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June 2019

# Grace Notes

Grace Lutheran Church

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## From the Pastor's Desk...

My newsletter article last month was one of the strangest I've ever written. My article this month is probably one of the least surprising ones. Hopefully most of you have already heard all this. But in case not, I'd like to keep everyone up to date on what's going on here at Grace and offer the opportunity to be a part of it...

On May 4<sup>th</sup> **Rev. Derek Mathers** (the Mission Executive of the English District) visited Grace and shared with us the results of the Re:Vitality **Self-Assessment survey** that people from Grace took in March and April. The subjective results, based on the 45 people who completed the survey, showed that at this time Grace is a **Tapering** congregation, firmly set in quadrant III. Our highest scores were in **Groups, Hospitality, and Unity**. The top areas with room for improvement were **Incorporation, Inactives, Community, and Outreach**. For more details on all this, grab a copy of the full results along with a summary of May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting – which is available in the narthex.

Derek's presentation gave an optimistic outlook – sharing that a congregation like ours can change its trajectory and return to the Maturation stage. He left it to us to discover what and how to do that. The leaders at Grace have identified the following 3 areas where we want to intentionally improve in 2019: **Incorporation, Community, and Outreach**. In order to do so we're going to need everyone's participation and willingness to change. During 4 consecutive Sundays **3x5 cards** were placed in the worship bulletins to give people the opportunity to thoughtfully answer the following questions:

1. *How can we at Grace improve at getting members more involved?*
2. *What are some ideas for how we at Grace could engage our community?*
3. *What are some ideas for how we at Grace could improve at connecting to people who aren't a part of our church?*

If you haven't had a chance to fill one out yet – don't worry. For the next couple of months there will be a stack of cards next to the basket (to put them in) in the narthex. But don't wait too long; soon the new Evangelism Deacon and I will start sifting through the ideas and look to put some into practice here at Grace.

From there we'll see where Christ grows and moves in us and through us.

In Christ,

Pastor Josh

**May Official Pastoral Acts:**

3 sick/shut-in visits  
3 private communions  
7 circuit visitor activities  
6 leadership meetings  
3 family visitations  
4 pastoral care visits

<b>Upcoming Sermon Texts</b>	
June 2	Acts 1:1-11
June 9	Acts 2:1-21
June 16	Acts 2:14a, 22-36
June 23	Luke 8:26-39
June 30	Luke 9:51-62

Join us in the weeks ahead as the **Sunday morning Adult Bible Class** studies God's view of issues related to murder, war, just and unjust war, and Holy Wars in the Old Testament.

On May 28<sup>th</sup> God called **Rev. Roger Janke** from this world to eternal life with Him in Heaven. Pastor Janke served at Grace from 1968 through 1974. Many of you may remember him as a young, energetic pastor with a big, booming voice and young children. Others of you may remember seeing him in 2011 at our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service here at Grace. His beautifully written obituary can be found at <https://www.heritagefuneral.com/obituary/rev-roger-alvin-janke/>

There will be a **Memorial Service** for **Alice Amehauser** on Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11 am with a luncheon hosted by the LWL to follow. All those who knew her and her lively spirit are invited to attend on what would have been her 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

Pastor Josh and Jen would like to share the BIG news that their son **Simon Moldenhauer** was born on May 29<sup>th</sup>. All are healthy. Pastor and his family look forward to baptizing little Simon on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup> during worship. Following the service there will be a baptismal brunch/potluck. Everyone is invited to attend.

## June Birthdays

Norma Stechow	6/02
Colleen Karp	6/03
Carl Koch	6/06
Kathy Koepp	6/06
Elizabeth Thomas	6/07
Glenn Waltz	6/10
Jen Moldenhauer	6/10
Karen Fridenstine	6/12
Chance Coultrip	6/15
Mark Huston	6/16
Giovanna Bremke	6/16
David Jones	6/20
Bill Swanzer	6/21
Carolyn Husted	6/25
Dave Metzger	6/26
Chris Koch	6/27
Miranda Scholl	6/27
Coralie Swanzer	6/28

