

January 2014

Goodness GRACIOUS

Note from the heart of.....
Pastor Janice Kibler

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your response to the discernment conversations that our shepherding groups hosted so nicely in November. You were clear in your love for the congregation, and the ways you have experienced God's grace and presence in the relationships you share, as well as the worship life of the congregation. After spending a few minutes with Luke 10 and the story of Jesus sending his followers, we had conversation. It was easy for you to identify the assets of Grace: open thought, caring people, music, spiritual maturity, faithfulness and love. It took a little more effort for you to identify the places where you believe God is sending us to use those assets for the good of God's world. There was general agreement that Grace is called to be on the Hill, which includes the campus population. Each group got quiet when asked about their own passions for ministry, as we began to talk about how interested we really were in ministry in our context. Some joked that Lutherans don't have passion. Others simply had never thought about personal passion for ministry. Still others had stories to share of the ways they encourage, teach, and love people in their own settings.

The conversations helped me get to know you better, and helped to lead to some clarity about the challenges and opportunities ahead. Recognizing that the landscape has changed since Grace and LCM first began conversation a few years ago, we will explore what our relationship will be going into the future. I continue to seek out people who are in our neighborhood, so that I can learn about our context through their eyes. And I will continue to ask you questions, poke and prod a bit, as we explore why Grace Lutheran exists in 2014, and how we are going to exercise our identity as the body of Christ.

There is an article making the rounds via the internet about 60-40-20 people in congregations. If you are internet savvy, look for the article from apb news by George Bullard. 60-40-20 people are at least 60 years old, have been people of faith for at least 40 years, and have been in their current congregation for at least 20 years. (cont'd on next page...)



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The newsletter of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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*A congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America*

Rev. Janice Kibler, Pastor
Tom Liddell, Organist
Amy Mundinger, Office Admin

Grace on the web at www.GraceBoulder.org

Rooted in Grace~Reaching Out in Christ's Love

...cont'd from front page)

60-40-20 people can be a gift in a congregation, but they can also provide a challenge as they find such deep joy in the church life of the past. We are a congregation of many 60-40-20 members. Like most others, we have a tendency to look for technical answers (if we just do this differently) when thinking about how to be the church today. It is more difficult for us to consider adaptive questions as we take seriously how much has changed in just 20 years, and how people view religion and Christianity today. These times call for experimentation and risk. These times call us to be serious about growing God's kingdom, knowing that sacrifice and change are ways that the Spirit brings growth. How are we being sent?

This is an exciting time to be the church. I don't know where the Spirit will be leading us. Some consider it to be a fearful time, since it doesn't look much like it did a generation ago. But I am confident that God is at work, and something new is being created. And I am thankful to be on this journey of discovery with you as we seek to be faithful together.

Peace,

Pastor Janice Kibler

January Worship

We celebrate Holy Eucharist each Sunday at 10:00 AM

January 5—Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6,, Psalm 147:12-20, Matthew 2:1-12

January 12—Baptism of our Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 29, Acts 10:34-43, Matthew 3:13-17

January 19—Second Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7, Psalm 40:1-11, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, John 1:29-42

January 26—Thirs Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1, 4-9, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18



Tuesday Book Group

Join the Tuesday Book Study group in the Fellowship Hall for an informal conversation over bring-your-own lunch. Tuesdays at 11:45 the group gathers for a brown-bag lunch and conversation around a book. The current book is The Bonhoeffer Phenomenon: Portraits of a Protestant Saint by Stephen R. Haynes. Contact Ron Schwiesow (303.447.9880) to order a book (\$5).

January Partner in Mission

The Rocky Mountain Synod of the ELCA is our Partner in Mission for January. Grace regularly contributes generously to the work of the church beyond our walls, and in January we will lift up some of the ways our gifts are being used. On January 12, Earline Bohling, the synod vice president, will be with us for adult forum, and will bring a greeting during worship. (The synod vice-president is comparable to a congregation president, as it is a lay person who presides over the synod council.) Offerings received for our Partner in Mission in January will be used to support our gift of \$365 for the construction of the new synod office.

