

GRACE VINE

The Monthly Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church
November 2019

Sunday Morning Worship Hours

- 7:30 am** Community Pancake Breakfast
8:30 am Contemporary Worship in Hope Hall
9:45 am Grace Time
11:00 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
12:15 pm Fellowship

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 Others
- 5 All are Welcome

November Wilbur Emphasis: MANA House

MANA House During November, Wilbur the Pig is receiving donations for MANA House. MANA House aids veterans experiencing homelessness and is a program of Catholic Charities. For more information, go to <https://www.manahouseaz.org>.



CALL: Confirmation Among Local Lutherans

During November, CALL participants meet on Sundays, November 3 and 17 at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church at 12th Street and Glendale.

November Community Building Goal

Our community building goal for November is to learn the names of at least three people at Grace! If you are a long time member and already know the names of other members, please learn the names of three regular visitors.

GLOW (Grace Lutheran on Wednesdays) Wednesdays in Hope Hall 5:30 pm Meal 6:15 pm Bible Study

During the month of November, we continue our focus on Skills for Living in Diverse Community. All are welcome to participate. What a joyous and educational study GLOW is!

Please note: There will be no GLOW on Wednesday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Grace Vine is Published 12 times a year by
Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA)
1124 North Third Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004





From Pastor Sarah's Pen

I thank my God every time I remember you. —Philippians 1:3

Each October or November, a council member, a member appointed by the council, and I review the ministry of each staff member. This year, I am simply grateful. The staff of Grace are deeply committed to this community and to our shared ministry.

Jeff Jirak has served as our Sunday morning social worker since the late 1990s, I believe. For 20 years, Jeff has welcomed pancake breakfast guests, helped resolve conflict, guided guests towards resources, and counseled guests in crisis. From time to time, he has even flipped pancakes and washed dishes—alongside his boys and wife—and worshiped with us at the contemporary service. Jeff, I thank my God every time I remember you.

Lester Andrews has served as our caretaker since January 2014. In these five years, Lester has developed our property and our hospitality to the larger community in an enormous way. With joy and diligence and creativity, Lester solves problems and makes possible what seems impossible at first glance. Not only do visitors to Grace regularly comment upon Lester's helpfulness and competence, Lester has a gift for welcoming and developing the gifts of volunteers. Lester, I thank my God every time I remember you.

Chad Hernandez-Cole has served as our praise band leader since May 2014. In that time, Chad has led us through a renovation of our audio-visual systems in both Hope Hall and the sanctuary, helped bring The Trunk Space onto the campus, and guided the praise band through a time of transition. Chad's flexibility, musical competence, collaborative spirit, and creativity in planning worship have blessed this community. More than that, Chad has served as a mission trip chaperone, youth lock-in chaperone, and a Grace Buddies volunteer. Chad, I thank my God every time I remember you.

Adrienne Kaye has served as my administrative assistant since May 2017. In that time, Adrienne has grown exponentially as an administrator and has now mastered the administrative aspects of her position. Throughout her tenure, she has demonstrated tender care for the members and visitors of this community and encouraged so many people in their own paths of life. She truly respects each person and practices the very best boundaries. Adrienne, I thank my God every time I remember you.

Brandon Burns has served as our organist and choir director since September 2018. Deeply rooted in liturgical worship and a theologically Lutheran spirituality, Brandon accepted this position as a call from God. Quite soon, we will call Brandon "Dr. Burns" as he will have completed the defense of his dissertation and be awarded his PhD. Brandon's musical competence, his spiritual leadership, and deep kindness and humility have blessed this community. Brandon, I thank my God every time I remember you.

Elizabeth Pepiot has served as our bookkeeper since January 2019. After a time of financial messiness, Elizabeth has gotten us back on track with diligence and attention to detail. We rest assured in her utmost professionalism and clarity in every aspect of bookkeeping. Indeed, Elizabeth, I thank my God every time I remember you.

This month, I celebrate nine years of ministry at Grace. I am deeply grateful for the amazing people named above and for each one of you who have yoked your lives with this community.

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

I thank my God every time I remember you.
Pastor Sarah

Phoenix Area Lutheran Youth (PhLY) ***Saturday, November 9, 4-8 pm*** ***St. John's Lutheran Church/ Vida Nueva*** ***7205 N 51st Avenue, Glendale***

The next PhLY event for high school youth is Saturday, November 9 at St John's/Vida Nueva Lutheran Church, 4:00-8:00 pm. The service project this month is a sock drive for Grace Lutheran. Casey is challenging the PhLY community to bring in 200 socks! For more information, contact Casey at PhLYministry@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/PhLYministry

Congratulations

Jason & Leslie Easterday7 years
Ames & Evelyn Thompson..... 30 years
Peter & Jan Boshens37 years



Congratulations, Dr. Burns!

