

Good News From Grace



God's work. Our hands.



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Celebrating Our 63rd Year

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"What Are You Doing for Jesus?"

¹⁸ A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁹ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.'" ²¹ "All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said. ²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." ²³ When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. Luke 18:18-23.

You may be wondering why I chose to begin this article with a bible verse from Luke. I chose it because a young man approached Jesus and asked Him what he must do to obtain eternal life. While I am not advocating selling all of your possessions to follow Jesus, what I would like everyone to consider is this, Grace Lutheran Church is in transition and looking to call a new pastor. Calling a new pastor is a long and sometimes arduous process. The reality of things is this, fewer people are graduating from the seminary, and more pastors are leaving their calls for greener pastures. It's a fact of life that there are more churches available than people to fill those vacancies and interim pastors don't want to stay at a church for five or six years.

Grace Lutheran is in the final stages of completing the Florida-Bahamas Synod checklist through the efforts of dedicated council members. Once this checklist is complete and the synod determines that the church can afford a pastor, the synod will then give its permission to put a call committee together to begin the call process. Know that the call process could take a very long time.

One thing a prospective candidate for a call to a church looks for is how is the congregation engaged in the life, ministry, and mission of the church? Is it a vibrant congregation with many people participating in the life, ministry, and mission of the church? Are a fair number of people involved or maybe just a few people involved? One measure of a healthy congregation is the involvement of its people in the life of the church.

(Continued on Page 3)

Church Contacts

Office Telephone	386-677-9141
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Office Fax Number	386-677-9186
Office Email	GLC50@cfl.rr.com
Noah's Ark Preschool	386-677-0336

CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor	Pr. Thomas McGawley
Organist	Corine Keefer
Office Administratr	Ellie Faust
Bookkeeper	Gail Atkinson
Noah's Ark Preschool Director	Patti Heaney
Financial Secretary	Sandy Hostettler

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President	Joyce Northridge
Vice President	Tom Starling
Secretary	Beth Graeler
Treasurer	Sandy Hostettler
Council Members:	Jack Atkinson
	Peter Koehneke
	Robert Russell
	Cathy Quel

CHURCH FINANCIALS February 2024

INCOME	MONTH-Actual	MONTH-Budget	YEAR to Date-Actual
Regular Giving	\$ 15,480	\$ 13,500	\$ 25,996
Loose Offering	466	900	1,072
Other Income	7,447	5,910	14,064
TOTAL INCOME	23,393	20,310	41,132
EXPENSES	52,503	23,386	74,867
NET INCOME / LOSS	(\$ 29,110)	(\$3,076)	(\$33,735)



Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA)
"Like" us on Facebook!



WWW.GRACELCOB.ORG

This past Lenten season saw the “Soup Suppers” return after a long hiatus due to the coronavirus. This didn’t happen on its own. The question was asked if we could start the “Soup Suppers” again and the answer was YES! Members of the congregation stepped up to provide the soup, bread, drinks and desserts for the supper. Others, who weren’t able to attend the supper, came for the weekly devotion on Wednesday. This congregation is beginning to come together again despite what the coronavirus did to discourage participation in the life of the church.

Others are still needed to step forward and lend a helping hand. The altar guild has had the same ladies on it for a very long time and they are tired. They need people to come forward and lend a helping hand. The grounds maintenance folks need people too. Jack and Jim are installing new posts for the church signs and Jim is out there painting the handicapped places in the parking lot. There is much to be done at Grace Lutheran and your help is desperately needed.

God has given us certain talents to be able to work in His Kingdom on Earth and we need to use those talents to help move Grace Lutheran forward, not only in this transition process, but also when the congregation calls their new pastor. Pray and ask God what you should do to help His church move forward in the coming months and years.

I’ve heard people say at many churches that I’ve attended and served that younger people with children need to walk through the doors and that children are the future for the church. Yet, when I’ve looked around, there weren’t any programs in the church to draw young families to the church. Outside the walls of the church, mission and ministry was barely taking place or, in many cases, not at all.

