



Parish News

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

Summer 2018

A Letter from Pastor

Inside this issue:

Grace Becomes A Supporting Congregation of the Lutheran Community at Telford

Dear Members and Friends,

I am excited to let you know that Grace has recently become a supporting congregation of the Lutheran Community at Telford (LCT), a Lutheran-based, non-profit, continuing care community upon a favorable vote by the LCT Board of Directors and our own Church Council. LCT provides a wide selection of residential living options, personal care and healthcare services for seniors and others in special need.

As you may know, I have served on the board at LCT for more than a dozen years, both as pastor of Grace and at my previous congregation, St. Andrew's Lutheran in Perkasio. St. Andrew's was one of the original founding congregations of the institution and continued as a supporting congregation. In fact, in the 50+ year history of LCT, there have only been three changes in the supporting congregations: the closure of St. Luke's, Dublin; Trinity, Lansdale joining a few years ago, and now the addition of Grace. I think that speaks well for the mutual benefit such an association has produced for all.

Grace was a special beneficiary of LCT's generosity when we worshipped at the Luther Rose Chapel on the LCT campus. Originally, we asked for 7 weeks there, but due to the building construction delays, we worshipped at the Chapel 17 Sundays and I also conducted funerals for three of our members there. The chaplain and the staff gave us wonderful hospitality at a time we really needed it AND NO RENT WAS EVER

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CHARGED TO GRACE. Most recently, I hosted a spiritual gifts workshop for some of our members. Grace has also been responsible to lead two Sunday afternoon worship services and our choir has been a welcome part of that worship.

So what does it mean to be a supporting congregation? LCT will channel publicity through us so our members can know about the opportunities there. Spiritually, half of the LCT residents have Lutheran roots and 1/3 are from the supporting congregations. LCT may occasionally ask for donations from members, specifically for Auxiliary dues and the Century Club which happens every fall with a specific capital project in mind. You may give if you wish or choose to give nothing. But know that the LCT is secure financially, continues to expand, and the budget is much larger than the supporting congregations combined! LCT is the largest employer in the borough of Telford. LCT also offers opportunities for many kinds of volunteering. Two special volunteers are a representative we now have on the Advisory Committee which provides feedback and makes recommendations to the Board, as well as a forum for input from LCT constituents. As a start, Frank Stone (Sr.) has agreed to serve on the Advisory Committee as Grace's representative. There is also the opportunity for a Grace representative on the Ladies Auxiliary, which promotes several fundraising projects and good works at the Community. If you would be interested in serving in that capacity, please let me know.

The mission and vision of LCT are as follows:

Our Mission: The Lutheran Community at Telford is a secure retirement community providing a progressive level of care. We are committed to a Christian environment dedicated to the compassionate, loving and spiritual well-being of our residents.

Our Vision: Rooted in the faith of our founders; building on our passion for care to be recognized as an industry leader in Continuing Care Retirement Communities.

Grace has always been blessed and has been a blessing to a multitude of collaborations we share in, including Laymen Playmen, H3C, the Hatfield Pastor's Fund, Bear Creek Camp, Mitzvah Circle Foundation, the Indian Valley Cluster, Lower Montgomery Conference, and the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

Each of those collaborations provide ministries that we could never do on our own. I pray that this new collaboration will be a blessing to our congregation and those who will participate as residents, employees, and volunteers. If you have any questions about this venture, please feel free to speak with me.

Together in Ministry,

+ Pastor Dave Lutcher

Indian Valley Annual Cluster Service

Our Annual worship with the other five congregations of our cluster will be held on Sunday, August 19 at 10 am at Christ Lutheran Church, Kulpsville. The address is 2211 Mainland Rd., Harleysville, PA 19438. Pastor Shirley Guider from St. Paul's, Telford and a former intern at Grace, will be the preacher and all cluster pastors will participate. There will be Holy Communion and Special Music. Following the service, there will be a fellowship meal. Please check Grace Notes to find out what we should bring for the meal. There will be no worship services at Grace on August 19.

ELCA World Hunger is pleased to announce the 2019 Domestic Hunger Grant application will open soon! You can learn more about the grants by visiting [**ELCA.org/domestichungergrants**](https://www.elca.org/domestichungergrants).

