

Good News from Grace

MAY 2022

Our Purpose

The purpose of our church is to make a difference by serving others through God's love and our faith.

May 1, 2022 (Third Sunday of Easter)

John 21:12a – Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.”

There's nothing like gathering for a meal to build community. Jesus hosted meals to reassure his disciples of his love and presence. Notice that Jesus' meals are always relational, not transactional. Fostering community through table fellowship and conversation helps us see the Christ in one another's faces. Who are you inviting to the table?



FROM THE PASTOR

This is my final article for the Grace News. I want to take a moment to list some of things we have accomplished together in this place:

- ♦ Engaged a successful “Story Matters” process and lived into “Our Story”.
- ♦ Began a Stephen Ministry Program to strengthen our care ministries.
- ♦ Welcomed Jesus' birth at the first “Jazz Christmas” Worship Service!
- ♦ Brought a community together for a while in a new worship service called “Connect”.
- ♦ Experienced Intergenerational Worship, and made it a regular staple in our church year calendar.
- ♦ Nurtured and were inspired by not one, but two Pastoral Interns.
- ♦ Raised over \$4K for World Hunger in just one season of Lent, with the help of Dr. McCarney's words and witness.
- ♦ Housed people in need for over two years, through various ministries.
- ♦ Raised an astonishing amount of money for our Capital Campaign through your generosity.
- ♦ Built a new kitchen and refurbished old restrooms.
- ♦ Paid off all outstanding debts from projects!
- ♦ Supported another non-profit ministry from its inception, until it grew to stand on its own two feet and share space as a partner.
- ♦ Fed a hot meal to hundreds of people every week, for years!
- ♦ Started a live-stream ministry which was a life-line to many in the pandemic around the globe.

- ♦ Welcomed new members and their gifts, buried loved ones gone too soon, celebrated many graduations .
- ♦ Raised up our kids in the faith together – and showed them how to be “all in all the time”.

I know based on this list alone, I am grateful for God's GRACE in this place over 75 years!

I will see you on Sunday, May 8 at the 9:30a.m. Worship Service as together we mark the conclusion of this call as pastor and people together.

Blessings on the next phase of your journey in ministry– God will be with you, guiding and supporting you, as you continue to serve God and the community for another 75 years.

+Pastor Cover



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY MAY 1ST

Come out and support the 2022 confirmation class!

Cici Perella-Carvalhaes
Emma Madden
John Hartman

Please contact
Pastor Cover
(717-525-4617)
or
Pastor Evan
(717-497-3742)
or
Vicar Susan
(717-497-1013)
directly if you need
pastoral assistance.

At Home Communion

If you wish for someone to come to your home and provide communion please contact

Pastor Cover
(717-525-4617)
Pastor Evan
(717-497-3742)
or
Vicar Susan
(717-497-1013)

Need A Ride?

Contact the church office Monday - Thursday from 8am - 12 noon at 717-737-0439 or email gelc@comcast.net for a list of members available to help you get where you need to go.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES

Grace is seeking two individuals to virtually attend Synod Assembly Friday evening June 3, and all-day Saturday June 4. Synod Assembly is an important business meeting and decision-making event for the Lower Susquehanna Synod, a council meeting on a larger

scale. One vote of significance this year, will be to change the process for electing new bishops.

If you would be willing to serve Grace as a delegate, please contact Susan Ryder ryder.susan@comcast.net or 717-574-1960.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MUSIC MINISTERS

Based on the recommendation of the hiring taskforce, Council approved the hiring of two new music staff persons - Kristopher and Emily Hartman!

Emily will be the primary organist, and they will serve together to lead the choirs, bells, children's ensembles and overall music ministry here at Grace. You may already know both of these talented musicians because they led us "up front" through the pandemic- Emily serves as Cantor, and Kristopher is often on trumpet. Both use their gifts to teach music to middle schoolers during the week.

UPDATE FROM THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Paster Beth Martini from the Synod introduced Pastor Van Orden, who is trained in intentional interim ministry. Council voted to contract with interim pastor Lois Van Orden from June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023.

