

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

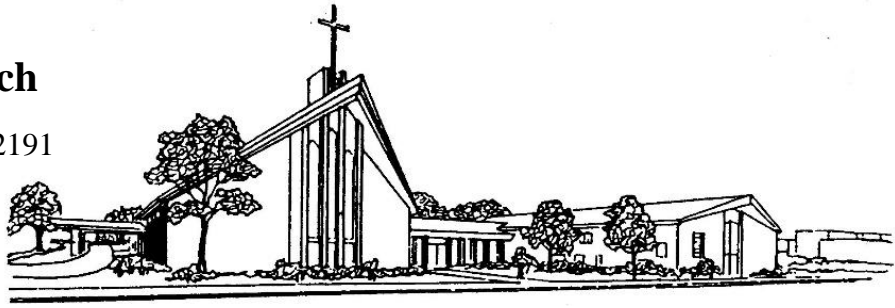
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October 2025 Newsletter

August 11, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Present - Pastor Matt Converse, Joe Freiburger, Maelynn Fries, Linda Grawcock, Deena Hart, Mark Krider, Paul Marken, Bill Owen

Absent - Branson Heidenreich, Morgan Heidenreich, Sarah Pearl

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Joe Freiburger

Paster led devotions from Luke 12:49-56. The NRSVUE translation struck many as new and unfamiliar. Jesus' talk of division seems extreme. Jesus was sometimes disruptive in his message. Minutes from June 9 th meeting were approved with one acronym that needs spelled out (DORA).

Pastors Report: Pastor Matt gave a summary of his written report. Pastor moved and Joe seconded to accept Chirs Hatfield into membership. Motion passed unanimously. Pastor also moved we purchase a new laptop. Second by Mark. The computer pastor is using is 10 years old. Motion passed unanimously.

Pastor also shared that at the churchwide assembly at the end of July, a new presiding bishop was elected. Yehiel Curry is the new presiding bishop of the ELCA.

Treasurers Report: Deena gave a summary of the June and July treasurer's reports. The reports were approved subject to audit.

Old Business:

A) First Friday recap. July was a bust. It was not a busy First Friday and our location was cut off by the BMX bikes from some of the traffic. In August the weather was favorable and there were lots of people. There were 128 balloons given out and a lot of good discussion took place. A lot of devotional books were also given away.

B) Confirmation class. A meeting is planned for the 17 th after church.

C) Ornament making day September 21 st . This will be a casserole and Christmas cookie carry in and people can stay and paint ornaments.

D) We need to start having a joint council meeting with Hope once a year to plan the joint services.

E) Noodle Dinner. In the past we shared some of the proceeds with Hope. It was decided to give \$400 to Hope this year out of the \$1958 profit.

New Business:

A) Pork Chop Dinner. We had decided that we would not continue to volunteer. Some members felt that this was not the right decision. It was thought the Adelphi group might be willing to take this on and lead getting volunteers. It was thought that this might work well as both Hope and Grace are part of Adelphi. Linda will bring this up at the upcoming Adelphi meeting.

Team Reports:

Property - Mark gave a summary of his written report. The team moved to purchase a new dehumidifier for the basement. This is below the dollar level to require council authorization. Property may just purchase one.

Food Pantry - Joe gave a verbal summary of what is happening. Pantry has been busy. Things are going well.

Fellowship -Mark. Noodle dinner was a success. The carry in for making Christmas ornaments is planned for September.

Worship and Music - Paul. Bells played in June. We need to meet and plan next season. Dave Hockerman is planning to learn how to stream the service.

Christian Ed - Linda. Linda hasn't been receiving any curriculum or information. She has been trying to make up material but is not interested in doing this going forward. She needs to receive all the curriculum information, or she will let someone else do this.

Stewardship - Linda. September has been the traditional time to start temple talks and she is making plans again. She is considering a new time and talent sheet but wanted to make sure we had all followed up with the people from last year.

Permanent Endowment - Paul. On June 25th the team met and selected scholarship recipients. On July 16th the team met with Faron from JP Morgan/Chase and considered investment options. A meeting was planned for Aug 13th but may need to be moved due to conflicts.

Altar Guild - Maelynn. Nothing new to report.

Staff Support - Nothing to report.

Preschool - Council reviewed Kirsten's written report.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes prepared by Paul E. Marken. 8/17/25

BREAD LOAF OFFERING - OCTOBER – Columbia City Fire Department

This month's Bread Loaf offering will be going to the Columbia City Firefighters. They are collecting for the Christmas Candy handout



It will be a Drive-thru Event. Attendees need to remain in their vehicles, enter the designated lane from Chauncey Street (West side of Courthouse), and receive candy on Van Buren (North side of Courthouse). Cones will mark the path.



