

*November, 2021*

**GRACE PRESS**

A monthly publication of  
Grace Presbyterian Church ~  
Winona, Minnesota



**Holiday Fair 2021**

**Grace Presbyterian Church**

**222 E Broadway . Winona . MN**

**Saturday, November 13**

**9:00 a.m. ~ 2:00 p.m.**

*Rada Knives*      *Books*

*Second Hand Shop*

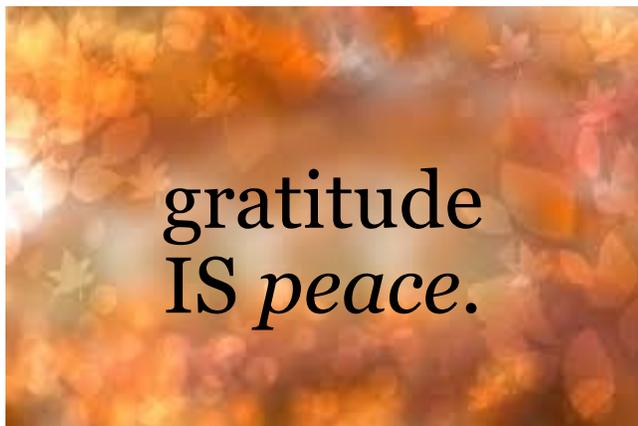
*Crafts*      *Jewelry*

*Sorry, but no food or baked goods will be served.*

## Pastor's Page

The month of November for me is always kind of a chaotic blur. It is when I realize that I have *not* prepared enough beforehand for Advent like I swore I would do this year. It is when I realize that I need to make my long list of Christmas gifts and go about getting things ordered. It is when I remember that I should really start that diet just to prepare for the Thanksgiving meal and then the Christmas season. Oh, and of course, there is always the exciting, but sometimes stressful, expectation of family events. Now, some of the stress that happens in this time of grace and gratitude is the good kind. The exciting kind. The kind where you get to try out new recipes in order to make the best one for Thanksgiving. It's the kind of stress you get when you get together with a big group of people. It is a fun and an eventful time. But any sort of stress can make one feel a bit overwhelmed.

This season, however, is also one of the best seasons for peace. Taking a walk in town or out on the trails, it is impossible not to be taken aback by the beauty of the turning leaves. Cozying up to the fire with some hot apple cider, wearing fuzzy socks, and starting a new book - what peace! Finding peace amidst the chaos can be difficult, but it is there waiting for you. In the scent of wet leaves after a fall shower. In the sunlight that still feels warm on our faces even though there is a chill in the air. Or in the echo of children's laughter as they jump from leaf pile to leaf pile (even if you know you will just have to rake them up again.) This kind of peace is something to be grateful for this Thanksgiving season. It's something worth being open to and taking note of during this time of thankfulness. So no matter how busy we may be this month, we must do our best to take some time for appreciating all the ways peace finds us.



## Blessing in the Chaos

To all that is chaotic  
in you,  
let there come silence.

Let there be  
a calming  
of the clamoring,  
a stilling  
of the voices that  
have laid their claim  
on you,  
that have made their  
home in you,  
that go with you  
even to the  
holy places  
but will not  
let you rest,  
will not let you  
hear your life  
with wholeness  
or feel the grace  
that fashioned you.

Let what distracts you  
cease.

Let what divides you  
cease.

Let there come an end  
to what diminishes  
and demeans,  
and let depart  
all that keeps you  
in its cage.

Let there be  
an opening  
into the quiet  
that lies beneath  
the chaos,  
where you find  
the peace  
you did not think  
possible  
and see what shimmers  
within the storm.

—Jan Richardson

# Sunday School News

November

MEMORY  
VERSE

*"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to all the Jews, then to the Gentiles.."*  
Romans 1:16



COMING SOON

Our annual Christmas Program will be held on **Sunday, December 19**, during the worship service. Rehearsal times

have not been set yet, but parents will be informed in November.

All children ages 3-18 are invited to be a part of this special celebration of Jesus' birth.

Make a note of the date on your calendar and plan to attend! More details will follow in the December issue of *Grace Press*!

Soon all our Operational Christmas Child boxes will be collected! If you need a shoebox, we have empty ones available on a table in the Fellowship Hall.

On **Sunday, November 14**, the boxes will be dedicated during our worship service. They will then be brought to the collection site. Finally, the boxes will be distributed around the world to children who may be suffering from disease, famine, neglect, poverty, or warfare.

A final count of our boxes will be reported in the December issue of *Grace Press*.

## Introducing to our 2021 Confirmands

Meet  
**Savannah Bell**

Savannah is the daughter of Todd and Carol Bell.

She is 13 years old and in the 8th grade at Winona Middle School..

Savannah plays volleyball and is hoping to learn about God during Confirmation this year.



Her toothbrush is pink!

HAPPY  
Thanks  
giving

## News from Session

Session held its regular meeting in person on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, and approved the following items:

- \* Ratified an email vote to change the number of at large people on the Nominating Committee from 3 to 2. This is a by-laws change so the congregation will vote on it at the congregational meeting on October 24, 2021.
- \* To have the congregational meeting on October 24 both in person and via ZOOM to assure we have a quorum of 22 members.
- \* To spend up to \$1500 from Fundraising to purchase seasonal outdoor decorations for the church.
- \* To remove the large sign out front.
- \* To spend \$20,000 on the landscaping project. Of this amount, \$19,500 will come from Capital Improvements and donations, and \$500 has been designated from the Remembrance Fund.
- \* To approve the following slate of officers for the Class of 2024: Elders: Jennifer MacAskill and Rena Dornfeld, Deacons: Kathy Rosendahl and Tori Schultz-Todd, and for at large members of the Nominating Committee: Ann Lubinski and Derrick MacAskill.
- \* To add to the VBS mission water project \$268 from the Special Mission Fund to make the total being sent \$400.
- \* To send \$500 from the Special Mission Fund to each of the following: Ida flooding in Tennessee via United Way Humphreys, TN; Haiti through PDA; Afghan refugees via Church World Service or Catholic Charities of the Diocese of LaCrosse.

