

# AMAZING GRACE CONNECTIONS

OUR MISSION: faith | family | community



MAY 2021



In her Earth Day Statement on April 14th, 2021, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton concluded with:

“Envisioning a world that is just, sustainable and resilient, we, as Lutherans, heed God’s call and take concrete steps to repair inequities and wealth divides locally, nationally and globally. A framework built on hope and connecting climate to economic and racial justice is essential to our reimagining of communities as resilient and inclusive, void of poverty and leaving no one behind.”

Read more on page 3

# AMAZING GRACE CONNECTIONS

## MAY 2021 ISSUE



Welcome to Amazing Grace Connections,  
Grace Lutheran Church of Lily Lake's  
newsletter!

For article submissions and announcements,  
please email your submission to  
[churchsec@graceoflilylake.com](mailto:churchsec@graceoflilylake.com) by the 15th of  
each month to be included in the next  
newsletter!

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### VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday	4 PM - 7 PM
Tuesday	4 PM - 7 PM
Wednesday	4 PM - 7 PM
Thursday	4 PM - 7 PM
Friday	4 PM - 7 PM



By Nick Rex



In her Earth Day Statement on April 14th, 2021, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton concluded with:

*"Envisioning a world that is just, sustainable and resilient, we, as Lutherans, heed God's call and take concrete steps to repair inequities and wealth divides locally, nationally and globally. A framework built on hope and connecting climate to economic and racial justice is essential to our reimagining of communities as resilient and inclusive, void of poverty and leaving no one behind."*

You can read her full statement on the Livinglutheran.org or at this link:

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2021/04/earth-day-statement-from-bishop-eaton/>

When I think of Earth Day and our church, I immediately think of our property, all that we use it for, all it brings to us, and just how beautiful it is. I read the above lines from her statement and realize that Grace does so much more I didn't even think of as part of Earth Day. We do work towards repairing inequities locally and globally through food pantry and God's Global Barnyard efforts. We do so much for such a small, family congregation.

As our call committee begins the tasks of completing our Ministry Site Profile that helps the synod and potential pastors get an idea of who we are, what we do, and what we need, the passage from her statement above "reimagining of communities as resilient and inclusive, void of poverty and leaving no one behind" makes me think about our future, our possible reimagining and restructuring of how we do things. But we have been well on our way with this objective already. We are very welcoming, we are there for each other, we are there for our community, and we are a family. Something many churches do not have or feel.

So as we move through the inevitable changes ahead, we need to be open to many changes that will help our congregation grow. We need to get new faces in our doors (once we really open up) so that we can greet them in a way that only a family atmosphere can! We need to show them the equity of all in our congregation, the equity our land brings us, and celebrate all that God has provided Grace Lutheran Church of Lily Lake.

Sincerely

Nick Rex

President

# Synod Assembly

The 2021 virtual Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly in 2021, will be held on Saturday, June 5, 2021, 8:30am - 12:00 pm. The theme this year is "Good STEWARDS" based on 1 Peter 4:10. "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."

2 lay voting members have been allocated to: Grace of Lily Lake Lutheran Church

**Please click this link for details. Please contact Nick if you are able to attend, virtually.**

# FINANCIAL MATTERS



"Thank You" to all of the Thrivent members who designated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to Grace - we have graciously received \$325 from Thrivent (as well as \$585 from February). We are grateful for these donations being directed to Grace Lutheran, for the ministries of our congregation.

Our PPP loan 2.0 (2nd round) funds have been received, and helped to offset our payroll expenses.

The Audit Team will be working on the 2020 Audit review. We will anticipate holding a Congregational Meeting in May or June to accept the 2020 Audit (as well as the 2019 Audit that we never were able to have a meeting for).

The Finance Team will plan on sending out your individual Giving Statements 2 times a year (at the beginning of July, and year-end.) If you are needing your statement more often, please contact Cara Turner.

Tricia Painter, Treasurer



# BLOOD DRIVE



SO YOU WANT TO HELP  
GOOD NEWS - NOW YOU CAN!

