
November 2024

In Touch with Grace



Dear family and friends of Grace,

"I thank God every time I think of you." This is a phrase we see often in the epistles of the New Testament. In that short sentence, a world of meaning comes through. Who is it that you might think of and thank God - every single time? It takes a pretty special person to fit that description. Our church family is a group filled with people that I am thankful for. I am also thankful for the building and grounds that God has given to us to use for ministry both within and beyond our walls for the betterment of one another including those we have not yet met. Our location and neighborhood are something to be thankful for. Not everyone has such a beautiful dwelling place as our congregation does.

This fall, I am most grateful for the opening of our Early Learning Center - Eastside. How wonderful to use the resources we have to support families and offer a place for young children to thrive and learn. A few years ago, we were wondering what God has called us to do with this wonderful place and beautiful people that we are gifted with.

We have answered God's call and still continue to move forward in faith with confidence that God is leading us. We may think that the future is uncertain, but God is already there preparing the way and asking us to trust that even in uncertainty there is something to be grateful for. We have the opportunity to share what we have been

given for the betterment of the communities in which we live and work and play and serve.

God will provide what we need and give us a purpose to change the world for the better. We only need to trust, listen, and follow where God will lead. The future is full of surprises that with God all things are possible. For that we can be thankful!

See you in worship,

Pastor Karen



Announcements

- Confirmation classes will be held on November 17 & 24, December 8 & 22.
- Thank you to everyone who supported our youth ministry by attending and enjoying the annual spaghetti dinner on Reformation Sunday. We had a great time and wonderful food. Thanks to the youth families for providing a great event.
- All Saints Day is the first Sunday in November, November 3. We will remember the saints among us and those who have gone on to their heavenly home. Please bring a photo of your loved ones to church that morning and place them around the sanctuary on the ledges on either side. Please label your photos so that all will know who the people are. We will have time during the service to look at the photos, remembering our loved ones in prayer, and we will light votive candles. Special worship music will be shared and we will give thanks for the lives of those who have touched our own.
- Our Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1390 Larpenteur Ave. E., St. Paul, MN.
Let's give thanks together!



Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour on Saturday, November 2nd, before you go to bed or you will be early for church on Sunday morning!

We are still letting our light shine!!



Pete, Nancy, Carl and Tina Zitzewitz on a boating day!

'Trunk or Treat' event co-hosted by LSS & Grace Lutheran - October 23rd!



Part I of the Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 10th, following the worship service at approximately 10:45 am. Please plan to join us for coffee and treats and to do some of our church business. This meeting is primarily to approve the 2025 budget as proposed by Council and to elect officers, council members, and Committee members for our congregational committees.

We could use your help to accomplish these tasks. Thank you!

NOVEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH

The November Mission of the Month at Grace is ELCA World Hunger. Every year, your gifts make it possible for ELCA World Hunger to respond strategically and help people living with hunger and poverty in more than 60 countries around the world and the U.S.

Nearly 1 in 10 - 733 million - in our world are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond supporting sustainable solutions that get to the root causes of hunger and poverty.

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving with lavish and bountiful dinner celebrations, please take a moment to examine how you would like to share with those less fortunate and reach out in Christian love to our neighbors in need across the street and around the world.

Please use your blue multi-purpose envelope, mark mission of the month and place in the church offering or mail to the church office. Checks should be made payable to Grace. Thank you.



Music Notes -

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. It's time to rediscover the wonderful recipes that everyone looks forward to eating and finding new recipes that will soon be added to the old ones. But before sitting down to the bountiful harvest, we always give thanks to the head of all households, who created the seasons and provided the food about to be received. Composers and lyricists have contributed many hymns giving thanks to God which can be sung at any time of year. These are the top 4 hymns that are heard especially at Thanksgiving time.

#693 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

This hymn was first printed in 1844 by Henry Alford, the author, but was revised by someone else in 1861, not to the author's liking. Therefore, he turned around and re-revised it in 1865 and again in 1867. That 1867 version is what we find in our hymnal. The tune's name, *St. George's, Windsor*, is the name of the church where the person who wrote the tune, George Elvey, was organist for 47 years. He became the organist there when he was only 19. George Elvey was so good, he got the job instead of Samuel Wesley, whose nickname was 'the English Mozart'. FYI: The composer, George Elvey, became "Sir" George in 1871 after being knighted by Queen Victoria.