Congratulations to the soon-to-be-announced Dr. Brandon Burns, our organist and choir director! After completing his two doctoral organ recitals and writing his dissertation, Brandon defends his dissertation on November 4. We couldn't be more proud of you, Brandon, or more grateful for your ministry among us!

Phoenix CROPWalk Sunday, November 10 1:30 pm Check in 2:00 pm Walk

Grace Lutheran Church, Phoenix

Each year, people of faith of various traditions gather to raise awareness and funds for local and global hunger through the CROPWalk. A one to three mile walk that happens in large cities and small towns throughout the United States, the CROPWalk is the oldest of all fundraising walks and funds both local food security efforts as well as global hunger relief programs. This year, the local designee of the Phoenix CROPWalk is HART Pantry in Peoria which serves teenagers who experience food insecurity over the weekends when they cannot access school meals. Congregations may sign up as a team by contacting Pastor Sarah Stadler (pastorsarah@graceinthecity.com, 602-318-6876), or individuals may register on the CROPWalk website: www.crophungerwalk.org/phoenixaz. Those who wish to support our efforts but cannot walk are welcome to donate at www.crophungerwalk.org/phoenixaz!

Spiritual Adventure 2020 Sunday, November 10, 1:00 pm, Hope Hall

The Spiritual Adventurers are considering a canoe trip for summer 2020. Please let Pastor Sarah know if you are interested in participating. We will meet at 1:00 pm, after traditional worship, on Sunday, November 10 to discuss the details of the trip and also walk in the CROPWalk beginning at 2:00 pm. If you are considering

going on the spiritual adventure in 2020, please look for an email from Loraine Ark about a parking lot fundraiser for Saturday, November 2.

Faith Formation Update

Greetings to all Grace friends, neighbors, ministry partners, and members. This is the official GENTLE REMINDER to save the date, December 8 after 2nd service....

It's the Multigenerational/Sunday School Christmas Program and potluck luncheon. The top of the bill is "A Night

at the Inn" featuring a cast of dozens, beloved Christmas music, amazing participation opportunities for everyone and a guarantee to start your ADVENT off right! Specific details will be forthcoming through November, brought to you in person, at both services during announcements. The Hospitality team will direct specifics for the potluck lunch, but know this now, it's the first traditional Grace Church potluck in some time and in the holiday spirit, let's make it a grand occasion for fellowship. Plan now to participate and be alert to details about, salads, sides, desserts or main dishes. The program is already blessed with lots of actors from our midst, such as: Vicar Beth, Steve and Amelia Gallen, Tim Gallen, some great NAUM friends, Eden, Faith, Jayden, Owen, Betty, Fran, Solveig, Molly, Pastor Sarah, Alec... But there is still room at the inn for you. Step up! How about a gift of music, sharing a talent? There is space at this Inn for community. You are also welcome to lend a hand with set-up and clean-up. Please be alert for details to come and talk with Linda Schwall or Sheila Petry about program, Evalyn Ehlen about potluck concerns, and Fran Fry about anything having to do with the events of December 8.

Please don't miss out, your heart and spirit will rejoice!

See you in church,
Fran Fry, Council Liaison

Grace Room Needs

The temperature and the Grace Room inventory are dropping! Every Monday morning at 9:00 am, Grace serves community members a breakfast meal and shares clothing and hygiene items. If you would like to donate to this ministry, please bring donations (used or new) to the church office during office hours or with you on Sunday mornings.

Warm Clothing
Coats
Pants
Socks
Underwear
Shirts
Long Johns
Blankets
Back Packs
Laundry Soap/Hotel Soaps



NEWS FROM YAGM SENEGAL

Pastor Kristin Engstrom, YAGM Country Coordinator

October, 2019

A New Mission for the 2018–2019 YAGM

"I'm going to have to refigure out my life." "I'm ready to stop sweating all the time." "I don't know how my friends and family will receive the new me." "I can't wait to eat tacos." "I need to figure out how to engage people at church in deeper conversations and learnings about justice issues."

