



Grace
Lutheran

GRACE NOTES

The monthly newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church

21 Carroll Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157

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YouTube Channel: [gracelc21](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgracelc21)

November, 2017

Honoring God's Presence in the Midst of Us

The New Testament book of Acts tells us that when followers of Jesus were no longer permitted to worship in the Temple, they moved their worship into their homes. After persecution of Christians began in full force, Christians moved worship into the Catacombs located under the city of Rome. There among the bodies of the beloved dead, they celebrated Christ's continuing presence with them in the Eucharist. Some scholars say that they used a sarcophagus (ancient coffin) from which to celebrate the sacrament.

One of the most memorable and moving experiences that I've had in my life was the opportunity to worship and receive Holy Communion in a Catacomb in Rome. I felt the presence of the saints from long ago there surrounding us. I admire the courage of those first Christians who found a way to worship underground when above ground they were being sought out for punishment and death.

Under the rule of Constantine, Christianity had the support of the government and the construction of church buildings commenced. In those buildings, an altar was almost always the focal point and was seen as the place of sacrifice, where God continued to be present in the body and blood of Christ. At first, altars faced the west, but that changed in the 6th century. From then on, most churches put the altar against the eastern wall. After the Vatican II Council, Roman Catholic Churches brought their altars out from the wall, creating "free standing altars." Many Anglican and Lutheran congregations followed that practice. Certainly, all Lutheran churches built since the 1970's have been designed to include a free standing altar.

If you have worshipped in the Sanctuary at Grace since September 24 when we celebrated our congregation's 150th Anniversary, you will have seen that on many Saturdays and Sundays we now have the addition of a communion table or free standing altar. This table is actually made of two tables, designed to serve as two credence tables (side tables) or fit together as one table for the purpose of celebrating Holy Communion. The tables are a near-perfect match to the design and color of the communion rail. On the first Sunday of most months when the 11:15 worshippers kneel at the altar rail, the tables will be beside the altar. On the other weekends, the table will be used as a communion table. There will be some variations in the seasons as we move through the church year.

A family in our congregation was aware that building this table had been talked about for some time. After prayerful reflection they came forward with the donation to make it possible to purchase the table(s) without touching the church's budget.

What does this difference in physical orientation signify?

As I was growing up, I was taught that the altar represented God's presence. The worship space in my home congregation was a little longer than Grace Hall. So, I certainly thought that God was pretty far away from where I sat, especially as a child. For me, one of the

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Deadline for *December* Grace Notes is Friday, November 17. Please email your news to elichtfuss@gracelc.org or stop by the office during office hours (8:30-3:30 pm).

GRACE NOTES ALSO AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE. CHECK IT OUT!

[HTTP://GRACELC.ORG/NEWS/GRACE-NOTES/](http://gracelc.org/news/grace-notes/)

joys of a free standing altar is that God isn't so far away. Instead of turning away from the people to speak to God, we demonstrate that God is in the midst of us. God isn't at the end of the building, but is right there next to you, next to me, embracing us where we are.

Most churches today, and admittedly your pastors, rejoice in the opportunity to celebrate the Holy Eucharist in a location where all of those who have gathered can see and feel part of the worship. The gift of God in this wonderful sacrament is not something to be done in a secret, faraway place. Whether it is in Grace Hall or in the Sanctuary, it is good that each person can see the bread and the cup raised before us as God promises to be present in Christ in the here and now. It is good that I can see you and you can see me as we cling to the promises of Christ for forgiveness and new life.

The early Christians couldn't hide in the Catacombs forever. They had to come up to the streets and take their chances in a dangerous world. Likewise, our lives are re-centered every time we gather around the Lord's Table. Our worship grounds us and renews us **so that** we can go back into the streets where the Holy Spirit empowers us to be God's hands, feet, and voice in the world.

Pastor Martha

The Inner Light versus The Lizard Brain **Or** **The Simple Sacrifice of Showing Up**

In his book, *To Bless the Space Between Us*, author John O'Donohue wrote the following: "There is a quiet light that shines in every heart." Yet this author goes on to lament that "our culture is all gloss and pace on the outside, within it is too often haunted and lost." Consequently, the quiet light within us often flickers and grows ever dimmer because we have not tended this precious flame. Psychologist Joseph Troncale has suggested that we are more often than not governed by the limbic system of the brain; often referred to as our "lizard brain". This "lizard brain" is in charge of fight, flight, feeding, fear, freezing-up and a host of other basic life responses. It is our self-serving brain function which when left ungoverned steers our decision making in a very self-centered fashion. The "lizard brain" functions in an unreflective way. As one who is in the midst of a diet I have become very familiar with my "lizard brain". An example: "Oh, pizza! And before I know it the hand and mouth are working in perfect harmony shoveling copious amounts of pepperoni, mushroom, cheese and sauce laden pizza in an incredibly fast and efficient fashion. It is only as I slip into my pizza induced coma that I lament: "I ate way too much!" To have any success with my diet, I am forced to daily confront my "lizard brain" and make healthier choices.

So what do "quiet lights" and "lizard brains" have to do with each other? These two elements of our humanity are often at odds with each other. The lizard brain tells us, "If it feels good do it! And if it doesn't feel good don't do it." I have learned that such thinking has had a direct correlation on my pizza eating and subsequent weight gain. I have learned too that such thinking has a profoundly detrimental effect on the faith life of most people. "I am tired, so I'll sleep in this Sunday morning." "I don't like the music. I'm going to look for a church with better music." "I don't like what the pastor has to say." "I don't like the building" "I don't like the people and the people don't like me." This reality has not gone unnoticed and there are now churches that gear their teachings, messages and ministries to entice desires of the limbic or "lizard brain". The Prosperity Gospel, that declares that God's greatest intent is that all people should be happy and wealthy, indeed plays on our Lizard brain.

Yet faith and a relationship with the Triune God and God's children is a much more reflective way of living. Going to church is more than what I get out of it... going to church is about being there for others who are there as well. You may want to sleep in but as you reflect upon such a desire you understand too that your presence will make a difference for others. Example: our 5:00 pm and 7:45 am weekend services are very small in number, but when even two or three more people show up suddenly the service feels different in a positive way and the regulars of that service are energized by the presence of visitors. Church is an amazing place for children to build healthy relationships with adults and in return children bring great joy to older members. When we discount our need to be in worship we forget the impact our presence and/or absence has on others.

