



# Grace Notes

July 18, 2021

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

Web Edition

## Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

### Meals On Wheels:

#### Volunteers Needed

Volunteers to help with delivering meals for the Red route are needed for the weeks of August 9-13 and September 7-10 (no delivery on the 6th). If you can help with either week please contact Julie Johnson. Thanks to all who have delivered in the past. If you have never delivered Meals on Wheels but are available between 10 AM and noon, you can be paired with someone experienced.

### Pub Theology at Riggs

Our next Pub Theology event will be at Riggs Beer Co. on July 22nd at 7pm. We have a spot reserved outside in the beer garden. All are welcome to join!

**Grace Meeting Zoom Link and Web Pages and Access Links and passwords are available at Email version of Gracenotes.**

### Treasurer's Report, June 30, 2021

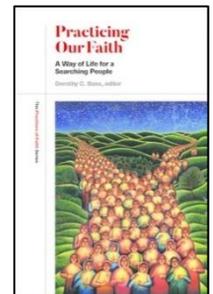
	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Revenues	22,777.55	131,220.56
Expenses	25,440.73	179,658.39
Net	-\$ 2,663.18	-\$ 48,437.83

### Discerning God's Call Bible Studies

Please read and respond to the weekly Bible studies on "discerning God's call" provided on **page 2**. This is part of the strategic planning process that Grace is conducting. These studies are meant to help us understand how God has called various people in the Bible, and how God might be calling us today

### Adult Sunday School

We continue this week with chapter 10 on Forgiveness in the book *Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for a Searching People*, edited by Dorothy C. Bass. We meet in-person in the Hoffmeister room, or you can join us via Zoom. Join us for the discussion even if you haven't had a chance to read the chapter!



### River of Life VBS

VBS is back! Each Sunday in August, from 3-5pm, we will be exploring the different ways God uses water as a source of life in the Bible, while also learning about ELCA World Hunger. During each day, participants will learn through games, crafts, music, and more! All children from Pre-K through 5th grade are welcome to participate! To register, go to <https://glccu.org/vbs/>. Volunteers can sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080f4ea4ac2aa5f94-vbsvolunteer>. For any questions, contact Caitlyn Reinders or Adele Miller.

### Stitch & Craft Meeting

The stitch & craft meets at the church narthex on 23<sup>rd</sup> Friday at 7PM.



## DISCERNING GOD'S CALL

### THE COUNCIL AT JERUSALEM

Acts 15:22-35

#### BACKGROUND:

Conflict in the early church came to a head in a major council in Jerusalem. The question: "Did Gentiles (non-Jewish people) need to go through the rituals of becoming Jews before they could follow Jesus?" Paul (and Peter, from last week's reading) argued against it, telling stories of how the Holy Spirit worked in all people. After a robust debate, they wrote the letter in this passage laying out their understanding of God's will. They revealed their discernment process when they declared: "It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us."

#### SCRIPTURE:

Then the apostles and the elders, with the consent of the whole church, decided to choose men from among their members and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers, with the following letter: 'The brothers, both the apostles and the elders, to the believers of Gentile origin in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. Since we have heard that certain persons who have gone out from us, though with no instructions from us, have said things to disturb you and have unsettled your minds, we have decided unanimously to choose representatives and send them to you, along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have risked their lives for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose on you no further burden than these essentials: that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.'

So they were sent off and went down to Antioch. When they gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter. When its members read it, they rejoiced at the exhortation. Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, said much to encourage and strengthen the believers. After they had been there for some time, they were sent off in peace by the believers to those who had sent them. But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, and there, with many others, they taught and proclaimed the word of the Lord.

- How do the people in the story hear God's call to them?
- How open are they to God's call?
- What might this passage say to our community of faith?

Please go to the [online bulletin board](#) and respond to these questions by clicking the + in the column for the week. Your responses may be anonymous, or you may use your name as the title of your entry.



## Help! Your Weeding Assistance Needed at Grace This Summer and Fall

Grace members and friends with weeding experience are invited to contribute one hour/week (or more) of weeding labor on church grounds at a time that works with your schedule. Landscape waste bags can be available at the church for your use.

For those without weeding experience – you too can help out. Here’s how: free weeding guidance will be available to you on Saturday mornings at Grace between 8:30-9:30am, weather permitting. Beginners at weeding, and others who may be available at that time are invited to help out. Susan will be present on Saturday mornings during that hour to provide weeding tutorials.

Please email Susan to let Property Committee know if you can assist, or if you have questions about helping out.

## Thrivent Action Teams - Project Ideas

If you are a Thrivent member, one of your benefits is that you can apply for a \$250 Thrivent Action Team card 1-2 times a year. These cards can be used for various projects. The only requirement is that the projects must be used for fundraising, education, or a service project. If you need ideas for how to use your available cards, contact Caitlyn! There are many ways these cards could be used in the coming months as we begin to resume in-person activities

### Grace Office Hours

New office hours are from 9am to 2pm Monday through Friday.

