that we choose to wear often reflect our status, our values, and even our priorities. At Hollywood red carpet events reporters often ask actors and actresses "Who are you wearing?" to find out which designer created the clothes they are wearing. Today, some people are convinced that mask wearing tells you a lot about a person – if they are, they must be a whiney liberal snowflake and if they aren't masked then they must be a science-hating, MAGA yokel.

Clothing and masks have been used as disguises and weapons, crutches and costumes. And clothing's relationship to a person's socioeconomic status, mood, or even their character goes back centuries. Royalty wore crowns and robes. In church, clergy have worn vestments. Hospitals see the doctors and nurses in scrubs, and police, firefighters, soldiers, school children and inmates can be distinguished by their uniforms. Right or wrong, those whose clothes are shabby and torn are assumed to be of low character, mental state and economic status.

In a 2012 article in Forbes magazine, Clinical Psychologist Dr. Jennifer Baumgartner discusses how today, "Americans rely on clothing as an economic and social indicator because there aren't official marks of rank such as a caste system or aristocracy. Our clothes help place us where we think we want to be." ¹

Masks too have been with us for centuries – worn for display or disguise, to hide or identify, to woo or wage war or to protect or to punish. The earliest known masks are 9000 year old Neolithic stone masks from Judea, some of which were found in caves near the Dead Sea.² One of the most fearsome masks, outside of today, was the plague doctor's costume – the PPE of the Middle Ages at the time of the Black Death. First introduced in Venice, the home of masks and masquerades, were worn by medieval 'Plague Doctors' for protection. The costume comprised a black hat and gown intended for protection, a cane to determine how far a doctor would stand from a patient, and a beaked white mask that was filled with herbs and thought to absorb noxious diseased air. Such plague prevention and care came from college-trained physicians, surgeons, barbers, apothecaries, midwives, herbalists and priests who were working long before germ theory and antibiotics. And although the costume looks macabre, it recognized the way the spread and symptoms of plague and gave hope in an age of medical crisis.

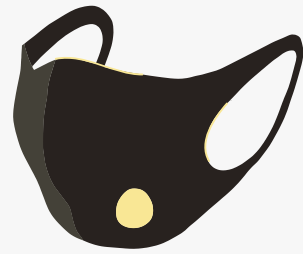
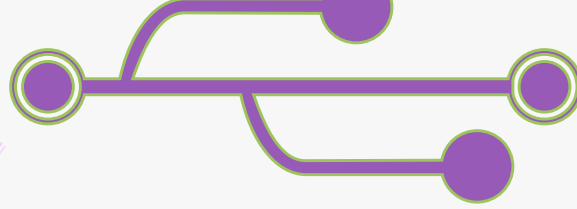


I myself love costumes, masks and dressing up. Our ballroom dance hobby played right into and exacerbated this fixation of mine. I love the seasonal convergence of Halloween and Reformation. (Yes, I will explain this!) When I was younger, the excuse to dress up or wear a stage costume was a way to hide a bashful self. I could try on others, be someone I wasn't normally and it would be ok. Try someone else's shoes on, if you will. Now it is merely a fun safe way to be expressive. I even encourage you a few times a year to show your wacky or festive side too.

What is interesting to me is that the New Testament uses clothing imagery also. The passages depict three different, but closely related, aspects of our relationship with God and our "status" as children of the kin-dom. First, it emphasizes the oneness with Christ that happens at our baptism. In Galatians 3:26-27 Paul writes that "It is faith in Christ Jesus you are all God's children. 27 You were baptized into oneness with Christ, and now you are redressed, so to speak, with the life of Christ himself." (GNT) Perhaps an unseen but clearly expressed uniform of our heavenly citizenship. Everyone who has committed their life to Christ by faith has the status of having "put on Christ."⁴

Second, clothing imagery vividly portrays the transformation that results from our relationship with Jesus Christ. In contrast to living disobediently to God and God's ways, (Rom 13:13), Paul instructs believers to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires" (Rom 13:14). Sometimes the command is to "put on" certain godly characteristics

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that are a reflection of Christ himself: "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience" (Col 3:12). Thus the call to "put on" these godly characteristics is rooted in our status as those who are holy, chosen and loved by God.



