

# Grace Lutheran Church & Preschool



*Happy  
Mother's  
Day*

*We want to wish all Mother's a  
Happy Mother's Day! Thank you for  
all that you do! We appreciate you!*

Will you be joining us at our Mother's Day Luncheon? Remember, it's May 5<sup>th</sup> from 11am-2pm! See details on page 4.



## Men's Camping Trip

Are you interested in going on a trip to the Desert? Contact Jeff Saltonstall at (626)375-4311 to get more information for this year's Men's Camping Trip! There will be lots to do and this will be a great way to connect with our Grace Family over a campfire!



**17880 E. Covina Blvd.  
Covina, Ca 91722**

### Church Office

(626) 332-4536

### Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday: 9am-1pm

### Preschool Office

(626) 967-5855

### Church/Preschool Fax

(626) 967-4027

### Email:

[office@gracecovina.org](mailto:office@gracecovina.org)

### Website:

[www.gracecovina.org](http://www.gracecovina.org)

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### ***Did You Know?***



If you have an article, advertisement, announcement or special note you would like to include in the newsletter, please contact Vanessa, our church secretary by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. You can contact her by telephone at: 626-332-4536 or by email at: [office@gracecovina.org](mailto:office@gracecovina.org)

*You Are Welcome Here*





We are collecting a new food item for the ACTION Food Pantry. The month of **May's** featured food item is **meal in a can**. So when you're grocery shopping, please remember our brothers and sisters in need and pick up one or two meals in a can. Any donations are most appreciated. Let's continue to respond to God's blessings by caring for the most in need. Just a friendly reminder that on the first Sunday of each and every month is the food pantry's special collection Sunday. This is another opportunity to give thanks to God for our many blessings by helping those most in need Thank you for all the continued support!



Don't forget to follow us and like us on Facebook! [www.facebook.com/ActionFoodPantry91722](http://www.facebook.com/ActionFoodPantry91722)  Like

## To My Grace Family...

I started my position as a Secretary here at Grace nearly two years ago during the time I was going to college. It was a challenge but definitely well worth it. Along the way I finished my Bachelor's degree, and had the privilege of meeting and becoming friends with many of you. Even if I haven't personally met you, I know who you are... that is if you come to church (I keep track of attendance). As most of you know, I will be leaving my position here at Grace as the Secretary by the beginning of this month. I just wanted a chance to say how grateful I am to have had all of you as a part of my journey. I'd like to thank our Council for taking a chance on me to coordinate the office and for always being so helpful. I'd also like to thank Pastor Steve and our staff members for always being such a pleasure to work with and for always being there when I need them. And lastly, I'd like to thank our Congregation for always being so kind and welcoming towards me. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for being some of the most genuine and caring people I have had the opportunity to be around and work with. It has truly been an honor to work here and although I will miss you all, I'm excited for what's to come in the future. Again, thank you all for making my stay here enjoyable and gratifying. This isn't goodbye... This is "I'll see you later". Please stay in touch and I send my love and blessings to you all.

-Vanessa Chavez

(626)474-6790

[vanrchavez@gmail.com](mailto:vanrchavez@gmail.com)



## **Pastor's Column**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It has been almost a year and a half since a small group of us began the Living the Resurrection program offered by the Synod. None of us knew if the end result of the process would bring new life to Grace when we started, and to be honest I don't believe when we complete the program in June if all the time and effort we've put into the program will produce the result we have been praying for. That's not to say it's been a waste of time. The reality is that it speaks to the nature of the process, which was not a 'fix problems A, B, and C and the results will be X, Y, and Z' but more like a process of discovery and innovation that hopefully bring about a new paradigm in our church in the context of our 21<sup>st</sup> century culture. This program is a radically new way at looking at the reality of the church and discerning what God is and will continue to do in the world and how He invites the people of God collectively known as the church to actively participate in His ever expanding Kingdom. His plan isn't changing but the way we 'do church' is and Living the Resurrection is an invitation to say goodbye to the old ways and to step out in faith to a new way of thinking.

So, what have we learned so far? That this is a very challenging process that has lead those of us in the group on a roller coaster ride of emotions, frustration, confusion and hopeful discovery. This is not surprising since radical change makes us uncomfortable and often times wishing things could just stay the same or rather go back to the way things were back in the day. The reality is were never going to go back to the way things were, so we must do the hard work involved in radical change and trust that God will give us the resolve, power, patience and resources needed in order to adapt and change.

