



Parish News

To Glorify God
 To Grow in Faith
 To Give In Service
Together in Christ

Apr 2018

A Letter from Pastor

“Fools for Christ”

Dear Members and Friends,

The beginning dates for Lent and Easter have been quite interesting this year. The first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday, happened on Valentine’s Day, the day we celebrate our most cherished loving relationships. I thought it was quite appropriate that as we remembered our own true loves, we also recalled with ashen crosses on our foreheads, the only love that is freely given to us by grace and the only love that is truly forever,

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”- John 3:16

Now we have a second great irony in the date for Easter this year, April 1, which we know every year as “April Fool’s Day.” This special day, but not a holiday, is a one-day celebration primarily in European and Western countries by playing practical jokes and spreading hoaxes. The jokes and their victims are then called out as “April fools” as the hoax is revealed. Some newspapers, magazines and other published media report fake news stories (see, that’s not a new thing!), which are usually explained the next day or below the news section in small letters.

My sister was born on April Fool’s Day and has taken plenty of ribbing about that over the years. But when I looked up the last time Easter was on April Fool’s Day, it was actually my birthday year, 1956!

Interestingly, Paul frequently used the words “fools” and “foolishness” to describe Christians and the Christian lifestyle in contrast to what the world typically values. Here are some examples:

“We are fools for the sake of Christ, but you are wise in

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Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. -1 Corinthians 4:10

"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, 'He catches the wise in their craftiness'." -1 Corinthians 3:19

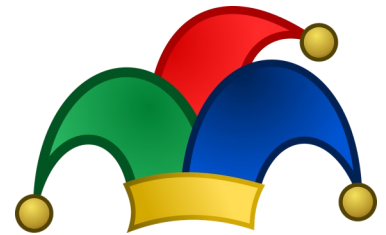
"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." -1 Corinthians 1:18

"For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through its wisdom did not know him, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe." -1 Corinthians 1:21

As the disciples of Jesus today, we do certainly have a message that is counter to the world, but one that is so needed for the world. We share a grace-full love, freely given to us by the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. We are called to freely share that message, and in giving it away, the more it grows, both in us and the others we touch. We share our bounty, not looking for recognition, or placing our names upon it, or for anything in return, but sharing as a token of God's gift of salvation and eternal life for us. I am blessed and strengthened in my faith as I see many of you sharing the Good News of Jesus in your lives, in the ways you share the faith with your children, grandchildren, neighbors, and others; and in your generosity.

Thank you for accompanying me as we live as fools for Christ over and against the world's power and need for gain and recognition. May we always encourage and support each other through Christ's foolish to the world, as recipients and givers of God's costly and extravagant love.

Together in Ministry,
+ Pastor Dave Lutcher



Pastoral Acts:

- Sara Beaumont Barton was received into membership on March 4; she transferred from St. Peter's Lutheran, Hilltown. Thank you Joyce Salter for serving as her sponsor and guide.
- A Memorial Service for June Sarm was held on March 10. Thanks to those who assisted with the service and the meal following.

Add our new member information to your directory

Sara Barton 20 Brookside Apt. A; Lansdale, PA 19446

Below is a letter received from one of the organizations that was helped from last year's Lutheran Charities Special Offering:

Dear Pastor Lutcher:

Thank you for having a caring heart and loving your neighbors.

Grace Lutheran Church's gift of \$125 is a wonderful expression of love for the countless children, adults and families who depend on Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries for care and services. The seeds of our neighbors are present all year long, but never more than now. As the individuals Diakon serves face another year of challenges, we are reminded o Christ's love for others and that compassion and love for others is truly our highest calling.

I hope you know how important your support is to Diakon's mission of service. Your gifts become love in action as we find permanent homes for children with special needs, provide comfort and security to seniors, and counsel families and teens in crisis.

Thank you for your continued prayers and generosity.

Gratefully,
MaryEllen Dickey, CFRE
Sr. VP of Advancement

Save the date! Join us for Grace's Mother's Day Dinner on May 3rd at 6 pm. Invite a special person in your life to join us for an evening of good food, fashion and fun for "Everybody is a Mother to Someone."