Third, clothing imagery describes the transformation of our bodies that will take place when we are resurrected from the dead. Paul explains that "this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality" (1 Cor 15:53). In the meantime, as we await that day, "we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life" (2 Cor 5:2-4).

So what are you wearing? Are you putting Christ on and living in his shoes, modelling Christ's qualities and virtues up and down the runway of life? Showcasing our identity as God's children for all to see?

Dr. Baumgartner's research also showed that what one is perceived to wear and what one perceives about what they wear can effect one's behavior. "When you dress in a certain way, it helps shift your internal self," explains Dr. Baumgartner. "We see that when we do makeovers, and even actors say that putting on a costume facilitates expression of character. That's just as true for everyday life." An experiment had researchers distribute standard white lab coats to participants, telling some that it was a doctor's coat and some that it was a painter's smock. All participants performed the same task, but those wearing the "doctor's coat" were more careful and attentive. Their actions were influenced by their clothing. The same may be true of you. When your friend dragged you out of the house and told you, "Get dressed up! You'll feel better!" after your last breakup/failed interview/lousy day, she was onto something.

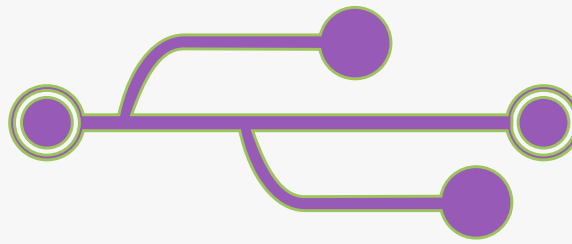
And here is where, to me, it gets most interesting, Halloween is coming. Halloween was an ancient Celtic harvest festival called Samhain which marked the changing of the seasons and the coming of a new year. People would dress up in disguise and wander from home to home, feasting on the treats that were left out. People would adorn themselves as others to confuse the roaming spirits that many thought would appear. People would alter their status or reflect another character so as to upgrade or downplay their status.

Somewhere around 730 AD, the Christian Church, led by Pope Gregory III moved All Saints Day from May to November and made an effort to encourage all people to celebrate October 31st as the Eve of All Hallows Day (All Saints Day). The church feast days, All Saints day on Nov 1. or All Soul's Day on Nov 2., celebrate the Christ-like character of saints and the souls God has welcomed home and reminded the people to change their ways modelled after the Christ-like ones before them. To this day, both feast days have maintained the opportunity for dressing up even though the reasoning has changed. It is about change and modelling something new!

Whether you celebrate Halloween or not, it is a time where kids and adults alike put-on and model someone or something else. "There is an immense freedom in what one can be for an evening. We are no longer confined to the roles that we embrace for the rest of the year. On this one evening, we are allowed supreme freedom to be almost anything. Regular people become aliens from another planet, Vikings, flappers, pirates and presidents." Said Dr. Ryan Blackstock, PsyD, CAADC, ICAADC, Core Faculty at Michigan School of Psychology in his doctoral thesis. "People choose a persona (and in this case, a costume) based on wanting to either experience something they perceive as foreign to their identity, or to embrace a part of themselves that typically remains undeveloped or underdeveloped in "normal" life." 5

On Halloween in 1517 Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the Wittenburg Castle church door. His theses or arguments are what spurred the Protestant reformation. The Reformation was a call and reminder to the Church to choose the persona/ character of Christ. To transform and change and return to reflecting the true character of Christ so that others might put on something new. To achieve this transformation Luther reminded the Church that we all must stand wholly in Christ's righteousness. Put on Christ,

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wear his righteousness. True Church fashion is love for all people. So this Reformation/ Halloween will we stand in Christ's shoes, poised to reflect and shine Christ-like character wherever we go?



This, and each season, reformation in us might have us model our Christ-like superhero attitudes of:

- Living for another, helping and caring, modelling super-human strength, shining the light of Christ wherever we go
- Wearing masks to care for our neighbors and revealing who and whose we are in love and kindness.
- But unmasking the things around us that are against God's spirit and truth – racism, sexism, economic disparity, aggression, hate and anger.
- Redressing our questions about what is most important in this life - people or products, relationships or ROI?
- Protesting the errors of faithless living and yet learning to truly listen to our brothers and sisters in love.
- Voting in a way that models support of people not raw power
- Modelling those saints who have gone before us – living our best, and when we fail asking for forgiveness and marching on





GRACE TO HOLD A VIRTUAL FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY WORKSHOP BEGINNING IN OCTOBER

Tell your money where to go instead of wondering where it went! Take control of your money with *Financial Peace University*! This nine-lesson class uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt, and make your money work for you! You can sign up for this class and start your 14-day free trial of Financial Peace at fpu.com/1124141. Class starts **Tuesday, October 6, 2020**. We meet online, so you won't even have to leave home. Class starts **Tuesday, October 6, 2020**. INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY. Just share this info with them.



