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Newsletter SEPTEMBER 2024

Pastor Doug Widger (Lead Shepherd) | Pastor Steve Roth (Community Care)

Dr. Serena Pace (DCE - Director of Ministries) | Mrs. Laura Scott (Director of Early Education)

### **Legacy Fund**

When Jesus shows up, he brings a sense of new creation to everything. We, at Grace, are experiencing this as we speak. Jesus is showing up in powerful ways. He is definitely making people new by the power of the Word and Sacraments. He is also making our properties new. The most recent example is the sanctuary renovation! Praise God for His outpouring of resources through His people to make this possible.



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You may recall that God has blessed us with the sale of Grace West (a.k.a. – Newman, Grace

Lutheran School). Since May of 2023, our Finance Team has been investing the proceeds from this sale in conservative investment products, primarily certificates of deposit. The intention of the Finance Team has been to grow this gift to help fund mission and ministry into the future. With that in mind the B.O.D. will be reviewing a "Legacy Fund" proposal in the next few weeks, with the intention of forwarding a document to the congregation for voters' consideration in November. This is a significant moment for our congregation. Please pray for God's wisdom as we consider how to best steward the amazing gifts He has provided. — Paster Doug Widger

**Chancel Flowers** 



Chancel Flowers

Over the course of the past few years the price of live floral arrangements has increased greatly. The rate we currently pay for chancel flowers is \$80/week for one arrangement, plus a \$15 delivery fee, for a total of \$95/week. The suggested donation for chancel flowers went from \$50 up to \$70 this year. We now need to ask for a \$95 donation to cover the cost of flowers. If you wish to share the cost of flowers with someone else, please make those

arrangements on your own. Our Altar Guild is doing a comparative pricing survey to make sure we are being the best stewards we can be. If this new cost creates a problem for anyone who had previously committed to purchase flowers, please contact Pastor Doug.

#### **Fruit Of The Spirit**



"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5, ESV)

God is calling Grace to bear fruit, fruit that lasts into eternity. Every person who is affiliated with our ministry is called "fruit bearing life". How can we grow together as a fruit bearing congregation? ONE: focused study on God's Word will help us as we together in worship examine the Scriptures. TWO: personal study and reflection will help us. THREE: small table group conversation will help us process what we are learning. FOUR: the Holy Spirit of God will help us. He is the driving force behind any real growth in the spiritual realm as the Small Catechism says, "He calls, gathers and enlightens" us through the Word and the Sacraments.

If we are to maximize our potential as a congregation, we need to deeply lean into him personally and as a family of faith together. Please sign up to be part of the process this month!





#### HAVE YOU CLAIMED YOUR FREE GRANT MONEY FROM THRIVENT YET?

Thrivent members have grant money for our mission and ministry at Grace just sitting up there, at Thrivent in Appleton, WI.

Do you know that if you don't claim it for Grace, Thrivent will let another group have it?

#### NO!

It's set aside for OUR mission and ministry here at Grace and we need it HERE!

If you have not claimed your \$250-\$500 grants for 2024 yet, or if you are not sure, contact Chris Owens at 817 247-7122 and let's get that Thrivent money here!



## **FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS**

#### SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDIES

10:45—11:45 a.m. (Babies/Toddlers)

Nursery

(Preschool 4's—Kinder & Grades 1-5)

**Preschool Wing** 

(Grades 6-8) Meeting Room 4 (Top Left)

(Grades 9-12) Youth Shed

(Biblical Parenting) Library

NO BIBLE STUDY ON 9.1—LABOR DAY WEEKEND



## SAVE THE DATE

## FALL FAMILY FEST COMMUNITY EVENT OCTOBER 27TH, 3-5PM

Candy donations now being accepted at Serena's office! Planning and Volunteer Teams now forming!



## GRACE KIDS / GRACE YOUTH FAMILY EVENT: OCTOBER 19TH

Families join together for fellowship. Details to be announced!



## RECESS MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

SEPTEMBER 20TH-21ST, 2024

FOR GRADES 5-8

COST: \$100 (Scholarships Available)
LOCATION: Camp Copass (Denton, TX)

For more information, contact Serena: (P) 817-274-1626, x1002 (E) space@grace.lc



## ENDURE

JULY 19TH-23RD, 2025 NEW ORLEANS, LA (Hebrews 12:1-3)

Held every 3 years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to be encouraged in their walk with Jesus Christ and learn about the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity. Speak with Serena if you would like to receive more information.

Cost is \$1,000 to attend per person.

## **FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS**







# SEND



#### **GRACE SENIORS**

is launching September 12th for the new programming year. Send your ideas, food options and speaker recommendations to Serena <u>space@grace.lc</u>

817-274-1626.





