

OCTOBER 15, 2014—OCTOBER 28, 2014 • VOLUME 13, NO. 21

**BEAUTIFUL FALL DAYS MAKE ME SMILE**.....by Pastor Ken Gibson



It is a wonderful time of year and the beauty of Midwest living is upon us. One only need to look out a window, take a drive or even take a walk, to see the wonder of our world on display. It is a time of year when I truly long to be outside and enjoy as much of the beauty as is possible. This week ahead for me will be filled with some drive time for sure as I will travel to Indiana to take part in the sale of my mother's estate. My mother also loved the fall and it is appropriate that the sale of her and her husband Evan's home happens this fall.

There will be sadness for sure to see those things that my mother possessed being sold, yet we know it has to be done. The things in life are just that, things. What is most sad is knowing that the items being sold are what remind me of the life we once shared and those days are now gone. Yet, that is the good thing too. For I believe the gift of remembering that will come at that moment, when the item is raised up, I will realize that we had those times that we shared as mother and son, sister, and brothers. It may just be a table to some but it was at that table that together we shared a meal and heard of the day's events and even had a good "talking to" where my mother would instill in me the do's and don'ts of life. At such an event I know there will be strangers who do not know the history of an item that they may be interested in bidding on, like the table, yet I look forward to the realization that they too are welcome to share a meal around a table that once fed us with so much.

Yes, it will be a time of some sadness, yet the time will also be filled with goodness as the whole of the family that remains will be together and our being with one another happens far too infrequently as we grow older. The goodness that I know will be present is in the family gathered, in the time we will no doubt spend around another table sharing a meal and remembering that we were and are loved. And I will give thanks for the life we shared and continue to share together as the three brothers who yet remain.

Does this not sound familiar? Do we not as a family of God's children here at Grace not also share so much with each other around a table? Do we not know that some of the ones with whom we shared table space are no longer here in the flesh? Do we not have memories of time shared with them? Yet do we not also realize that others come too to this place seeking connection, seeking love, seeking to be fed? And as we come to the table I see us, and any new ones whom God has brought to us, raising hands, a bit like at an auction, to receive that food that only God can give. Then, we who are many become one body and one cup of blessing that is blessed, we are one body in our one Lord. And bid as we might, the cost has been paid, our auctioneer has paid the tab completely.

Enjoy the beautiful days of fall, find a table to share a meal around and taste the goodness of the beauty that has been bestowed upon us all. Enjoy them all, as all are a gift, and smile. 😊



**OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATING ELEANOR SETSER'S 90TH BIRTHDAY**— Friends and family are invited to celebrate Eleanor Setser's 90th birthday on Saturday, **October 18th**, by attending an open house at Grace. The Open House will be from 1pm—3pm in Grace Center. A light lunch will be served.

## WORSHIP TODAY

**Sunday, October 19, 2014**  
**Lectionary 29, Proper 24**  
**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

INTRODUCTION: In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

READINGS: Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm 96:1-13

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

**Sunday, October 26, 2014**  
**Reformation Sunday**

INTRODUCTION: On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! Though we give thanks for the events of the sixteenth-century Reformation that brought renewal to the church of that time, we pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

READINGS: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 46

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36

**PRAYERS—***Please lift up these petitions in your prayers—To become a praying member of the Friends in Prayer, please submit name and e-mail address to [dklabunde@gracewoodstock.org](mailto:dklabunde@gracewoodstock.org).*

**World:** Bishop Eaton, Bishop Wollersheim; those serving in military conflicts, Arusha Town Lutheran Parish in Tanzania (our companion parish), Scott Bunch serving in the military, Tyler Stiemke serving overseas, Pfc. Henry Trebes (friend of the Laird family), Army Reserves, deployed to Cuba