Pastor Cover had submitted a written exit evaluation and she went over some of the highlights of her report in her exit interview.

Council approved renewing the current lease at 1604 Carlisle Road for another year and to install two electrical outlets - one in the garage and one outside.

We are still seeking two Grace members to represent the congregation at Synod assembly on Friday, June 3 and Saturday, June 4. The Day of edification on May 14 should also be attended by Synod Assembly delegates . Both events will be held online.

Council is also seeking at least four potential candidates to serve on council for the next three-year term which will begin July 1, 2022 and will be voted upon at the June Congregational meeting.

The Congregational meeting has been scheduled for June 26, 2022.

Karen Galle
Council Secretary



Opportunity to be a part of the Altar Guild

Did you ever wonder who took care of making sure that the seasons of the church were represented throughout the sanctuary and on the altar? Or how the flowers showed up each week?

Well, that is the responsibility of the Altar Guild and they could use some new helpers.

Would you be willing to help out on a rotational basis cleaning up the Communion Elements on Sundays after the live stream? If so please contact Beth Jury at driury11@gmail.com.

Call Process Update

A welcome to Pastor Lois Van Orden as Grace's Interim Pastor. Synod has assigned, and Council has approved Pastor Lois (feel free to call her Pastor Lois), as our interim pastor.

Her first day with Grace will be June 1. She looks forward to working with Grace through this transition, and we look forward to working with her. [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more about her.

Council will continue to keep you informed through all the changes. Be sure to regularly read the Grace News to stay updated.

Susan Ryder
Council President

Well Wishes for Pastor Cover, Curtis Maddie & Miles



Join us on Sunday, May 8 after worship as we celebrate Pastor Cover & her family's time at Grace. This is their last Sunday with us. We will have cake and Bruster's ice cream!



Did You Know....

May 1 is Lei Day in Hawaii. Leis are garlands or wreaths that are often made with native Hawaiian flowers and leaves. Nowadays, they are given as a symbol of greeting, farewell, affection, celebration, or honor, in the spirit of aloha. Lei Day originated in 1927, when poet Don Blanding proposed a holiday to recognize the lei's role in Hawaiian culture. Writer Grace Tower Warren suggested May 1 for the date because it coincided with [May Day](#), a celebration also linked to flowers. She coined the phrase, "May Day is Lei Day." The first Lei Day observance occurred on May 1, 1928. The following year, it was made an official holiday in the territory. (Hawaii did not become a state until 1959.)

May is a special time for [Star Wars](#) fans worldwide and always a good reason to re-watch the movies. May the 4th is celebrated as Star Wars day, due to the way the date sounds similar to "May the Force."

75th Anniversary Celebration

If you were unable to attend the luncheon and would like to view the program portion or the slideshow showcasing images from over the last 75 years, it is on the church website at www.gracecamphill.org or [CLICK HERE](#).

If you have memories or photographs to share please continue to send them in! We would like to include them in the newsletter throughout 2022! Images and stories can be emailed to Diane at deppengelc@gmail.com or by dropping them off at the church office Monday-Thursday 8am to 12noon.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER UPDATE

It is with great reluctance that I am writing this note. After 54 years, I can no longer handle all that is needed to keep the prayer ministry going. I hope fervently that someone can take over this important ministry.

The first thing I want to do is to thank all the volunteer prayers who have been praying and keeping the ministry going for all these years. Without you, this ministry could never have happened.

Here is a little history about the prayer ministry. The prayer list started in 1968 when the Koinonia groups from Grace church were meeting. Each Koinonia group did a lot of study on the Bible, their faith, and religion. About 10 people were in each group, and the group members prayed for each other every day as part of the program. We decided we would take prayer requests from anybody who needed prayers. At that time there were three lists with about ten people on each list. We realized we needed to have a little more organization, so we started sending out a prayer list to people who volunteered to pray for others for any need they may have. I took over maintaining the list, and the prayer ministry began.