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH is sponsoring a blood donation drive  
on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16th 3 - 7pm

TO BE HELD IN OUR CHURCH'S PARKING LOT  
IN VERSITI'S MOBILE COACH

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

To sign up,  
Please call the church at 630-365-6751 and  
leave your name and either your phone number or email.  
Messages are checked daily at 5pm.  
Thanks in advance!

# Rebecca Circle



REBECCA CIRCLE will again be sponsoring our annual geranium sale on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd.

As we were not worshipping in our sanctuary last year, we sponsored a drive thru sale and sold 200 of these lovely plants!

We will be offering them again this year for our usual price - \$5 each and buy four, get one free.

This year it looks like we will be blessed to be worshipping together in our sanctuary, so the plan is to decorate the church on May 23rd with the geraniums and then have "take home" after worship.

There are order forms in your pews at church or you can call Kathy Hooey at 630-341-2293 or email her at....  
[kandkhooey@aol.com](mailto:kandkhooey@aol.com)

Shady Hill Gardens has asked that we have our orders in by May 7th. Thanks for your participation.



The Rebecca Circle is again planning to remember our college students and our military personnel this spring with boxes that we pack and send with love. If you have a college student or someone in the military you would like to have us touch base with, please call either Jan Docherty at 630-292-3122 or Kathy Hooey at 630-341-2293 and give us the information necessary - name, address, contact person. Thanks for your help as we try to stay in contact with our loved ones and friends away from home. There will be forms at church also.



We extend our sympathies to Cathy Lindquist and her family upon the death of her sister, Patricia May. God's blessings to all.



**ATTENTION GRACE FAMILY.... ONE OF OUR OWN IS HAVING  
A VERY SPECIAL BIRTHDAY ON MAY 5TH - YES, CINCO de  
MAYO.**

**MARGARET SWANSON WILL BE CELEBRATING HER 90th  
BIRTHDAY!** Due to Covid restrictions we will put off a  
celebratory gathering until summer and good weather, but,  
**GUARANTEED**, we will have a party ASAP. Our suggestion is that  
for now we shower her with birthday cards to recognize this  
special day and her place in the hearts of Grace.

Her address is 5N290 Wooley Road, Maple Park, IL 60151-8303. A  
special time for Margaret and we can all look forward to a special  
party as these Covid restrictions improve!

# **DONATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS IN ELGIN: Bridge of Life Elgin is the group that coordinates donations for the homeless in Elgin.**

They have a new policy to not pass out used socks or underwear. Even if they are washed. They use cash donations to purchase new underwear and socks now. So, they do not accept used underwear or socks.

**Gently used or new items needed:**

**Backpacks**

**Blankets**

**Gym shoes- both men and women**

**WOMEN- ONLY jeans, t-shirts, lightweight jackets for spring/summer. Sizes medium-large. (There are not a lot of women right now.)**

**MEN- ONLY t-shirts, jeans (sizes 32-38 waist X 30-34 length are REALLY needed but they will take other sizes of men's jeans), shorts.**

**Please leave your donations in the vestibule or inside Grace. Please mark that the donation for the homeless of Elgin. Cathy Whiteside will collect the donations for Bridge of Life. Please contact Cathy W. at 630/605-1096 or [Cathy@imotay.com](mailto:Cathy@imotay.com) for more information. Thank you so much for help with this ministry.**

# RUMMAGE SALE

Spring Rummage Sale - Fri, May 14 (9am-4pm) & Sat, May 15 (9am-2pm) - Clean-up at 2pm on Sat.

We will need all hands on deck for Set Up on Thurs, May 13 – 9am – 5 or 6pm? Come and go as you can. Please bring your own lunch or refreshment. \*\*

Thurs, May 13 - Donations can be brought / dropped off between 10am – 4pm.