#870 We Praise You, O God

This hymn's other name is "We Gather Together". It was originally written as a patriotic Dutch tune, voicing their intolerance to their Spanish occupiers who held their lands from 1556 to 1714. The tune is named for its composer, Edward Kremser. It was originally published in a collection in 1877.

#839 Now Thank We All Our God

Martin Rinkart wrote this hymn during the Thirty Years War in Germany. He was living in Eilenburg, which became a walled off city during the war. By the end of the war, he was the only pastor left in the city. Because of the city being walled off, starvation and the plague took its toll, with over 8000 dying in 2 years. Sometimes, he buried 40 or 50 people a day. He even had to bury his wife. He wrote this hymn during that war and it was sung at the Peace of Westphalia, celebrating the end of the war.

#879 For The Beauty of the Earth

Folliott Pierpoint's hymn was originally published in a book of communion hymns in 1867. Even though he was a prolific writer, this is the only hymn he is remembered for.

So before we sit down to that scrumptious meal of turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy and all the 'fixings', we have the opportunity to say thank you to the provider of all things on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. And you can be sure, these 4 hymns will probably be on the "musical menu!"

FROM THE LIBRARY:

First, a thank you to the Property Mgmt Committee for tackling the job of moving the outside Free library. Positioning the library near the sidewalk will allow better winter usage access. Thank you!

FICTION - Authors surname beginning with H. These are on shelves, center rows in alphabetical order with spines facing the Narthex.

<u>The Sweetness of Forgetting</u>	Kristin Harmel
<u>Hannibal</u>	Thomas Harris
<u>The Dean's List</u>	Jon Hassler
<u>Into the Water</u>	Paula Hawkins
<u>The Girl on the Train</u>	Paula Hawkins
<u>The Wedding Dress</u>	Rachel Hauck
<u>Mother of Pearl</u>	Melinda Haynes
<u>For Whom the Bell Tolls</u>	Ernest Hemingway
<u>The Stories We Tell</u>	Pati Henry
<u>Every Living Thing</u>	James Harriot
<u>The Talented Mr. Ripley</u>	Patricia Highsmith
<u>The Rumor</u>	Elin Hildebrand
<u>Silver Girl</u>	Elin Hildebrand
<u>The Eleventh Plague</u>	Jeff Hirsch
<u>Dark Paradise</u>	Tami Hoag
<u>Deeper Than The Dead</u>	Tami Hoag
<u>Secrets of the Grave</u>	Tami Hoag
<u>To End All Wars 1914-1918</u>	Adam Hochschild
<u>Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine</u>	Gail Honeyman
<u>A Thousand Splendid Suns</u>	Kaled Hossenlis

BOOK CLUB READS

A Gentleman in Moscow

Amor Towles



Grace Book Club -

Here are the titles chosen for the fall:

For discussion on:

November 7th - Trust by Hernan Diaz

Sunday School

We hope you have been enjoying the questions in the weekly Grace at a Glance that have come from our Sunday School lessons. How many did you get right?

We are continuing our journey through Exodus, and the kids are learning so much. One fun activity we did was to use blocks to create the Tabernacle God instructed the Israelites to make so that He could dwell with them. Each person was asked to give and do as they could. Many different skills were needed, and it took the support of the entire community to make. Much like Grace Lutheran Church it takes all of us to share our unique skills and resources to support the church and all that we do.

It's already time to start thinking about the children's Christmas program. Mark your calendars for December 8th. We are working hard on our songs, and looking forward to putting on a great program for you.

As always, if anyone is wanting to help out with Sunday School in any way please contact Amanda Christie.



The SS kids made a tabernacle to hold the ten commandments and the ark of the covenant. Amelia collected all the "gold" blocks to make the ark while Gavynn and Luke built the "tent".

XYZ's will meet at church on November 14th at 1:00 pm to carpool to Mill City Museum. The fee for the museum entrance is \$12/person. (for 65+) There is dining, shopping, activities in the museum and a roof-top observation area with great views of the city. Come join us for the fun, fellowship and to even learn something!