First Friday

January 3, 2014 5:30PM. First Friday at the Kibler/Williams Home

Come to 2268 Imperial Lane in Superior at 5:30 to enjoy the company of others from the congregation. Friends are welcome, too! It's the tenth day of Christmas – be watching for the ten lords a'leapin!



January Learning

Adult Forum Sundays at 8:45 AM

Jan 5 —New Year's Resolutions: Setting goals for Adult Forum, Grace Church, our families, ourselves.

Jan 12 — Earline Bohling, VP of Rocky Mountain Synod will share her story with us and provide updates regarding Synod happenings.

Jan 19 — Continuation of "Sharing Faith at Grace" discussions; pondering some of the questions we did not get to in December.

Jan 26 — Discussion of articles from the December 2013 *Lutheran*, with emphasis on the cover story "Is the Word Returning Empty: Biblical Fluency puts Life into the Word for Daily Use."

Conference Retreat

Pastor Janice will be away January 27-January 28 for a retreat with other rostered leaders in the Boulder/Broomfield Conference ELCA.

Middle School Youth Gathering

January 17-19, Moira Matheson, Katherine Codrescu, and Pastor Janice will be attending the Rocky Mountain Synod Middle School Youth Gathering in Colorado Springs Friday-Sunday, January 17-19. The theme is "Sow What" and the event features guest speaker David Rout (program director for Homeless Gear) and the musician AGAPE. There will be plenty of time for play, study, conversation, worship and relationship building. There probably won't be enough time for sleep!

Mission Gathering

Boulder/Broomfield Conference ELCA Saturday January 11, 10am-1pm, leaders from Grace will participate in a meeting with others from our conference in Broomfield. Led by Bp. Jim Gonia and others from the synod office, we will explore what it means to be the church in this time, and learn from our partner congregations.

Around the World



Philippines: Aid is still needed after typhoon-

Thank you for your generosity when the typhoon hit in November. Lutheran Disaster Response has provided \$1 million for cooking utensils, shelter repair kits and debris removal for survivors of Typhoon Haiyan. But the recovery will be long and the need is great. Your help is still needed. Gifts designated for this disaster will be used 100 percent to support relief efforts. Donations: www.ELCA.org/Typhoon. For more information: www.ELCA.org/Typhoon-urgent.

Looking for a Rewarding Summer Experience?

Mexico: International Volunteer Week, June 15-22, 2014

Participate in an intercultural service trip, like none other! Provide valuable resources to malnourished communities in Oaxaca, Mexico, and at the same time get to know like-minded service-oriented individuals. To take advantage of this opportunity and learn more about what the ELCA is doing around the world, see www.Facebook.com/GlobalLinks.

Acts Bible Study

The Bible class resumes on January 9 as we start the Book of Acts. Come at 10am every other Thursday for a look at the ways the first followers of Jesus responded to his call. Acts is a book of adventures, courage, sacrifice, risk, and reward. We will meet January 9 and 23, then February 6 and 20, and March 6 and 20.



Bulletin Board Sign-Ups:

Get involved with the Community of Grace.

Prayer Vine— Sign up with your email address for a weekly email inviting you to pray for those who have requested our intercession.

First Friday —Host a First Friday event in 2014. There are still some blank spaces!

LCM Tuesday Night Meals (Spring) — Jan 14 & 28, Feb 25, Mar 11, Apr 1.

Congregational Council

Minutes Summary....

The Grace Congregational Council met on Sunday December 8, 2013 after church. Pastor Janice, Janet Fox, Bruce Matheson, Carol Codrescu, Diana Anderson and Carol Dozier were present from the council. Greg Niessen was also present.

The Council heard from Greg that the Foundation has purchased Quick Books for the church office. This may allow for some simplification of budgeting and reporting as recommended by the Foundation. Greg was present to discuss the Grace Managed Funds portfolio and its relationship to the Foundation budget.

