



# Parish News

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

## A Letter from Pastor

**February  
 2019**

Dear Friends in Christ,

This is my final pastor's letter to you as my call at Grace officially ends with my retirement, effective February 1. I thank each of you, your families, friends, and community partners for over five years of ministry together. Thank you for allowing me to enter with the love of Jesus in some of the most joyous as well as heart wrenching times of your lives. We have accomplished much together. I am grateful for your listening minds and ears, and your words of support and encouragement. I thank you for the times you have reached out and cared for my family. As I am sure you are also, I am disappointed that we could not accomplish more to spread the Gospel and the love of Jesus together. I ask your forgiveness for my many mistakes and failures.

You are one important chapter of my 37 years of ministry and you have helped to make me who I am today. I will cherish many memories and relationships. I hope that we will remain friends, although I will no longer be your pastor. I pray that you will love and support your interim pastor and the next settled pastor who comes to Grace. May we always know that our past, present, and future are all in God's hands.

Let us pray. *"O God, you have called your servants to ventures which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord."* Amen (From ELW Evening Prayer)

With blessings,

+ Pastor David Lutcher

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**Pastoral Acts for December and January:**

**Hayley Elizabeth Weierman**, daughter of Katie Weierman, was baptized at Grace on January 13, 2019.

**Oliver Alfred Eaton**, son of Kelly and Brandi Eaton, was baptized at Grace on January 20, 2019.

**Elizabeth Bauer** was received into membership on December 16, 2018.

**Thomas Widlund** was received into membership on January 13, 2019.

**William E. Forst** died on December 1, 2018. His funeral was held at Grace on December 6, 2018.

**Joseph E. McGlinchey** died on December 9, 2018. His funeral was held at Grace on December 15, 2018.

**Marianne V. Grubb** (our oldest member at 99) died on December 25, 2018. Her funeral was held at Grace on January 5, 2019.

**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 im-*

**Soup Sale**

Want to warm your Valentine's heart with a scrumptious bowl of soup? Did you enjoy the tasty soup lovingly made by the InReach Team and Grace volunteers this fall? Don't miss out this time! On February 10<sup>th</sup> we will have delicious quarts of soup on sale with advanced orders beginning January 27<sup>th</sup>. Look for sign-up sheets for soup makers and consumers in the Narthex and order yours today!



**Lutherans in the 116th Congress** (Excerpt from ELCA.org posted by ELCA Advocacy written by Andrew Fuller, Advocacy Coordinator)

Both incumbent ELCA Lutherans who ran for re-election to the U.S. Senate, Sen. Martin Heinrich, D-N.M., and Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, successfully won their respective races in November. They will rejoin their other Lutheran Senate colleagues when the new Congress starts in January 2019, including ELCA members Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., and Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa; as well as Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) member Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis.; and The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS) member Cory Gardner, R-Colo.

Five new Lutheran-affiliated members will be joining the U.S. House of Representatives this year., Lutheran colleagues now include Rep. David Trone, D-Md.; Rep. Angie Craig, D-Minn.; Rep. Kelly Armstrong, R-N.D.; Rep. Xochitl Torres Small, D-N.M.; and LCMS member Rep. Jim Hagedorn, R-Minn. Two incumbent Lutheran members did not win their bids for re-election this year: self-described Lutheran member Rep. David Young, R-Iowa; and LCMS member Rep. Erik Paulsen, R-Minn.

The seven incumbent ELCA House of Representatives members who won re-election and will continue serving in the 116th Congress include Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif.; Rep. Scott Peters, D-Calif.; Rep. Chellie Pingree, D-Maine; Rep. Collin Peterson, D-Minn.; Rep. Lloyd Smucker, R-Pa.; Rep. John Carter, R-Texas; and Rep. Denny Heck, D-Wash. Re-elected LCMS representatives include Rep. John Shimkus, R-Ill.; Rep. Larry Bucshon, R-Ind.; and Rep. Glenn Grothman, R-Wis. WELS member Rep. Ron Kind, D-Wis., also will rejoin the House. Other self-described Lutherans re-elected to the House are Rep. Jack Bergman, R-Mich.; and Rep. Donald Norcross, D-N.J.

*Special Mention:*

Four Lutheran members did not seek re-election last November, including ELCA Rep. Bill Shuster, R-Pa.; Rep. Tim Walz, D-Minn.; Rep. Diane Black, R-Tenn.; and LCMS member Rep. Dave Reichert, R-Wash. Among those not seeking re-election, former Congressman Tim Walz won the gubernatorial race in Minnesota and will be joining the state house at the start of 2019. We are grateful for their leadership in Congress and look forward to engaging with them in the future!