These are just a few snippets of the many conversations that took place during the final retreat for the 2018-2019 Senegal YAGM. As you heard from the diversity of their statements, they were simultaneously ready to take the next step in their life as faithful leaders while also uncertain of what that next step be or who would take that step of faith with them.

But, just as they had courageously made their way in Senegal by faith, they once again realized that they needed to trust God, trust themselves, and trust others and they would find a way forward in faith.

For me, this is the beauty of Young Adults in Global Mission. The transformation and opening up of young adults during a year of learning, service, tenacity, interdependence, and discomfort. Each year, the young adults we send back to the US and to the ELCA have been changed by their year in Senegal and other YAGM countries. And each year, they return to the US seeking to share their transformation with others. Yet, they also worry if their families, friends, and yes, also their faith communities will receive them and their new priorities and mission for life, for faith, and for global justice.

And so, each year, I also take a risk of faith, that as I send these dear YAGM back to the US, I also trust that you, my dear sisters and brothers in faith, in the ELCA, will receive these young adults with open hearts. That you will accompany them, listen to them, dare with them, and yes, join them in their new mission (even if they are still figuring out what that mission is).

And so, each year, I also take a risk of faith, that as I send these dear YAGM back to the US, I also trust that you, my dear sisters and brothers in faith, in the ELCA, will receive these young adults with open hearts. That you will accompany them, listen to them, dare with them, and yes, join them in their new mission (even if they are still figuring out what that mission is).

Accompanying YAGM Senegal

My work as an ELCA Global Missionary is possible thanks to the generosity of many congregations and individuals in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Thank you! Jerejef! Merci! Jokonjol! Jahram! You can contact me via e-mail at kristin.engstrom@elca.org. [You are also invited to support me as an ELCA Global Missionary here.](#)

If you would like to see more pictures and stories of daily life from YAGM Senegal, please check out our blog at <http://yagmsenegal.wixsite.com/blog>. *On est ensemble! (We are in this together.)*



The 2018-2019 Senegal YAGM during our final retreat in July.



Pastor Kristin Engstrom

As an ELCA missionary, I serve as the Country Coordinator for the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program in Senegal.

I'm originally from the mid-western United States, and served as a parish pastor in northern New Jersey for six years prior to moving to Senegal in 2016.

Inside Senegal

Gamou: each year, every town and village in Senegal hosts a "gamou." A gamou is a religious (Muslim) gathering of families and friends for celebration, prayer, and sharing meals. Officially, it celebrates the birth of the prophet Mohammed, on a date chosen by the town or village. It also becomes a sort of pilgrimage to one's home town.



Reflections on The 2019 Prayer Retreat
Lori Thompson

The 2019 Prayer Retreat was great. The activities and discussions were thoughtfully planned. The food was amazing. The weather was great. The atmosphere was relaxing. The sights, sounds and scenic views of Emanuel Pines were awe inspiring. I had a great time.

The best thing about the Prayer Retreat is the people who attend. You get to be you, in a safe environment, with people who genuinely care about you. This year's topic was "Compassion as a way of life." Our study was based on the fruit of the Spirit. For me, the key to compassion is being non judgmental and forgiving. Through the lens of the cross I choose to maintain an awareness of everyone's value and freedom. The posture, position or motives of anyone I am engaged with are irrelevant in my responses. God values this person so much He gave Jesus as an atoning sacrifice. I have the freedom to lay down my opinions, offenses and hurts the same way Jesus laid down His life. Jesus did not retaliate, argue or complain when He was mistreated and His purpose misunderstood. He simply said: Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing.



THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY WORSHIP

Now Thank We All Our God

ALL ARE WELCOME

Join us for an evening of Christian prayer, thanksgiving, fellowship & song with music from combined adult and bell choirs.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, AT 7 PM

Join us for coffee and dessert after the prayer service.

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS

5524 E. Lafayette Blvd., Phoenix, AZ 85018

HOSTED BY:

The Bridge United Methodist Church • Faith Lutheran Church
Grace Lutheran Church • Lincoln Heights Christian Church
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church • Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Shepherd of the Hills United Church of Christ
St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

Please bring a non-perishable food item for ICM. There will also be an offering collected for ICM during the service.