Stepping Stones Update

We have had quite the winter weather this last month. We have enjoyed the snow, but are looking forward to spring and Easter. A big thank you to Tami Sarms who is helping us out with sweeping our carpets each evening after school so that it is clean and neat for visitors in the evening and when we come in each morning. We really appreciate this. A thank you for the donations of snow pants, boots and gloves. We are still using them to keep us warm with the cold weather this month. Who thought March would be so cold.

Emergency Ride Home (ERH)

The Emergency Ride Home (ERH) service is a "safety net" for commuters working in southeastern Pennsylvania who share their ride to work by carpool, vanpool or transit on a regular basis. In the event of an unexpected personal or family emergency or illness, unscheduled overtime, or if the regular ride home is not available for certain reasons, **registered** commuters in the ERH program are provided with a free ride to home, their car or to the place of the emergency.

BOOKS FOR BABIES~

For the second year the H3C, Hatfield Community Christian Coalition, is sponsoring a Book Drive, BOOKS FOR BABIES, from April 8th through Mother's Day, May 13th. All of the books collected will be delivered to Mitzvah Circle Foundation after Mother's Day.

Mitzvah Circle Foundation meets critical needs of individuals and families who are struggling with crisis, poverty, homelessness and serious illness in our local neighborhoods. One of the projects they support is a Baby Diaper Supply Bag that includes diapers, baby wash, and wipes. They send these items along with essential baby products automatically every three months to families with babies to ensure the babies' health and ability to attend day care. Schools and day cares often require a minimum of extra diapers be sent to school along with baby wipes for the children. The parents keep in touch with Mitzvah Circle Foundation to let them know of diapers size changes and additional needs. This service stops when the child is potty-trained.

Along with the Baby Diaper Supply Bags, they send with each delivery a children's hard-backed cardboard book. They have found there is only one book for every 300 homes under the poverty line in America. Giving these books to the children in every Baby Diaper Supply Bag gets books into the hands of the most vulnerable children. The babies will receive four books over the course of one year.

Mitzvah Circle Foundation needs baby books for this very important project for those families in need.

Please bring in new books for the babies and place in the designated area at church.

If you would like to help with delivering the books after Mother's Day, please contact MC Reilly.

The Stitches of Grace are having their Spring "Stitch-In" on Saturday, April 7, 2018 from 10:00 - 3:00, doors open at 9:30. Come and join us for a day of 'stitching'! Bring a project and join the fun as we spend time working on new projects or tackling those unfinished projects! Or – come and learn a new craft from a fellow 'stitcher'! Any type of stitching will do – Embroidery, Cross Stitch, Punch Needle, Crochet, Knitting, and Rug Hooking to name a few. Cost is \$15.00 in advance or \$20.00 at the door which includes lunch and snacks. There will be a display area where you can bring a finished project to show; In addition, we will be have a "stash swap" where you can bring any unwanted 'stash' (ie. patterns, supplies, etc) to share with others. All proceeds from the Stitches event benefit the generator fund.

Grace's Spring Fling Flea Market

Are you doing some Spring Cleaning and want to sell some of your finds? Then come and Join us for Grace's Spring Fling Flea Market on April 28th from 8 am to 12 noon. Spaces are \$10 for a 10 X 10 outdoor space. We are going to make good use of one of our biggest assets – the parking lot! For more information contact Peggy or watch for the upcoming flyer.



Savvy Social Security Planning

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO HELP MAXIMIZE RETIREMENT INCOME

Join local representative Amanda Schulenberg at one of these free sessions for those in or nearing retirement. Thrivent Financial guest speaker Bridgit Holly, ChFC®, CLU®, FIC, will cover:

- Social Security and strategies for maximizing your benefits.
- The ideal time to apply for Social Security.
- Ways to minimize taxes on Social Security benefits.

