**A Message from Bradford Thompson, Children’s Ministry Coordinator**  
Hello all!  
  
Let’s talk big picture.  
  
I want this to be a place where all are welcome, and all people truly feeeeel welcome. Where everyone feels safe to fully be themselves, wherever they are on their journey, and where kids can be kids.  
  
If you’re here because you believe in God…or because you want to find God or truth…or maybe you just straight up don’t believe in God, and you don’t even know what you want in this life…the most important thing is that you know that you’re very welcome here.  
  
Let me say that again:  
You are very welcome here.  
  
It’s that simple, my friends :)  
  
Regarding our kiddos/youth:  
I feel so encouraged by the overflowing of ideas and the level of engagement with our youth ministry! For those of us who haven’t seen the revamped Gathering Room, you should check it out! Our first Sunday back we had about 15 kiddos :)  
  
This year, in addition to our normal curriculum (Bible lessons, youth Sundays, crafts etc.), we will focus on developing practical life skills. These include but are not limited to:  
Mindful breathing  
Positive self-talk  
Meditation  
Preparing a meal  
Physical health  
Stress management  
Communication  
  
We’ll also discuss topics such as:  
Gratitude  
Joy  
Compassion (for self and others)  
Service  
Forgiveness  
Prayer  
  
Now more than ever, we’re aware of the numerous demands and expectations on our kids. Today’s youth often experience a level of pressure that’s just…too high. We want Grace to be a haven, where if all else fails, every single one of these kids feels accepted and valued for exactly who they are, where they are.  
  
Save these dates:  
Friday, October 20th: Hocus Pocus Party!!! (All ages welcome, costumes strongly encouraged!!)  
Sunday, October 22nd: Youth Service!!!  
Friday, November 17th: Youth Thanks-giving Meal!!  
Further schedule updates to be published via Facebook and the e-blast, so stay tuned!!  
  
I’ll leave you with one of my favorite passages:  
“So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.” Luke 11:9-10  
  
May your Faith know no bounds, my friends. Remember that miracles happen every single day.  
  
Be well, be well, be well :)

You are loved more than you can possibly imagine.

Peace,

Bradford

***A sandwich with meat and cheese

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***Grace Lutheran Church is sponsoring an exciting new program for seniors!***

***Don’t miss out on this great new opportunity!***

# We're calling it*“Grace Café"*

***Join us for lunch, conversation, and fun activities.***

***Every 3rd Wednesday of the month***

***November 15 December 20 January 17***

**11:00 a.m. Meet & Greet**

**11:30 a.m. Lunch & Activity**

**1:00 p.m. Close**

**Suggested Donation - $3.00**

**Registration is required! – Signup in the church narthex or contact the church office at 630-469-1555 or info@graceglenellyn.org.**

**RSVP is due the FRIDAY before the event date.**

***Community Outreach sponsored by Grace Lutheran Church with seniors in mind.***