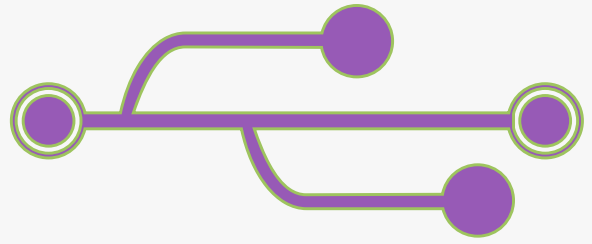
This virtual class provides an opportunity to go through the course with a community of folks who will walk with you as you begin crushing your money goals. Learning and following the 7 Baby Steps, the average household finds \$332 after their first month of budgeting. In the first 90 days, the average household pays off \$5,300 in debt and puts \$2,700 into savings. And that's just in the first three months! Imagine what you can do after that.

Financial Peace University, a flagship 9 lesson workshop for almost 30 years, helped nearly 6 million people learn the proven plan to pay off debt, save for emergencies, and build wealth. Financial Peace University is now part of the Ramsey+ membership.

SIGN UP AT fpu.com/1124141 NOW!



INDOOR WORSHIP



WORSHIP INDOORS STARTING OCTOBER 11th

MOVING WORSHIP INSIDE BEGINNING OCTOBER 11, 2020! We will also continue to offer worship online as well at graceoflilylake.com. Please make reservations for worship using Signup.com [Reservations@graceoflilylake.com]

(NOTE: We will have a weekly maximum in the sanctuary of 20-25, and you will be assigned a seat. We are working to make additional seating possible

To help us maintain safety for all, please follow these SAFETY MEASURES:

- - Masks are required for all – Grace will have extras on hand
- - Keep distance of 6 feet or more (if able)
- - Sanitizing stations at the entry door/s.
- - Thermometer check – If over 100.4, person will be asked to return home
- - NO SINGING. NO Fellowship. No Sharing of Peace.
- Please enter through upper main doors only (Front parking lot) where you will have your temperature taken and escorted to a seat.

If you have questions, please ask. We appreciate your help in following protocols and sharing patience as we move inside and into new ways of being together.



GRACE'S APP

Grace now has an app!

You can now watch Grace's services and read the news at Grace from the comfort of your very own phone!

Along with the creation of our new website, we've partnered with Subsplash to bring Grace's pages to life! By downloading the app, you'll be able to watch all of our services, view our newsletters, read our news posts, and download and view the weekly bulletins, all without the help of a computer.

Now available on all app stores!



Grace Lutheran Church of Lily Lake

Available in App Stores

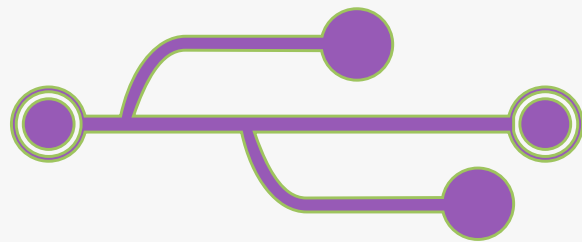


*Stay
Connected*

SUBSPASH®

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL

THROUGH THE END OF 2020



Six months into the Covid and we are still learning many things. One thing we know for sure regardless is that we have to revamp our Christian Education processes for now and for in the future. We want to structure a supportive and engaging for all ages. It is a challenge to do that during the times we are face-to-face, now an even greater experiment. Grace Lutheran Church of Lily Lake is proud to introduce to you:

FAITH 5

FAITH 5, developed by Dr. Rich Melheim, a Lutheran pastor and the founder of Faith Incubators, is a five-step ritual that's being applauded across the U.S. for instilling a sense of security and optimism. It is a 20-30 minute soaking in God's word and care for members of your family and friends. We are going to ask families to share in it together nightly; and we are going to partner up willing singles and pairs to have some study buddies so that we can nurture our faith and create a caring, close-knit faith family that even the Waltons might envy.