Other items on the Council's agenda included:

1. discussion of line items for the 2014 budget and setting the Annual Budget Meeting for January 29, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
2. consideration of a gift to Atonement Lutheran Church to help with their flood repairs.
3. Shrove Tuesday invitation from St. Aiden's (March 4, 2013).
4. moving on finding Synod Assembly Delegates for the May 8-10 Assembly to be held in Denver.
5. heard about the January 11, 2013 meeting with the Bishop and Synod staff to discuss the topic "what is it to be the church today?". (Looking for interested people.)
6. RMS appeal for a December contribution from each congregation of \$365 to the Synod for construction of the new synod offices.

Staff Transitions

Music Director: Congratulations to Jonathan Cole, who has moved to Boston to begin work with the Tanglewood Institute. We pray that he will continue to carry the light of Christ into his new ventures as he has done for us. A search is underway for a music director for Grace.

Office Administrator: Lavonne Rauenbuehler, our office administrator, has accepted a position near her home in Longmont, and will be leaving us Jan 3. Although Lavonne's tenure with us has been short, she has given us the gifts of encouragement, proficiency, and grace. In the interim, Jody Rinehart, bookkeeper and member of Atonement, will be assisting off-site with the financial side of the job. We are looking for someone with sufficient computer/Word skills to assist with the office portion while we search for our next office administrator.

The brief position description of the full time job is below, as well as the more extended description of tasks. If you are aware of someone who has the skills and aptitude we seek, and who is looking for work, would you please help spread the word? *Networking often yields the greatest results.*

Office Administrator Description:

The office administrator (30-40 hours per week) will work with the pastor, other staff, and members of the congregation. Proficiency in Microsoft Office, Quicken, Quickbooks, and Excel is required. Responsibilities include management of the church office, property management, and church communications. Bookkeeping responsibilities include managing payroll taxes and associated paperwork, preparing W-2s and 1099s, preparing monthly budget reports, and handling bookkeeping for the Grace Foundation. The qualified applicant needs to be reliable, personable, organized, and detail-oriented. The applicant should be a willing team member, able to coordinate activities and work with members of the staff, congregation and public. The applicant must also be able to discretely and professionally handle confidential and/or sensitive information. Two years of experience as an office administrator and bookkeeper in a church office or similar situation, as well as experience in a work or volunteer situation requiring the ability to coordinate activities involving multiple constituents is desirable. Please submit cover letter and resume, including references to: janiceekibler@gmail.com

From Pastor Janice: I am counting on the congregation to be true to its name – Grace! If things are not done in an expected manner around the office as we make transitions, step up, smile, and extend grace, as you have so readily done with me.

From Lavonne: Though my 'visit' here was short, this wonderful community of Grace made a life-long impression. The Love of Christ is truly demonstrated in this place. I will remember you warmly.

Annual Congregational Budget Meeting



Wednesday, January 29. Bring a dish to share as we enjoy a potluck supper at 6pm, followed by a congregational meeting where we will consider our budget for the coming year, elect voting members to the Rocky Mountain Synod assembly, and share information about the life of the congregation.

Strategic Planning Committee:

Meeting monthly since August 2013, the committee has been asked to consider:

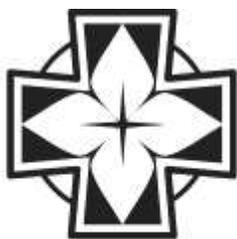
- a) What Grace will look like in five years, and
- b) Develop concrete steps and time line towards this vision. This would encompass mission, congregational makeup, staffing, worship, financial support, campus ministry model, and collaboration with other churches and secular organizations. Committee members value greatly congregational input in the planning process. Contact any of the following members with your ideas and/or questions: Tom Dozier, Greg Niesen, Art Ray, Donna Rohde, Carol Schultz (chair), Ron Schwiesow, Marta Wolfe, Dave Zeckser, and with the invaluable support of Pr. Janice.