The best advertisement for any church is to be physically in the community doing things to help the needy, homeless and poor. Tell people about God’s love for them and that He is with them no matter what happens to them. In other words, “Preach the gospel, and when necessary use words.” That quote is from St. Francis.

The time is drawing near when the Call Committee will be in place. You may know what traits you desire in a pastor, but remember, the prospective pastor knows what traits are desired in a congregation. Please pray and trust that God will lead you to your personal mission to help Grace Lutheran Church.

I leave you with this quote from Henry Ford, “Whether you think you can or think you can’t, you’re right.”

In Christ+
Pr. Tom



We are pleased to welcome new members, Richard and Patricia Brown. They were welcomed into our Grace Family on Easter Sunday, March 31st, 2024.

Thrivent Members

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, did you know you have "Choice" dollars that you can allocate every year to your favorite non-profit? Also, every Thrivent member has access to "Thrivent Action Grants" which are mini-grants to kick-start community service projects (pumpkin patch, quilting, trunk sale and more).

If you are a Thrivent member and would like to learn more about these, please let us know



The Marketing Committee Report

The Marketing Committee, under the direction of Greg Pollex, met several times to discuss what needs to be done to see growth in our Church. Everyone agreed that one of the significant strengths of Grace was the friendliness and warmth of our members. It was noted that many of our members joined the Church because they felt welcomed and included.

The committee also felt that they needed to explore ways for the church to attract new members. In order to accomplish this, they discussed many things that could be done to realize this goal. First and foremost, exposure. In order to get people to come to our church, we need to let them know where we are, what we do and the times of our services and programs. Ads were placed in local publications outlining the Holy Week schedule. The Church phone message will be updated weekly indicating programs and times for events for that week. Flyers were developed that could be distributed at community events and local housing developments.

The next step to attract new members is making sure that any visitors that attend services, programs, etc. are made to feel welcomed. Today's visitor could be tomorrow's new member. Invite visitors to sit with you. Show them around the Church. Make sure the sign the guest book. Many of you are doing some, if not all, of these things. Thankyou. Keep up the good work.

If anyone has any other ideas, please feel free to share them with the Committee.



April Need of the Month

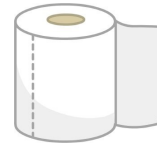


Family Renew Community gives families with children a safe, stable place to live while parents work to attain permanent housing and regain their stability.

Family Renew helps homeless families in need get back on their feet without separating the family. Some are single mothers with children. Family Renew provides apartments for a period of one year, as well as training to ensure the family's success in staying on their feet. The Secret Attic supplies these families with home furnishings and clothing. Cleaning supplies are not provided. This is where we can lend a helping hand.

Cleaning Supplies:

- Toilet Tissue
- Laundry Soap
- Paper Towels
- Dishwashing Soap (ie. Dawn)
- Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- Cleaning Agents (409, Spic & Span, Clorox Bleach, etc.)
- Storage Containers for food (ie. Glad brand Stackables)
- Napkins



These items can be purchased at most Dollar Stores and were recommended by Family Renew.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

To date this year, the Property committee has completed the repair of the East wall storm damage. A congregational member has volunteered the use of her lawn care service (Martin) to assist in thinning out the bird of Paradise on the east side of the church, as well as the garden in the corner by the red light on A1A. We have been very busy with trimming and manicuring the trees and bushes around the grounds.

There are many areas around the church that have been pressure washed to remove mold and mildew from the walls. Based on an extremely high water bill in the previous two months, and after a lot of investigation, we found two backflow preventers that were leaking. These have now been replaced. Our church entry doors and all exit doors are being looked at and repaired by a locksmith. Hopefully, all the door repairs will be completed in the near future. The Garden bell has been repaired and re-installed.

We have a new sturdy, up-to-date, mailbox and post as well as new parking signs and posts. There has been a lot of work done by very few people. In addition to the above, the fountain area on the east side of the building has been revitalized.