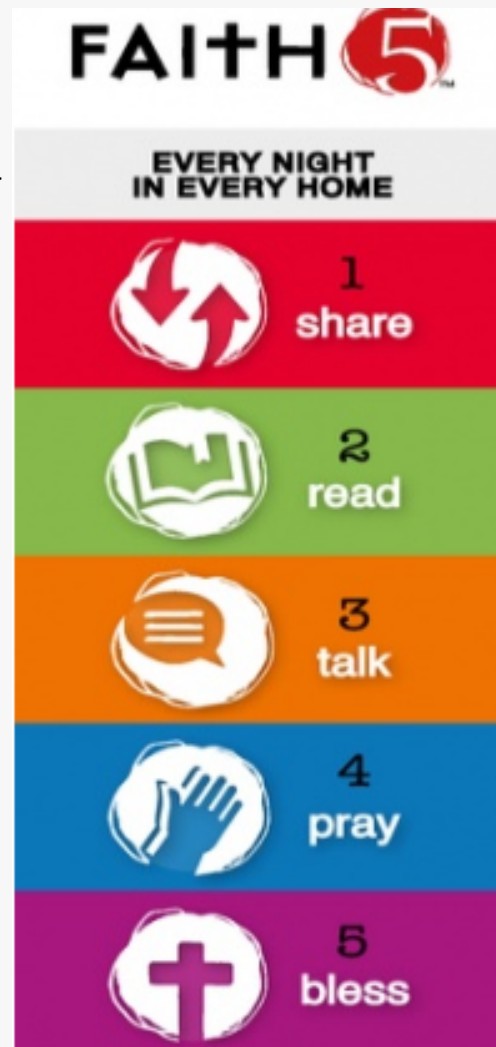
FAITH 5 connects church to home, faith to life, and friends/family members to one another in a powerful way. In essence Faith5 does is an easy-to-follow formula that covers some important basics and empowers even the least confident discussion leader. It doesn't hurt that Faith5 loads in a huge fun factor as well. So who is in?

The **FAITH 5** steps are:

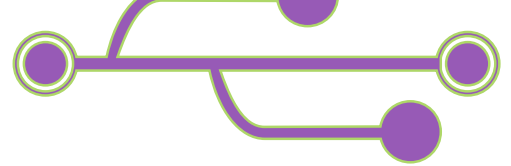
- Step One: Share highs and lows. Name something good and bad you experienced today. Can't think of a personal one? Check out the headlines from the news and teach empathy and compassion for the broader world.
- Step Two: Read a verse/story from your Bible. This could be something you choose as a family/group or one of the weekly lessons from our service or picked popcorn style at random from the Bible.
- Step Three: Talk about how the verse relates to highs and lows. Unpack the verse a bit. What does it mean in your own words? How might it relate to where you are today in your highs and lows?
- Step Four: Pray for one another's highs and lows, for your family, and for the world. Simply talk to God, thank Jesus for the good, and ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in specific problems.
- Step Five: Bless one another. Trace the sign of the cross on one another's forehead or palm as a reminder that you belong to God and to one another.

At Grace, we will engage in Faith 5 until at least the end of 2020 as we plan and structure our regular split levels Christian Education programs (i.e. Sunday School, Confirmation, Bible Studies, VBS, etc.). We will be holding an ALL Grace **FAITH 5** monthly at our second Sunday Zoom Fellowship. Confirmation students and their families are expected to engage in **FAITH 5** as a family and on monthly Zoom, as well as participate in regular Zoom classes. (Times/Dates TBA)

If you are interested in participating in FAITH 5 and would like a partner or be willing to have more in your family/group, please contact the church office and we will pair you up. Learn more at: www.Graceoflilylake.com/Christian Education



STEWARDSHIP 2020



"13 So now (especially NOW!) faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love" **1 Corinthians 13:13**

Join us – online or if possible, in person - for Grace's celebration of God's gifts!

Throughout October, we will explore the three essential characteristics of being a child of God and share widely how our faithful, loving God is working through us and the things we do to accomplish positive change in the world.