### InReach Activities

Have a delicious family recipe that you love and would like to share? Help the InReach Team as they create a Grace cookbook that will be available for sale this spring. To submit your recipe email Sue Wieland



### Stepping Stones Update

We had a great holiday season. Our Christmas program on December 12<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. Thank you to all the Grace members who came to our program. Kudo's to the Teachers and children. The children did an outstanding job of playing the bells, learning songs, finger plays, and performing for the audience. A lot of work goes into the performance and everyone did a super job.

January was a busy month we covered Topics like snow, winter, arctic animals, winter sports, snowflakes and snowmen. The creativity of the children was very evident in their art projects this month, we have some beautiful snowmen and snowflakes, penguins, etc. hanging in our classrooms. Some of our classes did experiments with Ice and some had fake snow in their sensory table. We are looking forward to February with lots of Valentine fun. Thank you to all of you who have shared snack items with us for the children, keep it coming; it is greatly appreciated.

### Grace is offering *Financial Peace*

*Financial Peace University* is a nine-lesson, money-management class taught by America's most trusted financial guru, Dave Ramsey. Dave and his teaching team will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future, and much more. And now you can experience this life-changing group the way that's best for you: with other people in a local group, online at your own pace or both! Classes are open to anyone in the community and will be held on Thursday nights starting on January 24, 2019. For more info, check out the website: <http://www.fpu.com/1079426>

Christmas, 2018

As I began assembling my thoughts for this thank you note to all of you wonderful people, I went back to the requests from the families you supported. We mostly received requests for clothing, diapers, formula, and Walmart gift cards. Each year I hope our services will not be needed as in the past, and that families are in better shape financially. This year our help was needed even more than ever. In November, I received a call from the Oak Park Elementary School Counselor and her requests for help for Christmas had grown to 71 families in her school. We supported 16 of her families with Christmas gifts and an additional 24 families in the Hatfield Community. With all of your help and donations, we were then able to create 90 boxes of nonperishables for the entire school as well as our additional families. These "Angel Boxes" included paper products, soaps, toothpaste and brushes, and cleaning products. All of these items are unable to be purchased with food stamps. When I asked for all of your help, I never imagined the depth and generosity that it would produce. You all gave from your hearts and I can't thank you all enough.

The Counselor, Mindy Schewe, wrote a note to you:

*Thank you for helping with the Oak Park Elementary School Holiday Giving Program again this year. We truly appreciate you generously donating your own time and money to help our families in need. We believe that the support that we provide families at the holidays helps us to connect with families and create a caring and collaborative learning environment. We teach our students to be respectful and kind to others throughout their school day, and we try to model that behavior. The holiday giving program is another way we demonstrate kindness, and your compassion and generosity make it possible.*

*Mindy Schewe, Counselor, Oak Park Elementary School*

We did receive numerous thank you notes from families, and I wanted to highlight a few comments that stood out. One mother shared, "Thank you so much for making Christmas special again for my family. May God continue to bless you all." Another mother shared, "God bless you for giving us hope back." We will never know how far reaching your kindness and generosity have traveled, but many families hope to pay it forward due to your gifts of love. Thank you all for sharing your time and treasures with others. May God bless you all for your unselfish donations to those in our community who needed a hand up and not a hand out at this time.

**Please keep the following people in your prayers:**

<i>John Fischer</i>	<i>Silvia Light</i>	<i>Elijah Krout</i>
<i>Ralph and 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 &amp; Fred Matolicz</i>
<i>Al Godshall</i>	<i>Tina Blain (friend of MacDonalds)</i>	
<i>Cindy Kunkel</i>	<i>Ron and Karen Hudson</i>	<i>Rich Woltmann</i>
<i>Dorene Bobb</i>	<i>Beth Brown</i>	<i>Bob Darde</i>
<i>Joe Hopkins</i>	<i>Ambrose Marchiano</i>	<i>John Cisler</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>Richard Badman</i>	<i>Xavier Jackson</i>	<i>Margaret Stangl</i>
<i>Jean Goetter</i>	<i>Helen Godshall</i>	<i>John Stangl</i>
<i>Annette Beyer</i>	<i>Dale Moyer</i>	<i>Chip Wood</i>
<i>Jim Pluda</i>	<i>Joyce Salter</i>	<i>Shannon Ryan</i>
<i>Joan Amundsen</i>	<i>Mandie and Emmett</i>	<i>The Family of Bill Forst</i>
<i>Laurie Ronan (neighbor of the MacDonalds)</i>		
<i>Andy Armstrong (Friend of MacDonalds)</i>		
<i>The Family of David Stout</i>		
<i>The Family of Rev. Paul Bittner, Lori Pluda's father</i>		
<i>The Family of Bob Lutcher, Pastor Lutcher's father</i>		
<i>The Family of William J. Schmidt, nephew of the Roney family</i>		
<i>The Family of Joe McGlinchey</i>		
<i>The Family of Marianne Grubb</i>		
<i>The Ruth Schaffer Family, Andrea Roney's aunt</i>		

