

# GRACE VINE

The Monthly Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church

## November 2017

### *Prayer Retreat*

This year's prayer retreat was at Emmanuel Pines Camp in Prescott, Arizona.



### *Fall Worship Hours*

**7:30 am** Community Pancake Breakfast  
**8:30 am** Contemporary Worship (Hope Hall)  
**11:00 am** Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)  
**12:15 pm** Fellowship

### *November Community Building Goal*

During the month of November, our community building goal is for each one of us to do a walk through the neighborhood to become familiar with the neighborhood, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to Central, Roosevelt to Willetta, either a walk on your own or a guided walk. Pastor Sarah will lead guided walk Sunday, November 19 at 12:30 pm—during Fellowship.

### *CALL: Confirmation Among Local Lutherans*

Grace is a part of the joint Lutheran Confirmation program in Phoenix! This program includes the following congregations: Grace Lutheran Church, Faith Lutheran Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, All Saints Lutheran Church, and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. During the month of November, CALL meets on Sunday, November 19, 1:00-3:00 pm at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.

### *Five Guiding Principles of Grace Lutheran Church*

1. Jesus is Lord!
2. Pray, Seek, and Follow God's Will
3. Share the Good News of Christ
4. Embrace God's challenge to Love and Serve Other
5. All are Welcome

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**Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA)**

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Phoenix, AZ 85004

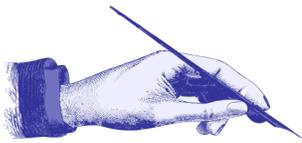
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[www.graceinthecity.com](http://www.graceinthecity.com)

[www.Facebook.com/GraceInTheCity](http://www.Facebook.com/GraceInTheCity)



By God's grace, we are in the city for good!



## ***From Pastor Sarah's Pen***

### Living Among God's Faithful People

*For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ...if one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. -1 Corinthians 12:12, 26*

Last November when we reflected on stewardship as a community, I remember Solveig saying something like: "Stewardship means showing up for each other." Her words struck me like thunder. Financial generosity, yes. Sharing of talents, yes. Sharing of time, yes. Caring for the environment, yes. These were all concepts of stewardship I had learned in my years of Christian education, including seminary. For some reason, though, the idea that I could and was even called to steward my very presence had alluded me. As I meditated on our call to steward our presence, I realized that this particular call is actually rather clear. The first promise made by confirmands on the day of Affirmation of Baptism and the first promise made by parents on behalf of their children at Holy Baptism is this: *To live among God's faithful people.*

The call to live among God's faithful people is not a call to see God's faithful people once in a while. The call is to live among God's faithful people, to create community with our sisters and brothers in Christ, to show up for our community not just for events but for life, to be present with and for others just because we love each other, and to do what the Apostle Paul commands: to suffer together and rejoice together. Our presence with and for one another is our greatest gift.

Financial gifts are necessary and deeply appreciated. Gifts of talent help us do the things we want to do as a community.

Gifts of time are necessary just to get ministry done. Stewarding the environment wisely is beneficial to us and all creation.

Showing up for each other is the most important thing. Without the presence of each of us, we have no church. Without the presence of people in worship, we do not have worship. Without the presence of people at any one of our ministries, we do not

have those ministries. When we do not risk being fully present physically, emotionally, and spiritually with and for others, we have no community. Presence may be the easiest gift to give and the hardest gift to give. The easiest because to just show up requires no talents, no money, no particular work. The hardest because to show up means we allow people to know us and love us, and strangely, that can feel scary and maybe restricting.

The next part of living among God's faithful people, after we show up, is being gracious when others show up. To be human is to be flawed. We know that community is a constant negotiation of expectations and idiosyncrasies and emotions.