Thank you to those that have volunteered their canopy or tarps to help cover items. \*\*Ideally, if you would set up your own canopy on Thursday, May 13 would be very helpful. Please mark your name on your items we are borrowing, so we can ensure to get them back to you\*\*. Thank you to Norm and Shirley Turner for the donation of your canopy “to keep” for future events at Grace as well.

Again, we will be scattering and spacing items in Fellowship Hall, outside tables as much as possible, items in garage and under the pavillion. My thanks to the many that have responded that you are able to help throughout the sale -- We will need many helping hands to be throughout the areas during the sale times and on clean-up after 2pm on Saturday.

\*\*Again, please plan on bringing your own lunch – we will be able to gather around our own meals, though spaced apart, and not sharing food items.\*\* thank you for everyone’s cooperation on this.

Please contact Tricia Painter (email: [trische60@gmail.com](mailto:trische60@gmail.com)) with questions or how you can help –

or call my cell - 708-624-0400 pls leave a message.

# Pinecone Collection Baskets



## Pinecone Collection Basket

### What to do:

- Sanitize your hands first.
- Use this basket to collect pinecones around the church property.
- Bring them to the Pinecone Collector at the southwest boarder of the property.
- Return this basket back to the foyer for others to use.
- The pinecones don't have to be perfect.

### Why:

- To enjoy the outdoors and have an activity while you do it, get some exercise, meditate, camaraderie, etc.
- They are beautiful to look at.
- It also helps when John goes to cut the grass not to have to run over them with the mower.

### How to use them:

- They can be used for many crafts (cruise the internet) (be sure to clean and clear of critters before use.)
- They can be used for kindling for your fires at home (not recommended for fireplaces).
- There are perhaps 7 or 8 pine trees on the property. Can you find them all?

### Who:

- You can take a stroll on your own, have a partner, do it as a family, do it as a group project, with friends, invite others, and more.

### When:

- You don't have to spend a lot of time. It could be 5 minutes or 15 or your choosing.
- Dawn to dusk. After church. Morning or evening stroll. Mid-day break from the computer for your grown-up's "gym class." And the view of the sunrise and sunsets are beautiful from the open lawn.

Enjoy!

nc041121



# Walking Path



We welcome people to come use the walking path in the back of the church. There is a little, basic map of just the path itself tacked to the pavilion.

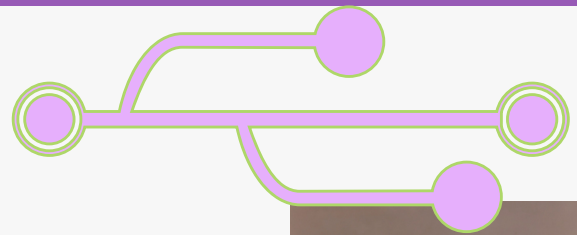
Also, in the southwest corner of the path, there is a large rock. On it has a little mesh black bag with 7 golf balls in it. It is a way to keep track of how many times you've walked around the path. (Sometimes, we can lose track.) (smile) Generally, it can take 20 minutes to walk one mile, but it is all relative. It is approximate that it takes 7 or 8 laps to go one mile.

Folks can come on their own, with a partner, dawn to dusk. Also...if there shows interest, we can create a walking club. Contact Nancy Corbige if you would like to join a walking club to meet at the church and walk more than just the path. Happy Spring everyone!



# Getting to Know You

MARGARET SWANSON



In the merry month of May, a special lady came into the world! Margaret Marie was born on May 5, 1931 in Geneva, Illinois to Irene Abrahamson Carlson and Lester Carlson. She was baptized at Grace in 1936 and reaffirmed her faith with the 1945 Confirmation Class. Margaret went to school right here in Lily Lake through 8th grade and graduated from St. Charles High School in 1949. On April 25, 1953 Margaret married Wally Swanson at Grace. They had three boys, Jeff, John, Tom and one daughter, Joan Marie. Joan Marie was born on August 18, 1956 but passed away on February 28, 1957. While in high school Margaret started working for DuKane until 1955 when she and Wally bought the family business, Abrahamson Plumbing and Heating. Margaret sold the business to her son, Jeff. The family business operated from 1902 to 2018.