This process, as I've stated many times, is the beginning of a journey that will hopefully last for years if not generations. Just as the way we Lutherans 'did church' for generations was effective for many, the hope is we will get to a point where the church thrives and many in our community experience the love and grace of God as we have and that this will continue for generations until the next big change is needed. So, when I said at the beginning of this article that we don't know how this will turn out it's because we are just beginning what will likely take years to finally produce measureable results.

By the time we finish up in June meeting with our fellow Living the Resurrection churches we will propose something that is called a provocative proposal. Sounds exciting doesn't it? What this will be we're not exactly sure about yet, but we've begun the brainstorming process already. Once the final plan is hatched what we will need from you all is your support in the form of prayer, finances and time. The plan will involve direct ministry to some group in our community, fulfilling our call to love our neighbors simply for their sake and not so that they will want to join our church. This is grace. God doesn't extend grace to us because we are worthy or deserve it, but because of who He is. And we proclaim the Gospel of grace to others in a similar manner.

I want to apologize for not keeping you more informed, but the reality is there hasn't been much to update you all about since we've spent so much time in the discernment process. But, I promise that soon you will hear about what we've discovered and how we think we can be God's church in our community. I also want to give my most sincere thanks and express my deep gratitude for the 3 faithful partners who have been with me for the last 18 months. Cindy Said, Patty Van Raalte and Deneice Hadley have invested countless hours and have simply been invaluable to this process. I have been so blessed to have been on this journey with them! So, please thank them for the effort they have exerted on your behalf over the last year and a half. Finally, I promise that we will reveal this provocative proposal to you soon and invite you to join us as we live into the resurrection at Grace.

Yours in Christ,  
***Pastor Steve***

In the name of  
**JESUS CHRIST**,  
we lift up all  
**MOTHERS** today.



We thank them for their  
sacrifices so that we can  
have a life of contentment.  
Grant them favour, Lord  
and may they have a  
wonderful place in existence  
in Your heart of **GRACE**.

## Mother's Day Luncheon

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING MOTHERHOOD

Our Mother's Day Luncheon will be on: **May 5, 2018**  
Now that everyone has received their invitation to the  
Mother's Day Luncheon you have probably noticed  
that all proceeds from the luncheon will go to the  
YMCA's "Wings" Program, a shelter for women and  
children in abusive relationships. You are undoubtedly  
wondering how we are going to raise money for a  
donation to "Wings", when the luncheon tickets are  
only \$10.00.

We have turned the tables a bit and instead of  
charging a large sum for the lunch we are charging  
the small sum of \$10.00 for lunch and asking  
everyone who attends to purchase tickets for a  
raffle. A number of very nice gifts are being donated  
for a raffle some rather expensive. While at the  
luncheon we are hoping you will purchase a number of  
tickets, select the gift you would like to have and use  
a number of your tickets to win the gift of your  
choice. All of the proceeds from the raffle will be  
donated to "Wings",

Tickets will be sold for a dollar each. For every five  
dollars spent, you will receive one additional ticket.

Dollars	Extra tickets
\$1	0
\$5	1
\$10	2
\$15	3
\$20	4
\$25	5
\$30	6
\$35	7
\$40	8
\$45	9
\$50	10



No fine jewelry, no Chinese items or Persian rugs, or  
American Indian artifacts.... We hope you will all join  
us in supporting this worthy cause!

## Happy Anniversary to...

Anthony & Mary Encabo

Kevin & Heather Bergerson



May 11

May 14

## Birthday Blessings to...

Drew Adzovich ,

Kayla Entrinkin,

Christy Arreguin,

Katie Encabo,

Barbara Bryner,

Diana Alley,

Esther Papp,

Carolyn Wengel,

Madison Jacobs,

Kitty Davisson,

Erin Noriega,

Susan Wood,

Keegan Yarber,

Joyce Gower,

Candyce Jacobs,

Nathan Smith,



May 1

May 1

May 3

May 13

May 14

May 14

May 14

May 15

May 16

May 19

May 21

May 22

May 22

May 25

May 25

May 27

## THEOLOGY PUB

On **Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>**, Pastor Steve will be  
leading "Theology Pub". It will be one more  
way for us to connect with God and each  
other and explore our faith and how God is  
working in our world. It will be very  
informal and we will gather at **Casa  
Moreno on Citrus Ave in downtown  
Covina at 6 pm**. One does not need to be a  
scholar to attend. One only needs a desire to  
explore their faith and the things of God. If  
you would like to join Pastor Steve simply  
bring a written question (which should  
anonymous) of something pertaining to  
scripture, God, the Church, current event, or  
anything pertaining to God. If you have any  
questions, please contact Pr. Steve. I hope  
you'll join us! All are welcome!