October 1st – Begin recording! **WE WANT YOU! ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS of GRACE** to record a voice or video message for us to compile into a celebration message! You are invited to share **YOUR BEST EXPRESSION OF YOUR ENDURING GIFT OF FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE WITH GRACE.**

• Record a video message no more than 2 minutes of your message (maybe you are singing, maybe you are tending the garden or cleaning at church, maybe you are telling a faith story, sharing the names of those you miss, what you want to do when you next see people from Grace, hold up a sign with your message... BE WILDLY CREATIVE!)

We recognize that some people maybe intimidated or worrying about technology – we got you covered! We will arrange to meet with you at your home or church – SAFELY OF COURSE – and record your message. Send video or audio to John Verner - john.verner@pciaa.net or Pastor Dawn – Pastor@graceoflilylake.com or Cheyenne – churchsec@graceoflilylake.com by Oct 31.

- **October 4th** - Generosity Sunday 1 - Faithful
 - God is faithful and meets the needs of all God's children. How do we respond in faith?
- **October 11th** - Generosity Sunday 2 – Hopeful (BEGIN INSIDE WORSHIP – don't forget to register)
 - God is our hope; in God we have life and freedom. Will we use that freedom rejoicing and contributing to others needs?
- **October 18th** - Generosity Sunday 3 - Loving
 - God loves us fully, completely, prodigally, do our lives bear the fruit that shows God's love?
- **October 25th** - Generosity Sunday / Reforming Sunday – Faithful, Hope-filled, Loving
 - God's love and faithfulness to his children provoke lifechanging hope & transformation
- **November 1st** – Invitation Sunday - Focusing on the Saints gone before us and considering what legacy we want to leave
 - Stewardship Giving Invitation will be made; Intention cards distributed (Due back on/by November 15th)
- **November 15th** - Dedication and Celebration Sunday - opportunity to share your gifts/intentions for 2021 ministry
 - We will offer our intentions and share a culminating Celebration of our hope-filled, loving faithfulness to God and God's blessed community. Please watch for more information about this celebration and ways that EVERYONE will be able to participate and enjoy.

faithful
hopeful
loving



Stewardship Appeal 2020

VISION TEAM MINUTES



Vision Team Minutes and Pastor's report are now available! If you would like a copy emailed to you, please contact churchsec@graceoflilylake.com and it will be sent to you. Please mention if you'd like to be put on a mailing list to get a copy each month.

Additionally, if you'd like a paper copy please contact the same email and we mail you one. We also may be able to leave you a paper copy at the church vestibule.

Thank
you

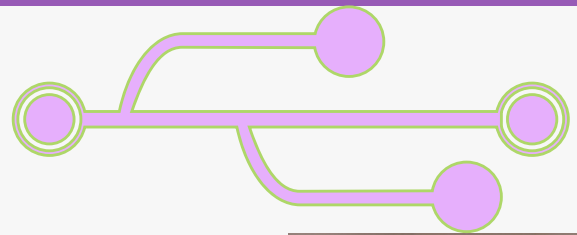
Thank you
← FROM GRACE

Thank you to Kurt Redemann and Cathy Whiteside for getting the memorial bricks placed in sidewalk!

Thank you to everyone who participated in Cathy Gjerde's going away video!

Getting to Know You

NANCY SCHNAITMAN



Born Nov. 20th, 1948 in Aurora, Illinois, the oldest of five children.

I was raised in the same house on the far northeast side of Aurora, known as Pigeon Hill. There were farm fields behind my house when I was little, teeming in spring with Eastern Meadowlarks ...this, and my grandfather, Art, nurtured my love of birds. He could duplicate the song of cardinals and had homing pigeons that he released to fly the skies around the neighborhood. His best friend was a chicken named Biddy!

Growing up I was free to go just about anywhere as long as I told my mother where I was going and had to be home by supper time. I once road my bike from Aurora to Oswego, just to ride my uncle's horse. I still love horses and wanted to live on a farm...but I did get to spend some of my summers on my uncle's farm.

I met my best friend, Jim, on a blind date. We went bowling with some friends. That's when I realized he was directionally inept.... because he did not turn into the bowling alley when I told him to, and we ended up on 88 heading to Chicago.

also learned that he did not like soggy sandwiches...we took his boat upriver above the St. Charles dam, found a very large rock and decided to have lunch on that rock. I was slicing an onion for the sandwiches and he did not like the way I was doing it so he took it from me and began to "dice" it according to his stringent dicing standards, when it slipped out of his hand, rolled down the rock and dropping into the Fox River. Then he unwrapped the waxed paper, (we did not have plastic wrap at that time) from his corned beef sandwich and it was soggy, so he threw that in the river as well.....darn, I would have eaten that!