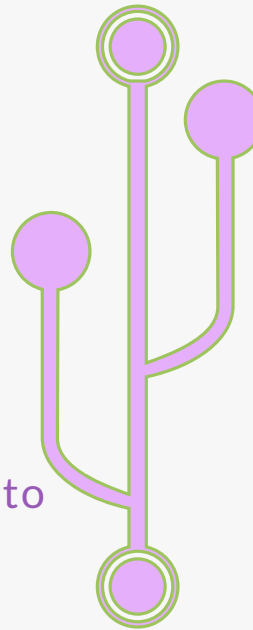
Margaret has been a member of Grace for 85 years! Her great grandfather, Carl Jacob Abrahamson, served on the first church board. Serving the church got into Margaret's blood through her family. Just read on to learn how she has served Grace in the past and present.

Margaret taught Sunday School for many years, helped with Vacation Bible School, and sang in the Choir. She belonged to Luther League, a youth group for teens. She has helped with the Altar Guild and at the church garage sales as well as serving funeral luncheons. Margaret belonged to the Quilters' Group that made quilts for Lutheran World Relief. She played dominoes with people that met at Grace for lunch and fellowship. Traveling with the Grace Roadrunners around the United States gave her many fond memories. Margaret has not shied away from being on church committees. She helped organize both the 100th and 125th Anniversary celebrations at Grace.

Margaret continues to stay active in the Rebecca Circle (previously known as the Grace Gems) and has served as president of this group. She makes prayer shawls, baptismal blankets, scarves for children at Christmas time and items for VBS. She also helps get church mailings out.

Thank you, Margaret, for your faithful service here at Grace. We celebrate you on your 90th Birthday

# LOOKING FOR WHERE TO FIND US?



**WORSHIP** – on our website every week! Click the media tab to find every current and past service! [graceoflilylake.com](http://graceoflilylake.com)

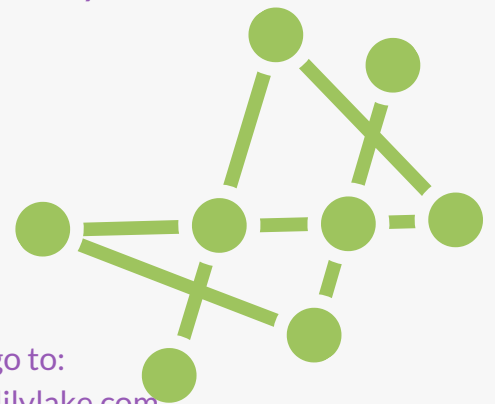
**FELLOWSHIP** – on Zoom - check weekly eblast for weekly particulars

**BIBLE STUDY** – Zoom the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 9 AM. Contact Nancy Corbige at 47-212-0237 or Cathy Gjerde for details.

**PRAYER** - For emergencies, call Nick Rex, our congregational president, at 630-742-5836

For prayer or other needs you can leave a message on Grace's answering machine (it is checked daily at 5pm), or call Kathy Hooey at 630-341-2293 or email her at [kandkhooey@aol.com](mailto:kandkhooey@aol.com)

# LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ELSE?



While we are apart and you have a need or a question, here is who to go to:  
Financial questions or how to give – Tricia Painter [treasurer@graceoflilylake.com](mailto:treasurer@graceoflilylake.com)  
Building questions – Kurt Redemann 630-918-4509  
Other questions - [churchsec@graceoflilylake.com](mailto:churchsec@graceoflilylake.com)

DO YOU WANT YOUR ARTICLE IN THE NEWSLETTER?

**SUBMIT BY MAY  
15, 2021**

**YOUR ARTICLE WILL APPEAR IN OUR  
JUNE EDITION!**

Submit by emailing your article to  
[churchsec@graceoflilylake.com](mailto:churchsec@graceoflilylake.com). All submissions  
welcome. Share your voice with us!



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