Advent

Organ Recitals

at

Grace Lutheran Church

Fridays at noon

All recitals are given free of charge

Followed by reception with refreshments



Nov. 29 - Brandon Burns



Dec. 6 - Natalie Dealy



Dec. 13 - Skye Matthew Hart



Dec. 20 - Paul Oftedahl

A freewill offering will be collected to support the music ministry at Grace Lutheran Church

Grace Lutheran Church

1124 N 3rd St

Phoenix, AZ 85004



Suggested Bible Readings for November

November 3 (All Saints Sunday)

First Reading: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalm: Psalm 149

Gospel: Luke 6:20-31

November 10 (Lectionary 32)

First Reading: Job 19:23-27a

Psalm: Psalm 17:1-9

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

November 17 (Lectionary 33)

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

Psalm: Psalm 98

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

November 24 (Christ the King/Lectionary 34)

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm: Psalm 46

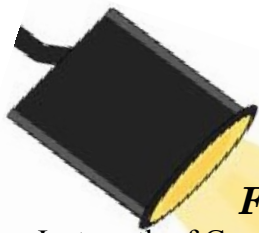
Gospel: Luke 23:33-43



<i>November 3</i>	<i>Eva Angelina Lara</i>
<i>November 3</i>	<i>Linda Schwall</i>
<i>November 4</i>	<i>Daryl Scherrer</i>
<i>November 6</i>	<i>Kevin Erdmann</i>
<i>November 8</i>	<i>Andrea Sigala</i>
<i>November 10</i>	<i>Ursula Osburn</i>
<i>November 12</i>	<i>Alec Khatter</i>
<i>November 15</i>	<i>Stephanie Niemi</i>
<i>November 19</i>	<i>Holly Koch</i>
<i>November 20</i>	<i>Pastor Sarah</i>
<i>November 22</i>	<i>Calvin Davis</i>
<i>November 22</i>	<i>Don Loos</i>
<i>November 30</i>	<i>Beverly Zannos</i>

November Worship Assistants

	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24
Preacher	Pastor Sarah	Vicar Beth	Pastor Sarah	Vicar Beth
Greeters	Jeff Brewitt Betty Brewitt	Judy Baker Brian Flatgard	Bev Zannos Marjie Bell	Jim Spitler Kathy Spitler
Reader	Nicole Gallen	Solveig Muus	Donna Martin	Julio Devora
Ushers	Dorothy Ziehl John Erickson	Dorothy Ziehl John Erickson Adam Wohlbrandt Jim Spitler	John Erickson Dorothy Ziehl Joey Lay	Jim Spitler Dorothy Ziehl John Erickson
Sound Board	Joey Lay	Tim Gallen	Maria Ramirez	Daniel Ramirez
Crucifer	Solveig Muus	Sue Thun	Solveig Muus	Sue Thun
Bread Baker	Marjie Bell		Nicole Gallen	
8:30 Reader	Roger Ark	Joe Dani	Carol Staffieri	Ken Ehlen



PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

First Congregational United Church of Christ (UCC)

Just north of Grace two blocks, First Congregational United Church of Christ at 1407 N 2nd Street reaches out to our shared neighborhood for the sake of God’s mission in the world. Around here, First UCC is known as the “white steeple church” with whom we have partnered on various endeavors for at least the last eight years. Each year, both Grace and First UCC participate in the Phoenix CROPWalk. Each summer, First UCC provides sack lunches for heat respite; this year, they provided sack lunches for nine full days of the program! In fact, their congregation prepared the sack lunches after church on Sunday morning and then delivered them to us for Monday lunch. Most recently, First UCC participated along with Grace, Trinity Cathedral, and St. Mary’s Basilica in the Ecumenical Vigil for Remembrance and Change in response to the gun violence in our nation. Some years, First UCC has been a partner in Thanksgiving Eve Worship and World AIDS Day remembrances, and they are active in the community in many ways—as a sanctuary church, by gathering people for social change, and by hosting Joshua Tree which is a food and health ministry for folks who are HIV positive. We give thanks to God for the partnership of First Congregational United Church of Christ!

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: Brandon Burns,
blburns3@asu.edu, 828-493-3353

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

Bookkeeper: Elizabeth Pepiot

Social Worker: Jeff Jirak

Vicar (Seminary Intern): Beth Gallen,
vicar@graceinthecity.com, 623-340-9956

Grace Lutheran Church Council Members

President	Tim Gallen
Vice President	Brian Flatgard
Secretary	Amy Poling
Treasurer	Renee Waterstradt
Director	Fran Fry
Director	Marty Dusenberry
Director	Sheila Petry
Director	Haley Meier
Director	Roger Ark

Grace Lutheran Church Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 am-12:00 pm