We will explore these themes during worship on November 5, 12, and 19 during Faith in Motion. I give thanks to God for Grace members who will be sharing! Mission planning cards will be available in the bulletins throughout November as well as in this GraceVine. If you are planning to make a financial commitment for 2018—and I encourage you to do so, we ask that mission planning cards be returned on Sunday, November 19 at our 9:45 am "snack-luck" in Hope Hall. Defined (and indeed, invented) by the Grace council, the snack-luck will be a sharing of snacks similar to a potluck. Look for the sign-up in Hope Hall. As we snack together at the snack-luck, we will also share in conversation around stewardship. Please put this on your calendar and plan to attend! I am so grateful that I get to live among God's faithful people here at Grace! What a joy and an honor!

*Pastor Sarah*

### ***Parking Lot Fundraisers***

On Saturday, November 4, Grace will host a parking lot fundraiser. The start time is still being determined, but please plan to join us for this fundraiser. Proceeds go towards next summer's mission trip and Campfirmation.

### ***From the Church Office***

The church office will be closed Thursday, November 23. Happy Thanksgiving!

## *Treasurer Update*

November is stewardship month, and as we share what stewardship means to us in church, I would also like to share how, as a congregation, our monetary stewardship is rounding out this year. In the month of September, our year-to-date budgeted offerings are \$73,575, our **actual** received offerings through September are \$63,583, a year to date shortfall of **\$9,992**. Just for clarity, we are almost \$10,000 short of the offerings we had expected in 2017 through September.

Grace is 'In the City for Good' and I don't need to remind you of the impact Grace has in our community. To continue to do the wonderful outreach and spreading of God's Word, now is *not* the time to sit back and let our offerings dwindle. Grace has stayed true to its commitment to outreach and that is something to celebrate! I encourage all of us to look at and pray about our giving so we can keep this community of faith not just existing, but thriving! God's Blessings to all of you!

Ruth Bowman  
Treasurer

## *Music Through the Ages*

Come and celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation through music on Friday, November 10 at 7:00 pm at St. Mary's Basilica! The Grace Chancel Choir, the St. Mary's Choir, and the organists from both of our communities as well as the organist from Central United Methodist Church will participate. The Reformation brought new life to church music in addition to lots of other areas of church life, and November 10 happens to be the birthday of Martin Luther (1483). So we celebrate for many reasons!

## *ADULT-ing Lock In*

On Friday, November 17 at 6:00 pm, we will gather to eat, learn how to "adult," and just have a great time! Friends are welcome but need a signed permission slip; you can get a form from Pastor Sarah. If you would like to provide dinner or breakfast for the lock-in, please talk with Pastor Sarah.

## *Update from the Faith Formation Ministry Team*

Greetings Grace community from the Faith Formation Ministry Team and blessings to you this November. I want to share with all that the Oct. Prayer Retreat was exceptional in every way. Each year I say, "best retreat ever," but this year truly was a blessing of peace, respite, natural beauty and great fellowship. This kind of retreat does not happen by chance but follows diligent, prayerful planning and committed leaders facilitating the theme, study and worship sessions. Our thanks to Pastor Sarah, Carol Steffieri, Linda Schwall, Andrea Sigala and Margie Betz for their planning and leadership. Thanks are in order for the abundant music provided by Joey Lay, Solveig Muus, Pastor Sarah, and Fran Fry. The phrase "joyful noise" applies. Please make a note on your 2018 calendar for the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in Oct. and join us at Emmanuel Pines.

A quick review of ongoing specifics: Bible studies for youth and adults continue to be held each week during Grace Time {9:45-10:45}. The current study is the common lectionary with discussion of scripture that will be heard in church the following week. Caren Barrientos is scheduled to share at both services on Nov. 12 the impact of Grace's partnership with Lutheran Social Services Foster Families program.

Please look for sign up poster in Hope Hall Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, to sign up for Stewardship Sunday Morning Snack-Luck on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. As we gather in Hope Hall between services, you may enjoy a light snack of fruit and sweet roll or bagel. We hope to maximize our stewardship discussion time and minimize the volunteer labor time, so please contribute. Many hands, "make work light." More information is forthcoming in church and in bulletin.

