

GRACE NOTES



October 2011

Grace Lutheran Church ELCA

A monthly publication of Grace Lutheran Church, 312 Prospect, Howell, MI 48843 517-546-3350

RAISING OUR CHRISTIAN KIDS



Raising Our Christian Kids (R.O.C.K.) after school program is a ministry for children in Kindergarten through 6th grade. We will meet on Wednesdays from 4:00–6:00 p.m. Cost: \$20/child or \$35 for two children in the same family. This program gives an opportunity to nurture children’s faith development, encourage relationships and foster fellowship and attitudes that are not possible by other traditional programming. Activities include crafts, games, Bible stories, music and dinner.

These are the October themes:

October 5—Carnival

October 12—Fall

October 19—Apples

October 26—Halloween

If you don’t want to miss a moment of this fall fun, please see any of the office staff for a registration form or print the form at gracelutherhowell.org.

CROP HUNGER WALK



The 33rd annual Howell Area CROP Hunger Walk will take place Sunday, October 9 beginning at 2 p.m. Church World Service’s CROP Hunger Walk raises money for hunger and development needs throughout the world. Twenty five percent of the funds raised are used locally, benefiting the Salvation Army, Gleaner’s Food Bank and Family Impact Center of Fowlerville. Please see Tom Schallhorn for more information and pledge cards.

FALL RUMMAGE SALE

Grace’s fall rummage sale will be held Friday, October 14, from 4–7 p.m. and Saturday, October 15, from 9–12 p.m. in the Fellowship hall. Donations may be brought in beginning October 3 and placed along the northwest wall of the Fellowship hall behind the divider. Sign up on the bulletin board to volunteer for set up, working the sale or clean up.



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YOUTH AND FAMILIES MINISTRIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School

October Schedule

October 2—Greatest Commandment

October 9—Great Commission

October 16—Doubting Thomas

October 23—Ascension

October 30—Reformation/Martin Luther



Join us each week from 9:45–10:45 a.m. for the Learning Hour for all ages. Preschool through 5th graders will start with Sunday School Opening in the sanctuary. Middle school meets in Fellowship hall for Confirmation class. High school teens meet in the Teen room. Adults meet in the Conference room.

On October 30, we will be learning about Reformation and Martin Luther. Join us in our classrooms for special activities.

Bible Gifts

Also on October 30, we will be distributing Bibles to our 2 year olds, 2nd graders, and 6th graders. If you have a child in one of these age groups, come to the worship service that you usually attend, and the Bibles will be presented during the announcement time.

FAMILY EVENT—SPICER'S ORCHARDS

All ages are invited to join us for an afternoon of special fall fun at Spicer's Orchards, 10411 Clyde Rd, Hartland, on Sunday, October 2. Many activities are available including the farm play area with inflatables (\$2/child), u-pick apples (\$10/peck for apples, free hayrides), face painting, and a cider mill. We will start gathering about 1:30 p.m., but activities are available until 6 p.m.



INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Parents of 6th–12th graders

An informational meeting will be held between services on Sunday, October 23, for the parents of all students in 6th–12th grades.

EXTREME FUN WITH FAITH (EFF/678 CLUB) & HANG IT ON THE CROSS (HIOTC/TEEN CLUB)



EFF group is for teens in 6th, 7th & 8th grades. HIOTC group is for teens in 9th–12th grades. Both groups will be going to a Corn Maze on Saturday, October 29.

HANG IT ON THE CROSS (HIOTC/TEEN CLUB)



The Gathering, a special event for Lutheran High School teens, will be held December 27–30, at The Radisson in Lansing. Activities include: speaker Pastor Reggie Hansom, music by The Spark and Jetty Rae, skillshops, small group Bible studies, and recreation. To make sure you do not miss out on any of the fun, bring your \$130 deposit to Coach Cap or Karen Warsop by November 1.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

The 2011/2012 School Year has begun with a bang!

Parent orientation went wonderfully and was well attended. It gave the teachers and myself a chance to go over our expectations for the school year.