We married on July 13th, 1968...to begin what turned out to be a 50-year relationship. Our first home was a little ranch in West Chicago, and in 1976, we moved to our larger house in the woods in Elburn, where I currently live.

We had three children, James, Cindy, and Sally. And I have six grandchildren. We spent summers traveling with our pop-up camper, and eventually bought a lot on Stone Lake in northwestern Wisconsin where the children enjoyed swimming in the crystal-clear water.

We rode the mules down to Bright Angle ranch in the Grand Canyon. In 2005 Jim and I hiked from the south rim to the Colorado River and then rafted out of the canyon on a five day trip....sleeping under the stars for five days...the best vacation ever, even if it was in the same clothes!

I worked for Richardson Electronics for 20 years in several capacities. When Ed Richardson bought a company in Israel, I was sent to Tel Aviv to transfer their purchasing and customer service programs over to Richardson's systems. At approximately four PM....one of the vice presidents shot out of her office to tell us that a plane had just hit a World Trade Center tower. We were sent back to our hotel. The next day, we were instructed to fly back to the USA. However, all flights were grounded, and we had to fly to Heathrow for the weekend and could not fly to the US until Monday.

While working for Richardson, I received my teaching degree in Special Education. In 2005, I retired from Richardson and became a substitute teacher for two school districts. Subbing allowed me time to pursue other interests.

I became a "bird nerd" and have been to many places birding. I have been to Nome, Alaska; the Pribilofs, (St. Paul, Island) a remote rock in the migratory pathway off Alaska; and to Costa Rica, twice. I have been to Arizona and Texas, two birding hotspots. I enjoy just being outdoors.

Since I am not getting any younger, I try to keep my brain active and Dottie is helping me; I am taking piano lessons from her!

I love to bird, swim, bike, hike, garden and read, and try to stay physically active. I am so glad that I now have my church family at Grace. I thank my dear friend, Cathy Lindquist, for introducing Jim and me to the wonderful people at Grace.

LOOKING FOR WHERE TO FIND US?

WORSHIP – on our website every week! Click the media tab to find every current and past service!

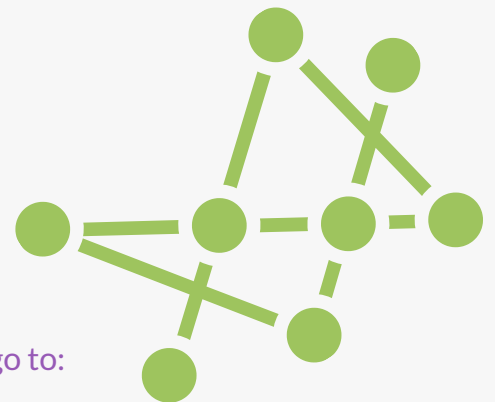
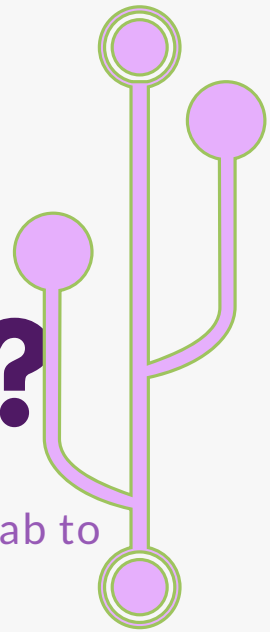
FELLOWSHIP – on Zoom - check weekly eblast for weekly particulars

BIBLE STUDY – Zoom each Tuesday at 9 AM. Contact Pastor Dawn for details.

PRAYER - By appointment with Pastor Dawn 847-331-0373 or reach through Pastor@graceoflilylake.com or each Friday morning with and for others through Zoom meeting - *contact Pastor for details.*

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
Building questions – Kurt Redemann
Other questions - churchsec@graceoflilylake.com



DO YOU WANT YOUR ARTICLE IN THE NEWSLETTER?

**SUBMIT BY
OCTOBER 15,
2020**

**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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GRACE
CONNECTIONS**