Bishop Gohl, at our anniversary celebration, noted that even the smallest contributions of our presence in the life of a congregation can have a profound effect on the community as a whole. I remember one person asking me what they could do to be of help at church and my simple reply was "show up." But that simple task often puts you in direct conflict with your "lizard brain" that will direct your attention to things that appear to be more pleasurable, fun or easy. Our culture on a whole is geared to offer lots of options and opportunities for the lizard part of our brain. The consequence for most churches is that relationships are lost or

starved, ministries are unmet and communities of faith dwindle away. To quote John O'Donohue, "We have fallen out of belonging." And while we may indeed be feeding the inner lizard, our "quiet light", our Divine spark sputters and flickers.

Faith is more than just an issue of feeling good about ourselves. Faith is about taking the time to walk in the footsteps of Christ. To imitate Christ brings us to a word that has fallen out of use by many, a willingness to sacrifice on behalf of others. Sacrifice doesn't have to be some big dramatic event; it does mean understanding that there will be times when the needs of others will take priority in your life. The simplest sacrifice is showing up and being present to those around you.

The local congregation has often been described as a sort of spiritual hospital. Some have said it is where sinners come to receive forgiveness, grace and mercy and indeed that is most certainly true. But that is only a portion of what a congregation is about. This is also a place where the wounded of life come for support, healing and encouragement at times when life just seems so overwhelming. As much as we would like to think that with God at our side all of life would be wonderful and nothing bad would ever happen, it is simply not true; life can be hard. A mentor of mine once said "many come to church because they have a need; death of a loved one, health concerns, broken relationships, change in economic status, loss of community from moving, unemployment or retirement... any number of issues that can wound a person. Yet for all those who come wounded it is important too for those who are at a different place to be present who can offer a smile, a handshake, a listening ear. To be that person present to offer a voice in song or liturgy that will help to mask the stuttered sob of a shy and wounded soul that wants to be near others but fears their woundedness is too great to be among others.

Whether we be on the downside or upside of life, our presence together is important. O'Donohue's description of the "quiet light that shines" in every heart is a reminder of the importance of coming together so our light can shine for others and we can bask in the light of our sisters and brothers in Christ. This life giving light within us all is the presence of Christ in each of us and its life giving power is most evident in the simplest of sacrifices of simply showing up. Amen.

Pastor Kevin

New Member Classes Begin



Are you interested in becoming a member of The Grace Lutheran Church Family? We will be receiving new members on the weekend of December 3. New member classes will be held during the Christian Education Hour at 10:15 a.m. in the Library on November 5, 12 and 19. Are you curious about Grace but still not certain about joining? You are welcome to attend the class as well and learn more about the life and ministries of Grace Lutheran Church. Please sign up for class by using the RCR card at worship or emailing Pastor Kevin (kclementson@gracelc.org) or Pastor Martha (mclementson@gracelc.org).

NOTICE OF ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

**of the Congregation of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
to be held on Sunday, December 3, 2017,
following the 10:00 a.m. All Grace Worship Service**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Business Meeting of the Congregation of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Westminster, Maryland will be held on Sunday, December 3, 2017, following the 10:00 a.m. All Grace Worship Service, in Grace Hall at the church, 21 Carroll Street, Westminster, Maryland.

All confirmed members of Grace are urged to participate in this annual meeting.

The agenda for the meeting includes:

- Reports of the Pastors, President and Treasurer
- Adoption of the Annual Operating and Capital Budgets for 2018
- Election of new members of the Congregation Council
- Election of the Congregation's voting members of the Synod Assembly for 2018
- Such other business as may properly come before the meeting





Heifer International

As of October 23, 2017,
the balance of the Heifer
International Fund is \$4,141.23



**Grace Lutheran Church is a
Stephen Ministry
Congregation**

***CHRIST SERVING PEOPLE
THROUGH PEOPLE***

Opiate Overdose Rescue Training (Free)

Thursday, November 9th, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Grace Hall



You are invited to participate in a workshop that could help you save a life! This workshop is open to everyone. Training participants will learn about opioids and their effects, how to recognize and respond to an overdose, how to administer Intra-nasal Nalozone, the Good Samaritan Law and other resources.

You must be registered to participate. Registration is simple: just call 410-876-4802 or email michelle.mcvay@maryland.gov. The workshop is hosted by Families Against the Stigma of Addiction, Inc. in partnership with Carroll County Health Department. Participation is free of charge.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Westminster United Methodist Church



Last year, pastors and members of Westminster United Methodist Church and St. Benjamin's Lutheran Church joined us at Grace for a community Thanksgiving Eve Service. This year, we are going to Westminster United Methodist Church to continue the community spirit that is part of Thanksgiving. St. Ben's will be there as well! Pastor Kevin and Pastor Martha invite you to join them as we stand with our Christian brothers and sisters in giving thanks for God's generous blessings bestowed on us.

Faith Talk for Women

Wednesday, November 29 @ Johansson's



Ladies...another 5th Wednesday is soon upon us! We will gather once again for Faith Talk for Women. This is an opportunity to have an evening out with your sisters in Christ. We gather at Johansson's anytime from 5:30 on to order dinner or whatever you'd like to eat while we visit. At 7:00 p.m. Pastor Martha leads the study and we finish no later than 8:00 p.m.

This month's study will focus on the visit of Mary and Elizabeth in Luke 1: 39 – 56. Please sign up by calling the church office at [410-848-7020](tel:410-848-7020) or sign the RCR card in worship.

Nominations Sought for Grace Church Council and Voting Members for the 2018 Synod Assembly



After serving our council faithfully for six years each, four of our council members have reached their maximum term limits. Another council member is moving out of state. And yet another council member has resigned due to changed work responsibilities. So, we are in need of six people to come onto the church council in 2018. Elections for these positions will take place at our Annual meeting on December 3.