**Woodstock:** Pastor Ken Gibson and his family; Pastor Amanda Bergstrom and her family; Grace Staff; Grace Council

**Health Concerns:** Katie Arana, Frank Bunch, Gertrude Cox (grandmother of Angie Ribbe), Dennis Daily (friend of Marilyn Vanskike), Ken DeVogelaere, Marge Dierksen, Betty Dusthimer (sister of Diane Thurow), Patrick Fraily (friend of August and Theo Hutchens), Gloria Holy, Patrice Hoover, August Hutchens, Theo Hutchens, Ruth Iwanicki, Christina Jaggi (friend of Adele Petersen), Fila Johnson (sister-in-law to Roberta Herzog), John Johnson (brother of Jerry Johnson), Gerard Jordan (friend of Shirley Berna), Vincent Lopez (father of Tom Lopez), John McMahon, Gail Mueller, Jesse Myjak, Daniel Nattress, June Noel (mother of Marylee Steinwehe), Herb Neubaum, Don Nusbaum, Gloria Ogle, Alice Pate, Shawn Rank (son of Bert & Carol Rank), Joshua Rumschlog (great grandson of Eileen Weide), Ellen Schulz (daughter-in-law of Diane Schulz), Margaret Stawicki (mother of Nan Goerlitz), Carol Thompson (daughter of Marge Dierksen), Josh Tillman, Brian Tobin (grandson of Enn Teetsov), Jerry Virgil (father of Melynda Mauer), Karen Wells, Jeannie Wilcox, Ruth Zirves

**Sorrow:** Karen Hoyt

**Joy:** Baptism of Quinn Avery Peterson, Marriage of Abby Anderson & Phillip Rogers on October 4 and the marriage of Rachel Beckman & Brian Bratanick on October 11.

If you wish to add a prayer request for this newsletter, please call the church office at 815-338-0554. Your prayer concern will run for one week and may be renewed. Submissions to the *Friends in Prayer* e-mail and phone teams may also be submitted by telephone to the church office or by e-mail to [Gracewoodstock.org](mailto:Gracewoodstock.org). Due to confidentiality laws, hospitals no longer notify churches or pastors when a member is hospitalized. If you or a member of your family have a medical procedure planned or is admitted to the hospital, please call the church office at 815-338-0554.

## **GIVING IN GRACE**.....by Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

In youth group on Sunday mornings the past few weeks, we have turned to parts of the weekly stewardship Bible studies as a part of our gathering. If you have not had a chance to take a look at these Bible studies, they are still posted on Grace's website, and I would encourage you to spend a few moments this week reading scripture, considering the questions, and praying.



In one of the Bible studies, we turn to the 2nd letter to the Corinthians and hear of the Macedonian Christians, who even in the face of great adversity, shared of the joy it is for them to share in the ministry with the saints and give themselves first to the Lord.

Each of the Bible studies invite us to consider how we have 'given in Grace' of ourselves the past week, and it has been a neat opportunity to reflect on this question with our high school students. We have gathered together to share a "high" and a "low" of the past week, and an example of how we have given in grace, or seen God's grace this past week. In the unexpected moments, in the routine actions of helping and caring, and in people all around us, what a joy it is to give in grace.

As we prepare to bring our offerings, our time & talent and estimate of giving cards to worship this coming weekend, may you too be filled with great joy in giving in grace.

**WOODSTOCK HUNGER WALK**—Hosted by Woodstock Area Community Ministries (WACM) on **Oct. 19** at Grace Lutheran Church. 1:30 Registration, 2:00 Walk. Please join us for a pleasant 5K walk through Emricson Park in Woodstock to raise awareness/funds about hunger and how to combat it. The route is fully marked, police escorted, and will have a water/washroom stop. The walk is stroller/pet-friendly. Runners are welcome and will be cheered on first! All proceeds support people in need in the Woodstock & Wonder Lake communities. Registrations and donations are being accepted in person before the walk, or online at [www.wacmgroup.org](http://www.wacmgroup.org).



## **MISTLETOE MAGIC OPPORTUNITIES**



**BAKE DAYS FOR MISTLETOE MAGIC COOKIE WALK** —On **Oct. 23** and **24**, Mistletoe Magic leaders will be baking cookies for the Cookie Walk. Donations of cash and supplies would be greatly appreciated. Please see the sign-up sheet on the Activity Board for supplies needed, or to sign-up for the luncheon.

