



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

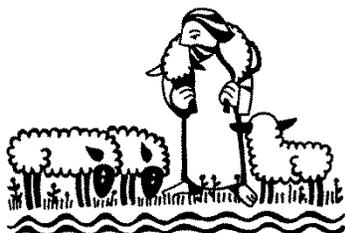
Grace Notes – April 15, 2018

Grace Lutheran Church / www.gracelutherancu.org

Third Sunday of Easter

Baroque Vespers

On April 22 at 5:00 p.m., the choirs of Grace, Good Shepherd, and St. Matthew will present a Baroque Vespers at Grace. This hour long service, modeled on the evening service of the 18th century, will present Bach's Cantata 112, *Der Herr ist mein getreuer Hirt*, in a participatory context on Good Shepherd Sunday. The service will also feature organ voluntaries, congregational hymns, and other choral music with guest soloists and instrument ensemble. Come join us for this exciting event! (If you are willing to sponsor an instrumentalist or soloist, please see Jon Arnold or Ruth Anderson.)



Canteen Run Sandwich Making

On the second Sunday of each month, Grace Lutheran is providing 30 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to be distributed to the homeless in our community through the Salvation Army's Canteen Run program. We need small groups of people (3 – 6) to volunteer to assemble and drop off these sandwiches. There are still monthly spots available for making the sandwiches. All materials and directions, except 3 loaves of sandwich bread, will be provided. The sign up poster is in the Narthex.

Card Stamping for Lay Ministry

It's time to make some anniversary and birthday cards. No experience with card stamping is necessary. All materials and instructions will be provided. Come join the fun on Monday, April 23, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Hoffmeister room.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Many thanks to those who contributed to this fund after the last appeal. Because of your generosity we are able to respond to around 4-5 requests for help each week, vetted by area social workers. The fund is running low again. Please consider a donation so that we may continue to help people in our community who are in need.

Food Pantry Update

For the month of April, please consider donating cold cereals as we are still having difficulty acquiring that product from the Food Bank. We appreciate the continued donations of plastic grocery bags. Your pantry board: *Kathy Bowersox, Karen Krusa, Carol Shupp, Royce Wilken* †



Going Home: Collecting Men's and Women's Clothing

Starting after Easter, Social Ministry is collecting clothing for men exiting Danville Correctional Center as well for women leaving Decatur Correctional Center. The chaplain at Danville provides clothing as a way to enable the formerly incarcerated to begin re-entry into society wearing less stigmatizing clothing than the sweats provided by the prison. He describes the process as transformative and as a sign of hope. Decatur has a similar program for women going home. Gently used pants, shirts, sweaters, light jackets as well as shoes are needed. T shirts are accepted but cannot have messaging other than the manufacture's logo. No belts, socks, or underwear are accepted. There will be a collection tub in the Narthex to receive your items. We are collecting on April 15 and 22. Time to tidy your closets!

Stewardship

Last Sunday the first reading from Acts 4 began, “Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.” While our idea of Christian community is not as literal in terms of sharing all worldly possessions, we do embrace the ideal of unity in heart and spirit and commitment toward common goals.

At the end of March, revenues are about \$5,000 less than projected in our adopted budget, or about 1.5% below what we would expect through the first one-fourth of the year. While this does not prompt immediate financial concerns, it is important to realize that we all have a responsibility to support the people and programs of Grace Lutheran Church. It is important to have on-going stable finances so that difficult budget cuts do not need to be made.

The Stewardship Committee would like to encourage regular giving, especially during the summer months when donations often lag.

Calling for Nominations

The Annual Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 20, 2018, at 9:15 a.m. At the meeting, the President, Vice-President, 5 Council members at large, and 6 members for the Nominating Committee will be elected. If you are interested in being a candidate for any of these offices, please contact any member of the Nominating Committee: Dale Herrstrom (chair), Juanita Loschen, Cindy Grigorescu, JoEllen DeVilbiss, Russ Dankert, and Dave Bagger. Council President and Vice President have two meetings a month plus committee responsibilities. Council members have one meeting a month plus committee responsibilities.

FAITH CIRCLE Meeting

Faith Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the Narthex. Sue Kozlowski is the hostess, and Laurinda Osterbur is the lesson leader. Come join us for the fellowship and bible lesson.

Blanket Sunday Purchases Start Soon

Starting April 29, Social Ministry will be selling paper flowers for \$10 in honor or in memory of our mothers. Flowers will also be available as well on May 6 and 13. We celebrate Blanket Sunday in conjunction with Mother’s Day, which is May 13 this year. Proceeds are used to buy blankets through Church World Service for victims of violence or disaster. Help blanket the world with love.

Favorite Hymns Is Back

Worship and Music is bringing back Favorite Hymns for summer worship. Starting on April 29, you can submit your favorite hymns for Worship and Music’s Hymn Selection group to consider for inclusion in services. Remember the committee tries to vary hymns, so those that have not been used recently in services are greatly appreciated suggestions.

Calling All Musicians

Summer will soon be here. Do you sing? Do you play a musical instrument? Would you like to contribute to the summer worship experience?

The Worship and Music is looking for people willing to provide special music for a summer Sunday service. Vocalists, ensembles, instrumentalists, soloists, adults and youth are all welcome. Contact Ruth Anderson for additional information and to sign up for a date.

Ring Found

A ring was found on the floor in the first floor men’s restroom. Please contact the office if it is yours.

Hat Found

Is this yours? Jim Anderson found this hat and is looking for its owner.