The church council meets on the third Monday of the month from 7:00 p.m. to approximately 8:30 p.m. Their work includes hearing reports and making decisions regarding the financial stability of our congregation, hearing from pastors and committees and providing coordination of various ministries as needed in this active congregation. Each meeting begins with devotions, includes a time of prayer for our congregation and the world, and ends with the Lord's Prayer. The council at Grace meets with a willing and joyful spirit and ensures the harmony of our congregation by living out harmony with one another.

If you or someone you know has gifts to bring to church council, please talk with one of the Pastors or a member of the Nominating Committee (outgoing council members): Linwood Van Horn, Ron Fairchild, Johanna Monka, and Bob Lichtfuss.

We are looking for people to serve as Voting Members to the 2018 Synod Assembly as well. The Assembly will be held in Hunt Valley May 31 – June 2, 2018. Those who wish to be nominated should provide a brief biographical paragraph that includes why you are interested in representing Grace at the Synod Assembly. Please turn your name/paragraph in to Pastor Martha as soon as possible.

Red Cross Blood Drives

by Emma Jane Weishaar



Grace is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, November 13 from 2:00-7:30 p.m. in Grace Hall. Please call Emma Jane Weishaar at [410-848-1231](tel:410-848-1231) or e-mail at ejweishaar@comcast.net to schedule an appointment.

The Homeless in Carroll County Need Your Help

The time has come to prepare for another season of service at the Cold Weather Shelter. The CWS provides a safe overnight refuge for the homeless who would otherwise be left out in the elements. **The Shelter opens every night, November 15—March 31, 7pm until 7am, to allow those in need a warm place to sleep and a hot meal.** Grace Lutheran has accepted responsibility for providing a meal for the shelter one night per week during this time. We divide the duties of cooking casseroles and serving dinner for the Shelter to allow people who would normally not be able to volunteer because of work or other commitments to become active with those in need. The great thing about volunteering to serve the homeless through the Cold Weather Shelter is there are many opportunities to make a difference.



Cooking Casseroles -- This involves cooking casseroles that freeze well to be served at the shelter. It is done at home and on your own time. With supervision, cooking can be a service project for school age children.

Serving Dinner at the Shelter -- This involves arriving at the church on Saturday at 4:30. In our kitchen you will heat the pre-made casseroles and then transporting them to the shelter (off of Stoner Avenue) to serve the evening's guest. The time commitment for this is roughly 4:30-7:30/8. You must be over 18 and the schedule usually calls for service once every 4-6 weeks, not every Saturday. We have a team of volunteers that rotate serving. If you cannot commit to one of these opportunities, we can always use supplies. Our needs are: Progressive Soups (Chicken Noodle, Tomato, and Vegetable), crackers and gallon jugs of iced tea and lemonade. You may purchase these at any time and put them in the kitchen with the label CWS It is only a few hours per month to make a big difference in the lives of those in need. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me, Sandy Hoff at: [410-857-1197](tel:410-857-1197), [443-324-7481](tel:443-324-7481), or SandyHoff@comcast.net.

Personal Notes



Baptisms:

10/29/17 -- Emilia Rose Simpkins (daughter of Allison & Jeff Simpkins)

In Memoriam:

We would like to express our condolences to the following who lost a loved one recently:

Robert Roys and Family on the loss of his wife, Evelyn Roys

Family and friends of Dorothy Utz



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

DEADLINE TO ORDER: DECEMBER 10

This year we will again be decorating the Sanctuary and Grace Hall with beautiful poinsettias. Helping to decorate the worship areas with flowers is a wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one this holiday season.

Poinsettias are \$10.00 each X _____ = \$ _____

My gift to Carroll Food Sunday \$ _____

Checks payable to **Grace Lutheran Church**

TOTAL \$ _____

(Please return order form and check to church office)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

I will pick up flower(s) **AFTER** Christmas Eve services: ____ 6:00 in GH ____ 10:30 in Sanctuary

____ On Christmas Day ____ Later in the week **OR** ____ Donate flower(s) to a shut-in

Name/Given By (as shown in dedications) _____

Phone _____

This year, we are making the six red poinsettia trees available for donation as well. The cost is \$40 per tree. Since there are only six, we ask that you contact the church office if you'd like to donate one of these trees. They will go on a first-come, first-serve basis. Your dedication will be listed in the bulletin on Christmas Eve and you will be free to take your tree following the last service in the worship space in which it is located. There is no guarantee which worship space it will be in. Contact the church office at 410-848-7020 or elichtfuss@gracelc.org

Little Friends of Grace Preschool News

by Anita Erb, Director

Bosco's Friends Helping Friends

Once again this year we participated in the Bosco's Friends Helping Friends fundraiser. During this fundraiser we sold \$5.00 tickets which enabled you to receive a 25% discount on many items throughout the store on October 17th. We were able to raise \$290 for the scholarship fund. Thank you for your continued support of our program!



School Pictures

Mr. Roger Brackney and his wife Joyce came to Little Friends on October 11th & 12th for individual and class pictures.

Emergency Drill

We are required to conduct two emergency drills yearly in addition to our fire drills. Our active shooter emergency drill was conducted on October 24th and 25th. Mrs. Erb made curtains for the windows in rooms 104-106 to provide another layer of protection.

Class Parties

We will be celebrating Thanksgiving with parties in the two and three-year old classes on November 16th and 17th. We would like to thank our parents for providing delicious snacks for our parties. The Prek four-year old classes will celebrate with a Thanksgiving feast.

Conferences

Informal parent-teacher conferences will be held Monday and Tuesday, November 20th and 21st. Childcare is provided for our parents. The preschool will be closed for Thanksgiving vacation November 22nd-24th.

Developmental Screenings

MSDE is trying to implement a new regulation that will require our teachers to administer developmental screenings to all children in our program with parental consent. While the regulation has not gone into effect for this school year, our teachers have been using the ASQ-3 screening tool. This will help us to identify any concerns and provide referrals for early intervention. It has been a learning experience for all of us!

Oatmeal containers

We are in need of empty oatmeal containers, if you have any, please leave them on the tables in either gathering space area. We will be collecting throughout the entire year. Thank you!