## June Anniversaries

Bill & Coralie Swanzer	6/02
Robin & Glenn Turnbull	6/15
John & Kathy Knipper	6/15
Pastor & Jen Moldenhauer	6/30

\* If we accidentally forgot your birthday or anniversary, please tell Pastor and we'll add it to our list

## *Evangelism News:*

The Mission of the Month for June is the ministry of the **LCMS World Relief and Human Care** – which works to help and serve Lutheran churches and people following all sorts of natural disasters – like the flooding in the Midwest this spring. Read more about it on the Evangelism Bulletin Board in the church hallway. For those of you receiving this by email, you can learn more about this by going to <https://blogs.lcms.org/2019/in-midst-of-flood-heartaches-lutherans-offer-help-hope/> and reading the full article.

## *Worship News*

Starting in this month we will no longer be using the pre-printed bulletin inserts from CPH during worship. Instead the relevant information will be printed in the bulletins and the congregation will be encouraged to look up the Bible readings in the pew Bibles or their own personal Bibles they bring from home.

## *May Voters' Meeting Report:*

The Quarterly May Voters' Meeting was held on May 19<sup>th</sup> following worship and contained the following items:

- Reports were given by Pastor, the Council members, LWL, Memorial Committee, and Altar Guild.
- Two people who have moved out of the area were removed from membership.
- An estimate on totally redoing the church landscaping was tabled until additional estimates could be received.
- The church by-laws were revised with regards to the Church Council. The Education & Worship Deacon positions were eliminated, with their responsibilities passed on to Pastor and the Council President. The Presidents of the LWL, Altar Guild, and Elders were given standing invitations to attend Council Meetings. Minor changes were made to the job descriptions of Pastor, Elders, and remaining Council members.
- A motion to have Home Maintenance Systems seal and repair the church parking lot for approximately \$2665 was recommended, discussed, and approved.

Full details of the meeting can be found in the minutes posted in the church hallway Administration Bulletin Board. To request a personal copy, contact Recording Secretary Lee Anne Christner.

## *Altar Guild News*

We are still looking to add a few new members to our team. If you are interested in serving on Altar Guild please contact Robin Turnbull.

Serving in June

2: Collen Karp

9 & 16: Carolyn Husted

23 & 30: Kathy Knipper

~ Robin

## *Lutheran Women's League News*

June 18 is our next Free Community Hot Meal and will be hosted by Janet Mertz and Bonnie Abicht. Donna and Wayne Perron served 20 at the May Hot Meal.

June 2 Lee Anne Christner  
June 9 Donna Perron  
June 16 Jen Fehlan-Jones  
June 25 Susan Walker  
June 30 Jen Moldenhauer- Baptism Lunch/Potluck

LWML is once again participating in Love, INC (Love in the Name of Christ) annual Clothe-A-Kid for School Program. Last year we purchased clothes for 10 kids. This year 6 persons have agreed to clothe a student in need. Please let Carolyn Husted know by June 2 if you would be interested in this worthy event. Love, INC suggests each order to cost on average \$70-\$90. Each bag must contain a minimum of 2 pairs of pants or jeans, 2 shirts or blouses, 3 pairs of underwear and 3 pairs of socks. Additional items can be added if you wish. We will get names and sizes of each child sometime between July 15 and 20.

Reminder: Dates for LWML's annual fall rummage sale has been changed to September 6 and September 7. Set up will begin on Tuesday, September 3 and we will need lots of help!

Next women's breakfast will be held Thursday, June 27 at 9:30 at the Oberlin Diner on South Main Street.

Carolyn Husted

# June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2	3 • Elder's Meeting 4 pm	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 • Elder's Meeting 4 pm	11 • Council's Meeting 7 pm	12	13	14	15 • Free Hot Meal 5 pm
16	17	18 • OCS Food Box Delivery 2 pm	19	20 • NAMI Mental Illness Support Group 7 pm	21	22 • Memorial Service for Alice Armenhauser 11 am
23	24	25	26	27 • Women's Breakfast at Oberlin Kitchen 9:30 am	28	29
30						

**Upcoming Important Dates:**

- Sept 6 & 7: Rummage Sale