In the beginning we had two or three lists with about ten names on each. A different team of prayers took responsibility for praying for the individuals on each list. We selected a leader for each prayer team. As people with new needs were identified, I would add their names to the

list. In the beginning, I used a manual typewriter to maintain the list! I sent a copy of the list to each group leader, who would then copy it by hand and send it to the members of their team. That initial list has now grown to well over 200 names and 15 prayer teams. Over time, we added universal prayers to each list for our pastor, the church itself, and world peace. I no longer use a typewriter, but maintain the list on my computer (with some technical help!). With the help of the staff in the church office, I make copies at church so that the prayer captains no longer have to. In addition to the prayer list, we held a healing service once a month in Barclay Chapel. Often the service would be led by a pastor from another church. After each service, we would meet to have coffee and refreshments and to answer any questions people might have or to share thoughts on the service.

Throughout the existence of the prayer list, we have been careful to protect the privacy and dignity of those for whom prayers were given, listing only the first name and last initial of each individual. People have asked "how can I pray for someone if I don't know what they need or what I'm praying about?" I told them to put everything into God's hands. God knows what each of us really needs physically, mentally, spiritually, and in every other way. This answer provided relief and comfort for our prayers.

Due to the COVID pandemic, our list has not been updated since January 2019. At that time, I could no longer go to the church to have the list duplicated, and now my own health prevents me from updating and maintaining the list. We continue to add names to the list as we become aware of needs, but otherwise the list has remained constant.

I hope that someone will be able to take over the maintenance of the prayer list. A younger person with better computer skills will probably find it is not difficult to maintain. If anybody is interested in continuing this ministry, I will gladly offer you my experience and my thoughts to help make a successful transition. This ministry has been an important part of my life and important to the prayer teams and the people being prayed for, and I hope it can continue under new leadership. Anyone interested can call me at home or send me an email at joyce1don2@comcast.net.

I believe in the power of prayer. I think prayer benefits the person being prayed for by knowing that others care, and it benefits the person praying as they think good thoughts for others. I hope that everyone will continue to pray for the people whose names that are printed weekly in the Grace News.

God bless all of you and God bless our prayer ministry.

Joyce Allan

MECHANICSBURG AREA 33RD ANNUAL ECUMENICAL CHOIR CONCERT SUNDAY, MAY 15TH @ 3:00 PM

St. Joseph Catholic Church
410 E. Simpson St., Mechanicsburg

Musical Director: Kathie Bittenbender

Special Music: First United Methodist
Praise Ringers

Accompanist: Karen Philp

Free Will offering- Proceeds to benefit New Hope Ministries, Inc.

**CREATION STAIN
GLASS PANEL
SILENT AUCTION**

Starting bid for each panel is \$ 275.00 and bids must be in increments of \$ 10.00. All proceeds will go to the Organ Fund.

You can place your bid on the sheets in the Library or by contacting the church office at 717-737-0439 Monday - Thursday 8am to 12 noon or email gelc@comcast.net.

The last day to place a bid is by **9:30am Sunday, May 8.** Winners will be announced during the service.

Current bids as of 12 noon Tuesday, April 26:

- Day One: \$ 300.00
- Day Two: \$ 550.00
- Day Three: \$ 510.00
- Day Four: \$ 500.00
- Day Five: \$ 350.00
- Day Six: \$ 275.00
- Day Seven: \$ 500.00

**BECOME A
MEMBER**

We will receive new members to Grace on **Sunday, May 15.**

If you or someone you know is interested in joining Grace please contact Pastor Evan by phone at 717-497-3742 or by email to pastorevan47@gmail.com.

You can also contact the church office Monday - Thursday 8am - 12 noon at 717-737-0439.

GETTING RID OF 'ALL THE CRAP'

And Jesus said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." **-Luke 12:**

The father of small children was commiserating about how hard it is to keep the house clean with energetic, active, creative kids at home. "What really gets to me about cleaning the house," he said, "is all the crap."

Crap. Not just the toys and stuffed animals that overflow from toy bins, under beds and closets. The adult stuff, too - the gadgets crowding the kitchen, the cleaning products jammed under the sink, the stuff crammed in the medicine cabinet, the yard junk all over the lawn, and on and on.