Baughers Dining Out

We will be hosting our first dining out event of the school year on Wednesday, November 15th at Baughers restaurant from 7:30am-9:00pm. Baughers will donate 10% of our restaurant sales that day to the scholarship fund. We hope you can join us that day, if not, donations to the scholarship fund are always appreciated!

Please dine with **Little Friends of Grace Christian Preschool** families and friends at:

Baughers Restaurant on November 15th

7:30 am to 9:00 pm

Baughers will donate 10% of all LFOG receipts from sales this day. **All proceeds will benefit the LFOG Scholarship Fund.** Please bring this flyer with you or be sure to mention that you are with Little Friends of Grace. **Carry out also included!**



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

by Leanne Elliott

Houston: Fundraising Update



I would like to start by saying THANK YOU! Your support of all 24 youth going to Houston this summer has been incredible and as each week passes we get more and more excited for the trip! As you can imagine it is not cheap to get 32 people (youth and adults) across the country for 9 days! I wanted to share an update and will continue to update the congregation on how our fundraising is going! We have a lot of work left to do but two months in we are happy to report that as of October 18 we have raised \$4,147! The envelope fundraiser has brought in \$2,577 (\$1,522-Grace, \$1,055-Trinity) and the Crab Feed brought in \$1,570 with over 100 people in attendance! We have lots of fundraisers planned over the next year and your continued support and prayers will get us to our goal and support these youth in a life changing opportunity!

Detroit Reflection: Adam Fairchild

While in Detroit, my faith was strengthened in the nightly large gathering where I heard a variety of perspectives on what it means to be a Christian in today's world. During my interactions with the residents of Detroit, I was able to learn how to carry the cross into previously-marginalized communities and share Christ's love. The experience I had at the 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering was formative in my faith journey, and I cannot wait to be going to Houston next summer as a Servant Companion volunteer!



Texas Roadhouse Gift Cards



Who loves Texas Roadhouse?!?! Just in time for stocking stuffers and teacher gifts we will be selling \$15, \$25, and \$50 gift cards to Texas Roadhouse November 5-19! It's easy to order so you don't want to miss out on this great opportunity! The Houston group will receive 15% from every gift card sold! You can place your order in 3 ways...1. Fill out the RCR card for the number of gift cards and the monetary value you would like. Then simply make your check payable to GLC and put "Texas Roadhouse Gift Card" in the memo line and place it in the offering plate. You can also give cash in an envelope clearly marked for gift cards. 2. All youth going to Houston will have an order form and they can collect money from you. 3. We will have a table set up in the Upper Gathering Space November 5, 12, and 19 as well as someone in the back of the Sanctuary on those weekends (Saturday & Sunday) with an order form and able to collect monies! Gift cards should be available for pick up beginning November 26!

Road to Bethlehem: Preparing for Jesus' Birthday

Join us on Sunday, November 26 from 4-6:30 p.m. for activities, chili, and a visit from a special guest! Come on a journey to prepare for the magnificent birth of Jesus Christ through activities designed for all children, youth and adults! Get in the spirit with chili enjoying many recipes during our chili cook-off [prizes will be given so if you have a delicious chili recipe be sure to keep an eye out on how to participate], and leave feeling cheery and full of joy after a special surprise visit and sing-a-long! Be sure to mark your calendars and follow the announcements for more details!





Traditional Music Notes

by Ted Dix, Director

Organist and Director of Traditional Music and Music Ministry Development

Greetings from the Music Room!

On Sunday, December 17, at the 11:15am traditional worship service, the Festival and Luther Choirs, soloists and narrator will present the Christmas cantata *Touched by a Child, Touched by a King*, by John Purifoy, in the Sanctuary. Please feel free to join us if you never have before. This has become an outstanding way for folks of all ages to come together in heralding the Christmas season!

The remaining Festival Choir rehearsal schedule is as follows. All rehearsals are held in the Music Room unless otherwise noted.

- Thursday, November 2 – Rehearsal at 7:50pm
- Thursday, November 9 – Rehearsal at 7:50pm
- Thursday, November 16 – Rehearsal at 7:50pm
- Thursday, November 23 – No Rehearsal
- Thursday, November 30 – Rehearsal at 7:50pm
- Thursday, December 7 – Rehearsal at 7:50pm
- Thursday, December 14 – Dress Rehearsal in the Sanctuary at 7:30pm
- Sunday, December 17 – Christmas Cantata in the Sanctuary at 11:15am with a warm-up call at 10:30am.



Upcoming Traditional Musical Events:

- Sunday, November 5 at 11:15am – The Agape Handbell Choir will provide special music at the All Saints' Sunday worship service in the Sanctuary.
- Sunday, December 3 at 10:00am – The Luther Choir and the Children's Chorus of Carroll County will provide special music at the All Grace worship service in Grace Hall.
- Wednesday, December 6 at 10:30am – Ninth Annual Ted Dix and Friends Christmas Organ Recital in the Sanctuary.
- Sunday, December 10 at 9:00am – The Agape Handbell Choir will provide special music at the worship service in Grace Hall.
- Sunday, December 17 at 11:15am – Christmas Cantata with narrators, vocal choirs and soloists at the worship service in the Sanctuary.
- Sunday, December 24 at 4:00pm – The Luther Choir will provide special music at the Christmas Eve worship service in Grace Hall.
- Sunday, December 24 at 8:00pm and 10:30pm – The Chancel and Agape Handbell Choirs and soloists will provide special music at the Christmas Eve worship services in the Sanctuary.

Your support of our traditional music ministry is greatly appreciated!



9th Annual Ted Dix and Friends ORGAN RECITAL

Soup and Salad Lunch

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

10:30 a.m. in Sanctuary

What a wonderful way to get in the Christmas spirit!
Invite your family and friends of all ages to this great event.

NOTE: A free will offering will be taken at the lunch to help cover costs.



Timmy's Corner

Hello my friends,

Here we are again with all the candy depleted or all most gone from Halloween. Next up will be the pies and other desserts for Thanksgiving. How did you people get so hooked on sweet treats? I'm happy with a few small fish or other aquatic delights.



