



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

Grace Notes – February 10, 2019

Grace Lutheran Church / www.gracelutherancu.org

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Rental Property Evaluation Group

Based on the 2005 strategic plan, the Congregation proceeded with acquiring properties to the west of the church. As of 2014, four of the properties were under contract to purchase: 910 and 916 West Springfield Avenue as well as 911 and 913 West Union Street.

Since 2014 our Congregation has changed. The rental properties and what to do with them were part of the discussions at Council meetings from October through January as the 2019 budget was being developed. This topic was brought up at the Congregation meeting on January 27. It is time to evaluate the rental properties and if acquiring them still fits with the long-term mission and ministry of Grace Lutheran Church. If you are willing to help in this endeavor, please contact me.

Also contact me if you have questions or comments. As with Illini Studio, any decision we make about the rental properties will have long-term consequences. These should be identified as best we can so that our decision is an informed one.

Dave Larson, President

Canteen Run Sandwiches May Date

We have February through April covered for making sandwiches for the Canteen Run. The second Sunday in May is still available. All it takes is approximately 20 to 30 minutes to make the 30 sandwiches for the Canteen Run (a program of the Salvation Army). Grab your family or a couple of friends and have some fun making sandwiches. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Thank you for your help!

Thank You, Elizabeth!

Elizabeth Mazurak is today's guest organist.



Food Pantry Update

Many thanks to those who have donated bags and egg cartons during the latest call for them. The response was terrific, and the Food Pantry is well stock on both items. The Food Pantry appreciates the support and generosity of the congregation in this vital ministry to the community.

Your Pantry Board, Kathy Bowersox, Jim Fleming, Karen Krusa, Carol Shupp, & Royce Wilken ☩

Pastor's Discretionary Fund Update

Many thanks to those who have donated to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. The fund is replenished for the moment. Thanks to your generosity, we are able to provide grants to help with rent and utility bills, which keep people safe and warm during the cold weather.

Children's Books Needed

During the month of February the Social Ministry Committee is asking GLC members to donate gently used children's books appropriate for ages 6 months to 10 years old. Please bring the books any Sunday in February and place them in the gray tub marked "**Love to Read**" in the narthex. The books will be placed in the waiting rooms at Frances Nelson Health Center where families will be encouraged to take the books home and kept for the children to enjoy again and again. Our donations will assist the ongoing "*Reach Out and Read*" project at Frances Nelson Health Center managed by Delta Kappa Gamma, an organization of women educators. What better way to share love at Valentine's Day than to help children love to read! Thank you. If you have questions, please contact Grace Schoedel.

Faith Circle Bible Study: February

Faith Circle will meet on Tuesday evening, February 19, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Narthex. Mary Jo Erickson will be the hostess and Julie Johnson will lead the Bible study. The Bible study is taken from the January 2019 "Gather" magazine. February's session is the second of four sessions entitled "The Gospel of John: Meetings with Jesus," written by Rev. Julie L. Kanarr of Christ Lutheran Church in Belfair, Washington. All are welcome! Questions? Contact Kathy Bowersox.

Evangelism Looking for Volunteers

It's been several years since the last update to the church photo directory. The Evangelism committee is seeking a person (or team of people) interested in leading the project to create a new print and/or online photo directory. If you'd like to volunteer or have questions about the project, please contact Amy Nicely.

Women's Clothing Drive

Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes or daily food. If one of you tells them, "Go in peace, stay warm and well fed," but does not provide for them, what good is that? James 2:15-16

Men and women in prison struggle with feelings of sorrow, isolation and despair. The realization of returning home brings doubts about acceptance or rejection by family and friends

Grace members were abundantly generous last year in donating clothes for the Decatur Women's Correctional Center. The Social Ministry Committee is again asking for clothing donations for women during the month of March. Items accepted:

1. Pants
2. Blouses or tops
- 3 Coats or jackets
4. Shoes or boots
5. New socks

Please place donations in the bin provided in the narthex. Thank you! Any questions, call Tina Fehrenbacher.

Mark Your Calendars for March 3

Looking ahead to the beginning of March, we will have a multigenerational Sunday School activity on March 3. The focus will be on ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water.



Daily Bread Yoga

February Announcements

SATURDAY MORNING RETREAT,

FEBRUARY 16, 9:00 A.M.- 12:00 NOON AT PHILO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: The retreat is most appropriate for those who can get up and down from the floor with relative ease. The theme is "V'ahavta; You Shall Love".

Cost is \$30. Please let me know you are coming by writing me at rachel@dailybreadyoga.life

Promise Healthcare Leadership Lunch

Promise Healthcare is holding leadership lunches on Thursday, February 28 and April 25, 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. to inform community leaders of the benefits Promise Healthcare brings to our community. Promise Healthcare is dedicated to improving the health of the community through treatment, prevention, and education. Promise Healthcare runs Frances Nelson Health Center and SmileHealthy Dental Center. To RSVP for the lunch, contact Nancy Greenwalt at (217)403-5401.

Good Shepherd El Salvador Concert

Please take a break from the mid-winter frigid weather and attend a warm concert of Russian music for Valentine's Day 2019. Our third annual El Salvador Concert is again being presented by our very own pianist in residence, Tatiana Shustova. This year's recital is Sunday, February 10, 2:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. A freewill offering for this year's El Salvador Trip with Habitat for Humanity will be collected.

This concert is dedicated in honor and celebration of the ministry of Pastor Tom Hillertz and his seven years of faithful service to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.