Plans are underway for the annual Grace Christmas Program, Sun. Dec. 10, beginning at 12:30 pm with a congregational potluck. Sign up sheets for salads, entrees, side dishes and desserts will be posted in Hope Hall well beforehand. Linda Schwall is heading up this program and will be recruiting Grace community, young, old and in between to participate as singing minstrels, angels, shepherds, all of the cast for the Inn at Bethlehem. This program is our newest tradition and is already much beloved. The congregations of NAUM and New Life in Christ will also be celebrating and participating. Rehearsals will be held

## ***CROPWalk***

between services on Dec. 3 and 10<sup>th</sup>. Please plan right now to attend and maybe even participate.

One last cool thing to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, the concert at St. Mary's Basilica on Fri evening, Nov. 10, featuring the joint choirs of Grace and the basilica as well as both organists. Refer to the bulletin inserts and the sanctuary posters for details and directions.

Faith Formation committee meeting, Nov. 12, @ 12:30 pm in the North Room. There is a place at the table for you, See you all in church

*Fran Fry*

Council Liaison to Faith Formation Team

### ***Capital Conference Gathering***

On Saturday, November 11 at 9:00-11:30 am, please join in the Capital Conference Gathering. The meeting will be at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on 12th Street and Glendale. At the synod assembly this upcoming June, we will elect a new bishop. Prior to the assembly, the synod council is hearing feedback from each conference within our synod about priorities for synodical ministry and the role of the bishop. If you are interested in this process or are thinking about attending the synod assembly in June, please attend.

### ***Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Worship***

On Wednesday, November 22, at 7:00 pm, please join us at First Congregational United Church of Christ 1407 N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. We gather with our sisters and brothers in Christ from First Congregational United Church of Christ and C United Methodist to give thanks and praise to God on Thanksgiving Eve. First UCC is just up the street from Grace and is often referred to as the "white steeple" church. Offering that evening will be designated to the CROPWalk, and non-perishable food items will be donated to Joshua Tree, a hunger ministry for those living with HIV/AIDS that First UCC hosts. After worship, all are invited to stay for pie/desert fellowship! If you'd like, please bring a pie or dessert to share.

On November 5 at 1:30 pm, please join in the annual CROPWalk. People of faith will gather at First United Church of Christ to raise funds and awareness of local and global hunger. 75% of funds raised will benefit the international relief efforts of Church World Service which are aimed at sustainable, long-term hunger relief; 25% of funds raised will go towards Market on the Move which provides fresh produce at an incredibly low cost to anyone and everyone who loves fruits and vegetables! A program of the non-profit called the 3000 Club, Market on the Move sets up their markets at churches and other community centers each week. For those who would like to walk in the CROP Walk, donor packets are available at the back of the sanctuary, in the church office, or from Pastor Sarah. If you choose not to collect donations but would like to walk, that is also wonderful! The walk will include two walking options: a 1-mile route and a 3-mile route, so you can choose the route that works for you. As we walk, discussion questions about hunger will be provided. Please, come and raise funds and awareness of local and global hunger!

### ***Market on the Move***

Come by with the family! For a donation of \$10 you can get up to 60 lbs. of fresh produce in a farmers market like atmosphere that you can share with your friends, family, neighbors or other people in need. Doing so also helps us rescue good fresh produce from going to the landfills. We are actively looking for volunteers to support additional outreach. If you would like to get involved, feel free to show up at your closest MOM site and just let them know that you're there to help. Thank you so much for your continued support! Starting on November 12, Mount of Olives will be hosting every second Saturday of each month at 8:00 am-11:00 am. Mount of Olives Lutheran Church is located at 3546 East Thomas Road. For more information, please email [nicco@the300club.org](mailto:nicco@the300club.org) or call (623) 374-2559.

### ***Yoga with Tami***

Tami Link Contemplative Yoga class on Tuesdays at 5:30 pm in the Sanctuary. There is a suggested donation of \$5 to \$15. If you can offer more, please participate in the gift and service of those who have less.