Here's a real shocker for you: 1.9 billion dollars will have been spent this year for Halloween candy. I know it is fun for the kids and adults. (I know the adults share in sweet stuff when the children finally go to sleep!) What I am leading up to is not the suggestion that you pass out healthy snacks or tooth brushes next time; but, how about giving a treat to a few kids or even some of those adults that live on the edges of the food network.

The recent hurricanes and fires have created even more hunger for people who live close to poverty all the time. In fact, in some places people need things as simple as a bottle of water. You've probably been reading articles about the terrible devastation in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Well, I've heard through the swamp that the Lutheran Church has been there helping the people. Lutheran Disaster Response provided satellite phones and generators through the Caribbean Synod. The way I hear it, the Lutherans won't be leaving anytime soon!!!

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. It is a great occasion to put a few dollars in the special green and orange envelope so that together we can continue to support those who are in need both nearby and far away. Just think, if you know that you've helped others you just might enjoy your Thanksgiving nap all the more!

Love,

Timmy

Timmy, the Terrible Hunger Terrapin

WELCA – Gift Boxes for Seafarers

By Joyce Hertsch

The WELCA of Grace Lutheran will meet on Tuesday, November 28th in the Library at 6:30pm.

We will be packing **25 shoe boxes** for the International Seafarers' Center at the Port of Baltimore. The Baltimore International Seafarers' Center is an inter-faith ministry rooted in the tradition of Christian hospitality. They believe in the unconditional love of God for all people, and they demonstrate this love through their commitment to serving the personal and spiritual needs of seafarers in the Port of Baltimore.

Let the seafarers know that the congregation of Grace Lutheran is thinking of them and praying for them.

If you'd like to contribute to this project, the following articles are needed. Most items below can be found at the dollar store.

- ☐ Toiletries: single toothbrushes, toothpaste, a full size bar of soap, combs, lip balm, (no unwrapped soap or toothbrushes)
- ☐ Warm hats, socks, gloves (small men's), and scarves (most of the seafarers are men, so solid colors like navy, black)
- ☐ Hand warmers, ink pens, and small pads of paper that will fit in a shoe box
- ☐ Small bags of hard candy in wrappers (peppermint, rootbeer, butterscotch)
- ☐ Playing cards (new and in a box) and postcards of Baltimore--found at Walmart
- ☐ 2018 calendars you get from organizations

You May also make a money donation. Please put **WELCA/Seafarer in the memo** of the check payable to Grace.



Collection boxes will be in both Upper and Lower Gathering Spaces for your convenience the month of November.

Donations will be collected until Sunday, November 26th. Information needed for this ministry can be found on this website: http://www.baltseafarers.org/docs/StNicholasBag_page4_christmas_boxes.pdf

November Calendar of Events

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2017

4:00 pm Boys & Girls Club (GH)
 5:00 pm TOPS Weight Loss Club (111)
 5:45 pm Luther Choir (MR)
 7:00 pm Personnel Committee (107)
 7:30 pm Praise Band/Singers Practice (GH)
 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Johansson's)
 7:30 pm Eating Disorders Anonymous (112)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2017

5:00 pm Ardent Folk Bible Conversation (UGS)
 6:00 pm Ardent Folk Weekly Meal (FH/T)
 7:00 pm Ardent Folk Debriefing (L)
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (MR)
 7:30 pm New Beginnings NA Meeting (Legacy)
 7:50 pm Festival Choir Rehearsal (MR)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2017

6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Conversation (Bob Evans)
 9:15 am Connect Bible Study (112)
 4:00 pm Boys & Girls Club (GH)
 8:00 pm Turning Point AA Meeting (109/110)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2017

FAIR TRADE COFFEE SALE
 5:00 pm Traditional Worship (S)
 6:00 pm Surrender Together NA (Legacy)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2017

FAIR TRADE COFFEE SALE
 7:45 am Traditional Worship (S)
 9:00 am Contemporary Praise Worship (GH)
 10:15 am Christian Education Hour (Various)
 10:15 am New Members Class (L)
 11:15 am Traditional Worship (S)
 3:00 pm Labyrinth Open (GH)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2017

6:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack 393 (Various)
 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Troop 307 (FH)
 6:30 pm Girl Scouts Troop 1594 (T)
 7:00 pm Agape Handbell Choir (MR)
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 393 (Legacy)
 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry (108)
 8:30 pm AA Meeting (109/110)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2017

12:00 pm Table of Grace Soup Kitchen (FH, T)
 5:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (FH, T, MR)
 7:00 pm Property Committee (108)
 7:00 pm Social Ministry Committee (107)
 7:00 pm Youth & Family Ministries (112)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017

4:00 pm Boys & Girls Club (GH)
 5:00 pm TOPS Weight Loss Club (111)
 5:45 pm Luther Choir (MR)
 7:30 pm Praise Band/Singers Practice (GH)
 7:30 pm Eating Disorders Anonymous (112)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2017

1:00 pm Operation Save A Life Opiate Overdose Rescue Training (GH)
 5:00 pm Ardent Folk Bible Conversation (UGS)
 6:00 pm Ardent Folk Weekly Meal (FH/T)

6:45 pm Ardent Folk Movie Night (GH)
 7:00 pm Ardent Folk Debriefing (L)
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (MR)
 7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting (111)
 7:30 pm New Beginnings NA Meeting (Legacy)
 7:50 pm Festival Choir Rehearsal (MR)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2017

6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Conversation (Bob Evans)
 9:15 am Connect Bible Study (112)
 4:00 pm Boys & Girls Club (GH)
 8:00 pm Turning Point AA Meeting (109/110)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017

5:00 pm Traditional Worship (S)
 6:00 pm Surrender Together NA (Legacy)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2017

7:45 am Traditional Worship (S)
 9:00 am Contemporary Praise Worship (GH)
 10:15 am Christian Education Hour (various)
 10:15 am New Members Class (L)
 11:15 am Traditional Worship (S)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2017

2:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive (GH)
 6:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack 393 (Various)
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 393 (Legacy)
 8:30 pm AA Meeting (109/110)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017

12:00 pm Table of Grace Soup Kitchen (FH, T)
 5:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (FH, T, MR)
 7:00 pm Adult Education Committee (Parlor)
 7:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (L)
 7:00 pm Christian Education Meeting (107)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2017