We also had our ice cream social and most of our families attended this event. A big THANK YOU goes out to Walmart for their donation to help offset the costs of the event. Kelly Snyder and Jen Beres helped serve the ice cream to our families and Maddie Tatara, Maddie Heilner, Molly and Gracie Snyder had a wonderful time putting tattoos on all of the preschool children and their siblings. Fun was had by all.

The children are having a great start to their school year. They are separating well from their parents and learning the daily routines. Themes of farms, fall, and learning about themselves are being explored in the classroom and the children are having a marvelous time.

On November 2, we will be having Dave Herzog and his marionette's do a family night for our preschoolers. He will be performing "Dragon Days and Knight Time". We are really looking forward to having him here.

Last but not least, we have a few positions in our 2's, 3's and 4's classes available, so if you have a preschooler in your life and the family would like to have them attend preschool, send them our way! ☺

Michelle Tatara
ELC Administrator





HELPING OTHERS

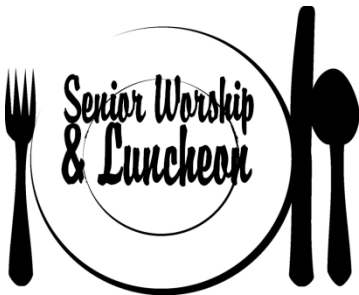
Jesus never said at the end of one of his sermons, "Do you agree?" Rather, he said, "Follow me." Christianity is more than a belief system, it is a way of life. As Christians, we are called to conform our lives to Christ. This requires an intentional effort on our part.

Much of our lives is spent going through the motions with little reflection and growth. Every so often it is helpful to stop and assess our lives and think about what changes we can make in order to lead lives more in line with Jesus. What would Jesus have us do? One thing we could all do a little more of is to help the least of our brothers and sisters.

This fall at Grace we have several opportunities to do just that. Kids Against Hunger is an exciting and productive way to make a difference in areas of the world where disaster has struck. Each of the packets we will assemble on November 5 will feed six people. We will assemble a minimum of 10,000 food packets, which will be distributed to places where refugees are starving. The Howell Area CROP Hunger Walk will be held October 9 and we encourage volunteers to walk for hungry people for development. So we are helping those who have immediate needs as well as creating long-term sustainable improvements in people's lives.

Christianity is a way of life. "Follow me," Jesus said. Here's our chance.

Pastor Sharon



Welcome all seniors. Service at 11:00. Luncheon to follow.
Wednesday, October 19, 2011.



ANNUAL MEETING



Mark your calendar for this year's Congregational meeting on Sunday, November 6, after the 11 a.m. service. Please plan to attend. All committees are asked to submit annual reports to the office by Thursday, October 13.

COUNCIL CORNER

The Council met on Thursday, September 15.

- The coffee nook is now complete and seems to be offering the fellowship for which it was intended. Stop by and have a cup.
- The financial report was presented by Darrel Sterzinger the treasurer and we are meeting the budget at present. We are still on target to pay off the mortgage we have by next year.
- Michelle Tatara gave a report regarding the Early Learning Center. Almost all the classes are full. An orientation took place with many new families from the community and several expressing an interest in belonging to Grace.
- The Pastors report included two baptisms and two funerals for August.
- A report from the music ministry included a proposal for an updated sound system. The Council will continue to review the best way to proceed to be sure we are providing sound sufficient for everyone to hear God's word.
- The "Kids Against Hunger" campaign will be seeking volunteers to assist in filling the bags of food. We also continue to need funds to purchase the grains to fill the bags for those hungry children. Currently we have \$1023 and need \$2300.00
- A tree in the back of the church will be removed as it is too close to the building and will cause damage to the roof. Earlene Grubaugh will replace the tree in the front of the church with a tree in memory of Gaylord Grubaugh.
- The Council approved the replacement of the sign for the church. A sign with brick will be constructed to face Prospect Street. Instead of being vertical it will be horizontal with Prospect Street. The name Grace Lutheran will be in wrought iron. Either solar or electric lighting will show off the sign. The sign will be paid for through the use of memorial funds.
- A discussion regarding parking cars later on Friday and Saturday nights of the Balloon Festival, as many people arrive later and we would have parking space available, took place, we will decide next year and also consider whether we should charge an additional \$1.00.



