



# Grace Notes

## November 29, 2020

Email Edition

Grace Lutheran Church, Champaign Illinois / [www.glccu.org](http://www.glccu.org)

### First Sunday of Advent

#### Holy Communion Service and Baptism - November 29

This Sunday (Nov 29) is our Holy Communion Service, with distribution in the parking lot after the service. From 10:30 to 11:30 am, Pastor Repp will distribute Communion in the parking lot in drive-thru fashion. Drive over to church following the end of the live-stream, entering the back lot from Union Street (to the west of the building.) Then drive around to the front lot. (See map below.) We will use the individual communion “kits” we used at the outdoor service. Pastor will consecrate those during the live-stream service hand these to you through your car window by the sidewalk to the main entrance. He will wear a mask, and we ask you to do the same. When you have received the elements, you’ll pull up a little further to make room for the next car in line, and at that point you will eat the wafer and drink the wine, and then leave the parking lot via Union Street.



#### Advent Evening Prayer Services

Join us for our live-streamed acapella service of Evening Prayer each Wednesday in Advent, December 2, 9, 16, and 23 at 7:00 p.m.

#### LSSI Christmas Gifts for Foster Kids

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) has once again asked Grace families to help make Christmas special for the children in their foster care program. The program will run differently this year due to COVID restrictions. LSSI is asking for monetary donations that they will use to provide each foster family with gift cards to purchase gifts for the children themselves. You can donate to our church's fundraising page online

(<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/grace-lutheran-church-champaign>)

or send a check to the church with "LSSI Christmas" in the memo. Donations can be made anytime from now until mid-December. Our goal is to sponsor at least 60 children (out of 200+ in the program) with a \$60 donation, for a total donation of \$3600. Please contact Amy or Brian Nicely with questions.

#### Virtual Nativity Walk

Good Shepherd is making its annual nativity walk available online this year. Members of local congregations have contributed to the virtual display.

Visit <https://www.gslc-cu.org/nativity> beginning at 5:00 pm on December 6th.

#### Devotional Booklets

*Christ In Our Home* and *The Word In Season* booklets are both available in a box under the mailbox at Grace. Stop by and pick one up!

## Mitten Tree" is now "Box of Warmth"

Our third delivery included some beautiful knitting by Grace's Stitch and Craft group members Sue Kozlowski, Joanne White, and Carolyn Graham. Thank you to each of you who have contributed to the children and youths served by Francis Nelson Health Center.

Your items are sincerely appreciated. We plan to continue our deliveries through February.

Questions? Contact Marcia Licquia for your Social Ministry Committee.

## Online Giving

Thank you to everyone who has continued to give to Grace through our online platforms! During this transition, we have heard of some issues with the various ways you can give online. To properly address these issues, we would like to hear from you! If you have noticed anything, please contact Caitlyn at [gracelife@glccu.org](mailto:gracelife@glccu.org)

## Advent Devotionals

Be sure and stop by the church to pick up an Advent devotional for you and your family. They will be placed in a plastic tub near the main east entry.

There are several choices available:

[An Illustrated Advent for Families in Light and Darkness](#)

[His Name is Jesus](#) (for young children, ages 4-10)

[Lighten Up for Advent](#) (for teens and young adults)

[Let the Heavens Be Glad](#) (based on the writings of Henri Nouwen)

## Show Us Your Grace!

You may have noticed that each month, the newsletter uses a new photo as part of the cover for The Good News. While Caitlyn is more than happy to continue taking pictures around the building, we know that there are many photos out there of our congregational life at Grace. If you have any photos and stories you would like to share, please contact Caitlyn at [gracelife@glccu.org](mailto:gracelife@glccu.org)

## Chancel Flower Sign-up for Sunday Services – 2021

### 15 Weeks Unfilled

You may have noticed that our live-streamed church services at Grace have included dedicated chancel flowers, placed in front of the altar. I have received numerous positive comments from people who are pleased with this new location for our chancel flowers for church services.

I am writing to provide an opportunity for you again to **sign-up** for one or more weeks of dedicated chancel flowers for 2021. This will be a unique experience for us, doing it on-line, and via phone. I am hopeful that you will contact me with your desire to dedicate flowers. You need to let me know the date or dates you would prefer, and your preferred dedication(s) (e.g., in memory of, in celebration of, in honor of). I will respond to your requests on a first-come-first-serve basis, but it will be very helpful to me if you would respond as soon as possible. Some members have already communicated with me about reserving a date.

You may send your check in payment (one Sunday - \$50) to me, Gloria Rainer, at 1009 South Pine Street, Champaign 61820. **Make your checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church -memo: Chancel Flowers.** I will respond to your email and phone messages.

Thank you for your support and generosity  
Warm Regards, Gloria Rainer

**Updated Dates Available are as follows:**

**January 31, April 18, May 2, 23 July 11, 18,**

**August 22, September 19, October 3, 10, 24,**

**November 14 December 5, 12, 19**

Your name\_\_\_\_

Date(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Dedication\_\_\_\_

## Readers for Sunday Service

We continue to need recorded readings. Email Carolyn Pater if you are willing to serve in this way.