4:00 pm Boys & Girls Club (GH)
 5:00 pm TOPS Weight Loss Club (111)
 5:45 pm Luther Choir (MR)
 7:30 pm Praise Band/Singers Practice (GH)
 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Johansson's)
 7:30 pm Eating Disorders Anonymous (112)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017

5:00 pm Ardent Folk Bible Conversation (UGS)
 6:00 pm Ardent Folk Weekly Meal (FH/T)
 6:30 pm LFOG Board Meeting (108???)
 7:00 pm Ardent Folk Debriefing (L)
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (MR)
 7:00 pm Contemporary Worship Committee (108)
 7:30 pm New Beginnings NA Meeting (Legacy)
 7:50 pm Festival Choir Rehearsal (MR)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2017

6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Conversation (Bob Evans)
 4:00 pm Boys & Girls Club (GH)
 8:00 pm Turning Point AA Meeting (109/110)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2017

FAIR TRADE COFFEE SALE
 5:00 pm Traditional Worship (S)
 6:00 pm Surrender Together NA (Legacy)



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2017

FAIR TRADE COFFEE SALE

7:45 am Traditional Worship (S)
 9:00 am Contemporary Praise Worship (GH)
 10:15 am Christian Education Hour (Various)
 10:15 am New Members Class (L)
 11:15 am Traditional Worship (S)
 3:00 pm Houston Pre-Trip Meeting (Legacy)
 5:30 pm TECT Youth Group Gathering (Legacy, FH, K)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2017

6:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack 393 (Various)
 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Troop 307 (FH)
 7:00 pm Agape Handbell Choir (MR)
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 393 (Legacy)
 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting (108)
 8:30 pm AA Meeting (109/110)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2017

12:00 pm Historical Society Box Lunch Talk (GH)
 12:00 pm Table of Grace Soup Kitchen (FH, T)
 5:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (FH, T, MR)
 7:00 pm Shepherd Staff (108)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2017

4:00 pm Boys & Girls Club (GH)
 5:00 pm TOPS Weight Loss Club (111)
 5:45 pm Luther Choir (MR)
 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service (Westminster UMC)
 7:30 pm Eating Disorders Anonymous (112)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2017

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – OFFICE CLOSED

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2017

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2017

8:30 am Red Cross CPR/AED Training (109/110)



5:00 pm Traditional Worship (S)
 6:00 pm Surrender Together NA (Legacy)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2017

7:45 am Traditional Worship (S)
 9:00 am Contemporary Praise Worship (GH)
 11:15 am Traditional Worship (S)
 4:00 pm Road to Bethlehem (GH, FH, UGS, K)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2017

6:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack 393 (Various)
 6:30 pm Girl Scouts Troop 1594 (FH)
 7:00 pm Agape Handbell Choir (MR)
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 393 (Legacy)
 8:30 pm AA Meeting (109/110)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2017

12:00 pm Table of Grace Soup Kitchen (FH, T)
 5:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (FH, T, MR)
 7:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
 7:00 pm Evangelism Committee (107)
 7:30 pm Troop 393 Committee Meeting (109/110)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2017

4:00 pm Boys & Girls Club (GH)
 5:00 pm TOPS Weight Loss Club (111)
 5:30 pm Faith Talk for Women (Johannson's)
 5:45 pm Luther Choir (MR)
 7:30 pm Praise Band/Singers Practice (GH)
 7:30 pm Eating Disorders Anonymous (112)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2017

5:00 pm Ardent Folk Bible Conversation (UGS)
 6:00 pm Ardent Folk Weekly Meal (FH/T)
 7:00 pm Ardent Folk Debriefing (L)
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (MR)
 7:30 pm New Beginnings NA Meeting (Legacy)
 7:50 pm Festival Choir (MR)

(CLV) Carroll Lutheran Village (FH) Fellowship Hall (T) Theater
 (S) Sanctuary (GH) Grace Hall (UGS) Upper Gathering Space
 (LGS) Lower Gathering Space (MR) Music Room (L) Library

Holden Village

On Sunday November 12 I [Leanne] will be heading up lake to Holden Village a Lutheran Retreat Center in Chelan, Washington. I will enjoy a week at Holden as part of their Partners in Ministry Program. Holden Village is a place of renewal on the edge of Glacier Peak Wilderness. Each day rooted in worship with morning vespers and evening prayer Holden offers whatever you are looking for; whether it be renewal, relaxation, conversation, or education. While at Holden I will be OFF THE GRID meaning I will have absolutely no access to social media, cell phone, or email! I mean zero access! If you need anything while I am gone please contact Pastors Martha and Kevin or

committee chairs Stacie Dowling, Carrie Oddis, and Tiffany Cox. I am looking forward to this opportunity and sharing with you more of my experience when I return on November 19. Thank you!

November Worship Leaders & Assistants

NOVEMBER 4-5, 2017

5:00 p.m. -- **Worship Assistant** – Sharon Glass
 5:00 p.m. -- **Reader** – Meg McCulloch
 5:00 p.m. – **Greeters** – Carol Ann Baumann & Arthur Pease
 7:45 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Steve Blades
 9:00 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Craig Giles
 9:00 a.m. – **Communion Assistants:** Jo & Murph Murphy,
 Eileen & Junior Zepp, Dave Cox
 9:00 a.m. – **Ushers:** Rick & Ben Dorsey, Carson Snyder,
 Carrick Makoutz
 9:00 a.m. – **Element Bearers** – Gavin & Braeden Palazzo
 9:00 a.m. – **Greeters** – Dottie & Pete Morano, Pete Tabatsko
 11:15 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Ellen Lichtfuss
 11:15 a.m. – **Acolyte** – Taylor Button
 11:15 a.m. – **Greeters** – Susan & Herb Ridder, Bill Niemeyer