To date we have:

- * Encouraged the Shepherding Group Discernment meetings with Pr. Kibler. One of the results, with congregational input, a concise mission statement has been determined, "Rooted in Grace - Reaching out in Christ's Love".
- * Addressed campus ministry by forming a working group of three members who will work jointly with a similar LCM group to discuss joint mission opportunities with LCM-CU.
- * Most recently, agreed to recommend to the Church Council that grace initiate the process of becoming a Reconciling in Christ Congregation, welcoming all regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity. A short review of Committee activity will be presented at the January 29, 2014 congregational meeting.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, BOULDER, CO JANUARY 2014

SUNDAY	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 New Years Day-Church Office closed	2 9:00 LWR Sewing	3	4
5 8:45 Sunday School/Adult Forum 10:00 Worship 6:00 Night Church 7:30 Romanian Dancers	6 7:00 Harmonia Rehearsal	7 11:45 Book Group 2:15 Staff Meeting 5:00 Church Council Mtg	8 4:00 Confirmation (at Atonement each week) 4:30 Young Chautauqua 7:15 Choir Rehearsal	9 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Grace Foundation Mtg	10 9:00 Uni Hill Service Mtg	11 10:00 Synod Missional Conversation (Lutheran Church of Hope, Broomfield) 7:30 Emma Shubin/ Alfredo Muro Concert
12 8:45 Adult Forum with Earline Bohling 10:00 Worship 6:00 Night Church 7:30 Romanian Dancers	13 7:00 Harmonia Rehearsal	14 11:45 Book Group 2:15 Staff Meeting	15 4:00 Confirmation 4:30 Young Chautauqua 7:15 Choir Rehearsal	16 9:00 LWR Sewing 6:00 Renaissance Project (Dress Rehearsal)	17 9:00 Rocky Mountain Synod Middle School Gathering (Jan 17 – Jan 20) 9:00 AACT Community Impacts 6:00 Renaissance Project (Dress Rehearsal)	18 Rocky Mountain Middle School Gathering-cont'd 7:00 Renaissance Project Concert
19 Rocky Mountain Middle School Gathering (cont'd) 8:45 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship/Baptism of Lizzy Pedersen 1:00 Munding Piano Recital 6:00 Night Church at Grace 7:30 Romanian Dancers	20 5:30 Strategic Planning Committee 7:00 Harmonia Rehearsal	21 11:45 Book Group 2:15 Staff Meeting	22 4:00 Confirmation 4:30 Young Chautauqua 7:15 Choir Rehearsal	23 10:00 Bible Study	24 9:00 UniHil Service District	25
26 8:45 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship 6:00 Night Church at Grace 7:30 Romanian Dancers	27 7:00 Harmonia Rehearsal Pastor Janice on Retreat	28 11:45 Book Group Pastor Janice on Retreat	29 4:00 Confirmation 6:00 Grace Congregational Meeting and Meal 7:15 Choir Rehearsal	30 9:00 LWR Sewing	31	



GRACE

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Mailed on December 31, 2013

OTHER ITEMS AND UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Communications Review

We currently print and mail over 200 newsletters monthly, and are reviewing our methods of communication in this age of technology. As we move to greater use of “e-news,” please make sure we have your current email address by sending a note to office@GraceBoulder.org

Rocky Mountain Synod Assembly

Looking for a **few good men or women**—or at least **one of each!** **May 8-10, 2013** in Denver. Grace is able to have two individuals, one male and one female, attend as our voting members at the assembly. This event is great opportunity to learn more of what ELCA does beyond the day-to-day governance. The ELCA supports Global mission projects, activities, and accompanies people in the challenges they face. The assembly is an opportunity to fellowship with others in the pursuit of Christ’s Good News. Please contact Pastor Janice or a Council member if you are interested in representing Grace at this event.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

WELCOME



2014