XYZ October outing →
to Fort Snelling



President's Thoughts

November brings thoughts of holidays and shorter days and the end of the year, etc. In the life of the church it also brings thoughts of preparation for the new year. This year the first part of our Annual Meeting is planned for Sunday, November 10th, following worship. At this meeting we primarily talk about plans for the new year. We will be electing Council members and officers as well as Committee members for our congregational committees. These are the groups that answer directly to the congregation and not to the Council; Special Gifts and Memorials and Endowment. Our Nominating committee has been busy trying to find people willing to fill the open positions beginning in 2025. If you are interested, please contact Karin Nikula or Jeff Gorton with questions. We will also be accepting nominations from the floor at the meeting so please consider serving if you are able.

The other major topic to be discussed at this meeting is the budget for 2025. The Business Management team has been busy putting this together and the Council has discussed and voted to recommend the one you will see to the congregation for approval. Please look at it and bring questions and/or comments to the meeting for discussion. We look forward to hearing your opinions on how to move forward.

Please plan to be at the meeting on November 10th!!

Blessings to you,

Linda Sackreiter, Congregation President

FOOD SHELF SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 3rd!!!



The Giving Tree (a Christmas tradition at Grace) will be going up on **November 30**. Congregation members may take one, two (or as many as they would like) ornaments off the tree, purchase the gift listed, bring to church unwrapped by December 15 and place under the tree. The Mission Committee will deliver the gifts. Items donated will be given to LSS learning center housed in the lower level at Grace.

Community Connections - ongoing projects!!

Internal, Local and Global

If you would consider serving treats on a Sunday morning, we would appreciate your help. Please take a look at the sign-up schedule in the South Tower room and see if there is a date that works for you to help out! If you would be willing to bring treats but would prefer to not serve, please speak with Linda Sackreiter and we can arrange that as well.

Thanks for your help!!

2024 Collections

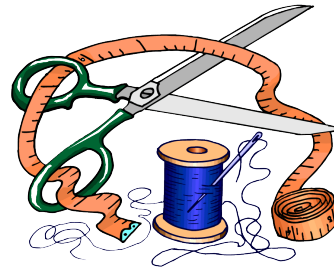
Quilts, baby care kits (Note: soap size accepted for baby care kits is 3.5 or 4 oz gentle soap; soap in each kit has to total 8 or 9 oz)

We will deliver several baby care kits to the LWR warehouse with the quilts before fall.

Other on-going collections at Grace - used eye glasses and cancelled stamps. Please find the small collection baskets on the library shelf. Also, Sandy Abernathy will take any American Flags that need to be disposed of properly. These can be left in the collection area in the library. (We are not currently saving soup can labels) Thank you for all donations!

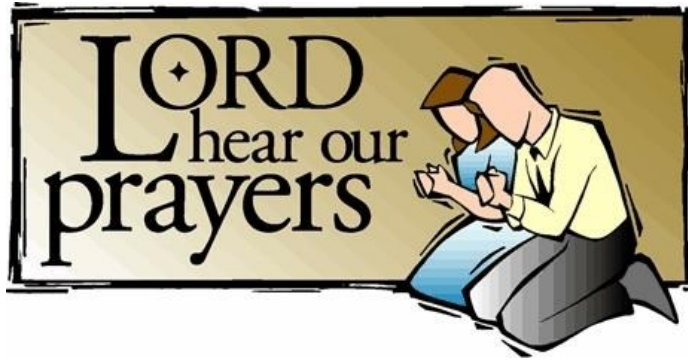


Quilt Days— We will be meeting again in November on the 2nd Saturday (9th) and the 4th Saturday (23rd) All are welcome to join us. No skills necessary, we will teach. Most months we meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays in the Tower rooms. Come join us in this month for some good conversation and to put those hands to use for a wonderful cause. Lutheran World Relief distributes donated quilts all over the world including in the US.



Miles of Pennies The large collection jar in the library is always accepting donations toward giving to the LSS fund for helping homeless Youth in St. Paul. Our goal is \$250.00 for 2024. Let's exceed that again in 2024! We are getting close. Thank you to everyone who participates in this important mission. Your generous donations of coins and paper money are appreciated.





We lift our prayers to God in times of thanksgiving and times of need, in times of joy and times of sorrow. This month we especially pray for Judy Adam, Bev Henderson, Ron House, Carol Anderson, Butch Nelson, April Premo (niece of Judy Nelson), the family and friends of Jim Dyrhaug (Sylvia & Don's son), the family and friends of Sue Brown, and all those we name in our hearts.