April 16, 2018 @ 7:00 pm at Calvary Church, 820 Route 113 Souderton, PA 18964

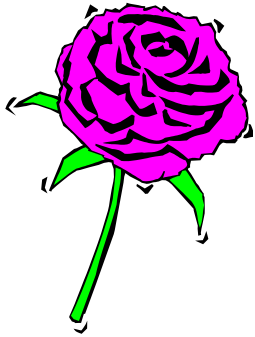
April 19, 2018 @ 4:30 pm or 7:00 pm at The Marriott Meeting Room, 544 DeKalb Pike North Wales, PA 19454

April 21, 2018 @ 10:00 am at St. Andrews, 20 Dill Avenue Perkasie, PA 18944

Please call 215-368-4888 or email kay.demito@thrivent.com to reserve a place for yourself and a guest. Refreshments will be served.

Photo Policy

We may be taking photos or video recordings during Grace events. You will be giving your consent that any pictures and/or video taken may be published and/or distributed by Grace Lutheran Church (i.e. Facebook, website, promotional materials) by attending these events. Please let Pastor Lutcher, or a church council member, know if you would prefer that you and/or your child's image not be used.



Mother's Day is Sunday, May 13th

Honoring and remembering our Mothers is a Grace Church Tradition. **Pink** Carnations honor our mothers and **White** Carnations remember our mothers who are no longer with us. The funds from the sale of the carnations are used to support **Nehemiah's Way**, a local women's shelter for those who are victims of domestic violence. Nehemiah's Way has joined Laurel House, a Montgomery County organization that works to end domestic violence and provide shelter and education for the victims of domestic violence. Our gifts to Nehemiah's Way will help the women and their families in our area. See the display by the bulletin board in the narthex for forms to fill out. **Orders are due by Sunday, May 6th.**

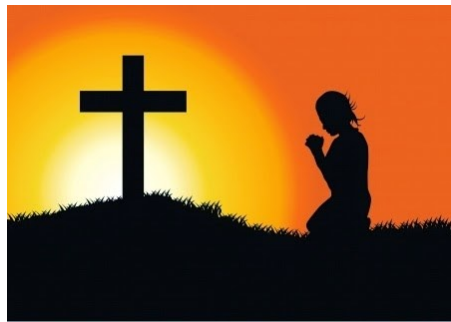
An order form is included in this newsletter. Please put your order in an envelope marked Mother's Day Carnations. Place in the offering plate or the basket in the narthex.

Thank You

Dear friends at Grace Church - A belated but heartfelt thank you to the WELCA ladies and friends for the loving-kind, generous gifts and well-wishes! I was overwhelmed and I feel blessed being part of the Grace family. Someday I still hope to return! May you all be blessed with health, peace, and love in the new year! With gratitude and love, Irene Krohnemann

Rice Bowl 2018

The *Giving in Service Team* would like to thank the congregation for supporting our **Rice Bowl project** during the Lenten Season. Your gifts through the Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 18th totaled \$2,619. These gifts will be shared with **The Food Cupboard** at Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church in Hatfield, **Manna on Main Street** in Lansdale and **the World Hunger Appeal** through the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. These special offerings will touch the lives of those in our community as well as around the world who are in need of food and shelter. (Palm Sunday, March 25th is the final Sunday of the Rice Bowl offering, however gifts for the Rice Bowl are accepted at any time.)



Please keep the following people in your prayers:

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>John Fischer</i> | <i>Peg Weaver</i> | <i>Don Capanear, Sr.</i> |
| <i>Carol Buffone</i> | <i>Joan Lattanze</i> | <i>Ginger Rittenhouse Holnick</i> |
| <i>Suzanne Colville</i> | <i>Laura Cooper</i> | <i>Jennifer Kaler-Thomas</i> |
| <i>Paige Haldeman</i> | <i>Dawn Doll</i> | <i>Jean Meibohm</i> |
| <i>Sue Deitch</i> | <i>Nancy Sellers</i> | <i>Pam & Fred Matolicz</i> |
| <i>Al Godshall</i> | <i>Joe McGlinchey</i> | <i>Laura Morcom</i> |
| <i>Jim Steeley</i> | <i>Ron and Karen Hudson</i> | <i>Elijah Krout</i> |
| <i>Dorene Bobb</i> | <i>Beth Brown</i> | <i>The family of Dave Krum</i> |
| <i>Joe Hopkins</i> | <i>The family of James Roney</i> | <i>Thomas Hudson</i> |
| <i>B.J. Moyer-Kuhn</i> | <i>Keira Drissel</i> | <i>Cassi Lambert</i> |
| <i>Bob Swillo</i> | <i>Muriel Rosenfelt</i> | <i>Kristopher Yoder</i> |
| <i>Marilyn Homan</i> | <i>Bob Kaler</i> | <i>Layla Lapino</i> |
| <i>Barbara Masser</i> | <i>Fred Wiesinger</i> | <i>Jean Goetter</i> |
| <i>Rich Woltmann</i> | <i>John Stangl</i> | <i>The family of Joey Mancuso</i> |
| <i>Nicki Moyer</i> | <i>Bill Shaffer</i> | <i>The family of Jerry Kratz</i> |
| <i>The Family of Nancy Benner</i> | | <i>The family of June Sarm</i> |
| <i>Stepping Stones Teachers, Ann and Heidi</i> | | |

April Serving Schedule

April	1	8	15	22	29
Communion Assist - early	Robin Lutcher	Anna Walter	Joanne Moyer	Ken Seiler	David Kunkel
Lector - early	Kitty Heckler	Peggy Schmidt	Kitty Heckler	Mickey Koffel	David Kunkel
Acolyte - early	Ken Seiler	Anna Walter	David Kunkel	Don Capanear	Ken Seiler
Ushers - early	Ken Seiler & Bob Smyrl	Walter Family	Don Capanear & Al Lund	Peggy & Bruce Schmidt	Ken Seiler & Bob Smyrl
Greeters - early	Kitty Heckler	Diane Ball	Kitty Heckler	Dan & Wendy Walter	Dan & Wendy Walter
Communion Assist - late	Joyce Salter	NA	NA	Tom Lewis	N/A
Lector - late	Dan Sarm	Laura Slugg	Joyce Salter	Bob Kaler	Joyce Salter
Acolyte - late	Lindsay & Olivia Stone	Bob Kaler Family (2)	Micah & Wyeth Slugg	Wyeth Slugg & Seth Herculini	Leela Morcom & Lacey Haldeman
Ushers - late	Paul & Carol MacDonald	Bonnie & John Stangl	Kathy Stawasz & Jeff Krout	Tom Lewis & Matt Slugg	Kay Stone & Kay Deusing
Greeters - late	Mary Jane Moyer	Carol & Paul MacDonald	Kitty Heckler	Kitty Heckler	Carol & Paul MacDonald
Flower Delivery	Carol MacDonald	Harold Schaefer	Dee Mancuso	Betty Murray	MC Reilly
Nursery	Jeff & Beth Krout	Kerry & Frank Stone	Bonnie & Kim Stangl	Kathy Stawasz & Liana Murphy	Tracey Frick & Tara Clegg

Altar Guild - 8am :

Altar Guild - 10:30 am :

Council Duties - 8am:

Council Duties - 10:30 am:

Robin Lutcher

Kay Stone & Tami Sarm

Bob Smyrl

Jaime Snyder

The **Regular Worship Schedule** is an 8 am communion service and a 10:30 am service. Sunday School begins at 9:15 am unless otherwise noted. Calvary Korean Church will use the sanctuary each Sunday starting at 12:30 pm.