## **EMBRACE LIFE BEGINS** OCTOBER 2ND, 2024

Support groups for young single moms, who have participated in Embrace Grace, are now forming. Is this a ministry you feel called to help with? Contact Serena Pace, Barb Spivy or Barb Koehn for information.





Noemi (right) serves with the Texas District, LCMS, as the Districtwide Evangelist Development Leader.



Despite facing adversity, Niki (left) believes that her journey is part of the greater story written by God.

Join us for meaningful discussion, prayer & worship. Receive a free copy of Joy: A Study of Philippians by Deb Burma. A boxed lunch is provided! Contact Serena at space@grace.lc with questions.

## **FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS**

## AGING WELL EXPO: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH

Grace Seniors will meet at church by the Gym at 8:30AM to carpool over for the 9AM-11:30AM slot. Please let Serena know if you can attend & drive.

Lunch is Grab & Go on our way out if you registered for it in August. Yes, you can still attend even if you did not register for the lunch. Parking is FREE. 'Texas Rangers' is the theme, so wear Rangers clothing if you've got it!

The Aging Well Expo for the 50+ adult is an inperson, free, fun, and an informational one-day event that brings businesses and the community together. It's a chance to interact with over 100 health



professionals and attend a variety of interesting presentations on wellness. There will be fitness demonstrations, entertainment, speakers, and health screenings. Here's to living healthier lives!

#### Location:

Esports Stadium Arlington & Expo Center, 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington TX 76011



## SEPTEMBER 12TH | 12PM-1:30PM

JOIN US AS WE DISCUSS YEARLY PLANNING & INFORMATION ON PROTECTING LOVED ONES FROM ELDER FINANCIAL FRAUD.

Bring a main dish, side, salad or dessert to share! Please let Serena know if you can HOST or would like to lead the devotion!

For more information, please contact Serena at 817-274-1626 x1002 or <a href="mailto:space@grace.lc">space@grace.lc</a>.



## **GLEE NEWS**

### **Celebrating 15 Years Of Service At GLEE!**



CONGRATULATIONS to Ms. Angela
Hernandez on her 15 years of service to
Grace Lutheran Early Education! Ms. Angela
has been an integral part of our teaching
team at GLEE, she is well loved by our
students, families and fellow teachers. "Since
Ms. Brown had taught Toddlers forever-I was
nervous about hiring for that class-but when I
interviewed Angela—I knew she would be



perfect! She felt at home with her class, and everyone commented on how perfect that she is with this age group." (Ms. Sherry Burgdorf Director of GLEE | 2010-2015).

"Angela is one of the kindest and most patient teachers I've ever met. Her ability to get toddlers to nap on a mat is unmatched. Congrats on 15 years!" (Jennifer Chavez Director of GLEE | 2015-2023).

"I love sitting in Angela's classroom for Bible Story time. She is intentional on sharing Jesus' love with her students daily. She is dedicated to caring for the children, families and teachers of GLEE and then every Sunday morning extends her service to Grace Lutheran Church nursery." (Laura Scott Director of GLEE December | 2023-Present).



## WHERE PRESCHOOLERS COME TO GROW

AND FAMILIES COME TO CONNECT

NOW ENROLLING FOR FALL SEMESTER



GRANDS!

CELEBRATION!

JOIN US FOR CHAPEL

AND A SMALL RECEPTION FOLLOWING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 9:00-9:20 AM GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH SANCTUARY









## **GLEE NEWS (continued)**

#### **Meet The Parents!**









We had an amazing time at our **Meet the Parents** event at GLEE on July 31st! Parents had the opportunity to connect with their child's teacher and learn more about what makes GLEE special. It was a wonderful evening of building community and kicking off the school year with excitement.

## **HISPANIC MINISTRY NEWS**

#### **ESL Classes**

We are excited and looking forward to our Orientation night this coming Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:00pm, and classes start on Sept 11<sup>th</sup>, and we are looking forward to a great Fall semester. Spanish language is also **NOT** necessary to help with this ministry and we are always looking for volunteers and there are other ways to support ESL.

#### Here's how you can serve:

- Helping to serve snacks (you can also donate)
- Being a Teacher Aid
- Substitute Teachers
- Greeters
- And more...

Please contact Dawn, through the church office, for more information. Please keep us in your prayers as we start a new season of classes.



#### Book Club Is BACK!

Grace's Book Club will begin its FALL SEASON on Wednesday, September 11th at 2:00pm, in the church library. If you like to read novels, come and join us! For more information, call Ruth Brown at 817-274-8600.



