

GraceFull Visions

MAY 2017

BUILDING CONSULTANT VISIT

Dear people of Grace Lutheran Church,

On Thursday, April 20th, Jeff Spann a church building consultant from the ELCA's Mission Investment Fund, accepted our request to visit our property and give us feedback in three specific areas:

I. Curb Appeal/Hospitality (how inviting our property is from the outside)

II. Our Sanctuary, with special attention to the Narthex

III. The Usable Life of our facilities, especially in regards to the need to replace the flat roofs and Fellowship Hall roof.

After an extensive tour of the facili-

ties, Mr. Spann made many recommendations.

For outside curb appeal and hospitality, he recommended ways to increase how much of the Sanctuary building is visible from Highland Ave. and the parking lots across the street, ways to make the Highland classroom wing more appealing from the outside, and several suggestions for signage and parking.

He also made many suggestions regarding the Narthex and Sanctuary to increase their usability and hospitality, including the exterior restrooms, the size of the Narthex, a nursery or "wobble room", making ac-

cess to the pews more comfortable, lighting, and alternative locations for the music program components.

Mr. Spann indicated that he believed the building units have significant usable life left in them. Thus, he recommended replacing the roofs now and made a few suggestions regarding how that could be done with the flat roofs in particular.

The rest of the conversation centered around cost. Because there are actually very few structural changes being suggested, the costs of these modifications would not be nearly as much as adding buildings would likely be.

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Thus it should be an affordable amount to make the kind of changes that we probably can't afford *not* to make for the sake of the future of our mission and ministry. We will discuss this more at the June congregational meeting. In the meantime, share any questions or suggestions you might have with me or any other parts of the leadership team.

Peace,
Pastor Jeff

Young @ Heart

The Young at Hearts Meeting will be an exciting one...on Thursday, May 11th at 12 noon. Lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall and our Guest Speaker is our very own Sandy Hunter. Sandy will give us a presentation of her South Seas Adventures...Lunch is \$10. per person which includes your \$1.00 dues. It is very important that you notify Florence Bencivenga at 727-773-2766 no later than Sunday, May 7th so that she can place the food order. Please invite a friend or relative to this special presentation and luncheon.

Birthdays

5/2 Carole Meyer
 5/3 Jan Alberg
 Marlene Petrie
 5/12 Michele Nichols
 5/16 Ellen DuPaul
 5/17 Bob Wheeler
 5/18 Alan Wong
 5/21 JoAnn Opheim
 5/22 Nate Hauschild
 5/28 Lindsay Hauschild
 5/29 Lukas Leibrecht
 5/31 Joseph Cox

Thank you!

The class of Pastor Lydia's Lenten class, "Walking with the Cross" during Lent", thank her for her leadership. We all feel we know her in a special way for sharing parts of her life with us. It was a special time of conversation for all of us. Thank you soup makers, purveyors of bread and butter. We have been fed spiritually and physically, our Lenten walk was very rich!
 - Deacon Connie Puls

Anniversaries

5/16 George & Marie Smith
 5/29 Pr. Jeff and Jenny Cox

Military Personnel w/Grace connections...

-Heather Burson, granddaughter of Anne and Ralph Burson is stationed in Norfolk, NC for further training as a Lance Corporal.

-Kyle Wassen, grandson of

Connie Puls, is stationed in San Diego, CA as a quartermaster on a destroyer.

-Marc Calhoun, nephew of Wayne and Yvonne

Hauschild in the Air Force in Albuquerque, NM.

-Aldo Granados, 19 year old son of Pastor Lydia and member of Grace, completed Army Reserve Boot Camp.

Elizabeth Circle

The Elizabeth Circle will not meet in May. The next gathering will be on Thursday, June 8 at 1pm in the Garden Room. No meetings in July or August. Elizabeth Circle will resume on September 28th.

Men of Grace

The Men of Grace meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. This month's meeting will be at 9am at the Sunset Grill in Clearwater on Tuesday, May 16th.

Termite Tenting Update and Work Day

The entire church building will be tented from Monday, May 15 through Wednesday, May 17, 2017. The church and office will be closed and there will be no access to the facility during those days. There will be a special WORK DAY on Saturday, May 6th, from 8am to 12pm, lunch provided, to prepare for the tenting.

Community Breakfast and Lydia's Closet

Our May Community Breakfast and Lydia's Closet will be on Saturday the 27th from 9:00 am to 10:30 am.

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*God's Work. Our
Hands.*

Grace Lutheran Church

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Rev. Jefferson Cox, Pastor

Annual Rummage Sale

Our Annual Rummage Sale is Saturday, May 13th. If you would like a table, the cost is \$15.00. The check is to be made out to Grace Lutheran Church. All proceeds from the sale of the items on your table are yours. I, Jill G. will be sitting at the church table. The church table represents the Gophers, Altar Guild and Lydia's closet. Unfortunately we are not accepting furniture. The proceeds from the church table will go to the above mentioned groups. Start going through all your things at home, as we need donations for our table and we want it to be the best. Any and all donations are appreciated. Your donated items may be dropped off at the office. Steva is in Monday- Thursday 9:00 - 4:00. Her lunch hour is at 12 noon. Everyone is welcome to set up their table after 11:00 a.m. on Friday May 12th. The doors will open to the public on Saturday at 8:00 am.