Based on feedback from previous applicants, our team has been revising the grant application and the webpage to make both more helpful to you, our ministry partners. To learn more about Domestic Hunger Grants and the new ELCA Grantmaker system, we invite you to attend a webinar that will review our granting priorities and cover the basics of applying.

Thank you for all you do to creatively and courageously work toward a just world where all are fed – neighborhood to neighborhood, community to community. If you have any questions or feedback, please contact us at [**Hunger@ELCA.org**](mailto:Hunger@ELCA.org).

YOU ARE INVITED TO MAKE CONNECTIONS THIS SUMMER.....

July 8-13 Community Vacation Bible School

Have you registered your children, your grandchildren, your neighbors?

Have you volunteered? Are you planning to attend the adult class?

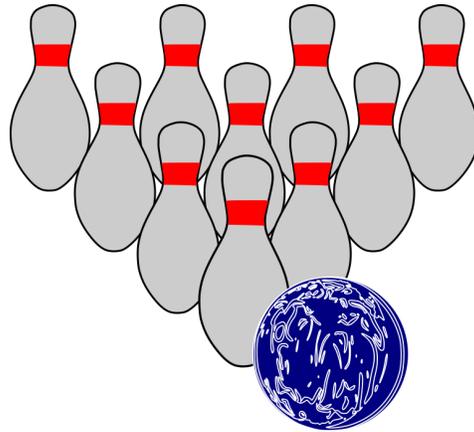
See Laura Slugg for details

July 29 Bowling for all ages

Earl Bowl 6 – 8 p.m.

Sign up sheet in the narthex

See Tami Sarm for details



September 9 Breakfast for the congregation 9:15 a.m.

Casseroles provided; bring other breakfast goodies

Visit our Ministries Fair and learn what is going on in the congregation

September 16 Sunday School for children begins See Laura Slugg

New adult class begins See Sara Barton

The purpose of the Christian Connections Committee is to help members of Grace to make connections to God, to the church and to each other.

Caring With Cards

During the summer months of June, July, and August the INreach Team will be collecting small denomination gift cards to distribute to our members in need. There are times when the Team would like to provide a meal or supplies to someone, but, we just do not know what they might need. A gift card may be the best option. So when you are checking out at **Giant, ShopRite, Walmart** (or anywhere else you might shop) pick up a \$5 or \$10 gift card and give it to an INreach Team member, Pastor, or just place it in Carol MacDonald's mailbox. We will make sure it's used to help care for a Grace member who needs a little TLC.

Directory

If you have a change of information, please consider contacting Patti Kennedy (215-855-4676, pattikennedy2@verizon.net) and giving her any **updates to your phone number, mailing address, or email address**. All the information that was generously shared and collected during services/events this winter is finally getting updated to the system. There is a LOT going on at Grace and in our Grace family and we want to keep you informed!

Thank you!!!

Just wanted to give a shout out to the dynamic duo team of Peggy and Bruce Schmidt. This spring, they managed to host/coordinate numerous events here at Grace: Stitch In, Spring Flea Market, Mother's Day Dinner, and the annual Roll and Stroll, all while raising another 100 tomato plants to share with others. These events offer fun opportunities for everyone in church, as well as our community and has given Peggy another creative way to generate funds (currently \$3000) towards completion of a warming center at the Wagner House. One more way Grace will be able to be a beacon of light to everyone in Hatfield...thank you Peggy and Bruce!

Upcoming Events...

Keep an eye out in upcoming newsletters and bulletins for some exciting, new events this fall!

Meals, Visitations, Rides, etc.

Mama Jean is still lovingly making phone calls each month to members in need. There are also many INreach team members and volunteers who are quietly working behind the scenes to offer a meal or ride, check in on a member, take care of a sewing project, deliver flowers, etc. Just a reminder that we are here for ANYONE in the congregation, but, we can only attempt to help if we are informed. Please call the church office or anyone on the INreach team if you or someone you know could use a helping hand or heart.