## ***GLOW***

### ***(Grace Lutheran on Wednesdays)***

GLOW is both a meal and Bible study on Wednesday evenings. During the month of November, we continue with our study of the book of Acts. On November 15, we will welcome presenters from the Story Circle project who will lead us in telling our own stories on the theme of “Home.” If you have an interest in volunteering with GLOW, please just show up on Wednesdays around 5:00 pm in the church kitchen. All are welcome at GLOW! Or just come and eat and share in the study! Your presence is a gift to the community. *Due to Thanksgiving Eve worship, there will be no GLOW on November 22.*

### ***Christ the King Reverse Worship***

During both services on Sunday, November 26, we will embody one of the themes of Christ the King Sunday: a reversion of our understanding of time. When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, he initiated the Kingdom of God come. In his ministry, he said several times: “The kingdom of God has come near!” But the kingdom had not come in its fullness; we are still waiting for the fullness of God’s kingdom come. On Christ the King Sunday, we live in the tension of a kingdom come now and not yet. To help us think more deeply about the way that God discombobulates our sense of time, on November 26, we will worship in reverse, starting with the dismissal and ending with the welcome.

### ***CodingWithKids.com***

Coding with Kids is a computer programming academy for grades K-12. The classes advance young coders from the very beginnings all the way to the mastery of computer science and software development. There will be classes held at Mount Olives Lutheran Church, located at 3546 East Thomas Rd. For more information and class schedules, please visit Coding with Kids online or email: [info-phenix@codingwithkids.com](mailto:info-phenix@codingwithkids.com).

### ***Nursery Available***

A nursery staffed with a licensed and bonded child care provider is available in the basement of the sanctuary. Please ask an usher if you need help getting your child to the nursery.

## ***Biscuit & Gravy Breakfast***

The biscuit and gravy breakfast is Sunday, November 5. Please show up in the church kitchen at 6:30 am!

### ***Grace Time***

Each Sunday at 9:45 am, come on in for an hour of Grace Time. Adults meet in the North Room, and youth meet in the basement. We wrestle with the biblical passages that will be read in worship and preached on the following Sunday—which is an excellent way to live in the Word! In addition to reading and studying Scripture, we pray, share highs and lows, bless one another and share donuts and coffee, all very important. All are welcome!

### ***Reformation Celebration***





## *Suggested Bible Readings for November*

### November 5 (All Saints Day)

**First Reading:** Revelation 7:9-17

**Psalm:** Psalm 34:1-10, 22

**Gospel:** Matthew 5:1-12

### November 12 (Lectionary 32)

**First Reading:** Amos 5:18-24

**Psalm:** Psalm 70

**Gospel:** Matthew 25:1-13

### November 19 (Lectionary 33)

**First Reading:** Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

**Psalm:** Psalm 90

**Gospel:** Matthew 25:14-30

### November 26 (Christ the King)

**First Reading:** Ezekial 34:11-16, 20-24

**Psalm:** Psalm 95:1-7a

**Gospel:** Mathew 25:31-46

## *Birthdays*

**November 3** *Eva Lara*

**November 3** *Linda Schwall*

**November 4** *Daryl Scherrer*

**November 6** *Kevin Erdmann*

**November 8** *Andrea Sigala*

**November 10** *Ursula Osburn*

**November 12** *Alec Khatter*

**November 15** *Stephanie McDougall-Niemi*

**November 19** *Holly Koch*

**November 20** *Pastor Sarah*

**November 22** *Calvin Davis*

**November 29** *Debbie Scheller*

**November 30** *Debbi Schilling*

**November 30** *Beverly Zannos*



## *Anniversaries*

**November 10** *Jason & Leslie Easterday*

**November 24** *Ames & Evelyn Thompson*

**November 27** *Peter & Janet Boshens*

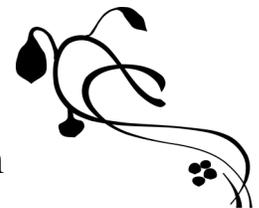
**November 27** *Wayne & Virginia Harmon*