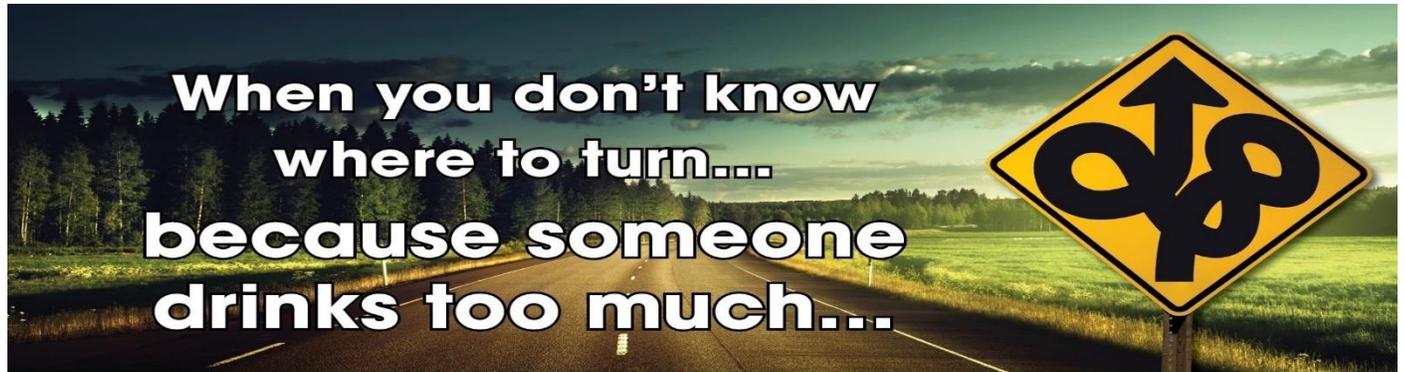
We are pleased to announce that Grace now has an online option for your tithes and offerings!



**Here's how to help:**

To give online go to our website ([gracecovina.org](http://gracecovina.org)) click on the 'connect' drop down option, then click on 'offerings', scroll down and select 'click to donate through PayPal'. It's pretty self-explanatory after that! You can use your PayPal account or major credit card to make your offering.

You can check your email for the PDF version of this Newsletter! Don't have a newsletter in your email? Be sure to fill out the contact information with an updated email address at the bottom of this page. You can also check our website for upcoming news. Stay connected with us!



**When you don't know where to turn... because someone drinks too much...**

**Al-Anon Family Groups can help.**

Learn more by attending free confidential meetings at Grace Lutheran Church  
**Meetings every Saturday at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall**

**888-4AL-ANON**                      **www.al-anonesgv.org**                      **al-anon.org**



**Congregation Records Update 2018**

If you ever have any change in your contact information, be sure to complete the information below and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate. Remember to include all family members.  
Thank you.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number (Include Area Code): \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number (Include Area Code): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdays: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

*The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry... -Psalm 34:15*

### **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**Please pray for:** Tia Van Meter, Chantelle, Patricia Marcovich Hogan, Tammy Velazquez, Pete Cooper, Alice Martinez, Annalisa Morgan, Marion Patrick, Jorge Chavez, Walter Hoke, Trina Clay, Paulette Bentz, Shawna, Keyling Toro, Dorie, Linda Dow, and Lorraine Thorne.

**Please pray for those with medical needs, including:** Lucille Garcia, Karen Hill, Jean Rohrbach, Mary Beth Wilson, Erin Rodgers, Steve Biddle, Ted Primas, Marcia Cruchley, Marion Schwacopher & Steve, Cynthia Spangler, Gil Erro, Marie Dabbs, Margarite Heyne, Myrna Ott, Brian Akey, Cora, Peggy Muncie, Tim Olszewski, Dave Brown, Charlene Bergerson, Olivia Gallina, Eddie & family, Christy, Hector Larini, Susie Galleta, Sarah Encabo, Davidson Family, Jaxon Turner, and Eddie Alvarez.