The INreach Team: Sarah Barton, Kay Deussing, Mama Jean Geotter, Kitty Heckler, Robin & Pastor Lutcher, Lori Pluda, Tami Sarm, Peggy & Bruce Schmidt, Kay Stone, Sue Weiland, Emily Woltmann, Fay Younger, and Carol MacDonald

***Caring for Grace members with Christian love
during life's challenging times***

BACK PACK PROJECT

If it's summer, it must be back pack time! Each year the Hatfield Community Christian Coalition donates 50 back packs to preschool children who attend day care or nursery school. If you have been at Grace to see Stepping Stones students holding on a rope to go to and from the playground, or to watch them play in fellowship hall during bad weather, you have seen some of the recipients of the back packs. Others go to children at Friendship House or other local day care centers. These children are ages 2- 5.

The value of each back pack is approximately \$50. All donations come from Grace, Emmanuel, Church of the Brethren, St. Marie Goretti, and the Franconia Heritage Restaurant. In addition to the back pack, each child receives a bag of food appropriate for snacks and lunches. All the food, 50 grocery bags, comes from St Marie Goretti. The other churches and restaurants donate:

Back packs	Lunch bags	Wide mouth thermoses
Ice packs	Crayons	Markers
Glue sticks	Baby wipes	Hand sanitizer
Toothbrushes	Tooth paste	Scissors



Each church has assumed responsibility to collect certain items. **We are responsible for back packs, lunch bags, wide mouth thermoses (for soup or mac and cheese), baby wipes (small package), and hand sanitizers (small bottles).**

Watch for a display in the narthex. We are collecting through August 12. For questions, see Joyce Salter or Mary Catherine Reilly.

Want to make huge difference in someone life? Have an hour or two to spare?

Be a Mitzvah Circle Foundation driver!

We need volunteers to drive throughout Montgomery County and to Philadelphia, Bucks, Berks, Chester and Delaware counties.

Call or email us today!

(267) 649-7610 or rachel@mitzvahcircle.org

Mitzvah Circle Foundation is a non-profit organization in Harleysville that provides basic necessities to people struggling with crisis, poverty, serious illness and homelessness.

**A COAT FOR EVERY CHILD-
ANNUAL HATFIELD COMMUNITY COAT DRIVE:**

Help the Hatfield Community Christian Coalition give coats to the needy children of the Hatfield Community. The H3C is once again planning the Annual Coat Drive for this coming Fall.

The churches and members of the Hatfield Community are collecting NEW Winter Coats for children who need them. We need sizes Infant to youth 16/18. We usually have a great need for girl sizes 10-18 and boys sizes 2T- 5. The collection will begin September 9th and continue until Sunday, October 28th. The distribution will be held at Grace Lutheran Church on Tuesday, October 30th from 3:00pm-7:00pm. Please bring the coats to Grace Lutheran Church.

The Hatfield Community Christian Coalition (H3C) is a group of local pastors, food cupboard directors, representatives of Manna, NAVICATE, St. Vincent De Paul, and concerned persons of the Hatfield Community. The purpose of this group is to provide, through donations and networking, supplementary services to those persons who use the Hatfield food cupboards, local Elementary Schools and Hatfield Community preschools.

Together we can take care of our children by providing them the warmth and protection of coats this winter.

Join us as we provide "A Coat for Every Child".

Mary Catherine Reilly and Joyce Salter

Food Collection for EEC

No matter the season, there are always hungry people in Hatfield who are not able to afford to put food in their pantry. This summer, as you make your weekly (daily) grocery shopping trips, please keep those in mind who are less fortunate and add an extra non-perishable food*, personal care, or household product to your cart. Whenever you are at Grace, you can drop it in our collection bins in the narthex. Your gifts are brought to the food cupboard at Emmanuel ECC, as well as being shared (at Pastors discretion) with hungry people who show up at our door. No matter what, your offerings are carefully distributed to our Hatfield neighbors in need. There are updated shopping lists of items on the bins for you to take with you. Many thanks for your past and future generosity!

***Remember, we also collect animal food** too! Donations will be brought to Christ Lutheran Church where they are distributed to animal parents who are struggling to feed their four legged children.