Yours in Christ,
Barbara Carter, President

GERMAN DINNER AT ST JOHN'S

St. John's Lutheran church in Fowlerville will hold a German dinner on Saturday, October 22, from 4:30–7 p.m. Adults: \$8.00, children 4–12 years: \$3.00, children 3 and under: free. Come enjoy some traditional German fare.



German Dinner

HEALTH MINISTRY

Well here we are back into fall and into the routine again of fall activities. The focus of this article is more for those with young children and children in school and in contact with all the other children in school.

To help maintain health in your home and for your children you might want to consider a few ABC's.

A is to avoid irritants that often trigger allergies. With young children avoid using pillows with feathers, and limit exposure to perfumes, talcum powder, hair spray, air fresheners, and fabric softeners or other strong odors or sprays. All of these can make allergies flair up.

B is for balance in your home. Keep the windows shut and use central air during high pollen season. The pollen can irritate the eyes and nose, and airways. Stuffed toys should be non-allergic and washable and washed weekly in hot water of at least 130 degrees.

C is for the ability to change items you have neglected, such as leaky faucets, pipes where high moisture accumulates and causes bacteria and molds to grow. Change your air filters on your furnace too for the best air quality. If you have carpet vacuum frequently and change the bag on the vacuum at least monthly.

To your health.....

*Listen to me, my child, and do not disregard me, and in the end you will appreciate my words.
In everything you do be moderate, and no sickness will overtake you.*

Ecclesiasticus 31.22:

To all funeral dinner volunteers,

Thank you for your generous donations of desserts and salads for the funeral luncheons that have taken place at Grace. You make a difficult time for the families a little easier.

The Fellowship Committee

A NOTE OF



Dear Pastor Sharon, The Fellowship Committee, and Lisa,

We would like to thank you for the beautiful Memorial Service for our mother, Dorothy Pierce. Pastor Sharon's sermon touched each family member with wonderful memories. We want to thank Lisa for her help in arranging the music and for designing the beautiful bulletin. The Fellowship Committee served a delicious luncheon and we appreciate all the help in making this a wonderful experience while the family rejoiced in mom's memories and life.

Mom loved being part of Grace Lutheran while she lived in Howell. When she moved to the nursing home the Prayer Quilt became her daily companion, even in the summer when the air conditioning was too cold for her. We had to make her Prayer Quilt part of the memorial and it "Graved" the table below her picture and urn.

God Bless and thank you for the memories, Lynn & Paul Morrison and the family of Dorothy Pierce



Caught In the Current

Terri Martinson Elton

I don't know about you, but as a family with children in school, this time of the year I get caught in the current. Our family tries hard to be intentional about how we spend our time, who we spend our time with and what commitments we take on all year long, but this time of year it never works. The annual transition from summer to fall feels like someone else takes over the reins at our house for about six weeks. Those dinners we were going to have together were eaten on the run. That weekly date night was replaced with shuttling kids to football games and friend's houses. The morning prayer routine became lunchbox central and that "Sabbath" time for God and family was filled with washing clothes and gearing up for another week's series of events. By October, I wonder what happened and if anyone was able to resist the current that just swept me in.

Now, if I'm honest, church "activities" aren't any different than other activities when it comes to adding to the fray. Sunday school and confirmation, for example, get put on the calendar just like any other activity and come with their own expectations, fueling the scheduling current. On any given Wednesday, driving to and from church, my attitude is no different than any other activities. Facing another fall, I wonder what, if anything, is different about the church activities? And, as a person of faith that longs for meaningful interaction with a faith community, what would an alternative be?

