

Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn

493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137
www.graceglenellyn.org
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West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod - ELCA

MONTH OF JULY 2024
1085424-07

Grace To You is the monthly newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn.

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
Permit #104



TIME FOR RECREATION

By. Rev. Jeff Koth

After the long winter, summer has finally arrived! Who doesn't love the return of blooming flowers, longer daylight, vacations and family outdoor fun.

But when it comes to renewing ourselves, there is another kind of recreation that is important year round. And that is spiritual re-creation.

The problem with all other kinds of recreation activities is that they end. Vacations end. Trips to the beach or golf course end. Longer daylight hours eventually end. And when they do, sometimes, those ending can bring us down. We regret the loss of them and wonder how it is that we will return to work, cold weather, and our regular routines.

This seasonal letdown is something that God's book, the bible, addresses, for us and for our "salvation". The phenomenon of changing seasons and having to deal with those we do not prefer, is something that has plagued humanity from the beginning of time. So, from the beginning of time, God built into the fabric of each time of the year, opportunity for re-creation of one's spirit, no matter what the weather or workload. God calls this recreational time, Sabbath. And Jesus focuses the intent of Sabbath as something, not intended for the benefit of God, but for the benefit of humanity. Jesus says, "The Sabbath was made for humankind and not humankind for the Sabbath." (Mark 2:27) In other words, weekly we need time out from our daily responsibilities to be "regenerated"—a re-creation of our spirit that refreshes us, which is not seasonal or conditioned by the weather, nor any other circumstances, around us. The re-creation of the spirit

through Word and Sacrament and the fellowship of believers, has real consequences on the way we respond to the world around us. Taking time for worship (Warning: demands on your time will not willingly allow it!) will help you complete what you what begun without sacrificing your well being, give you insight into the things you can change and the things you cannot (like the seasons!), revisit what you hold as "truth" which may be the cause of much concern in your life, and to benefit from the love of God and those who gather at worship with you.

Regarding the importance of this kind of Sabbath keeping, Jesus says, Matthew 12:7, ⁷But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless". We do not come to worship to give (sacrifice) something to God, but in worship, God comes to give to us. And at the top of God's agenda is to give us "peace" and a sense of reassurance that everything will work 'for good', no matter what the circumstances around us. So remember, love yourself enough to regularly worship, so that you can benefit from being regularly re-created as a "newborn". New wine must be put into new wineskins (Luke 5:38).

Don't let yesterday steal the opportunities of today. Romans 12:1-2 ¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.

God is not the object of our worship, God is the subject... and you are the beneficiary!

GRACE TO YOU
Proclaim, Build, and Serve



SUNDAY AND ZOOM WORSHIP

Sunday worship at Grace is at 10am followed by refreshments and Christian fellowship at 11am.

We also offer Zoom for our Sunday worship service. If you need a bulletin, remember you can view (on another device) or download/print a bulletin from Grace's website. Just click on *Quick Link to Worship*.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89031586315>

Dial In: 1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 890 3158 6315

BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, July 11th, 2:30-7pm. Donate and be entered to win a grill! All attempting donors will be entered for a chance to win one grill including accessories. Make your appointment at www.versiti.org/IL, or call 800-7to-give, or scan the QR code.



AN EVENING AT BLACKWELL FOREST PRESERVE

Come join us on **Thursday July 18th from 5-8pm** for an evening of outdoor fun. Come for hotdog dinner and s'mores, rent paddleboats, play games and enjoy fellowship with Grace friends in the beautiful outdoors. Meet at the West Pavilion at Blackwell located right along the drive. Plenty of easy parking and bathrooms.

WANTED-LED TV'S 50" OR LARGER

We would like to update several of the LEDs we have at Grace to bring in newer technology and better picture quality. If you have one you would like to donate to Grace, please contact Mark Hamilton at 630-841-2941 or marham999@gmail.com. Mark will even come and pick it up from you! Thank you.



