Grace Lutheran Church Rev. Matthew Zickler 4101 Wolf Rd Western Springs, IL 60558 (708) 246-0536



July/August 2021

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Dear Saints of Grace,

To begin this month, I'd like to first take a moment to thank you. I believe you all know that we celebrated the tenth anniversary of my ordination, and the outpouring of support and encouragement I received was most heartwarming. I can't imagine there is a better place to serve as pastor. No, I really mean that, I'm not just saying it. You all are such a blessing to me, and I love being your pastor. Thank you.

In other news, I also want to make sure you all have noted that we will be returning to one service on Sunday mornings at 9:00 A.M. We'll still have some ropes up in the desire to still maintain a level of social distancing, so please be aware of them as you enter the sanctuary to sit for the service. The service itself will also continue as it has been in terms of the order of service and the like. Those who would like to continue wearing masks are encouraged to do so as well.

Otherwise, I want to encourage us all in giving thanks to God in His mercy and care for us. While the pandemic and its effects are not over, there certainly appears to be light at the end of the tunnel, and thanksgiving is therefore appropriate. That said, scripture tells us it's appropriate in all circumstances, but it is likely that many of us are more sincere and wholehearted in our thanks for things like this than we are in hardship. At least if you're like me, that tends to be the case. However, in our Lord Jesus we see what God promises, "that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39). In view of that promise, we can see that He is with us in every trial and circumstance, and that He

will never leave us nor forsake us. That is our security and our stronghold. In fact, as I say that, it reminds me of Psalm 46. You might recall that when the pandemic began, I noted that I was working on memorizing that Psalm. It's not only a Psalm that's beautiful in its own right, but it's also the Psalm that inspired Luther in his penning of the hymn "A Mighty Fortress." It begins by speaking of God being our refuge and strength, "a very present help in trouble." It speaks of God as that fortress, and it says that as this help, we do not fear, even though "the earth gives way." Finally, it has that also famous verse, "Be still and know that I am God." What wonderful advice for us all! As we return to schedules of moving about and going places, I encourage you to continue to take that time. Take that time to rest in God's care over all things. Rest in the grace He gives in His Word. Rest in the preaching and the forgiveness given in the Divine Service, the foretaste of our eternal Sabbath Rest with Jesus. And rest in the quiet moments of prayer, knowing that joy of the eternal God who promises to hear that prayer. This is the God whose promises are true, and you can know that because He has sent His Son to bear all of your sin and be your Savior. In doing that, all of His promises are yes, and will be forever by His resurrection.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Pastor Zickler









SCRIP orders will be taken on Sunday, **July 11 & August 8** after the Service. Questions? Please call Sara Fitzgerald 708-822-8094

<u>REPORT OF RECEIPTS - MAY</u> Budget to Actual Comparisons

MAY 2021

Month YTD

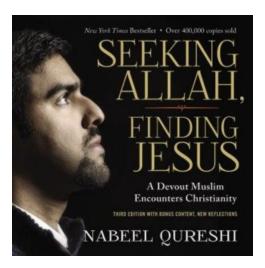
Budget \$ 24,329.17 \$ 121,645.83

Actual \$ 17,474.00 \$ 74,525.00

Over (Under) \$ (6,855.17) \$ (47,120.83)

MAY 2020

MonthYTDBudget\$ 17,489.17\$87,445.83Actual\$ 17,490.00\$70,482.00Over (Under)\$ (.83)\$(16,963.83)



Summer Book Discussion Wednesdays at 7:00pm

July 28th August 25th

July Birthdays!

1
1
1
3
3
6
7
5
8

July Anniversaries!

Judy & Steve Latman 7/8/1989

Ruth & Jim Reid 7/11/1953

Sue & Tony Napolitano 7/15/1961

Evelyn & Del Hermann 7/27/1975

Rosemary & Bob Blessman 7/28/2001



August Birthdays!

8/7
8/9
8/11
8/12
8/19
8/22
8/23
8/26
8/27
8/30



August Anniversaries!

Jessica & Pastor Zickler 8/9/2003

Rachel & John Picek 8/12/1989

Tyna & Tim Eggert 8/22/1971

Betty & Bill Tanzer 8/23/1997

Laurie & Mark Ulrich 8/26/2000



Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers

Lesley Arca

Peggy Barbieri, friend of Heidi and Myrna Garton

Ann Cannon, friend of Doris Svec

Jennifer Cinelli, niece of John Huebner

Nancy & Kent Cloninger

Jerry Cohen, husband of Tracy Cohen

Tiia Corzine & unborn child

Isaac Defee, friend of the Claster family

Richard Dominguez, friend of Pat Schlueter

Blake Donegan, grandson of John & Lois Flood

John Donegan, friend of John & Lois Flood

Shirley Doyle, friend of Doris Svec

Sarah Figueroa, friend of the Claster family

Tim Eggert

Richard Flatley, Vietnam Veteran - WS Post

John Flood

Phyllis Floyd

Christine Fry, daughter-in-law of Bill & Betty Tanzer

Laurie Georgas, friend of Judy Latman

Cassie Gray, cousin of Paul Sulak

Joanne Hass, mother of Glen Hass

Jack Hockman, friend of Linda McGuire

Doris Jacobson

Lin Johnson

Renée King, friend of Linda McGuire

Kooy Family, friends of Eleanor Kulaga

Mary Jane Kowal, family member of Peggy Keeler

Eleanor Kulaga & Family

Jack Lapice, cousin of Doris Svec

Steve Latman

Gail Loos, friend of Karen Hayes

Sonny Mansor, friend of Joey Keeler

Bruce Mazurkiewicz, cousin of Tyna Eggert

Rod McInerney, friend of Pat Schlueter

Debra Muir, daughter of Ron & Nancy Kolar

Lisa Mullarkey

Cathy Muszynski Cox, friend of the Blessman family

Dorothy Neugebauer, friend of Nancy & Ron Kolar

Joyce Oberst, sister of Sue Napolitano

Levi Olson, cousin of Paul Sulak

Leah Picek

Jürgen Pietzsch, cousin of Jennifer Claster

Kurt Seehofer, son of a friend of Pastor Zickler

Adam Skelton, grandson of a friend of Pastor Zickler

Kimmey Skelton, daughter of a friend of Pastor Zickler

Shirron Reid, daughter-in-law of Jim & Ruth Reid

Sharon Riordan

Judy & Kurt Steiner, family of Nancy & Ron Kolar

Don & Gayle Steele

Megan Torreson & unborn child, sister of Christopher Krohe

Ted Torreson, brother-in-law of Christopher Krohe

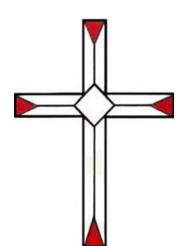
Noah (Picek) Tovar, great-granddaughter of the Floods

Jennifer Voelker, friend of Pat Schlueter

Zachary Vossoughi, g.grandson of friend of Dave Haffner

Mike Walters, friend of Donna Perkowski

Nancy Wolff, sister of Tyna Eggert



Please remember our shut-ins in your prayers

Karla Bergenthal • Eleanor Kulaga Suzette Olszewski