Anticipating another fall, and to feel the force of yet another current to pull me in, two thoughts surface. First, knowing that this fall transition is jarring, not gradual, and that it is going to take energy, is only part of the equation. I will still set goals and oversee the family calendar, but it is as important to saturate these days with grace. Each person, including myself, will navigate the waters of this transition differently before we find a new routine. Things will be missed, mistakes will be made, new insights gained and surprises surface. Some things will be the same, but other things will have changed, we will have changed. For just like crossing a river at the same point each spring, some aspects of the crossing stay the same, but other parts change, making crossing it new each time. Transition is no different. Each year offers new opportunities and challenges. Embrace this time...and saturate it with grace.

Second, activities are not the point, yet this time of year they get all the attention. A shift needs to happen. Ask questions! Why am I here? Who is along on this journey? What is my contribution? For what if we, as God's people, used the places we were more fully? What if it wasn't just about blindly abiding to the schedule? What if we were called to be people fully present in the places we are? What if I offer a listening ear to another mother sitting along the sidelines, rather than make my grocery list? What if my car time with kids was the opportunity to share about our day? And what if my "activities" at church slowed me down and helped me see the people in my midst? I need to shift my attention and I need help. Church, God's people, can you help me? Can you remind me what anchors my life? Can you help foster relationships and help me do the same? Can what happens when I'm gathered with God's people fill my tank, rather than keep me busy?

Just like crossing a spring stream after a winter of heavy snow, living the transition into fall can sweep individuals and families into the current of busyness and harried lives. God has called us to be stewards of our lives, and time, and as the church being attentive to such transitions and accompanying God's people, is more than helpful, it is proclaiming the gospel in word and deed.

PILLARS OF THE FAITH

Because Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses, or thoughts, to a church door in Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517, many Christians remember that day and the major changes, or Reformation, that resulted.

Luther's theses contained three main pillars, which have stood for almost 500 years:

1. Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone) - The Bible is the sole authority in matters of faith, life and conduct. "All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16, NRSV).
 2. Sola Fide (Faith Alone) - Christians are justified, or declared righteous, only through believing in Jesus Christ as Savior. Although morality and good works are important, they alone cannot lead to salvation. "A person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ" (Galatians 2:16, NRSV).
 3. Sola Gratia (Grace Alone) - Grace is God's unmerited, or undeserved, favor. Salvation is a free gift from our gracious God. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9, NRSV).
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THE LIGHT TURNED YELLOW

The light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup.

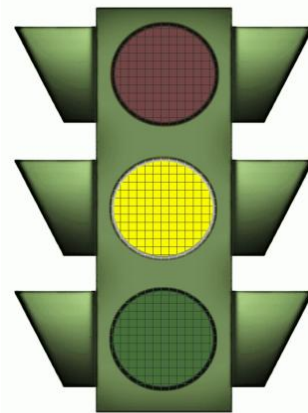
As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up.

He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a holding cell.

After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk, so naturally....I assumed you had stolen the car."

Priceless



October Birthdays*and Anniversaries*

4 Steve Barlow	Barbara Dilloway	20 Julie Wendel	Maria Barlow
5 Isaiah Beach	13 Michael Knorr	21 Kathy Breidinger	27 Earlene Grubaugh
6 Darcy Honaker	Jackie Douglass	Hunter Compton	28 Garry Hartwick
7 Dale Salewsky	15 Heather Jackson	Tanner Compton	Matthew Childers
9 Alex Capra	Emily Showerman	23 Denise Willmore	
10 Lydia Ilahi	17 Jennifer Atkins	25 Greg Tatara	
12 Esther Snyder	18 Benjamin Althouse	Brian Byrd	

Special Birthday wishes to:

Iris Barlow celebrating her 78th birthday on October 8th.

Jane Thompson celebrating her 72nd birthday on October 27th.