FAITH TALK

This month's faith talk will center on the destiny of (what is commonly called) "the great unwashed"—those people who do not believe orthodox Christian teaching, nor are part of any faith community. "What happens to them at the end of time?" "More importantly, can they expect God's love and concern for them in their lives today?" What does the Bible say? What do you say? Come join the discussion at Grace, **Thursday July 11th beginning at 12:30pm.**

All questions are welcome, and we almost always find some fascinating rabbit holes, too. Lots of insight, wisdom and laughter—you're welcome to join us.
--Pr. Jeffrey Koth

SPACE USAGE AT GRACE

Since the pantry moved out almost a year ago Grace hasn't brought back activities we used to have or started new ones. The narthex, fellowship room, and exercise room are all available for use on a daily, evening, and weekend basis.

In the exercise room is a LED and dvd player. In addition to the Sr. Center's chair exercise dvds, possibly we could offer yoga and/or zumba with dvds. The back section of that room has two puzzle tables set up with a variety of 300 & 500 piece puzzles just waiting to be assembled.

The fellowship room could be used for weekly morning coffee or bring your own lunch group. Crafts. Maybe someone would like to start a monthly book club. Trivia Night, Bunco or Poker anyone?

The narthex has a beautiful piano for an evening of music and appetizers. There are blank walls, possibly a rotating art display utilizing the talents of our members on a monthly basis. With the art show held at Grace last June we know there is plenty of talent out there.

The gym could be used for dart baseball, cornhole tournaments, children & youth playtime.

Plus we have the quilting room. There are two sewing machines that don't have to be used exclusively for quilts.

Have an idea or suggestion? Reach out to the church office. Let's talk!

GRACE YOUTH (UPDATED) **SUMMER** EVENTS SCHEDULE

**SUN
6/9**

GRACE GATHERS AT JACOBO WOODS! *All congregation welcome*
4:00-7:00p - 1N346 Prairie Avenue, GE
Outdoor fun for kids, music, dinner & dessert



POOL PARTY AT MRS. DRAGER'S HOUSE

5:00-7:00p - dinner provided
1858 Deere Lane, Glendale Heights

**TUES
6/11**

**FRI
6/21**

LAKE ELLYN PARK MEET UP

9:00-11:00a Lake Ellyn Park playground



OUTDOOR FAMILY FUN NIGHT @ BLACKWELL

5:00p - 8/9p Blackwell Forest Preserve West Shelter
Paddle boats, games, hot dog dinner & s'mores!

**THURS
7/18**

**WED
8/7**

POOL PARTY AT MRS. DRAGER'S HOUSE

5:00-7:00p - dinner provided
1858 Deere Lane, Glendale Heights





The 40th anniversary of Glen Ellyn-Wheaton Crop Walk is wrapping up. There were 80 walkers, only four from Grace. Thank you, walkers! **The dollar total of contributions came to a little over \$20,000. Grace raised approximately 10 percent of that at \$2,006.** Thank you, contributors!!

I'd like to give special thanks to Zach Nelson for promoting the walk on Grace's website and to Chuck Miller for organizing a walk at Brookdale for Brookdale residents.

Who would be interested in being Grace's coordinator next year? There are three evening meetings and Crop Walk Sunday, May 3, 2025. It's easy and it's fun to meet other church reps. Please let me know so I can give your name and contact information to the organizers for 2025. dorisnelson433@icloud.com or 630-346-9377. Thank you. Doris Nelson

RAPID RESPONSE TO MIGRANT BUS ARRIVALS

As you may have heard, buses are pulling up almost daily at the Glen Ellyn Metra station, dropping off migrants on their way to Chicago. Several local churches are sending volunteers to greet them and offer basic supplies to support them on the next leg of their journey.

The *Sharing Circle* is supporting this effort. We are asking for donations to fill bags with water, granola bars, toiletries, wipes, diapers etc. To support our efforts, you can place donations of needed items in our bin in the narthex. This could be an ongoing need throughout the summer.

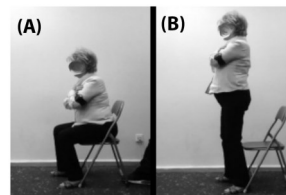
The following items are needed the most: Bottled water; granola bars; fruit snacks; diapers (sizes 3,4,5); wipes; toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, tissues, deodorant, Band-Aids, shampoo & conditioner, bar soap, panty liners).