## *November Worship Assistance*

	<b>Nov 5</b>	<b>Nov 12</b>	<b>Nov 19</b>	<b>Nov 26</b>
<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Sarah	Pastor Sarah	Pastor Sarah	Pastor Sarah
<b>Crucifer</b>	Daniel Ramirez	Solveig Muus	Joe Dani	Lori Cecil
<b>Greeters</b>	Julio Devora Bev Zannos	Nancy Tickle	Kathy Spitler	Marjie Bell Daniel Ramirez
<b>Reader</b>	Daryl Scherrer	Joe Dani	Lori Cecil	Gene Bell
<b>Ushers</b>	Dorothy Ziehl Robin Elerick	Dorothy Ziehl John Erickson	Dorothy Ziehl Jim Spitler	Dorothy Ziehl Gene Bell
<b>Sound Board</b>	Joey Lay	Tim Gallen	Joey Lay	Tim Gallen
<b>Bread Baker</b>	Marjie Bell	Evalyn Ehlen	Nicole Gallen	Solveig Muus
<b>8:30 Reader</b>	Erica Khatter	Margie Betz	Roger Ark	Carol Staffieri



# GRACE VINE



The Monthly Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church

*November 2017*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>November Community Building Goal:</p> <p>During the month of November, our community building goal is for each one of us to do a walk through the neighborhood to become familiar with the neighborhood, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to Central, Roosevelt to Willetta, either a walk on your own or a guided walk. Pastor Sarah will lead guided walk Sunday, November 19 at 12:30 pm—during Fellowship.</p>			<p>1- 9:15 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm NAUM Bible study—North Room 5:15 pm GLOW—Hope Hall</p>	<p>2- 9:00 am WELCA meeting—North room 5:30 pm Bells of Grace-Sanctuary 5:45 pm Trevor's Vision—Hope Hall 6:30 pm Chancel Choir-Choir Room <b>Pastor Sarah on vacation</b></p>	<p><b>3- First Friday Office Closed Lester's Sabbath Pastor Sarah on vacation</b></p>	<p><b>4- 10:00 am Youth Parking lot fundraiser 11:00 am Trunk Space- Basement &amp; Hope Hall 7:00 pm Jazz Communion Service- Spirit of Joy</b></p>
<p><b>5- 7:30 am Community Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 11:00 am Traditional Worship- Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:45 pm New Life in Christ- Sanctuary 1:30 pm CROP walk- First United Church of Christ</b></p>	<p><b>6- 9:00 am NO Grace Room Pastor Sarah's Sabbath</b></p>	<p><b>7- 5:15 pm Phoenix Children's Chorus- Hope 5:30 pm Yoga Class with Tami- Sanctuary</b></p>	<p><b>8- 9:15 am Staff Meeting 5:15 pm GLOW- Hope Hall</b></p>	<p><b>9- 10:00 am Camfirmation meeting- Hope Hall 5:30 pm Bells of Grace-Sanctuary 5:45 pm Trevor's Vision- Hope Hall 6:30 pm Chancel Choir-Choir Room</b></p>	<p><b>10- Office Closed Lester's Sabbath 7:00 pm Music through the Ages- St. Mary's Basilica</b></p>	<p><b>11- 11:00 am NAUM- Hope Hall 5:00 pm Cinema Club</b></p>
<p><b>12- 7:30 am Community Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Grace Time- North Room 11:00 am Traditional Worship- Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:30 pm Faith Formation Ministry Team meeting- North room 12:45 pm New Life in Christ- Sanctuary</b></p>	<p><b>13- 9:00 am Grace Room Pastor Sarah's Sabbath</b></p>	<p><b>14- 5:15 pm Phoenix Children's Chorus- Hope 5:30 pm Yoga Class with Tami- Sanctuary 6:30 pm Ministry Night- North room</b></p>	<p><b>15- 9:15 am Staff Meeting 5:15 pm GLOW- Hope Hall</b></p>	<p><b>16- 9:30 am Bible Equipping- North room 5:30 pm Bells of Grace-Sanctuary 5:45 pm Trevor's Vision- Hope Hall 6:30 pm Chancel Choir-Choir Room</b></p>	<p><b>17- Office Closed Lester's Sabbath 6:00 pm Youth Lock-in</b></p>	<p><b>18- 8:30 am Phx Children's Choir 10:00 am Oasis Church meal- Hope Hall 1:00 pm Cursillo Parish Rep meeting- Hope Hall</b></p>
<p><b>19- 7:30 am Community Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Snack Luck- Hope Hall 11:00 am Traditional Worship- Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:45 pm Guided neighborhood walk 12:45 pm New Life in Christ- Sanctuary 1:30 pm C.A.L.L.—Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.</b></p>	<p><b>20- 9:00 am Grace Room Pastor Sarah's Sabbath</b></p>	<p><b>21- 5:15 pm Phoenix Children's Chorus- Hope 5:30 pm Yoga Class with Tami- Sanctuary</b></p>	<p><b>22- 9:15 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Ecumenical Thanksgiving eve worship</b></p>	<p><b>23- 5:45 pm Trevor's Vision- Hope Hall Office Closed Thanksgiving</b></p>	<p><b>24- Office Closed Lester's Sabbath</b></p>	<p><b>25- 11:00 am NAUM- Hope Hall</b></p>
<p><b>26- 7:30 am Community Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Grace Time- North Room 11:00 am Traditional Worship- Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:45 pm New Life in Christ- Sanctuary</b></p>	<p><b>27- 9:00 am Grace Room Pastor Sarah's Sabbath</b></p>	<p><b>28- 5:15 pm Phoenix Children's Chorus- Hope 5:30 pm Yoga Class with Tami- Sanctuary 6:30 pm Council meeting- North room</b></p>	<p><b>29- 9:15 am Staff Meeting 5:15 pm GLOW- Hope Hall</b></p>	<p><b>30- 5:30 pm Bells of Grace- Sanctuary 5:45 pm Trevor's Vision- Hope Hall 6:30 pm Chancel Choir-Choir Room</b></p>		