October Anniversaries:

1 Eric & Diane Thompson	8 Dennis & Karen Chiesa	26 Bill & Marilyn White
2 Clyde & Nancy Jenkins	13 Jon & Melia Hougaboom	Larry & Susan Jones
4 Al & Sally Chan	14 Paul & Judy Hanner	27 Ryan & Sheryl Pease
Terry & Kasey Hewer	16 Bret & Kathleen Coy	
6 Curt & Trudy Esch	20 Jason & Juli Vandeven	

Memorial Gifts

MEMORIAL FUND**Royal Bennett**

Al & Jane Halliday
 Lexyann Staber
 Gloria Albrecht
 Jim & Julie Cascio
 Robert & Carole Gehrke
 Maxine Latson
 George & Lois Winegar
 Judith Farr
 John & Jo Cubr St
 Linda Prinzing
 Mary Rettig
 Krystal Kettinger
 Jay & DeeAnne Hickman
 Maurice & Bernie Coles
 Don & Betty Yax

Olga Hewett

Al & Jane Halliday
 John & Jeanette Vlahos
 Mary Hewett
 Ione Simpson
 Ralph Benson
 Thelma Rossetter
 John & Linda Hewett

Helen Hiser

Thelma Rossetter
 Ralph Benson
 Linda Oumedian
 Gwenn Hollister
 Al & Jane Halliday
 Ione Simpson

Helen Hiser Continued...

Dolores Rose
 Mike & Thelma Weller
 Dave & Pat Isom
 Karen & Dennis Chiesa
 Darrel & Diane Sterzinger
 Gloria Albrecht
 Lexyann Staber
 Barbara Zizka
 Don & Betty Yax

October Servant Schedule

	October 2		October 9		October 16		October 23		October 30	
	8:30	11:00	8:30	11:00	8:30	11:00	8:30	11:00	8:30	11:00
Lay Asst	Tammy Lane	Debbie Evens		Karen Warsop	Turdy Esch		Barb Carter		Barb Carter	Dale Salewsky
Lay Rdr	Tammy Lane	Linda Oumedian		Dean Norton	Trudy Esch	Dean Norton	Barb Carter		Barb Carter	Dale Salewsky
Comm Asst	Pat Isom & Earlene Grubaugh	Beth Baker & Karen Warsop	Judy Hanner	Beth Baker	Pat Isom & Earlene Grubaugh		Tom O'Brien & Nancy O'Brien		Judy Hanner	Beth Baker
Acolytes	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending
Ushers	Dave Isom & Mel Pease	Dennis Chiesa	Dave Isom & Mel Pease	Dennis Chiesa	Dave Isom & Mel Pease	Dennis Chiesa	Dave Isom & Mel Pease	Dennis Chiesa	Dave Isom & Mel Pease	Dennis Chiesa
Altar Care (Clean Up)										
Greeters	Robert & Judy Clise, Tom & Nancy O'Brien, Darrel & Diane Sterzinger	Jane Thompson	Al & Jane Halliday, Tom & Kathy Trader, Don & Betty Yax	Jeanette Vlahos	Dave & Pat Isom, Keith & Kathy Boyes, Ken & Kathie Keith	Matt & Julie Evens	Bill & Chris Manuel	Gary & Darcy Honaker	Tom & Nancy O'Brien	

Sign up for next month on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please call the church office to sign up to fill empty slots.

The deadline for articles or items for the November Grace Notes is:

**THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 20, 2011**

Please be sure to submit any items for the November newsletter prior to this date. You may send submissions to the church office, or email to: grace312@sbcglobal.net



Helping Those in Need

Lutheran World Relief
requested items will resume in January 2012

Bath towel (57"x27") dark colors
Sturdy combs
Nail clippers

Donation basket located in the narthex
We will not begin our next project until January 2012.

WOMEN OF JOY BIBLE STUDY

All women are invited to join us on Monday, October 24, at 7 p.m. in the Conference room for the Women of Joy Bible study. We are currently studying topics from *The Thoughtful Christian*. We have been doing a series on the Seven Deadly Sins. These studies have opened up lively discussions. Come and be a part of this group!

For an off hours medical or pastoral emergency, please call the Pastors at home at 517-552-1782.