Laymen Playmen and Bear Creek Thank You

Dear Grace Congregation,

On behalf of The Laymen Playmen, Inc. Board and General Membership, I want to extend our sincere thanks for the opportunity to “return to our roots” as the location of our auditions, rehearsals, and Board Meeting for our 2018 production of “Peter Pan”. It is very exciting to be a part of a generous partnership with your Church Board, and members. This particular production included many children and parent support was wonderful, and we filled the seats for many of the shows. It was a very busy and successful year for all.

The church members of Grace have been continuously welcoming and helpful. There just aren't enough words to say “Thank You” for 31 years of your continued support.

Please accept this check as a small token for all that you do for Laymen Playmen, Inc. as we continue our mission to help the Hatfield Community.

May God Bless You All,
Fred Wiesinger, President, The Laymen Playmen, Inc.

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you very much for donating an auction item (literature basket) to Bear Creek Camp's Campfire and Cocktails Gala. We appreciate your support in providing kids with the ability to attend camp. We are happy to provide opportunities for spiritual growth, community building, faith formation and exciting adventures to all our campers and guests.

Your support helped us raise over \$22,000 for our Campership Fund! We had an amazing evening sharing food, having fun, and dancing the night away. Thank you for being a part of the event! We are already looking forward to next year. Mark your calendars for March 30th, 2018 as our Gala will be held at the Homewood Suites in Center Valley once again! Please check out all our pictures from the Gala on Facebook!

I encourage you to keep up with all that is happening at Bear Creek Camp by checking out our website at bearcreekcamp.org or by “liking” our page on Facebook. We would also welcome you to visit the camp as we would love to show you around and explore all we have to offer.

Thank you once again for your gift! We thank God for you!
Sincerely, Ban Scharnhorst, Bear Creek Camp Executive Director

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.



Mark your calendars: Yoga class will be back Wednesday's in September- 6:30-7:30pm.

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

<i>John Fischer</i>	<i>Silvia Light</i>	<i>Elijah Krout</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>Wendy Amparano</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>Jacob Bregler</i>	<i>Ron and Karen Hudson</i>	<i>Rich Woltmann</i>
<i>Dorene Bobb</i>	<i>Beth Brown</i>	<i>Marianne Grubb</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>Margaret Stangl</i>
<i>The family of Jean Meibohm</i>	<i>The Family of Nancy Benner</i>	<i>The family of Don Capanear, Sr.</i>
<i>The family of Peg Weaver</i>	<i>The family of Jerry Kratz</i>	<i>The family of June Sarm</i>
<i>Dave Watkins, family friend of Sue Weiland and the Moseng Family</i>		
<i>Bill Forst</i>	<i>Stepping Stones Teachers, Ann and Heidi</i>	

Summer Wednesday Evening Fellowship Gatherings

Summer Picnics continue in July and August. We begin our time together with dinner and fellowship. Dinner is at **6:30 pm**. Bring your favorite **picnic dish** to share and a lawn chair or blanket. If you have a favorite **outdoor game** to share, bring it too. *Event is rain or shine!!*

This is a great time to catch up with Grace Friends during the summer when our schedules are busy with traveling and family activities.

July 18th Hosts: John and Bonnie Stangl at their home
3356 Morris Road, Lansdale *Bring your bathing suit and towel if you'd like to swim!!*

July 25th Hosts: Jim and Lori Pluda at their home
1613 Harvest Moon Lane, Hatfield

August 8th Hosts: Peggy and Bruce Schmidt at their home
155 Forest Way, Hatfield

August 22nd Hosts: Barb Watts, Richard Badman, Betty Murray at the home of
Barb Watts 147 N. Main Street, Hatfield

PICNICS ARE RAIN OR SHINE!!



Summer Worship Schedule continues through Sept. 2nd One Worship Service at 9:15 pm Bible Story and Craft Time for Children

During our **9:15 am** Summer Worship Services the children are invited to participate in the Bible Story and Craft Time. Children who participate will leave the sanctuary after the gospel reading and return for communion. The children may return to the Nursery or Fellowship Hall after communion until the end of the service. At the conclusion of worship, please meet your children in the Nursery or Fellowship Hall.