NOVEMBER 11-12, 2017

5:00 p.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Kay Betz
 5:00 p.m. – **Greeters** – Joyce & Earl Hadden
 7:45 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Kathy Bare
 9:00 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Paul Whitson
 9:00 a.m. – **Communion Assistants** – Dottie & Pete Morano,
 Chris, Mandy & Sophie Gilbert,
 9:00 a.m. – **Ushers:** Bob, Jocelyn, Acton & Cade Spreitzer
 9:00 a.m. – **Element Bearer** – Caitlin Plendl
 9:00 a.m. – **Greeters** – Randy Hazen, Gilbert Family--Chris,
 Mandy, and Sophie
 11:15 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Stephanie Schneider
 11:15 a.m. – **Acolyte** – Kayla Sherfey
 11:15 a.m. – **Greeters** – Doreen Capece, Kara & Brian Sherfey

NOVEMBER 18-19, 2017

5:00 p.m. – **Worship Assistant & Reader** – Bob & Grace Lichtfuss
 5:00 p.m. – **Greeters** – Clara & Art Thimsen
 7:45 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Craig Giles
 9:00 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Michele Krichinsky
 9:00 a.m. – **Communion Assistants:** Patt Patterson Jones,
 Rich Chaney, Mike Makoutz, Laura Heller
 9:00 a.m. – **Ushers** – TBA
 9:00 a.m. – **Greeters** – Lois & Dave McGinnis, Amy & Jay Slagle
 9:00 a.m. – **Element Bearer** – Kaylee Harris
 11:15 am – **Worship Assistant** – Charles Beckhardt
 11:15 a.m. – **Acolyte** – Jaymee Swartzbaugh
 11:15 a.m. – **Greeters** – Phyllis Smith, Marion Fourhman

NOVEMBER 25-26, 2017

5:00 p.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Laura Heller
 5:00 p.m. – **Greeters** – John Baumgardner
 7:45 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Caroline Babylon
 9:00 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** -- Ann Gilbert
 9:00 a.m. – **Communion Assistants:** Carrie Oddis, Don Meyers,
 Beth Meyers, Bill Comegna, Mark Tanzey
 9:00 a.m. – **Ushers** -- TBA
 9:00 a.m. – **Element Bearers** – Abby Burk
 9:00 a.m. – **Greeters** -- Beth & Don Meyers, Riley & Kelly Snyder
 11:15 a.m. – **Worship Assistant** – Florence Tucker
 11:15 a.m. – **Acolyte** – Cade Spreitzer
 11:15 a.m. – **Greeters** – Kari Ebeling, Tom Meachum

November Ministry Updates

Sunday school: We will be rehearsing for the Christmas program on Sunday mornings in Grace Hall beginning November 12. Opening will be held in Grace Hall instead of the Sanctuary on November 12, 19, and 26!

TECT Youth Group: We will meet from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Sunday November 19! A sign-up genius was emailed to families for monthly dinner sign-ups! Please make sure to sign-up!

Socktober Challenge: The youth group has set a goal to collect 1,500 pairs of [new] socks and underwear by Thanksgiving to give to HSP and Shepherds Staff. There is a huge need at our shelters and within our community for these basic items during the winter. Please pick up a pack next time you're at the store and drop them in our collection bin!

November Altar Guild

SANCTUARY

Cyndy Beckhardt
 Brenda Lightner

GRACE HALL

Nancy Suder

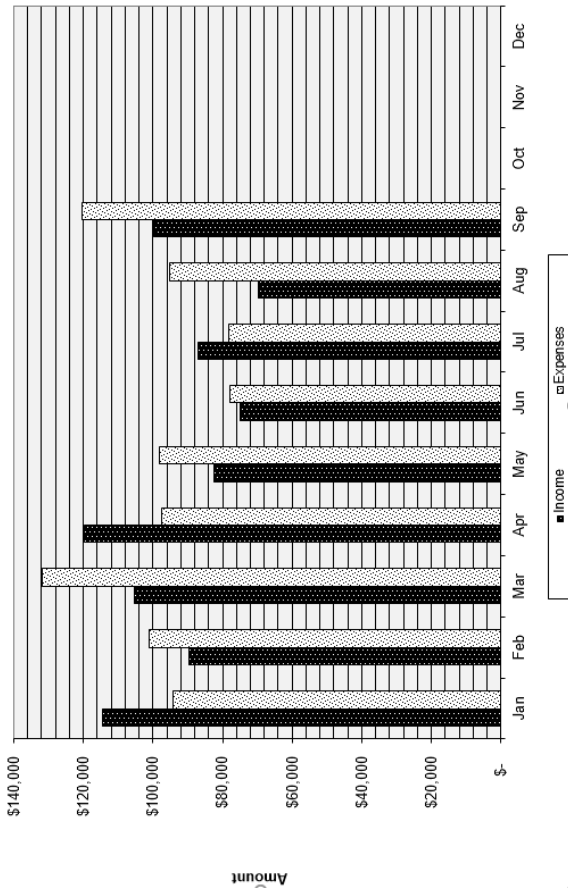


Grace Finances At A Glance Year to Date through September

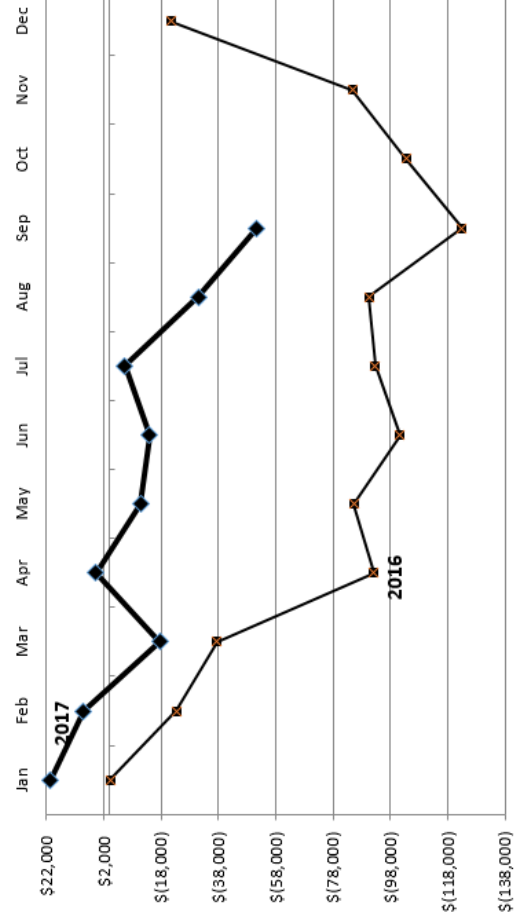
Income:	
General Giving	\$563,475
Debt Reduction	\$102,085
Other	\$30,219
LFOG	\$146,912
Total Income	\$842,691
Expenses:	
General	\$792,843
Capital Improvements	\$1,526
Debt Reduction (Mortgage)	\$99,573
Total Expenses	\$893,942
Net Income/Loss	<\$51,251>
Mortgage Balance	\$1,546,322