## **Grant Application**

#### ATTENTION!! ATTENTION!!

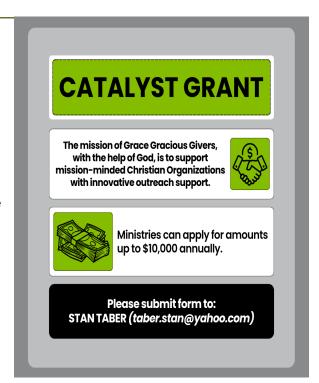
For the members of Grace Lutheran Church there is a Grant Application for anyone looking to go into Church Ministry.

An application is available for up to \$10,000 to help with ministry outreach. You can apply for this grant by going to the Church Newsletter or online at taber.stan@yahoo.com. We've been blessed to grow the ministry at Grace has been continuing for over 7 decades.

Please ask the members of Grace Gracious Givers or GGG:

- ♦ Greg Roe
- Dorothy Kennedy
- ♦ Lisa Woolston
- ♦ Stan Taber

We will help you take the NEXT STEP into becoming a disciple. May God bless you in your decision!



# Puzzle Exchange

Bring a puzzle and exchange it for another! If you don't have a puzzle, just take one and return when completed. **Located in the NARTHEX.** 



- 9/1 Charlotte McCormick
- 9/1 Kenneth Flagg
- 9/2 Roman Chavez
- 9/5 John Schlesinger
- 9/6 True Olson
- 9/10 Stan Taber
- 9/10 Lynzie Chavez
- 9/11 Jerry Pollard
- 9/11 Barbara Spivy
- 9/12 David Robinson, Jr.
- 9/13 Keith Mangels
- 9/13 Scott Schlesinger
- 9/16 Jim Kettler
- 9/16 Tyler Walker
- 9/20 Seth Sessums
- 9/21 Delores Smith
- 9/22 Douglas Widger
- 9/22 Janice Dehoney
- 9/24 Sidney Sorensen
- 9/25 Ginny Hankins
- 9/26 Kathy Crane
- 9/27 Katie Curtis
- 9/28 Susan Seefeldt
- 9/29 Gracie Topel-Brown

## **SEPTEMBER** 9/4 Paul & Mary Wolter



9/5 Mike & Shawn Curtis

9/9 Paul & True Olson

9/10 Gene & Vickie Rosentreter

9/13 Donald & Jeanne Crow

9/25 Doug & Janet Brutlag

9/25 Monte Filler & Joyce Pinnow

9/26 James & Stephanie Schmidt

9/26 Paul & Jennifer Tatrow

#### Your Elders Are Here for You

If there is any way we can assist you with any spiritual needs or physical concerns, do not hesitate to contact your elder. If you need their contact information, please request it by calling the church at 817-274-1626 or email: churchoffice@grace.lc.



#### **ELDERS &** THEIR ASSIGNED **MEMBERS**

Joe Masterson A-B Hank Jacobs C-F David Swille F-H Mike Kennedy I-L Mike Curtis M-O Ernie Owens P-R Brian Bassett S Jim Schmidt T-Z

> Head Elder: Joe Masterson

### Thank You Note

Dear Grace Friends thank you to all who donated to the SIL International fundraiser combatting human trafficking. With these funds, we've launched a project where we will

be translating a human trafficking awareness poster into Bahasa (Indonesia) and Afrikaans (S. Africa). Additional languages will be coming

soon! Thanks again for your generosity.

Blessings,

Steve Woolston



## **Special Dates**



- ♦ Labor Day, Sept. 2, 2024
- National Grandparents Day, Sept. 8, 2024
- ♦ Patriot Day, Sept. 11, 2024
- Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15 - Oct. 15, 2023
- ♦ First Day of Autumn, Sept. 22, 2024



Did you know that the church calendar is available ONLINE? **CLICK HERE** go.grace.lc/calendar to access it. Any calendar changes made in

## FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT WORD SEARCH

A W L L O V E Q V I F H F Y W U G L W Y L H U P U Y T P B J P S E L F C O N T R O L N W O E K B X O L J K Q Y W Q L Q Y A I P F A I T H F U L N E S S C N L F W L O Y L T E I P K G E D U B S T I U M W N X A F O C N M C E X M Y A M X Z T F O O E G E N T L E N E S S I Z D C S A P R T P E G W I I E T N O S L E M O N D O V H K N B E N P E A C H C E P U F I C G S U H N D H T K R A I S W E M S T Q O R S C K A H G J I Y I O Z C G T G R A P E F R U I T K

faithfulness	self-control	gentleness	love
grapefruit	patience	kindness	kiwi
goodness	coconut	peace	plum
lemon	peach	mango	joy