Bible Story and Craft will continue through Sunday, August 26th

Note: No Bible Story and Craft on Sunday, July 1st, August 19th, and September 2nd



Stepping Stones Update

Stepping stones is welcoming summer and the nice warm weather. We are looking forward to playing in the sprinkler and having water play outside. We are saying goodbye to some of our friends that are going to kindergarten in the fall. We wish them well. We are saying hello to some new friends who are joining us for the summer and fall 2018.

Some items that we are in need of at this time are towels and wash clothes. They do not need to be new, gently used is fine, we use them for cleaning toys and games. Scrap Paper is another item that we can use, white or colored paper is fine.

Glenda Wismer, Director
Stepping Stones Nursery School and Day Care

Summer Serving Schedule

July	1	8	15	22	29
Communion Assist	Robin Lutcher	Sara Barton	Ken Seiler	Tom Lewis	Frank Stone
Lector	Lori Pluda	Betty Murray	Bob Kaler	Betty Murray	Frank Stone
Acolyte	Tom Lewis	Tom Lewis	Wyeth Slugg	Bob Kaler Family	Wyeth Slugg
Ushers	B&J Stangl	T Lewis & M Slugg	K Seiler & Bob Smyrl	Bob Kaler Family	B. Reilly & K. Stone
Greeters	Lori Pluda	Lori Pluda	Betty Murray	Barb Watts	Betty Murray
Flower Delivery	MC Reilly	Kathy Stawaz	Lori Pluda	J&B Krout	K&F Stone
Children's Story/Craft	NA	Beth & Jeff Krout	Jaime Snyder	Robin Lutcher	Peggy Schmidt

Aug	5	12	19	26
Communion Assist	Dave Kunkel	Dan Sarm	NA	Sara Barton
Lector	K Heckler	Frank Stone	NA	K Heckler
Acolyte	S Herculini	O Stone	NA	L Haldeman
Ushers	Don Capanear & A Lund	C & P MacDonald	NA	T Lewis & M Slugg
Greeters	K Deussing	K Deussing	NA	K Heckler
Flower Delivery	Harold Schaefer	C Macdonald	NA	Betty Murray
Children's Story/Craft	MC Reilly	TBA	Cluster Gathering	Matt & Laura Slugg

Altar Guild - July 15 & 29: Emily and Rich Woltmann; **July 1** - MaryJane Moyer; **July 8** - Robin Lutcher; **July 22** - Nancy Sellers & June Detweiler

Council Duties - July: Bob Reilly

Altar Guild - Aug: MaryJane & Dale Moyer

Council Duties - Aug: Tami Sarm

The **Summer Worship Schedule** is one communion service at 9:15 am that includes a children's Bible Story with craft time. Calvary Korean Church will use the sanctuary each Sunday starting at 12:30 pm.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Sun Jul 1, 2018 | Summer Worship Schedule |
| Sun Jul 8, 2018
Jul 8-12, 2018 | Summer Worship Schedule / VBS Installation
6:00pm VBS (dinner included) |
| Sun Jul 15, 2018
Wed Jul 18, 2018
Thu Jul 19, 2018 | Summer Schedule
6:30pm Picnic @ the Stangls
9:30am H3C
12:30pm Cluster Pastor's Meeting |
| Sun Jul 22, 2018
Mon Jul 23, 2018
Jul 24-Jul 30
Wed Jul 25, 2018 | Summer Worship Schedule
7:15pm Mutual Ministry
Pastor Lutcher on Vacation
6:30pm Fellowship picnic at Pludas |
| Sun Jul 29, 2018
Tue Jun 31, 2018
Aug 2 - Aug 3, 2018 | Summer Worship Schedule - Marcia Bell, Supply Pastor
6pm Bowling at Earl Bowl
7:15pm Stewardship
Pastor Lutcher away at Continuing Education |
| Sun Aug 5, 2018
Mon Aug 6, 2018
Tue Aug 7, 2018
Wed Aug 8, 2018 | Summer Worship Schedule
7:15pm Communication Team Meeting
7:15pm Giving in Service
7pm Stitchers
7:15pm Worship and Music
6:30pm Church Picnic at Schmidts |
| Sun Aug 12, 2018
Mon Aug 13, 2018
Tue Aug 14, 2018
Thu Aug 16, 2018 | Summer Worship Schedule
7:30pm Christian Connections
7:30om Church Council
6pm Mitzvah Circle Service Night |
| Sun Aug 19, 2018
Wed Aug 22, 2018
Thu Aug 23, 2018 | Cluster Service @ Christ, Kulpsville - Newsletter Info Due
6:30om Church Picnic at Barb Watts
7:15pm Stewardship |
| Sun Aug 26, 2018
Tue Aug 28, 2018 | Summer Worship Schedule
10am Newsletter Mailing |