**MISTLETOE MAGIC 2014**— Please help us promote our benefit by giving the green Mistletoe Magic tear offs (located at the Information Center) to friends and family as an invitation to join us on Saturday, **November 1st**.

**YARD SIGNS FOR MISTLETOE MAGIC**— We need your help. If you live on a busy traffic street and would like to put a yard sign on your property for the next two weeks, please stop by the Information Center today to sign up and take a yard sign. Questions??? Contact Cathy Meyer at 338-0512, or [tcmeier2@gmail.com](mailto:tcmeier2@gmail.com).

**MISTLETOE MAGIC BAKE SALE**—The countdown for Mistletoe Magic has begun, and everyone at Grace is encouraged to donate homemade items for the bake sale. Sorry, we cannot accept store-bought items for this sale. Specialties such as homemade pies, fruit desserts, yeast breads, rolls, sweet breads, cakes, muffins and coffee cakes are popular at the sale. Special cookies and bars are appreciated, too, as well as candy, fudge and confections. All items should be labeled with added ingredients listed, such as nuts and fruit. Our helpers will divide the items and package them in special containers. Please bring items to Luther Hall in covered and labeled containers (disposable containers are preferred) on **Friday, Oct. 31**, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Be sure to come and shop for a variety of quality items from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Saturday, Nov. 1**. All Grace members can help make Mistletoe Magic a success to help people in our community who are in need. Thank you. For information, call Marylee Steinwehe at 815-338-7323.

**MISTLETOE MAGIC MERCHANDISE DONATIONS**— Small items may be put in the bin under the coat rack from now until Sunday, **October 26th**. After that date, please bring items to the lower level beginning Wednesday October 29th from noon to 5p.m. thru Thursday. Friday delivery from 8:30 a.m. until noon.

**"SHARE THE WARMTH" WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE**—Sponsored by Woodstock Area Community Ministry (WACM). Share your gently used coats, sweaters, boots, blankets, gloves and mittens for those in need. The collection will go through **October 20th**. The clothing will then be available for distribution **October 23rd - 25th** at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1320 Dean Street.



**THE DIAPER BANK OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS BENEFIT AUCTION**—The Diaper Bank Of Northern Illinois is a 501c3, not-for-profit organization, which distributes diapers, free of charge, to people in need throughout McHenry County. The Diaper Bank is hosting a benefit auction on **Sat. Oct 25**, which will focus on their “New Mothers Program” which offers education, support, diapers and needed supplies to new mothers and their babies. Sponsorship contributions are being sought, and everyone is invited to attend the event at D’Andrea’s Banquets in Crystal Lake at 6:00 p.m. See details on the Activity Board.

**SENIOR LUNCHEON** – Tuesday, **October 28**, join us for a wonderful fall meal: Tossed Salad, Roasted Acorn Squash with Apple Sausage Stuffing, homemade Buttermilk Biscuits, and Glazed Lemon Pound Cake for dessert. We have Elizabeth Crisp from Apple Creek Flowers, Woodstock, coming to tell us all about houseplants. Cost is \$5.00 Please sign up in the Activity Binder by **October 26**. Questions, call Shirley Busse at 815-338-9063



**TAIZÉ SERVICE**—You are invited to the initial McHenry County Taizé Prayer Service on **Tuesday, October 28**, at 7 pm at the First Congregational Church of Crystal Lake (461 Pierson St). Taizé is ecumenical and meditative, incorporating song and chant, scriptures, candles, and silence. It is meant to foster reconciliation and peace among all people. It will be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month.



**PHOTO DIRECTORIES ARE IN**—If you had your photo taken last winter with us it’s time to pick up your photo directory at the information desk. Please take the one that is labeled for your family. If you did not have your photo taken with us, but would still like a copy of the photo directory they are now on sale at the Information Center for \$10.00. Questions call Carrie Fiorina in the church office, 815-338-0554.