**Christmas Thanks**

Thanks so very much for your great soup and cookies plus candy. It was so good. Joan Roeder

Suzanne Colville wants to thank WELCA, InReach, and the congregation for the cookies, candy, olive-wood nativity ornament, many Christmas cards, and prayers she received over the Christmas Holiday.





## *Adopt-A-Family Christmas Project 2018*

The *Giving in Service Team* would like to thank you for helping to make the Adopt-a-Family project a success. All the wishes of our three families were granted!! Thanks to your generosity the families enjoyed a Christmas filled with joy and blessings. Special thanks to our Confirmands for shopping for our families! Thrivent Financial helped with our project by donating \$250 for our shopping trip! A big thank you to our team of expert organizers who helped to get the gifts ready for delivery to our families.

*The Giving in Service Team* – Jean Shaffer, Lori Pluda, Diane Ball, Carol MacDonald, Mary Jane Moyer, and Kay Stone

## **Rice Bowl Will Begin Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

During the Lenten Season our **Rice Bowl** project helps others in need of food and other necessities. In 2019, our Lenten Season begins in **March**. Each Sunday during Lent a special offering will be collected during worship services for the Rice Bowl. **In your offering envelope box, special envelopes are provided for each of the six Sundays in Lent.** More information will follow in the March newsletter and Grace Notes.



## February Serving Schedule

Feb	3	10	17	24
Communion Assist - 8am	Joanne Moyer	Anna Walter	David Kunkel	Joanne Moyer
Lector - 8am	Karen Seiler	David Kunkel	Peggy Schmidt	David Kunkel
Acolyte - 8am	Ken Seiler	Walter Family	Ken Seiler	David Kunkel
Ushers- 8am	Ken Seiler & Bob Smyrl	Walter Family	Peggy & Bruce Schmidt	Peggy & Bruce Schmidt
Greeters -8am	Diane Ball	June Detweiler	Ken & Karen Seiler	June Detweiler
Communion Assist - 10:30	Lori Pluda	NA	NA	Joyce Salter
Lector -10:30	Betty Murray	Scouts	Kathy Stawasz	Jaime Snyder
Acolyte-10:30	Paige & Lacey Haldeman	Scouts (2)	Wyeth Slugg & Seth Hercolini	Paige & Lacey Haldeman
Ushers-10:30	Kathy Stawasz & Rich Woltmann	Carol & Paul MacDonald	Kathy Stawasz & Jeff Krout	The Kaler Family
Greeters - 10:30	Karen Heacock	Kathy Stawasz	Cindy Mancuso	Mary Jane Moyer
Flower Delivery	Kathy Stawasz	Jeff & Beth Krout	Dee Mancuso	Carol MacDonald
Nursery - 10:30	Jeff & Beth Krout	Bonnie & Kim Stangl	Jaime Kaler & Crystal Tula	Jeff & Beth Krout

**Altar Guild:** June Detweiler & Kitty Heckler; MaryJane & Dale Moyer  
**Council Duties:** Joanne Moyer and Bob Reilly



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

**Sun Feb 3 2019**

**Regular Worship Schedule**

Mon Feb 4, 2019	7:15pm	Mutual Ministry Team @ the Schmidts
Tue Feb 5, 2019	7:00pm	Stitchers
Wed Feb 6, 2019	10:00am	WELCA
	6:30pm	Yoga
Thu Feb 7, 2019	8:00pm	Beauty and the Beast @ LUMC
Fri Feb 8, 2019	8:00pm	Beauty and the Beast @ LUMC
Sat Feb 9, 2019	2:00pm	Beauty and the Beast @ LUMC
	8:00pm	Beauty and the Beast @ LUMC