If you would like to participate in a packing session, please let Karin Slenczka know and she will contact you when one is scheduled. slenczka.k@gmail.com or 202-352-0657

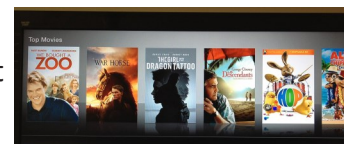
SR. CENTER ACTIVITIES WITH SUE DAVISON

The Glen Ellyn Senior Center located at Grace Lutheran is supported by the Village of Glen Ellyn and provides many different services to Glen Ellyn seniors 60 years of age and older, as well as to their families. Senior Center services include a monthly newsletter, insurance information, and transportation services including Ride DuPage and reduced fare cards for Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). Information and referral services for seniors and their families on issues related to senior citizens are also available at the Glen Ellyn Senior Center. **You are welcome to drop in on any of the activities listed here. If you wish to meet with Sue in person, please contact her at the phone number listed below to schedule an appointment. Her office is in the Parish Hall at Grace.**

Chair Exercise classes are held every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 10am. Classes are designed to strengthen your core and balance to help prevent falls.



A **movie** is shown every fourth Friday of the month at 10am. Light refreshments are served.



A monthly **book club** meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 10am.



There are **puzzle tables** available anytime during office hours when the exercise room is not in use.



The **Community Quilters** meet on Thursdays from 11:00-12:30. Bring a friend. No experience is necessary.



Please contact Sue at sdavison@glenellyn.org or 630-858-6343 with any questions, to be added to her mailing list, or to find out the book and/or movie of the month.

PEOPLE OF GRACE WILL NOT MEET IN JULY!

GAME DAY HOSTS!

Hello Grace members. To expand our connections and outreach to the seniors in our neighborhood, we are proposing a 'Games Day' the first Wednesday of each month in the Fellowship Room at Grace. We are looking for volunteer hosts who would be willing to help host the event and serve light refreshments to the group and either lead their own game of choice or organize one that is provided for them. Possible game ideas are: bingo, bunko, chess/checkers or card games. Please contact Cathy Milleville or Susi Nelson if you are interested in helping with this outreach ministry.

COMMUNITY CONNECTS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The newly formed *Community Connects* committee is charged with organizing and creating a senior ministry here at Grace with activities to meet our mission of senior outreach to the community.

Committee members are Sue Davison, Susi Nelson, Susan Jacobson, Cathy Milleville. If you are interested in helping or would like more information, please contact a committee member or the church office.

Volunteering can be as simple as serving refreshments or baking for an event. Or perhaps you have an idea, talent, or activity you would like to share at one of our gatherings. Or maybe you have an idea of what we could possibly offer.

PADS

We do need more cooks if anyone is interested in bringing some packaged homemade meals - you can drop them off at church or at our house if it helps.

Please let me know if you can bring meals and if so, how many so we can plan accordingly. We set Jacobo family number of meals based on what we get from all of you.

As always, all other foods are also needed and well received - fruits, snacks, desserts, juice boxes ...

We'll pick up food from the church around 2:00 on Tuesday. We'll be leaving for the site around 4:30 so please make donations by those times.

Please contact us for any questions - Joe 630-740-4527; Donna 630-470-4542; Sarah 630-388-9778 (1N 346 Prairie Ave, GE)

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GLEN ELLYN

West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania Avenue
 Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137
 Office: 630.469.1555
 Emergency Pastoral Contact: 224.355.4213
 Email: info@graceglenellyn.org

www.GraceGlenEllyn.org

Every Member: Minister & Missionary!

Pr. Jeffrey Koth, Interim Pastor
 Sandra Venturoni, Pianist
 Cyndy Drager, Children's Ministry Coordinator
 Barbara Sudds, Office Manager
 Carole LoGalbo, M.S., LCPC Parish Counselor

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:30am - 3:00pm
 Tuesday and Thursday 1:00pm - 3:00pm



ATTENDANCE

DATE	IN-PERSON	ZOOM
5/5	61	8
5/12	72	6
5/19	36	7
5/26	35	8

PRAYER REQUESTS

Jake Jacobson, Jill Geiersbach, Erik Sudds, and George LaRocco for healing and strength.