*Please direct any questions to Treasurer@gracelc.org

2017 Income vs Expenses by Month



2017 Surplus/Deficit



November Birthdays

November 1

Caple, Todd

November 2

Baiocchi, Anthony
Reitz, Camron
Spreitzer, Jocelyn
Zaranski, Kimberly

November 3

Hoff, Georgia
Rehak, Matthew
Weishaar, Kendall
Zepp, Erin

November 4

Saunders, Erin
Thomas, Carrie

November 5

Rath, Theresa

November 6

Bonner, Christine
Dorsey, Natalie
Holmes, Linda
Smith, Diane

November 7

Bachtel, Nathan
Casper, Katelynn
Dannettel, Alexandra
Ellis El, Marvin
Taylor, Nancy
Ulsch, Joyce

November 8

Dennsteadt, Wyatt
Morelock, Sheryl
Rice, Grace
Ryan, William
Taylor, Thomas

November 9

Harrison-Ellis El, Erika
Vengroski, Aaron

November 11

Helm, Stephanie
Hoff, Samuel
Johnson, Sara
Nightingale, Charles

November 12

Hegg, Laurie
West, Brandon
Wilton, Edward

November 13

Gladden, Dalton
Myers, James
Smith, Eric

November 14

Hoff, Tina
Marley, Leslie
Melville, Jacob
Scooco, Ryan

November 15

Barnes, Zachary
Clatterbuck, Jared
Evans, Joshua
Lowell, Justin

November 16

Albaugh, Thomas
Fletcher, Emri
Hoff, David
Reitz, Isabelle

November 17

Babylon, Caroline
Cimbalista, Claire
Hoffman, David
Sackin, Lindsay

November 18

Fairchild, Adam
Johns, Jane
Seipp, Judy

November 19

Dorsey, Melanie
Seipp, Alexander

November 20

Cimbalista, Sharon
DeKett, Charles
Nixon, Chad
Roth, Kurt
Schreyer, MacKenzie
Visocsky, Curtis

November 21

Harris, Greg
Lowman, Charles
Martin, Paul
McCulloch, Meg

November 22

Anderson, Amy
Harris, Kimberly
Helt, Shane
Holmes, Phillip
Schoenberger, Glenn
Shipley, Barbara

November 23

Buscemi, Sharon
Davis, Lisa
Gray, Sullivan

November 24

Bowersox, Steven
Peltier, Benjamin

November 25

Anderson, Benjamin
Law, Sheila
Tobery, Irene

November 26

Brocato, Caroline

November 27

Arbaugh, Carol
Bowersox, Vickie

November 28

Lockard, David
Rath, Drake
Roth, Marla
Staub, Jacob

November 29

Cox, Tiffany
Hodges, Donald
Shipley, Mary

November 30

Bauman, Carol Ann
Gist, Melanie
Pigeon, Remmy
Selby, Mari





Please remember in your prayers...

Names will remain on the Continuing Prayer List for four weeks unless otherwise requested. Names will then be removed unless another request is made. Please contact the church office (410-848-7020) with any prayer requests or email elichtfuss@gracelc.org.

Those who are serving our country: Midshipman Taylor Boeckmann, Private Logan Boeckmann, Marshall Brown, Shane Burda, Captain Ryan Chaney, PFC Nathaniel Czarnowsky, Chris St. Germain, Steve Haines, Christopher Hutchins, Nathan Karlson, Adam Miller, Leah Miller, Steven P. Miller, Jr., Paul Roberts, Lieutenant Tyler B. Yingling and all those individuals serving in our military

Those in Convalescent, Nursing or Rehab Centers: Elinor Causey, Donald and Nancy Michael, Alice Midttun, Ed Rainey, Lillian Rosenberg, Barbara Serghini, Eleanore Spears, Ellen Terry and Charlotte Waltz

Continuing Prayers: Charles Adams, Kelly Adams, Irene Bailey, The Bellgrau Family, Brian Bowersox, Kevin Campbell, Kathleen Casper, Lou Chappel, Dorian Cole, Rocky and Bonnie Davis, Truman Dietzway, Tom Dowling, Scott Eberts, Joseph Flemming, Peggy Fogle, Nancy Geary, Dick Haines, Audrey Horoschak, Gordon Jenkins, Philip Kirk, Family of Daniel Kuhn, Sandy and Walter Long, Don Ludwig, Family of Sara Pierce Milburn, Dail Pease, Charlie & Carol Plunkert, Sandy Reilly, the Saint Cross Family, Betty Thomas, Michael Williams, Jessica Young, Carnie Saint Cross, and the people of Puerto Rico and California

Seminarians: Nancy Brody, Kali Saint-Wyatt, and Beth Roegner

Global Ministry Partners: Pastors Eric and Wendolyn Trozzo serving in Malaysia, and The Lutheran Church, Paide, Estonia.

Also please pray for our pastors, the members of the Church Council, the staff and all of God's children at Grace Lutheran Church.

NOTE: *If you or someone you know is going into the hospital please call the church office as soon as possible.*



Grace
Lutheran

21 Carroll Street
Westminster, MD 21157

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



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UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

November 4-5	5:00 Saturday 7:45, 9:00 & 11:15 Sunday 10:15 Sunday School
November 11-12	5:00 Saturday 7:45, 9:00 & 11:15 Sunday 10:15 Sunday School
November 18-19	5:00 Saturday 7:45, 9:00 & 11:15 Sunday 10:15 Sunday School
November 22	7:00 Thanksgiving Eve Service Westminster UMC
November 25-26	5:00 Saturday 7:45, 9:00 & 11:15 Sunday 10:15 Sunday School