**Sun Feb 10, 2019**

**Regular Worship Schedule - Scout Sunday/Soup Sale**

	2:00pm	Beauty and the Beast @ LUMC
Mon Feb 11, 2019	7:30pm	Christian Connections
Tue Feb 12, 2019	7:15pm	Worship & Music
Wed Feb 13, 2019	6:30pm	Yoga
Thu Feb 14, 2019	8:00pm	Beauty and the Beast @ LUMC
Fri Feb 15, 2019	8:00pm	Beauty and the Beast @ LUMC
Sat Feb 16, 2019	2:00pm	Beauty and the Beast @ LUMC
	8:00pm	Beauty and the Beast @ LUMC

**Sun Feb 17, 2019**

**Regular Worship Schedule - newsletter info due**

	2:00pm	Beauty and the Beast @ LUMC
Tue Feb 19, 2019	7:00pm	Church Council
Wed Feb 20, 2019	6:30pm	Yoga

**Sun Feb 24, 2019**

**Regular Worship Schedule**

Tue Feb 26, 2019	10:00am	Newsletter mailing
Wed Feb 27, 2019	6:30pm	Yoga



Celebrating our 32<sup>nd</sup> Year  
**The Laymen Playmen, Inc.**

Proudly Present



Disney's  
**BEAUTY**  
AND  
THE  
**BEAST**

Music by  
Alan Menken

Lyrics by  
Howard Ashman & Tim Rice

Book by  
Linda Woolverton

**Thursday Feb. 7 8:00 PM**  
**Friday Feb. 8 8:00 PM**  
**Saturday Feb. 9 2:00 PM**  
**& 8:00 PM**  
**Sunday Feb. 10 2:00 PM**  
**Thursday Feb. 14 8:00 PM**  
**Friday Feb. 15 8:00 PM**  
**Saturday Feb. 16 2:00 PM**  
**& 8:00 PM**  
**Sunday Feb. 17 2:00 PM**

<b>TICKETS</b>	
Adults	\$15.00
Seniors (65+)	\$10.00
Students (6 to 18)	\$10.00
Children (5 & under)	\$5.00
<i>Group discounts &amp; Gift Certificates available</i>	

**2019**

[www.laymenplaymen.org](http://www.laymenplaymen.org)

**Reservations: 215 - 368 - 9484**

All performances at Lansdale United Methodist Church  
300 N Broad St. Lansdale PA 19446

Orchestrations by Danny Troob ~ Vocal Arrangements by David Friedman  
Incidental Music by Michael Kosarin ~ Dance Arrangements by Glen Kelly

*For you yourself created my inter most parts, you knit me together in my mother's womb. I will thank you because I am marvelously made. Psalm 139*

When I was a boy growing up, I sung in church choirs and in school choruses. I used to think that I sang with my throat. As I learned a little more about anatomy, I began to realize that my lungs had something to do with the process as well. But now I know that when I sing, I sing not just with my throat and my lungs, but with my whole body.

During my elementary school years, life was full of vigorous physical activity. Running at recess, climbing maple trees, riding bikes with my friends and taking piano lessons.

During my adolescence, however, my days were crammed full with high school classes, participating in school sports, homework, and hours of piano practice.

During my years at Drexel, I continued to sing in the chorus and in my senior year, was made director of the men's glee club. All because of the enjoyment that singing can bring. You ought to try it! We have openings in our choir; soprano, alto, tenor, and bass. No others need apply.

Kenneth Delmar  
Minister of Music

### **Laurel House Valentine's Day Project 2019**

The *Giving In Service Team* would like your support for our Valentine's Day Project for **Laurel House**. We will collect items for the mothers and children of Laurel House which provides shelter and care for abused women and children of Montgomery County. Please check out the display in the narthex and pick up a wish list of items needed for Laurel House. Consider adding one or two of these items to your shopping list. ***Please drop off your gifts by Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>.***



Office Phone: 215-855-4676  
Church Office:  
Kathie Afflerbch, Admin:  
[graceassistant40@gmail.com](mailto:graceassistant40@gmail.com)

Stepping Stones –  
Glenda Wismer  
[steppingstonesoffice@  
verizon.net](mailto:steppingstonesoffice@verizon.net)

## February 2019

Feb 7-10 Laymen Playmen *Beauty and the Beast*  
Feb 10 Scout Sunday / Soup Sale  
Feb 14 Happy Valentine's Day  
Feb 14-17 Laymen Playmen *Beauty and the Beast*



**See More Important Details Inside**

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