The crap factor comes to mind in Jesus' parable of "the rich fool" in Luke 12:17-20. The fool has so much stuff, he wants bigger barns to hold it all. The parable should strike a chord with us in America, where accumulation is such a big problem that self-storage (our "bigger barns") is booming business.

A man of few possessions, Jesus kept everything simple. He must have known how hard it is to focus on godly living when are lives are cluttered with stuff. Of course, Jesus' parable talks about possessions, but the same principle applies to the mind and heart's clutter of ideas, loyalties and desires that distract us from God.

How cluttered is your house? Your mind? Your soul?

For the month of May, consider a house cleaning to get rid of unneeded, unnecessary stuff. And prayerfully consider what "clutter" may be in your mind, heart and soul as well. What needs to be tossed out, recycled or donated in order that your house and your spirit can focus on what's truly important? That is, the things of God.

-Rob Blezard
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We hold in prayer especially this week...

Russ Weber, Barry Fenicle, Reinhard C., Mary Heverling, Mary Ann Osswald, Michael, Danielle Pizzolatto and their children: Dominic, Caroline & Gabriel, Lori Weber, Sue Gasswint, Joe Jackson, Debbie Aldridge, Kay Lee, Yvonne Gettys, Patti Reed, Todd Galle, Diane Brokenshire, Sudy Stoll, Keith Downs, Garry Murray, Vernon Frazier and Dean Jury.

We hold in ongoing prayer...

Darlene M., Eileen Moore Hartzell, Gladys Ciine, Margaret Knupp, Kathryn Tuckey, Pastor Molly Haggerty, Frank Blizzard, Gerry & Sara Jane Crawford, Mary Louise Shetter, Charlie Buchanan, Joyce Allan, Sis Hoffman, Mary Lee Ryder, Jack Alfano, David Harman III, Howard Lauver, Priscilla Walter, Lesly Richards, Elijah Conroy, Susan Blumberg, Eileen McCann, Mike Lutz, and Destiny Glenn.

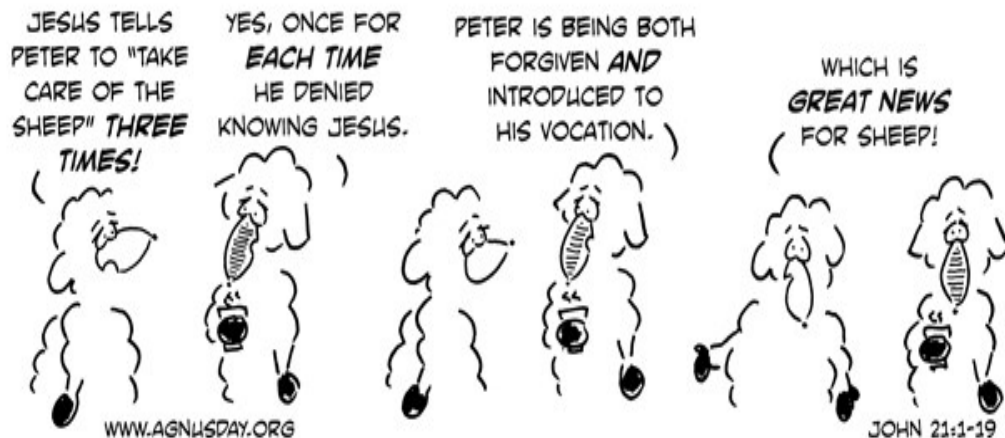
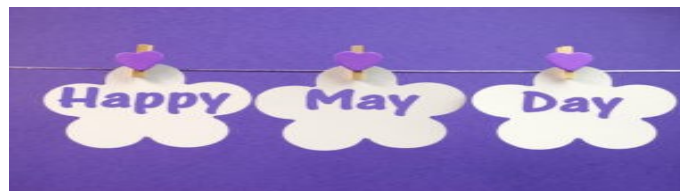
We also hold our shut-ins in prayer:

Louis Lore, John Hench, Shirley Hughes, John Shuey, Betty Bennett, and Dick Cromer.