Santa will be in attendance waiving at attendees and will speak to all children that stop by to say hello before his magical trip back to the North Pole.



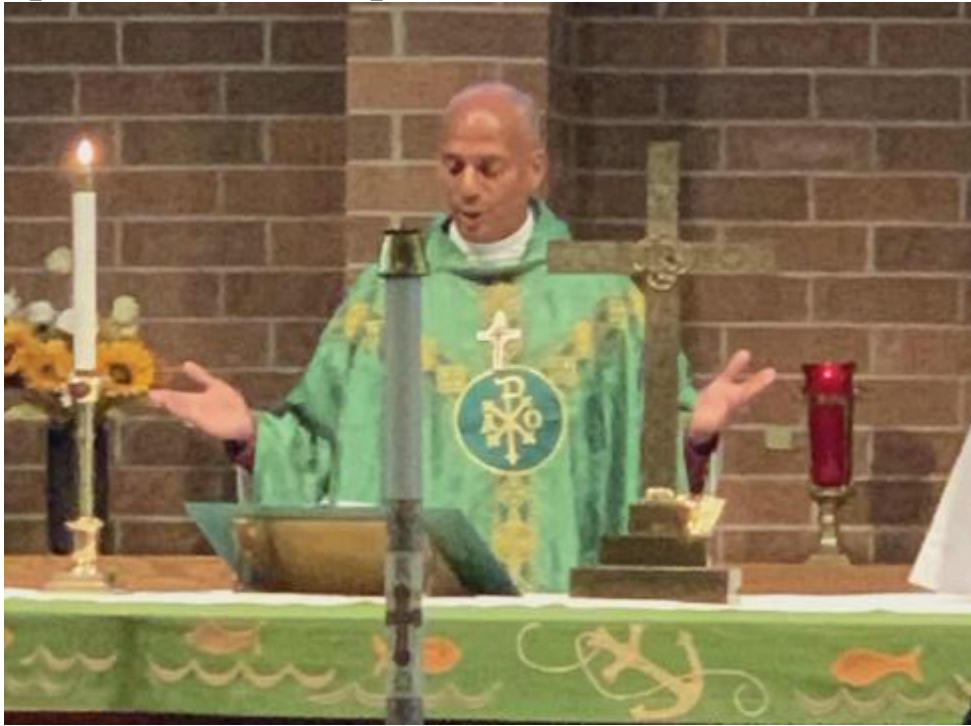
This continues the 140+ year tradition dating back to the 1880's! Each child will receive a 1lb bag of candy and an orange. Past participants remember traveling from Warsaw by horse and buggy to get their candy because that WAS their Christmas present.



Thanks to the Columbia City Fire Department for putting on this annual family tradition in a safe manner each and every year!

Any question, see Joe Freiburger or Mark Krider

We had the current bishop of the In / KY Synod Tim Graham join use on Sept 21, 2025. Bishop Tim did a children's church with our young children.



We are proud of all our youth that join in the church service as an acolyte.



Also our Sunday School kids made homeless care kits.



Prayer Request

If someone you know needs some extra prayers through a hard time or sickness, please email the office at Prayers.gracelutheran@gmail.com

Or you can call someone on the Care Team:

Jane Straub: 260-229-1118

Linda Trowbridge 260-229-1815

Linda Grawcock 260-609-5037

Ann Wolfe 260-609-5920

Sandy Whiteleather 260-503-4281

Join us for fellowship hour immediately following the service.

THANK YOU

to all the wonderful people who donated their time and yummy treats each week!!!

Food Pantry needs this month : Cereal

Also food pantry needs Plastic bags (Walmart, Kroger's, ect) and Egg cartons.

Important Email addresses

Church business and bulletin items:

Office.gracelutheran@gmail.com

Newsletter articles (due by the 21th of the month):

Newsletter.gracelutheran@gmail.com

Prayer Chain requests:

prayers.gracelutheran@gmail.com

Purpose statement: Empowered by Jesus to participate in God's work with our community.

Guiding Principles:

- Always growing Relationships with God, one another, and the world
- God is at work in the world and we get to participate
- Trusting that God equips us, we understand and serve the needs of our community and world
- Music and worship are expressions of the Holy Spirit in this place.
- Each one has something to contribute
- All are on a journey, still traveling and searching
- We can walk arm in arm without seeing eye to eye

Troop 84 G, Troop 84 B, Pack 3082, Pack 3088





Grace Lutheran Church Preschool



OCTOBER



Where we've been...