**THE LUTHERAN** is the magazine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. *The Lutheran* is where you will find news and views on life, faith, Scripture, congregational mission and more impacting your daily life. There is also *The Little Lutheran* geared for children 6 years old and under. You can view a sample in the Grace Library. Subscriptions are available online at [www.thelutheran.org](http://www.thelutheran.org) or by calling 800-328-4648.

**LABELS FOR EDUCATION & TYSON PROJECT A+ FUNDRAISERS**—By saving labels from both the Labels for Education and Tyson Project A+ Programs, you are helping our Preschool earn both bonus points and cash that we can redeem for classroom materials, gym & playground equipment as well as teaching aids for our teachers. Both labels can be dropped off in the Labels for Education basket located in the Educational Foyer (under the bulletin board, outside the preschool office) OR the small cardboard box found on the attendance sign-in desk. Each Tyson label will earn us 24 cents! Labels for Education are found on a variety of products and have a wide range of values. For a complete list of participating products, visit both websites: [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) and [www.projectaplus.tyson.com](http://www.projectaplus.tyson.com). Thank you for your help! NOTE: We are not able to participate in the Box Tops for Education program.



**"SHARE THE BOUNTY"**—Sunday’s there will be a table in the front courtyard. If you have extra plants or produce to share please place your items on the table. If you can use any of the items, please feel welcome to take them home. It’s all about “Sharing” God’s Grace.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** —All *Grace for Today* articles for the **October 29** issue should be sent to Lynn Nattress at [lnattress@gracewoodstock.org](mailto:lnattress@gracewoodstock.org) or to the church office by noon on Tuesday, **October 21**.



**COLLEGE FINANCIAL PLANNING**—Our Thrivent Financial Representative, William Collingbourne is offering a college planning workshop for all families on **Nov 3 and Nov. 4**. Key points include; projected future college costs, tax-advantaged ways to save for college and the basics of financial aid. Space is limited. Please reserve your place with him at 815-546-3160 or bill.collingbourne@thrivent.com by **October 31**. Lunch will be served.

**THRIVENT FINANCIAL PRESENTS:** Social Security: Strategies to Maximize on **Nov 9**, 9:45–10:30 a.m.. The workshop will discuss some of the different ways to take Social Security. For additional information, contact Bill Collingbourne at 815-546-3160, or bill.collingbourne@thrivent.com

**ADULT COACH BUS TRIP**— Thursday, **December 4** from 9:45 – 5:30. Come join us as we travel in time to Drury Lane Theatre in Oakbrook Terrace to experience Camelot, an exciting tale of love and chivalry. We will enter the magical and mythical days of Medieval England and meet King Arthur, Queen Guinevere, Sir Lancelot and Merlyn. Marvel at the costumes, enjoy the romantic songs, sit back and just relax. Our pre-show luncheon comes with the soup of the day, garden vegetables, potato, fresh baked bread, dessert, a beverage and your choice of Traditional Roast Turkey dinner or Salmon Filet. The cost of this all inclusive trip is only \$65. Please sign up in the Activity Binder. Deadline to sign-up is **Nov. 9**. This trip is handicap accessible. Questions, call Shirley Busse at 815-338-9063



**NIS CONGREGATION**—This fall NIS Discipleship Events are focusing on Invitation and Congregational Hospitality. We are fortunate to have an event in Woodstock hosted by Redeemer Lutheran Church on **Nov 13**. Registration 6:30 pm/program 7:00 pm. Please join other Lutherans for inspiration and fellowship. Contact Mary Beth Martin-Bellavia, mbmartinbellavia@gamil.com or 815-338-5194.



**CRANDALL'S CHICKEN DINNER FUNDRAISER**— Grace's confirmation class & high school youth group invite you to an all-you-can-eat chicken dinner on Monday, **November 17**, 4-8 p.m. at Crandall's in Hebron. This combined fundraiser will support next summer's trips to Sky Ranch Confirmation Camp in Colorado and the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit. Tickets will be available with our confirmation & high school youth (\$15 adults, \$12 kids under 12). Thank you for supporting these youth ministries, see you at Crandall's for a great evening of Grace fellowship.