How to donate other than in the offering plate:

There is always snail mail. The office is open to receive the mail and our bookkeeper will count what comes in each week and deposit it in the bank. Our address: 1730 Old Hudson Road, St. Paul, 55106.

To donate electronically: You can schedule a transfer of funds with your own bank if they have bill pay available and it will come automatically on the date you choose. Otherwise, you can go to our website (www.gracelutheranstpaul.org) and click on the GIVE page.

This site is secure for financial transactions through Vanco which is the Simply Giving program. At the GIVE page you can go through the steps as directed and give whatever amount you wish to several different categories (general, other, etc.) This works best on the Firefox or Edge browsers. This does get to us electronically in a very timely manner. If you are comfortable using the QR, it will take you directly to the GIVE page on the website. **Please call the office if you have any questions.** Thank you.

Give QR



Financial Snapshot for GLC-2023

	<u>September Actual</u>	<u>YTD Actual*</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
General Fund	\$ 30,086.63	\$ 168,287.61	\$177,168.75
Expenses	\$ 13,041.14	\$ 198,921.11	\$219,296.07
Deficit/Overage	\$ 17,045.49	-\$30,633.50	-\$42,127.32

* Does not include \$296,000.00 rec'd in June .from the Met Council.



2 Jeff Oberlander

5 Jared Dike
Peter Wickert

8 Barb Hegge
Kelly Humphrey

9 Linda Sackreiter
Steve Trulen

10 Raymond Parsons
Carol Matson

12 Cynthia Martinson
Everly Wood

14 Judy Nelson

15 Inez Albrecht

16 Emma Geister

19 Kairo Stewart

20 Mary Ettl

22 Erin Wintheiser

23 Byron Meyer

26 Cindy Malmin

Grady Westling

27 Carly Kinney

29 Erick Major

29 David Schaaf II



Worship Leaders for November 2024 -

<u>Date</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Lay Reader</u>
3	Connie Smeby	Alexis Petersen	Bob Golder
10	Bethany Ketchem	Kaliska Reed	Linda Baer
17	Pastor Karen	Tony Childs	Phyllis Hunter
24	Dave Hunter	Cami Alleman	Jim Baumer

<u>Date</u>	<u>Ushers (the families of the acolytes are also helping out)</u>
3	Brian Petersen, Rachel Petersen
10	Brian Jackson, Lydia Rose, Violet Rose
17	Jeff Oberlander, Anne Oberlander
24	Norm Walby, Jonathan Williams

<u>Date</u>	<u>Money Counters - (we could use some additional volunteers on our counting teams)</u>
3	Amanda Christie team
10	Monique McClure-Hegge team
17	Kate Pray team
24	Amanda Christie team



Construction and Traffic updates!

Lower level is finished and the new Learning Center is open for students.

The Gold Line is progressing which affects our parking lot with construction and also the traffic pattern in the area. Since the east entrance to the lot has been drastically narrowed, consider using the other driveway (to the west of the church) to enter. When the project is complete we will make alterations as necessary to the east entrance.

Several detours are currently in place:

- The White Bear Ave. bridge over 94 is closed as are the exit and entrance on the north side of 94.
- Old Hudson Road between McKnight and Ruth is partially closed. Detours for access to Sun Ray and other local businesses are posted.

All of this means a lot of traffic disruption around the church. Sundays should not be bad, but please bring your patience. Conway and 3rd Street should be good alternatives from the East. From the west, exit on Ruth and come back on Old Hudson Road. We are hoping for this part of the project to be completed this fall!

Thank you for your patience!!

Grace Lutheran Church
1730 Old Hudson Road
Saint Paul, MN 55106



Celebrating All Saint's Day on
Sunday November 3rd!

Phone: 651-774-9617

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gracelutheranstpaul@gmail.com

Pastor:

Rev. Karen Williams

Intern:

Bethany Ketchem

Custodial Staff:

Jimmy Vansell

Office Staff:

Linda Sackreiter

Music Staff:

Russ Carlson—Director of Music
Ministries

Kathleen Hollar—Organist

Jan Steingas—Triple G's

Russ Carlson—Bells of Grace

Connie Smeby—Joyous Juniors