October 2011

November 2011

October 2011

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep 25 - Oct 1	Sep 25	26	27	28	29	30	Oct 1 7:47am Grace Men's Group
Oct 2 - 8	2 8:30am Trad. Worship 11:00am Cont. Worship 12:00pm Children's Choir rehearsal 1:30pm Family Event (Spicer's Orchard)	3 7:00pm Family Martial Arts (Fellowship hall) 7:30pm Alanon	4 9:30am T.O.P.S	5 4:00pm R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Christian Kids) (Fellowship hall) 5:30pm Praise Team 6:30pm Adult Choir	6 6:00pm NAMI meeting (Conference room)	7	8
Oct 9 - 15	9 8:30am Trad. Worship 11:00am Cont. Worship 12:00pm Children's Choir rehearsal 2:00pm Crop Hunger Walk (First Presbyterian)	10 Columbus Day (United States) 7:00pm Family Martial Arts (Fellowship hall) 7:30pm Alanon	11 9:30am T.O.P.S 10:30am Cancer Support	12 12:00pm Circle Bible Study 4:00pm R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Christian Kids) (Fellowship hall) 5:30pm Praise Team 6:30pm Adult Choir	13 6:00pm NAMI meeting (Conference room) 7:00pm Council Meeting	14 9:00am Rummage Sale setup 10:00am Gracie's Quilters (Conference room) 4:00pm Rummage Sale	15 9:00am Rummage Sale 9:00am Private Event (Conference room)
Oct 16 - 22	16 8:30am Trad. Worship 9:30am Blood Pressure Clinic 11:00am Cont. Worship 12:00pm Children's Choir rehearsal	17 7:00pm Family Martial Arts (Fellowship hall) 7:30pm Alanon	18 9:30am T.O.P.S	19 11:00am Senior Worship & Luncheon 4:00pm R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Christian Kids) (Fellowship hall) 5:30pm Praise Team 6:30pm Adult Choir	20 12:00pm Grace Notes Newsletter deadline 6:00pm NAMI meeting (Conference room)	21 8:00am ELC Vision Screening (Conference room)	22 10:00am CPR Class (Fellowship hall)
Oct 23 - 29	23 8:30am Trad. Worship 11:00am Cont. Worship 12:00pm Children's Choir rehearsal 12:00pm information meeting for 6th-12th grad	24 7:00pm Family Martial Arts (Fellowship hall) 7:00pm Women of Joy 7:30pm Alanon	25 9:30am T.O.P.S	26 9:45am Love Day Ladies 4:00pm R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Christian Kids) (Fellowship hall) 5:30pm Praise Team 6:30pm Adult Choir 7:00pm ELC Board meeting	27 6:00pm NAMI meeting (Conference room)	28	29 EFF & HIOTC Corn Maze 8:00am Private event (Fellowship hall)
Oct 30 - Nov 5	30 8:30am Trad. Worship 11:00am Cont. Worship 12:00pm Children's Choir rehearsal	31 Halloween (United States) 7:00pm Family Martial Arts (Fellowship hall) 7:30pm Alanon	Nov 1	2	3	4	5

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
312 PROSPECT STREET
HOWELL MI 48843

Sunday Schedule

8:30 a.m. Traditional Service

9:45 a.m. Learning Hour (all ages)

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

Nursery provided all morning.

Grace Lutheran Church Staff

Pastors

Early Learning Center Administrator

Office Manager

Youth Director

Administrative Liaison for Youth

Director of Music

Rev. Tom & Rev. Sharon Huff

Michelle Tatara

Lisa Pristas

Mike Capra

Karen Warsop

Brooke Pierson

Office Phone: (517) 546-3350

e-mail: grace312@sbcglobal.net

Web site: www.gracelutheranhowell.org

Early Learning Center: 545-5640

M-F am & pm preschool sessions for 3 & 4 year olds

2-year olds playgroup on Fridays

In session September through May

For information, please call Michelle Tatara (517-545-5640)