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**—It is time for a new member class! Grace will be hosting a new member orientation breakfast on **November 22**, at 10 a.m., in Grace Center. We will be having juice, coffee and some homemade goodies. Those that would like to become members of Grace or get more information on what it means to be a member of the family here at Grace, please sign up at the Information Center in the activity binder or call the church office, 815-338-0554.



**SHOPPING DAY / CHILD CARE FUNDRAISER**—The Preschool Committee will be holding a special child care day on Saturday, **December 6**, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. \$15 per child or \$30 for a family. Children will enjoy crafts, movie time and free play in the classrooms & gym. Watch for more details, and for more information please contact Heidi Olsen or Patty Kozlow.

**WOMEN'S RETREAT 2015—SAVE THE DATE**—The Women's Retreat will be on **January 24, 2015**. This one day retreat will be held at The Gardens of Woodstock from 9 am – 3 pm. This year's theme is Seeking Peace, and the guest speaker will be Amy Current. Registration will start in December. Watch for more details to come!

**SAVE THE DATES**— Confirmation Rehearsal/Photos—**Oct. 25**, Taize Service—**Oct. 28**, MMagic Boutique & Bake Sale—**Nov. 1**, Thrivent College Financial Planning—**Nov 3 & 4**, Adult Bus Trip Sign-Up Deadline—**Nov. 9**, Thrivent Social Security Seminar—**Nov 9**, NIS CLC Meet—**Nov. 13**, Crandall's Chicken Dinner Fundraiser—**Nov. 17**, New Member Meeting—**Nov. 22**, Adult Bus Trip—**Dec. 4**, Preschool Shopping Day—**Dec. 6**, Women's Retreat—**Jan. 24**

Here is your link to the Weekend Worship Participants:

Schedule:<http://www.gracewoodstock.org/WeeklyNews/Monthly%20Worship%20Participants.pdf>