Sun Apr 1, 2018

Easter Sunday

8am Worship/Communion
 10:30 am Worship/Communion
 12:20pm Calvary Korean Church

Mon Apr 2, 2018

7pm Scouts

Tue Apr 3, 2018

6:30pm Confirmation

7pm Stitches

Wed Apr 4, 2018

10am WELCA

Thu Apr 5, 2018

7pm Choir

Sat Apr 7, 2018

9am Stitch-In

Sun Apr 8, 2018

Regular Schedule - Pulpit Exchange

Pastor Shirley Guider Preaching,;Pr. Lutcher @ Little Zion

3pm Pastor Mark Singh-Hueter Installation @ Advent

Mon Apr 9, 2018

7pm Scouts

7:30pm Christian Connections Meeting

Tue Apr 10, 2018

7:15pm Worship and Music

Wed Apr 11, 2018

11am Bible Study

Sun Apr 15, 2018

Regular Schedule - Newsletter articles due

Books for Babies Temple Talk

Mon Apr 16, 2018

7pm Scouts

Tue Apr 17, 2018

7pm Church Council

Thu Apr 19, 2018

7pm Choir

Sun Apr 22, 2018

Regular Schedule - Earth Day

Bear Creek Camp Temple Talk

Mon Apr 23, 2018

7pm Scouts

7:15pm Mutual Ministry Team

Tue Apr 24, 2018

10:30am Newsletter mailed

6:30pm Confirmation

Wed Apr 25, 2018

11am Bible Study

Thu Apr 26, 2018

7:15pm Stewardship Committee

Sun Apr 29, 2018

Regular Schedule

Mon Apr 30, 2018

7pm Scouts



Something to think about

You who make music, who help all of us make the music of prayer, pray the way other Christians pray. Mornings, nights, at table, you have received the same words and gestures and sounds as the rest of the community. That's as it should be.

Even before the time of David the King and musicians, we had already known that what we are about in our prayer together is too great to be caught up just by the speaking voice: we need to go faster and slower, higher and lower, to mark various rhythms, to play and hear the strings and winds, and brass. We need the musicians to bring the music from us. So all through this Jewish/Christian tradition, music has been heard and has inspired prayers that belong especially to those who compose and conduct, those who sing and play instruments. And, to those who get truly inspired when hearing these musical prayers

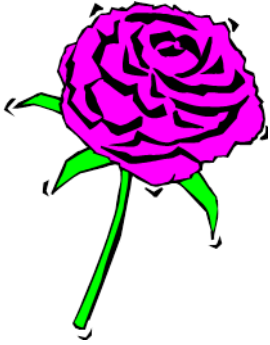
Here at Grace, I ask you, the worshiper, the listener, to patiently receive and digest the choral prayers that our choir delivers. Our choir puts a lot of their personal time in using their talents to polish and deliver the anthems presented. None are for one hearing at a church service, take them along with you.

Ken Delmar
Minister of Music

Heidelberg UCC, Emmanuel ECC, and Grace Lutheran Annual Golf Outing:

Calling all golfers! The annual golf outing fundraiser that supports Vacation Bible School will be held on Saturday May 12, 2018 at Mainland Golf Course. Create your own foursome or sign up and we'll put you with a team. The cost is \$75.00 per golfer and includes dinner at Heidelberg following the outing. If you don't golf you can still support Bible School by sponsoring a hole for \$25.00. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. All checks should be made to Heidelberg UCC and can be given to Jeff or put in his church mailbox. For more information contact Jeff Krout . Thanks!





Mother's Day Carnations
 Single Stem Carnations
\$2.50 each
Orders due by May 6th

Please place orders in the offering plate or the basket in the narthex

YOUR NAME _____

White Carnations

(in memory of): Number ordered _____ x \$2.50 = _____

Pink Carnations

(in honor of): Number ordered _____ x \$2.50 = _____

TOTAL= \$ _____
 ___ cash ___ check

*Checks should be made out to Grace Lutheran Church – **memo carnations***

Flowers may be taken home after either service on May 13th

PLEASE FILL IN:

In memory of: _____

FROM: _____

In honor of: _____

FROM: _____

Proceeds benefit the women and children of Nehemiah's Way



The Reverend David Lutcher
dclutcher@comcast.net
(h) 215-723-5754

Office Phone: 215-855-4676
Church Office Secretary
Patti Kennedy
pattikennedy2@verizon.net

Stepping Stones –
Glenda Wismer
steppingstonesoffice@verizon.net

Grace Lutheran Church
40 N. Main St.
Hatfield, PA 19440-2905

April 2018

- Apr 1 Easter Services
Apr 8 Pulpit Exchange
Apr 22 Earth Day - Bear Creek Temple Talk



See More Important Details Inside