See you on Sept. 9th for Rally Day and two services

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. ***Song of Solomon 2:12***

We humans are not the earth's only singers. We are part of a larger symphony, the music of all creation. And we can delight in this symphony, as God surely does, when we take time to listen. Where ever we are---in forest, jungle, or desert, or on mountains of plains---nature sings. The wolf, the tiger, the elephant, the mountain lion, the eagle, all have their parts in the chorus.

If I lived by the ocean, nature's music would be sung against the rolling surf thundering perpetually like a great thirty-two-foot organ pipe. If I were able to live under the ocean, I would hear the amazing cadenzas sung by our close cousins, the whales and dolphins.

But we don't have to go to exotic places to hear the infinite musical variety of nature. Even in our city, the sounds of some of God's smallest creatures can be heard. Pigeons in the square, crickets in the park, the wind whistling down Main Street, rain splashing the side walks---all are part of the symphony.

The writer of ***Song of Solomon*** reminds of to listen to the sounds of Summer and to listen to our choir when we re convene this September.

Ken Delmar
Minister of Music

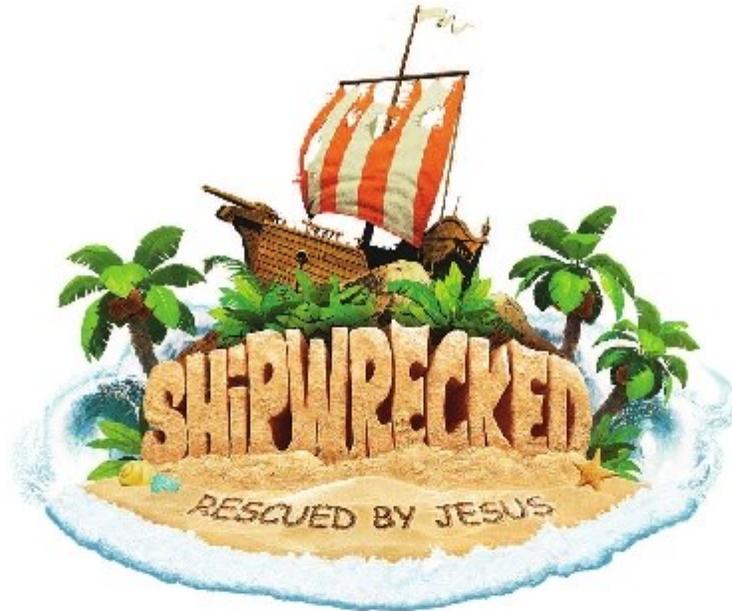
SUMMER SNACKS FOR STEPPING STONES:

We are collecting snack foods again this summer to support this Stepping Stones Snacks. Please bring in any items on the following list to help our children. Large- package quantities will be divided into individual bags for the children by their teachers. Look for the collection basket in the Narthex for your donations. The snacks needed by Stepping Stones are:

- Teddy Grams
- Goldfish
- Cheezits
- Graham Crackers- squares
- Individual Cracker Packages
- Cookies

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please ask Joyce Salter or MC Reilly

Come sail away...



The best week of the summer!

- New friends
- Amazing experiments
- Creative games
- Tropical treats
- Surprising adventures
- Incredible music

Location: GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, HATFIELD
(church name)

VBS will last from: JULY 8th - JULY 12th
(VBS dates)

Each day's fun begins at: 6:00pm (dinner included)
(VBS starting time)

The VBS day ends at: 8:30pm
(VBS ending time)

For more information, call: 215-855-4676
(church phone number)



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

Summer 2018

July 8-12 VBS
July 18 & 25 Summer Fellowship
Aug 8 & 22 Summer Fellowship



See More Important Details Inside

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