September has been a great month learning about each other and learning to get along. We've been very intentional this year teaching rules and procedures and the students are working really hard to practice them. Then we moved onto learning about apples and reading lots of books about apples. We've learned about the number 1 and 2, the letters Aa and Mm and the shape circle.

Where we're headed...

This month students will be learning all about Fire Safety. Mr. Jines will be visiting us with his fire gear. Also this month, we will be learning all about pumpkins. We will be learning numbers 3 and 4, the shape square and the letters Ff and Pp.

Important Dates

October 1st and 2nd- Picture Day-
Weather Permitting
Oct. 8th- Field Trip for ALL CLASSES to
Columbia City Fire Station
Oct. 15th-17th- Fall Break/ No School
Oct 21st- Field Trip for ALL CLASSES to
Kuehnert Dairy Farm
Oct 27 & 28th- Halloween Parties (RCT)
Oct. 29th & 30- P/ T Conferences-
NO SCHOOL- 29th & 30th

Fall Parties

We will be having our fall parties during class time on October 27th and 28th. Students may dress up in their halloween costume. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THEY CAN STILL USE THE RESTROOM WHEN TAKING THEIR COSTUME ON AND OFF. PLEASE NO WEAPONS OR HATS. Students are allowed to bring candy or little treats to pass out to their friends. We will still have snack so please make sure the treats or candy your child passes out to their friends is individually wrapped and can be taken home easily.

Grace Lutheran Church Preschool



OCTOBER



Kuehnert Dairy Farm

ALL CLASS WILL GO TOGETHER ON Oct 21st from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The cost is \$10.00 per person. REMEMBER AN ADULT HAS TO TAKE YOUR CHILD, STAY WITH YOUR CHILD AND TAKE YOUR CHILD BACK HOME FROM THE FIELD TRIP! IT CAN BE A PARENT, GRANDPARENT, AUNT, UNCLE, ANY ONE 21 YEARS OR OLDER. More information and permission slip will come home at a later date. There will be no normal classes that day!!

Church Services

All Families are welcome to join us Sunday mornings for church. Pastor Matt serves both Hope Lutheran Church off us US 30 and here at Grace Lutheran Church.

Hope Lutheran Church service begins at 8:15 am.

Grace Lutheran Church service begins at 10:00am

Parent Teacher Conferences

Please watch for a link to be sent out the week of Oct 13th to sign up to meet with your child's teacher for Parents Teacher Conferences. We will be holding them on Oct. 29th and 30th. We will meet for about 15 minutes. This will be a time that we will talk about your child's strengths and what they need to improve on. There is NO SCHOOL either day.

Helping your Child...

Please work with your child so they are independently :

- pulling up their own pants after using the restroom
- putting on their book bag and coat by themselves
- packing their folders and lunch boxes in their book bags

Practice cutting with scissors and holding a writing utensil correctly.



Adelphi Group met on September 16, 2025. There were 10 Ladies present. Grace members provided the meal.

16 Personal Care Kits were assembled for shipment to Lutheran World Relief. Quilts are also being knotted. Kits and quilts will be taken to St. John's on West Washington in Fort Wayne on October 18th.

The Parker Grace Tearoom Meeting has been cancelled and there will be no regular meeting in October.

Tuesday, November 18th will be the next meeting. Hope will be in charge of the meal. Beth Moss, Parish Nurse, will talk to the group about her work with the congregants.

Linda Grawcock reminded those present about the Mustard Seed Truck. It is scheduled to come for donations on Saturday, September 20, 2025.

Lois Noel and Karen Nelson are attending the Retreat "Built on a Rock" September 26th and 27th at Lutherwald. The group had voted at a previous meeting to help with costs.

It was reported that Kathleen Lutz had received a \$100.00 grant from Katie's Fund for use with her work in Kenya! Check out the W E L C A BULLETIN BOARD in the hallway leading to the Sanctuary to read the grant letter.

No meeting in October. See you in November!

1st Sunday-Sunday School

1st Sunday -BP checks

2nd Sunday- Confirmation

3rd Sunday- Sunday school

4th Sunday- Adult Sunday school



October Birthdays



WEISS, DiAnna	10/01
KRIDER, Micheal	10/02
KRIDER, Lucas	10/03
RUESCH, Donald	10/03
PEARCE, Ty	10/04
BOCKELMAN, Kendal	10/06
FREEWALT, Sherri	10/10
KRIDER, Scarlett	10/10
ALLEN, Piper	10/11
CLAWSON, Lynn	10/13
DUBACH, Joyce	10/13
ELLIOTT, Bret	10/18
PEARL, Sarah	10/19
PEARL, Peyton	10/21
WHITELEATHER, Brent	10/23
MOOG, Doris	10/26
PEARL, Mackenna	10/26
SULLIVAN, Jeanette	10/29