**Please pray for the men and women who are currently serving in the military, including:** Paul Dupree, Ryan Norring (Army) and Talon Featherstone (Navy) who are bravely protecting us and our country.

**Please pray for the people in:** Hawaii, All schools, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Virgin Islands and those affected by the California fires and floods.

**Please pray for those who are being faced with grief**

**Please pray for Grace Lutheran Church Congregation.**

**Please pray for our pre-school and infant care program.**

**Please pray for the firefighters, police force and leaders of our country.**

**Please pray for the ACTION Food Pantry and the homeless that they serve.**

**Please pray for all those in need.**

**“The Prayer of the Righteous is Powerful and Effective.” – James 5:16**

#### **Please let us know...**

- If we don't have a birthday or anniversary date listed.
- If you have a special announcement.
- If someone in your family is ill or in the hospital.
- If you move or change your telephone number.
- If you will be away for a period of time.
- If you feel the church can assist you in any way.

#### **Our Prayer Book is...**

Also located in the back of the sanctuary. You can write your prayer request in this book each Wednesday or Sunday. Remember, you can also contact the church office with your prayer request and updates for the prayer list.

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***May scripture readings to share with your family & to deepen your worship experience.***

#### **(6 Easter)**

##### **May 6**

Acts 10:44-48  
1 John 5:1-6  
John 15:9-17

#### **(Ascension of Our Lord)**

##### **May 10**

Acts 1:1-11  
Eph 1:15-23  
Luke 24:44-53

#### **(7 Easter)**

##### **May 13**

Acts 1:15-17,21-26  
1 John 5:9-13  
John 17:6-19

#### **(Day of Pentecost)**

##### **May 20**

Acts 2:1-21  
Romans 8:22-27  
John 15:26-27;16:4b-15

#### **(The Holy Trinity)**

##### **May 27**

Isaiah 6:1-8  
Romans 8:12-17  
John 3:1-17

# MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <b>11am Staff Meeting</b>  7:00pm Apostolic Fellowship	2 11am Preschool Chapel  11:30am Bible Study  7pm Worship  7pm AA	3 <b>9:30am Lydia Lois Circle</b>  10am-1pm ACTION Food Pantry  6pm-10pm Everlasting Gospel Ministry	4  7:00pm Friday Night relax & Recover	5 8:30am-9pm Everlasting Gospel Ministry  <b>Mother's Day Luncheon 11am-2pm</b>  10am Al-Anon
6  *Regular Sunday Worship  1pm Apostolic Fellowship	7  <b>12:30pm Deborah's Circle</b>  4:00pm-7pm ACTION Food Pantry	8  7:00pm Apostolic Fellowship	9 11am Preschool Chapel  11:30am Bible Study  7pm Worship  7pm AA	10  10am-1pm ACTION Food Pantry  6pm-10pm Everlasting Gospel Ministry	11  7:00pm Friday Night relax & Recover	12  <b>ACTION Food Pantry "Stamp Out Hunger"</b>  8:30am-9pm Everlasting Gospel Ministry  10am Al-Anon
13  <b>Mother's Day!</b> *Regular Sunday Worship  1pm Apostolic Fellowship	14  4:00pm-7pm ACTION Food Pantry  <b>6:30pm Council Meeting Room 6</b>	15  7:00pm Apostolic Fellowship	16 11am Preschool Chapel  11:30am Bible Study  7pm Worship  7pm AA	17  10am-1pm ACTION Food Pantry  5:45pm-9pm Heathdale HOA	18  7:00pm Friday Night relax & Recover  <b>Men's Desert Trip</b>	19 8:30am-9pm Everlasting Gospel Ministry  10am Al-Anon  <b>Crafting 12pm-3pm (Rm. 6)</b>  <b>Men's Desert Trip</b>
20  *Regular Sunday Worship  <b>12:15pm Worship &amp; Music Committee Meeting</b>  1pm Apostolic Fellowship	21  4:00pm-7pm ACTION Food Pantry	22  7:00pm Apostolic Fellowship	23 11am Preschool Chapel  11:30am Bible Study  7pm Worship  7pm AA	24  10am-1pm ACTION Food Pantry  6pm-10pm Everlasting Gospel Ministry	25  <b>1pm Grace Ladies Luncheon</b>  7:00pm Friday Night relax & Recover	26 8:30am-9pm Everlasting Gospel Ministry  10am Al-Anon
27  *Regular Sunday Worship  1pm Apostolic Fellowship	28  4:00pm-7pm ACTION Food Pantry	29  <b>6pm-8pm Theology Pub</b>  7:00pm Apostolic Fellowship	30 11am Preschool Chapel  11:30am Bible Study  7pm Worship  7pm AA	31  10am-1pm ACTION Food Pantry  6pm-10pm Everlasting Gospel Ministry		