## Coffee Hour

As we resumed our in person worship service, there will be no more coffee hour through zoom.

We are always in need of Hosts and Hostesses just like yourself. Coffee Hour is easy and fun. Just make regular and decaf coffee and supply a snack which can be store bought or homemade. You can even fill out the appropriate form for reimbursement. (We ask that your spending not exceed \$30.00) After coffee hour just clean the kitchen. That’s it! Slots are open. Please volunteer today by signing-up.

## 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!

## Daily Bread Yoga Announcements

Daily Bread Yoga is still on ZOOM! Go to [www.dailybreadyoga.life](http://www.dailybreadyoga.life) to see the calendar of weekly classes being offered on ZOOM. If you have questions or would like to receive the weekly newsletter from Rachel, email her at [dailybreadyoga@gmail.com](mailto:dailybreadyoga@gmail.com). ZOOM is a great way to try yoga from the comfort of your own home, but with a live instructor and real community. Join us!

### Prayer Requests

We have two formal ways of praying for one another at Grace. One is in the Sunday morning worship service, where we pray for people by name in the Prayers of Intercession. They will also be listed in the emailed and printed versions of GraceNotes, but not in the web version. The other way is the Prayer Chain. This is more private, and prayer requests are shared only with the Prayer Chain team and not listed in GraceNotes.

Please send prayer requests for the Sunday-morning prayers to Lyla at [office@glccu.org](mailto:office@glccu.org). We also have a tab on our website for prayer requests that you can access at <https://glccu.org/prayer-requests/>

Prayer requests for the Prayer Chain should go to Caitlyn at [GraceLife@glccu.org](mailto:GraceLife@glccu.org).

### 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.

	Worship Support July - August			
<b>Worship Support</b>	<b><u>July 18</u></b>	<b><u>July 25</u></b>	<b><u>August 1</u></b>	<b><u>August 8</u></b>
<b>Assisting Minister 9:30AM</b>	Claire Vail		Claire Vail	Claire Vail
<b>Reader 9:30AM</b>	Dave Larson	Eileen Herrstrom	A. Traugott	Janet Lepp
<b>Deacon 9:30AM</b>	Van Bowersox	Nancy Marshall	Jim Anderson	Linda Laugges
<b>Acolyte 9:30AM</b>				
<b>Greeters:</b>	Dave & Carol Larson	Sue & Michelle Kozlowski	Van & Kathy Bowersox	George & Bev Kieffer
<b>Offertory</b>	Elizabeth Mazurak, Piano	JoEllen DiVilbiss		
<b>Piece Name</b>	Let All Things Now Living (#881) arr. Michael Larkin	Air from Orchestral Suite 3 J.S. Bach arr. for piano R. Schultz,		
<b>Video Technician</b>	Ruben	Michael	Dave	Ruben
<b>Coffee Hour:</b>	Mary Jo Erickson & Gail Hug	Carol Shupp		
<b>Flowers:</b>	Carol Shupp	Art and Shirley Taugott	George and Bev Keiffer	Brian and Amy Nicely
<b>Reason for Flowers:</b>	In memory of Carol H. Clarke	To the Glory of God	In memory of our son, Craig, and in celebration of our 68 <sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary	In celebration of our wedding anniversary

## This Week at Grace: July 18, 2021 – July 25, 2021

<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b>Sunday, July 18, 2021</b>		
Worship (Hybrid)	9:30 AM	Sanctuary & Live Stream
Adult Sunday School	10:45 AM	Hoffmeister Room & Zoom
Women's AA	12:30 PM	Hoffmeister Room
<b>Monday, July 19, 2021</b>		
Property Committee	5:30 PM	Online (Zoom)
<b>Tuesday, July 20 2021</b>		
Newsletter Copy Deadline		
Faith Circle	7:00 PM	Online (Zoom)
<b>Wednesday, July 21, 2021</b>		
Food Pantry Truck Delivery	7:00 AM	Fellowship Hall
Bulletin Deadline	5:00 PM	
<b>Thursday, July 22, 2021</b>		
Food Pantry	10:00 AM	Fellowship Hall Hoffmeister Room
<b>Friday, July 23, 2021</b>		
Stitch & Craft	7:00 PM	Narthex
<b>Sunday, July 25, 2021</b>		
<i>World Hunger Sunday</i>		
Worship (Hybrid)	9:30 AM	Sanctuary & Live Stream
Adult Sunday School	10:45 AM	Hoffmeister Room & Zoom
Women's AA	12:30 PM	Hoffmeister Room