Pam Lica, Clerk

**Please let us know if we missed your birthday or anniversary** and accept our apology. It was not our intent to leave you out.

## From the Church Office



The Church Office will soon be printing a new church directory.

If you have moved, changed your phone number or email address, **PLEASE** contact the church office either by phone: 452-4608 or email: [gracechurchwinona@gmail.com](mailto:gracechurchwinona@gmail.com) to let us know the updated information!

### From your GPC Staff:

Happy  
**Thanksgiving!**

Pastor Rachel  
Cheri,  
and Ron



The Church Office will be  
**CLOSED**

**Thanksgiving Day, November 25  
and Friday, November 26**

Enjoy time with your families!!

### Happy Birthday!

Caiden Mrkvicka	November 3
Simon Engstler	November 6
Kollin Foss	November 7
Brent Dornfeld	November 8
Larry Johnson	November 11
Janet Nustad	November 11
Brady Rinn-Foss	November 22
Howard Rockwell	November 24
Kathy Mrkvicka	November 27

### Happy Anniversary!

Mark & Kjersti Anderson	November 29
Rob & Tori Schultz	November 30



## News from the Mission Committee

Our annual **Christmas Joy Offering** will be received on Christmas Eve. By giving to this offering, you honor God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need, developing our future leaders at the Presbyterian-related schools and colleges, and equipping communities of color.

The Mission Committee is asking for YOUR help in deciding where our Christmas Eve offering will go . . . think locally, statewide, or even around the world. Give your ideas to Pastor Rachel, Tammy Engstler, Kathy Weiner, Chris Schantzen, Dorothy Gilbertson or Tori Schultz.

While the Committee will discuss all the ideas and decide on the three to receive the Christmas Eve offering, your ideas are always welcome to aid in giving to causes that are near and dear to the hearts of the Grace Church congregants.

### The "Yarn & Yarns"

The "Yarn and Yarns" knitting, socializing group (yes, we now have a name) will be starting up again on **Sunday, November 21**, following worship.

What started as a prayer shawl group has expanded to working on any "yarn" craft or just coming for the fellowship (thus the "yarns").

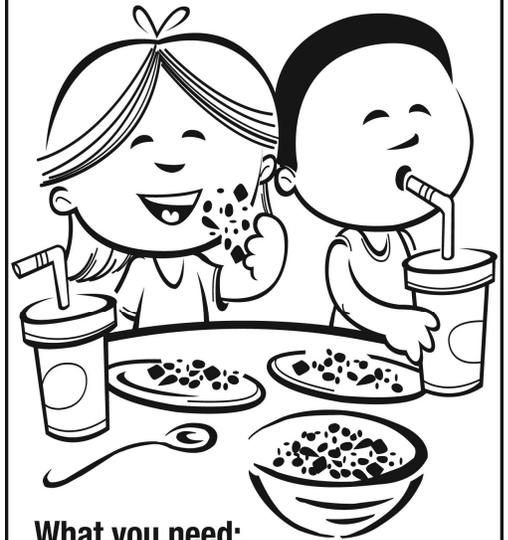
All are welcome to join us following fellowship on November 21. If you have any questions please see Tammy Engstler or Pam Lica.

*We hope to see lots of you there.*

## HARVEST

### Trail Mix

This portable snack combines favorite fall flavors.



#### What you need:

- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 2/3 cup pecan pieces
- 1/3 cup roasted pumpkin seeds
- 1/3 cup almonds
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 2/3 cup dried fruit (any)

#### What you do:

1. Microwave syrup, spices, seeds and nuts for 30 seconds at a time, stirring frequently, until mixture thickens.
2. Spread the mixture on a baking sheet lined with wax paper. Let cool and harden.
3. Break the candied nuts into chunks. Combine with dried fruit.
4. Store in airtight container.

Because we are  
unconditionally loved by  
God, we are called to do the  
same in thought, word, and  
deed with our family,  
community, and world.

**Mission**

*Thank God!*

GRACE  
HAPPENS  
+

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**Web site**

<http://gracepresbyterianwinona.com>

**Office Hours**

9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Tuesday - Thursday

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Friday

**Sunday Morning**

**Sunday School**

9:00 am

**Sunday Worship**

10:30 am

**Fellowship Time**

11:30 am

**Minister**

Rev. Rachel Rosendahl

**Office Administrator**

Cheri Looman

**Accompanist**

Guest Accompanists

**Treasurer**

Jennifer MacAskill

**Church School Director**

Kathy Rosendahl

**Newsletter Editor**

Lori Fort-Hoerig

[lorigpcnewsletter@charter.net](mailto:lorigpcnewsletter@charter.net)

**Session Elders**

Kjersti Anderson

Ron Dietrich

Rena Dornfeld

Nancy Dornfeld

Pam Lica

Jennifer MacAskill

Chris Schantzen

**Board of Deacons**

2021: Ann Lubinski, Kathy Rosendahl

2022: Candi Kohner, David Rosendahl

2023: O. J. Jacobson, Jeanette Karjala