I would like to recognize a few members that have gone above and beyond to facilitate these repairs and upgrades. Jim Heffner, for all his hard-work, wherever needed. Ken Pitt, for his skills with a chainsaw. Frank Quel, working diligently to remove weeds and manicure the mulch beds. Mare Koehneke for all her hard work in maintaining our memorial garden. We also cannot forget, Bill Lort, for his work in many areas including repair of the sprinkler lines, that no one knew existed. The hard work and dedication of these few people is greatly appreciated. Some of these repairs unfortunately have come at a high monetary cost to our church and there is still a lot to do. I want to personally thank, Ellie who is always there when she is needed. She stays late, and will come in on a weekend to facilitate workers that need access to our Church. This is a huge help for us!

If you are one of many who want to help out, but don't have the time or ability, there are other ways to help - just see me!

Property committee wish list: Cordless weed trimmer, cordless blower, any working lawn tools you no longer want.

Thank you all for your dedication support and service in revitalizing our beautiful Grace Lutheran Church.

GOD BLESS ALL OF US!

Jack Atkinson, Property Committee Chair



thrivent

Please join us



Mark your calendar for 8th Annual Shred It & Share Event. We'd love to have you.

Kick off your spring cleaning, by attending our FREE onsite shredding event. Our Thrivent Team is excited to present our **8th Annual Shred It & Share Event**. A shredding truck will be at our office and we would love to see you, your family & friends. This free event is a great way to safely declutter & dispose of your documents.

LIMIT 10 BOXES PER PERSON

We will be collecting non-perishable food items for *Halifax Urban Ministries*. Please plan to bring a contribution, if you are able. This is an event you don't want to miss.

Eve11t details

Saturday, April 27, 2024

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Thrivent Amaral Ormond Plaza
1366 North US Hwy 1, Suite 601
Ormond Beach . FL

Hosted by

Golden Coast Financial Consultants

Please RSVP by April 22, 2024. Call Diane Skelley at 368-361-7769 or email diane.skelley@thrivent.com.



Scan to learn more.

No products will be sold at this event.

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There will be a very important Meeting of the Congregation immediately following service on Sunday, April 28th, 2024.

The purpose of this meeting will be as follows:

- ♦ Approve the Constitution
- ♦ Approve the Mission Statement
- ♦ Update on the Building

A copy of the Constitution and Bylaws will be emailed to those members that have email, for you to review prior to the meeting. Hard copies of this document will also be available.

Please mark this date on your calendar and plan on attending. We need a quorum in order to approve the Constitution and the Mission Statement.

Coffee/Fellowship hour will be held immediately following the meeting.



Always verify emails, phone calls and text messages

For your safety, please always verify email addresses and phone numbers when you receive communications, including from Grace Lutheran Church. Scammers will use a false email address or phone number, but real names, to try to either capture personal information or get you to send money, gift cards or other resources.

Grace's email addresses: glc50@cfl.rr.com (Ellie) noahsark1@cfl.rr.com (Patti),
Grace's phone number: 386-677-9141

When in doubt, just call and ask the office. Thank you!



Noah's Ark Preschool April 2024- Newsletter

Visit our webpage
at:
www.gracelcob.org

Leprechauns and Easter Bunnies

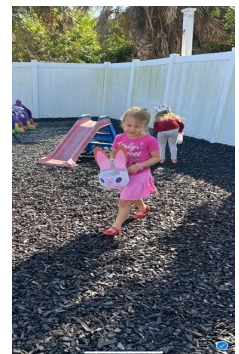
March was a very busy month for our Noah's Ark Children. They were very busy getting ready for their Spring Concert. The concert will be held on Tuesday, April 9th at 6pm. This year's concert theme will be musical selections from various Disney movies. Under the direction of Ms. Debbie Hanson, every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, you can hear their sweet voices as they practice the tunes for their show. The Noah's Ark concerts are always memorable events and everyone is invited. We are blessed to have such a creative and experienced teacher to open the world of Music for the children.

On Friday, March 17th, the children followed the footsteps left by the Leprechauns. At the end of the footsteps, they found pots of gold coins. They were all very excited and thought they had found real gold.

