



# Women of the ELCA

Grace Unit Newsletter.....November 2021

[vicki.marthaler@gmail.com](mailto:vicki.marthaler@gmail.com) editor



November, a month noted for giving thanks.

On our Thankoffering Sunday in October, the Women of Grace give thanks for the inspiring message of Pastor Danielle Denise, our Synod's Director of Evangelical Mission.

The Gospel was the account of the visit of the rich young man who asked Jesus what he must do to be assured of eternal life. He was law abiding, successful and wealthy. What more was needed? It was quite a blow to hear Jesus invite him to give all that he had to the poor and follow Him.

Pastor Danielle reflected on our human nature to cling to what we have. The picture she gave us was a hand, clenched tightly, hanging on to what we have – possessions, things we have worked for, things that we are entitled to. A clenched hand can hang on, but it cannot reach out. It cannot offer a hand of help. It cannot be a ministering hand. Only when the clenched hold is released, when fingers unfold and the hand is empty, can the hand be free and transformed to accomplish God things.



Versus



So, we have a choice....Hang on because it's mine...

**Or**.....be open to receive.....or to reach out.....and provide loving care.

REMEMBER, it's all God and His ways. His love transforms. His care heals. His life abides.

Free our hands, Lord, free our hands. For Your service. For the sake of the world, Amen.





## The Women of Grace invite you to their Annual Christmas Tea

**Saturday, December 11.....2 pm**  
**Stull Hall at Grace Lutheran Church**

Please sign up at the Sign-Up Station in the lobby of the church across from  
or email or call Vicki Marthaler

218-849-5683 [vicki.marthaler@gmail.com](mailto:vicki.marthaler@gmail.com)

(All CDC Covid protocols will be followed.)



Hall

The Christmas Tea is open to all the women of Grace Lutheran and their guests. It is a time we welcome new 2021 members and also install WELCA's new officers. This year Lori Schaefer will be installed as Vice President of WELCA for 2022-24 and Chira Kirkland will be affirmed as she has agreed to serve a second term as Secretary. Shelley Clay will be recognized for her term serving as Vice President. A short business meeting will also be held.

A Christmas program of carols and a reading of the beloved Christmas Story will comfort and inspire us with Peace on Earth and Good Will to All as we prepare for a new year of growing in faith and serving our Lord and Savior, Jesus.



**Dress festively! Bring a friend! Unto us a Child is born!**

\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*

### Circles

At the present time, the only Circles that are meeting regularly are:

The Naomi Circle – First Tuesday of the month at the church at 9:30am. Contact is Lori Schaefer [lori.schaefer3@gmail.com](mailto:lori.schaefer3@gmail.com) or 608-780-0099

And

The Sarah Circle – Third Thursday of the month, currently meeting on Zoom. 10am or, if at the church, 9:30am. Contact is Judy Stoltenberg [jcstoltenberg@hotmail.com](mailto:jcstoltenberg@hotmail.com) 443-340-4415

Both Circles welcome new members.

\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*^\*

Thank you to all the Quilters and their helpers for creating 150 quilts for LWR and readying them for transport this month. Your work certainly makes a difference and we are so thankful and grateful for the dedication shown in this vital ministry.