In our military:

Gabriel Bailey.

If you have family members or friends on the prayer list please notify the church office (717-737-0439 or gelc@comcast.net) each month with updates. Your input helps us maintain the prayer list since we are not aware of the changes in the health status of those on the



"Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org"

UPCOMING EVENTS



Tuesday Bible Study: Women of the Bible

Please join Vicar Susan for a 5-week study of **Women of the Bible** from **April 19 - May 17** Tuesdays at 1:00pm in-person in the conference room or 7pm via Zoom.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the Zoom information or contact the church office Monday - Thursday 8am - 12:00pm at 717-737-0439.

- April 26:** Rahab & Bathsheba
- May 3:** No Bible Study
- May 10:** Ruth & Deborah
- May 17:** Hagar and Mary & Martha
- May 24:** Herodias & Herodias and Priscilla, Phoebe, Lydia & Rhoda

The Gathering

The Gathering is for all "senior" women. They meet **the third Wednesday at 1pm for lunch and fellowship.**

Each month a different restaurant is selected.

For more information contact Nancy Whitcomb at 717-697-1823.

Men of Grace

The Men of Grace meet on the **third Thursday of the month at 6:00pm via zoom.**

For more information or login instructions please contact Matt Hearn 717-350-1048 or Rick Keen 717-657-5563.

Book Club

The next book club meeting is on **Tuesday, May 31 at 7pm via Zoom.**

We will be discussing "The Hawthorne School" by Sylvie Perry.

Vicar Susan will be leading the book Please contact her vicar.susan.scott@gmail.com for log in information.



GYG Schedule

- May
- 1 Confirmation
- 14-15 GYG Overnight at Nawakwa
- 22 Graduation Sunday Last GYG Night
- June
- 19-25 Confirmation Camp
- July
- 23-29 LutheranHANDS Mission trip to Minneapolis, MN

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the full 2021 - 2022 GYG Schedule.



Drive Thru Chicken BBQ

The Lisburn Community Fire Company will hold it's annual Drive Thru Chicken BBQ on **May 15 from 11:00am - 1:30pm.**

Each dinner includes one half barbequed chicken, baked potato, applesauce, a roll, butter, and a bottle of water.

Signs will direct traffic flow into their property to Brenda Avenue (alley) to the pavilion and exit out near the fire hall.

Lisburn Community Fire Company is located at 1800 Main Street in Lisburn.

This Week at Grace...

The Altar Flowers for **Sunday, May 1** are given to the Glory of God.

The Bulletin & Mailing Sponsorship for **Sunday, May 1** is given to the Glory of God.

The Sanctuary Lamp Sponsorship for **April** is given with love by Diane Brokenshire in honor of Pastor Cover.

The Special Benevolence Offering for **May is Lutheran Camping Corporation.** To contribute please list the amount on your offering envelope next to Special Offering Ministry and list World Hunger under comments.

Sponsorship Opportunities

To see available dates [CLICK HERE](#) or check out the bulletin board by the elevator. *Starting in March 2022 fresh Altar Flowers will be the first Sunday of the month and on church festivals unless a special request is made to the office by 2pm the Monday prior to the Sunday you wish to sponsor.* Contact Diane at 717-737-0439 x 15 or deppengelc@gmail.com to reserve a date before sending

Youth Food Cards

In the dollar amounts of \$ 25, \$50, and \$100 are available at the office Monday - Thursday from 8am - 12noon. Contact Chris at 717-737-0439 to let him know when you plan to stop in. Checks should be made to GELC with Youth Food cards on the memo line.

Good News from Grace articles are due by 12 noon on Tuesdays. Email to deppengelc@gmail.com

Join us for Worship!

Saturdays at 6:00PM
Sundays at 9:30AM
or
[via Live Stream](#)

Sunday School

Sundays September to May



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

1610 Carlisle Road
Camp Hill, PA 17011
Office: 717-737-0439
gelc@comcast.net

Visit us on Facebook at Grace Lutheran Church,
Twitter @grace_elca
or on the web at:
www.gracecamphill.org