Less than a week after the Leprechauns left, the Easter bunny made an appearance. The Easter Bunny left countless Easter eggs for the children to find on the playground. The eggs were found in record time and everyone had a wonderful time.

In a few short months, VPK class of 2024 will be graduating. They have worked very hard and are looking forward to beginning their Elementary School days.

Noah's Ark Board of Directors



“Lunch Bunch—April Luncheon”

Please join us

Friday, April 19th at 12 noon

at

Leanh’s Chinese Restaurant

1780 S Nova Road, S Daytona

Sign-up Sheet in Narthex



Noah’s Ark Preschool Concert

Noah’s Ark Preschool will be holding the Spring 2024 Concert on Tuesday, April 9th at 6pm in the Church.. The title for the Concert will be “The Lion King meets the Little Mermaid”. The children will be singing songs from both movies. You don’t have to be a parent or grandparent to attend. Everyone is welcome. Please come and show your support for our little performers.



Quilters Are Working

Everyone is welcome.

No experience necessary.

Quilters meet Tuesdays at 9:30am

to work on quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Join us for this worthwhile project and good fellowship.





April Birthdays

- 01 John Stratton
- 02 Grace O’Dacre
- 04 Kristine Kahn
- 07 Calle Rose Secunda
- 08 Kim Heffner
- 09 James Crowley
- 10 Lawrence Isom
- 15 Ginny Manos
- 15 Janey O’Dacre
- 16 Joyce Northridge
- 20 Chuck Wilde
- 23 Erin Morgan
- 24 Gust Manos
- 28 Randy Miller
- 28 Lon Moeller

May Birthdays

- 04 Lois Reiter
- 08 Gail Starling
- 09 Richard Brunelle
- 09 Kenneth Berglund
- 12 Bill Lort
- 13 Doris Earnhardt
- 18 Diane Miller
- 18 Gina Abate
- 19 Judy Dammes
- 21 Sandy Lort
- 25 Patricia Hubert
- 27 Paul Kinzer
- 27 Kelley Eckert
- 28 Lynette Good
- 31 Lexi Thomas

April Anniversaries

- 04 Fred & Marlitt Boettcher
- 05 Justin & Kimberly Hyatt
- 17 Bill & Sandy Lort
- 22 Eric & Virginia Weingartner
- 26 Luo & Ginny Manos

May Anniversaries

- 08 Jack & Gail Atkinson
- 12 Mark & Jessy Crabb
- 19 Michael & Sarah Covitt



The Power of a Quarter



GLC has really been successful with the “clink” of our **quarters**. We have paid for so many things that upgrade the church over the past 5 years we have been collecting **quarters**. Please put a couple of quarters in your purse or pocket and place in the offering plates—many quarters make a difference! **Grace Quarterstone Project**



**Altar Flowers
and
Communion Elements**



- WHO:** You!
- WHAT:** Altar Flowers and/or Communion Elements
- COST:** \$40.00 Flowers and \$30.00 Elements
- WHERE:** Dated sign up book in Lobby
- WHY:** To commemorate a loved one or an important event
- HOW:** Use pew envelope or drop off a check in the church office

Thank You very much



Activity Schedule



WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICE 10am on Sundays!

Choir	On-hold ufn
Bell Choir	On-hold ufn
Coffee Fellowship	Immediately following Sunday Service
Gift Shop	15 minutes before & after Sunday worship
Quilters	Tuesdays at 9:30am
Church Council	Third Thursday at 1:00pm
Bible Study	On-hold ufn
“Lunch Bunch” Luncheon	Third Friday of the month 12 noon

Worship with Grace from anywhere!

All of our worship services are recorded and put online on our Website, Facebook page and YouTube channel. Whether you are traveling, a snowbird, or unable to make it to Grace on a Sunday morning, you can always worship with us virtually each week!

Share our Website with family and friends, like our Facebook page, and subscribe to the YouTube channel to stay connected!

Grace’s website <http://gracelcob.org/>

Grace’s Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/graceormondbeach/>