## Adult Sunday School: Racism

**NO ADULT CLASS THIS WEEK** because of the distribution of Communion after the service.

In worship we confess that we are “in captivity to sin and cannot free ourselves.” Making such an abstract confession isn’t terribly difficult. It’s when we start getting specific about sin that things get uncomfortable. We continue our study of racism today, one of those specific sins to which we are in captivity, but which we are unusually resistant to acknowledging. Join us next week to continue exploring the reasons and remedies for this. The resource for our study is the book White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo.

## Coffee Hour



Coffee Hour continues this Sunday by Zoom, starting at 8:45. Your host, Claire Vail, will cut you off promptly at 9:25 to give you time to get ready for the service.

## Grace Food Pantry Update

You may have seen on our calendar that we have slotted the second Sunday of each month to be “Grace Food Pantry Sunday.” We include this to encourage financial support for this ministry once a month. Food Pantry does not operate out of the General Fund, which is the destination for Sunday morning offerings unless otherwise designated. Because of this, Food Pantry depends on special designation for donations from those in the congregation that wish to support this ministry. Financial contributions are a great way to support Food Pantry, because every \$1 that is given can have the purchase power of much as \$10 at the Eastern Illinois Food Bank. Please consider making an extra donation to the Pantry at this time!



## Interested in Serving Church Council?

The Church Council is still in need of THREE at-large members. The only requirement is that you be a giving member of record. Please contact Claire Vail or Pastor Repp if you are willing to serve.

## Treasurer's Report, October 31, 2020

	<u>October</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>\$20,087.98</b>	<b>\$250,741.82</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$30,417.65</b>	<b>\$311,375.67</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>-\$10,329.67</b>	<b>-\$60,633.85</b>

## Bread for the World:

### Offering of Letters 2020

Nations around the world, including the United States, have agreed to work for an end to hunger by 2030, and there is growing recognition among faith leaders, NGOs, and business leaders that this is achievable. The spread of Covid-19 across the globe has created an even greater need, as the number of vulnerable people both here in the US and around the world is growing. Here at Grace, we can continue to be part of the solution. Through this 2020 **Offering of Letters**, we can urge members of Congress to invest in and protect key programs that will help end hunger and reduce poverty in the United States and around the world. With the simple act of writing a letter, we can act as faithful advocates in defending the interests of people who are hungry and use our voices to encourage our elected representatives to take the necessary steps to end hunger. If you are interested in participating in this campaign, please go to the Grace web site ([glccu.org](http://glccu.org)) and look under the “service” menu for instructions and a link to Bread for the World. If you have questions or want to know more, please contact Helen Repp. Thanks for your prayerful consideration of this important project.

*The Social Ministry Committee*

### About GraceNotes and the Newsletter

GraceNotes is our weekly publication for timely announcements to the congregation. Please send all announcements for GraceNotes to Lyla at [office@glccu.org](mailto:office@glccu.org) by Wednesday evening. Items for the monthly newsletter should be sent to Caitlyn at [gracelife@glccu.org](mailto:gracelife@glccu.org) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.

### Daily Bread Yoga Announcements & Online Resources

*All Together Now –*

*Daily Practice Guide is available for YOU!*

Rachel is offering 30 minute online, ZOOM classes, Monday through Friday. If you go to the store of her website you will see a "product" for ZOOM Classes. In that product are the links to the classes. You do NOT have to purchase that to get the links. She set it up just as a way for people who are able and want to support me in offering these classes. You can absolutely join the class without paying. She is not taking attendance and you do not have to ask her permission to participate or share with others. [Click here for the link to that page.](#)

She also has two free AUDIO ONLY classes in the store. Here are the links for those.

1. [A 45+ minute floor based gentle class.](#)
2. [A 10+ minute chair based class](#)

### Live-streamed & Recorded Services

Our Sunday morning Service of the Word begins at 9:30. The link to follow the service is found at the top of the Grace home page ([glccu.org](http://glccu.org)) or click here, <https://glccu.org/live-stream-videos/>

### Help With Zoom

We're using the Zoom ([zoom.us](https://zoom.us)) online meeting platform for meetings and classes at Grace during this time of social-distancing. If you need help getting Zoom set up and joining and participating, here are two helpful tutorials.

The first is for using Zoom on your computer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>

The second is for using Zoom on a phone.

This should also work for tablets:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IO206\\_NezaY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IO206_NezaY)

### New Grace Office Hours

Unless otherwise announced, a staff person will be in the building from Tuesdays through Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. for deliveries, inspections, and other essential functions.

## This Week at Grace: November 29, 2020 – December 06, 2020

<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b>Sunday, November 29, 2020</b>		
Coffee Hour	8:45 AM	Zoom
Communion Service & Baptism	9:30 AM	Facebook Live (Sanctuary)
Drive-thru Distribution	10:45-11:45 AM	Grace Front Parking Lot
<b>Monday, November 30, 2020</b>		
Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM	Zoom
<b>Tuesday, December 01, 2020</b>		
Executive Committee	5:45PM	Zoom
<b>Wednesday, December 02, 2020</b>		
Bulletin Deadline	5:00 PM	
<b>Thursday, December 03, 2020</b>		
Food Pantry	10:00 AM	Fellowship Hall Hoffmeister Room
<b>Sunday, December 06, 2020</b>		
Coffee Hour	8:45 AM	Online (Zoom)
Worship - LIVE STREAM (glccu.org)	9:30 AM	Facebook Live
Confirmation Class	10:45AM	Online (Google Meet)
Adult Sunday School	10:45AM	Zoom