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>28</div> <div>8:15am - Worship Service</div> <div>10am - Worship Service</div> <div>11:15am - Fellowship</div> <div>12pm - Family Reunion-</div>	<div>29</div> <div>12:30pm - Helping Hands</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts America</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts America</div> <div>7:30pm - AA</div>	<div>30</div> <div>9am - T.O.P.S.</div> <div>4pm - Whitley County</div> <div>6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082</div>	<div>1</div> <div>8am - Men's Breakfast</div> <div>9:30am - Pre-k Pictures</div> <div>12pm - Food Pantry</div> <div>1:30pm - pre-k pictures</div> <div>4pm - Voucher</div>	<div>2</div> <div>9:30am - pre-k pictures</div> <div>1:30pm - pre-k pictures</div> <div>7:30pm - AA</div> <div>7:30pm - Al-anon</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div> <div>12pm - Food pantry</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Feast of St Francis of</div>
<div>5</div> <div>8:15am - Worship Service</div> <div>10am - Worship Service</div> <div>11:15am - Blood Pressure</div> <div>11:15am - Fellowship</div>	<div>6</div> <div>12:30pm - Helping Hands</div> <div>6:30pm - Property Team</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts America</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts America</div> <div>7:30pm - AA</div>	<div>7</div> <div>9am - T.O.P.S.</div> <div>6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082</div>	<div>8</div> <div>8am - Men's Breakfast</div> <div>12pm - Food Pantry</div> <div>4pm - Voucher</div>	<div>9</div> <div>7:30pm - AA</div> <div>7:30pm - Al-anon</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div> <div>12pm - Food pantry</div>	<div>11</div>
<div>12</div> <div>8:15am - Worship Service</div> <div>10am - Worship Service</div> <div>11:15am - Fellowship</div> <div>1pm - Worship @Oakes</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Columbus Day</div> <div>12:30pm - Helping Hands</div> <div>5:30pm - Financial Team</div> <div>6:30pm - Church Council</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts America</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts America</div> <div>7:30pm - AA</div>	<div>14</div> <div>9am - T.O.P.S.</div> <div>6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082</div> <div>6:30pm - Sigma Eta</div>	<div>15</div> <div>WCCS fall break</div> <div>8am - Men's Breakfast</div> <div>12pm - Food Pantry</div> <div>4pm - Voucher</div>	<div>16</div> <div>7:30pm - AA</div> <div>7:30pm - Al-anon</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div> <div>12pm - Food pantry</div>	<div>18</div> <div>7am - Merit Badge Day</div>
<div>19</div> <div>8:15am - Worship Service</div> <div>10am - Worship Service</div> <div>11:15am - Fellowship</div> <div>11:15am - Sunday School</div>	<div>20</div> <div>12:30pm - Helping Hands</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts America</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts America</div> <div>7:30pm - AA</div>	<div>21</div> <div>9am - T.O.P.S.</div> <div>10:30am - Care Team</div> <div>11:30am - Adelphai Group</div> <div>6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082</div>	<div>22</div> <div>8am - Men's Breakfast</div> <div>10:20am - Pre-k chapel</div> <div>11am - Pre-k chapel</div> <div>12pm - Food Pantry</div> <div>12:40pm - Pre-k chapel</div> <div>4pm - Voucher</div>	<div>23</div> <div>7:30pm - AA</div> <div>7:30pm - Al-anon</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div> <div>12pm - Food pantry</div>	<div>25</div>
<div>26</div> <div>8:15am - Worship Service</div> <div>10am - Worship Service</div> <div>11:15am - Fellowship</div>	<div>27</div> <div>12:30pm - Helping Hands</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts America</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts America</div> <div>7:30pm - AA</div>	<div>28</div> <div>9am - T.O.P.S.</div> <div>4pm - Whitley County</div> <div>6:30pm - Cub Scouts 3082</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Pre-k no school</div> <div>pft conf</div> <div>8am - Men's Breakfast</div> <div>12pm - Food Pantry</div> <div>4pm - Voucher</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Pre-k no school</div> <div>pft conf</div> <div>7:30pm - AA</div> <div>7:30pm - Al-anon</div>	<div>31</div> <div>Halloween</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div> <div>12pm - Food pantry</div>	<div>1</div> <div>All Saints' Day</div>

Worship At Hope Sundays at 8:15am
Worship with Holy Communion at Grace
Sundays at 10am

LIVE on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/gracelutherancolumbiacity

Upcoming Important dates...