- \* Sunday Service Times**  
**\*9:00am Traditional Worship**  
**\*11:00am Contemporary Worship**  
**\*1:00pm Apostolic Fellowship**

**What's happening at GLC?**

Exciting things are always happening here at Grace. So, please take a moment to look on the bulletin board and table in the narthex and see what exciting things are happening. You can check us on Facebook, too!

[www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranCoving](http://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranCoving)

## WHO WE ARE

### **Church Staff**

#### **Pastor**

Steve Otte  
(714)717-6174

#### **Preschool Director**

Christy Arreguin  
(626) 967-5855

[preschool@gracecovina.org](mailto:preschool@gracecovina.org)

#### **Children's Ministries**

Amber Brown  
(626)203-6928

[GraceSundaySchool@yahoo.com](mailto:GraceSundaySchool@yahoo.com)

#### **Music Ministries**

Jeff Saltonstall  
(626) 375-4311  
Pedro Toro  
(626) 731 4431

#### **Office Coordinator**

Vanessa Chavez  
(626) 332-4536

[office@gracecovina.org](mailto:office@gracecovina.org)

### **Church Council**

#### **President**

Pat Linden  
(626) 339-0729

#### **Vice President**

Tim Said  
(626) 966-5360

#### **Secretary**

Vicki Jacobs  
(909) 599-6310

#### **Treasurer**

Robert Ordenez  
(626) 388-6930

#### **Minister of Witness**

Judy McGee  
(323)376-1226

#### **Minister of Worship**

Brenda Noriega  
(626) 914-1664

#### **Minister of Education**

Dave Brown  
(909) 772-3500

#### **Minister of Member Care**

Diana Alley  
(626) 475-7583

*Something to hold on to...  
A friend. A neighbor. Hope. Faith.  
We are all looking for something...*

## **Welcome to Grace**

*This is who we are.  
This is what we do.  
You are welcome here.*

### **This is who we are...**

Grace is a family of believers who gather in the name of Jesus Christ to experience God's love and acceptance through each other. Our intimate community is one where all are welcome, all are accepted, all are filled and all are sent out to give as they have received.

Though we are a community of faith, Grace is not a place for those who feel they have found everything they need regarding their faith journey. The people of grace feel that we are on a journey that is just beginning for some of us, while for others, that journey is much further along. Wherever we might be in that individual journey, we feel we are called to walk together, as no one should ever have to journey alone. No matter where you are in your beliefs, no matter where you feel your place in life is, you are welcome here.

*"One person can have a profound effect on another. And two people...well, two people can work miracles. They can change a whole town. They can change the world." – Diane Frolov and Andrew Schneider, Northern Exposure, Cicely (1992)*

### **This is what we do...**

Our community prays for one another. It is part of our duty, as people of faith, to lift up each other's joys and sorrows. Our community chooses to offer back to God what God has so greatly blessed us with---ourselves, our time, our possessions---all signs of God's gracious love. Our community gathers together for many different reasons and in many different places. Below are just a few:

#### **Some Main Campus Gatherings:**

Traditional Worship & Holy Communion (every Sunday at 9am)  
Contemporary Worship & Holy Communion (every Sunday at 11am)  
Midweek Worship (every Wednesday at 7pm)

#### **Some Off-Campus Gatherings:**

Deborah Circle (every FIRST Monday of every month at 12:30pm in homes)  
Lydia Lois Circle (every FIRST Thursday of every month at 9:30am in Room 6)  
Heathdale Homeowners Association (every THIRD Thursday of every month at 5:45pm in the Fellowship Hall)  
Grace Ladies Luncheon (every Fourth Friday of every month 1:00pm)