<b>THE WEEKS AHEAD AT GRACE</b>	<b>Visit the Grace website for the most up-to-date information for all that is happening at Grace!</b>	<b>GRACE STAFF &amp; COUNCIL</b>
<p><b>Saturday, October 18</b> Stewardship Commitment Weekend 9:00 AM Band 1:00 PM Eleanor Setser's Birthday Party 5:00 PM Worship 6:00 PM Fair Trade Coffee</p> <p><b>Sunday, October 19</b> Stewardship Commitment Weekend 8:30 AM Traditional Worship 9:30 AM Fair Trade Coffee 9:45 AM Education Hour/Sunday by Sunday 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship 10:45 AM Laudate 2:00 PM Hunger Walk 3:30 PM Youth Group 5:15 PM Youthful Spirit 6:15 PM Hand Chime Choir 6:45 PM Graceful Ringers</p> <p><b>Monday, October 20</b> 9:00 AM Preschool 2s, 4s, 4s &amp; 5s 6:30 PM Boy Scout Troop 153 6:45 PM Connections 7:00 PM Faith Circle</p> <p><b>Tuesday, October 21</b> 9:00 AM Preschool 2s, 3s, 4s &amp; 5s 9:00 AM Sewing Circle 7:00 PM Prepare The Way Task Force Mtg.</p> <p><b>Wednesday, October 22</b> 9:00 AM Preschool 2s, 4s, 4s &amp; 5s 12:30 PM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Messengers 5:15 PM 2 Year Old Class 5:15 PM PrimeTime –Spaghetti 5:30 PM Cherubs 6:00 PM Confirmation– Scavenger Hunt 6:00 PM Revelation Ringers 6:15 PM Joyful Sound 6:30 PM Grace Dance 7:00 PM Chancel Choir/Grace Dance</p> <p><b>Thursday, October 23</b> 8:30 AM Mistletoe Magic Bake Days 9:00 AM Preschool 2s, 3s, 4s &amp; 5s 1:00 PM Naomi Circle 5:00 PM Exultation!</p>	<p><b>Friday, October 24</b> 8:30 AM Mistletoe Magic Bake Days: 9:00 AM Preschool 4s, 4s &amp; 5s</p> <p><b>Saturday, October 25</b> 9:00 AM Band 10:00 AM Confirmation Rehearsal/Pictures 5:00 PM Worship / Confirmation</p> <p><b>Sunday, October 26</b> 8:30 AM Traditional Worship 9:45 AM Education Hour/Sunday By Sunday 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship 5:15 PM Youthful Spirit 6:15 PM Hand Chime Choir 6:30 PM Laudate 6:45 PM Graceful Ringers</p> <p><b>Monday, October 27</b> 9:00 AM Preschool 2s, 4s, 4s &amp; 5s 6:30 PM Boy Scout Troop 153 6:45 PM Connections</p> <p><b>Tuesday, October 28</b> 9:00 AM Preschool 2s, 3s, 4s &amp; 5s 12:00 PM Senior Luncheon 7:00 PM New Praise Singers</p> <p><b>Wednesday, October 29</b> 8:00 AM Preschool Conferences 12:30 PM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Messengers 5:15 PM 2 Year Old Class 5:15 PM PrimeTime –Tacos 5:30 PM Cherubs 6:00 PM Confirmation/Revelation Ringers 6:15 PM Joyful Sound 6:30 PM Grace Dance 7:00 PM Chancel Choir/Grace Dance</p> <p><b>Thursday, October 30</b> 8:00 AM Preschool Conferences 5:00 PM Exultation!</p>	<p><b>Senior Pastor</b> Rev. Kenneth D. Gibson <a href="mailto:kgibson@gracewoodstock.org">kgibson@gracewoodstock.org</a> Office Phone: 815-338-0554 Home Phone: 815-527-7215</p> <p><b>Associate Pastor</b> <b>Director of Senior High Ministries</b> Rev. Amanda Bergstrom Cell Phone: 630-664-9016 <a href="mailto:abergstrom@gracewoodstock.org">abergstrom@gracewoodstock.org</a></p> <p><b>Director of Communications</b> Lynn Nattress <a href="mailto:lnattress@gracewoodstock.org">lnattress@gracewoodstock.org</a></p> <p><b>Director of Music Ministries</b> Ron Fredriksen <a href="mailto:rfredriksen@gracewoodstock.org">rfredriksen@gracewoodstock.org</a></p> <p><b>Parish Musicians</b> Terry Aavang, Jan Burns, Dale Carlson, Tammy Baier, Carrie Filetti</p> <p><b>Director of Preschool Ministry</b> Chris Learman <a href="mailto:clearman@gracewoodstock.org">clearman@gracewoodstock.org</a></p> <p><b>Preschool Staff</b> Tammy Baier, Amy Flores, Julie LaGue, Nancy Mojica, Kristy Nellesen</p> <p><b>Director of Educational Ministries</b> <b>Office Assistant</b> Carrie Fiorina <a href="mailto:cfiorina@gracewoodstock.org">cfiorina@gracewoodstock.org</a></p> <p><b>Director of Senior Ministries</b> Shirley Busse</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> Denise Klabunde <a href="mailto:dklabunde@gracewoodstock.org">dklabunde@gracewoodstock.org</a></p> <p><b>Building Supervisor/Ken Zank</b> <b>Custodians/Chris &amp; Kim Ethridge</b></p> <p><b>Officers &amp; Council</b> Cathy Buhrow; Mike Freeman; Robin Gibbs; Ken Hansing; Claude Hutchens; Sue Olsen; Peter Paulson; Rob Ribbe; Beth Millar; Daniel Nattress <a href="mailto:council@gracewoodstock.org">council@gracewoodstock.org</a> Office Hours: 8:30 am–3:30 pm, M–Th 8:30 am-12:00 pm, F</p>