### Grace Lutheran Staff

**Pastor:** Sarah Stadler, 602-318-6876,  
pastorsarah@graceinthecity.com

**Caretaker:** Lester Andrews, 520-233-0468,  
caretaker@graceinthecity.com

**Administrative Assistant:** Adrienne Kaye  
602-258-3787, officemanager@graceinthecity.com

**Organist & Choir Director:** Laura Cutler,  
laura.lyn.cutler@gmail.com

**Praise Band Leader:** Chad Hernandez-Cole  
602-619-3172, praisebandleader@graceinthecity.com

**Bookkeeper:** Chris Morris

**Social Worker:** Jeff Jirak

### Grace Lutheran Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9 am - 12 pm

### Grace Lutheran Church Council Members

<b>President</b>	Renee Waterstradt
<b>Vice President</b>	Tim Gallen
<b>Secretary</b>	Roger Ark
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ruth Bowman
<b>Director</b>	Fran Fry
<b>Director</b>	Brian Flatgard
<b>Director</b>	Marty Dusenberry
<b>Director</b>	Amy Poling
<b>Director</b>	Haley Meier



## **Grace Mission Planning 2018**

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace*

I Peter 4:10

*As we seek to trust in God's provision and celebrate God's goodness, I/my family will serve God through Grace in the following ways:*

I/we will uphold the congregation with our prayers, presence, gifts and service.

I/we intend to trust God by giving \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month    week    year    (please circle one)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Grace Mission Planning 2018**

In 2018, I/we have committed ourselves to

upholding the congregation with our prayers, presence, gifts, and service.

giving \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month    week    year.