



Parish News

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

May 2019

A Letter from the Pastor

*If one members suffers, all suffer together with it;
 if one members is honored, all rejoice together with it.*

I Corinthians 12:26

Dear Friends at Grace,

It's been a special pleasure for me to see the care that members of Grace provide for each other, especially for those who are ill, no longer able to make it out to worship, or are struggling because of a recent death, a health crisis or other problem. These contacts happen through the work of INreach, but also unofficially across the congregation. What strength!

Building upon this strength, I am going to train a group of interested people in the congregation to become Eucharistic ministers in the congregation so that every member of Grace who is homebound can be offered communion once a month, and that all members who are both homebound and who are less able to get out for worship, getting out only occasionally, can be offered lay visits **to supplement the visits of the pastor**. I have developed this program in 3 other congregations and it has been well received. It doesn't take away from what the pastor offers, but multiplies the care and organizes it so that everyone who needs it is included.

Once trained, members of the visitation team may visit on their own or with a partner, may offer the sacrament (already blessed in church) or may just visit without communion, and would meet with the Pastor for ongoing training and support quarterly. Visitors could decide annually if they would like to continue for another year.

If you are interested in becoming part of the visitation team at

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Grace, please contact the church office [215-855-4676, graceassistant40@gmail.com]. Any questions, speak with Pr Peterman.

Yours in Christ,

Interim Pastor Janet S. Peterma

*“For where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there among them,” said Jesus.*

Matthew 18:20

Council Corner

In March we were greeted with the great news, that our Transition Team had been established and plans were in the works for their first meeting. As we have told the congregation, this is an ongoing process that will work on efforts to develop a plan for our future as we look to call a new pastor.

The new Property Committee has met and is already tackling some of the property's maintenance issues. They are planning a “Grace Clean Up Day” in the near future to help give Grace an additional spring cleaning. At the recommendation of the Property Committee, Council is looking to hire a property management company to assist in the management of the properties that Grace owns. In the next few weeks, Council will be reviewing proposals and moving forward on this path.

The new Hearing Assistance Devices are installed as well as the ability to tape our services and burn them to a CD. Both the Communication and Music and Worship Teams were trained on how to operate both systems. They were in place for Holy Week.

This month Council listened to some of the great activities that our Teams have organized. HC3 had their largest Egg Hunt ever; Inreach is planning a Mother's Day Dinner for May 9th, a Flea March on May 18th and participating in Roll and Stroll on May 13th; Communication requested funds from Council to make our website a secure site for its members and guests, plus they will be placing an additional bulletin board in the Narthex and Stepping Stones reported that they will celebrate their 50th Anniversary next year!

Council was excited about the upcoming Holy Week and welcoming family, friends and guests to our services. Peggy Schmidt, Council President

Planting Seed and Other Gardening Tips

How does one win the political games that committees play? Well, you don't always win no matter what you do; but there are ways to help things go more smoothly than they would otherwise.

One of the first things to learn is seed planting. Like any harvest, it will take time for your seed to grow into recognizable results. But you must not expect a mature crop of fruit to appear overnight. If you have an idea that you would like to implement, it will meet some resistance if it means change. People are slow to accept change, and that seems to be magnified ten fold in the church. So allow plenty of time and start planting seeds. Later, after you've planted these seeds, ask the committee to discuss the whole idea. Don't ask for a decision the first time it's brought up in earnest, but ask for research and thought. Indicate that you would like them to look at all angles of the subject so that a wise decision can be made at the right time.

When the right time comes, when it's decision time, you will then have to let go and let God intervene. Maybe in God's timing this is not the year for your crop to reach its best harvest. Perhaps the seed may get planted in another one's garden and that they may bring it up as their idea. Who knows?

Ken Delmar, Minister of Music



Lutheran Community of Telford Auxiliary

Thank you to all for supporting the fund raising efforts at O'Grady's for the Lutheran Community at Telford. With all of your help, \$1,478.00 was raised. Also thank you for the donations to the raffle basket sponsored by Grace Church. Our basket's theme was "Tailgating" and we had 409 chances taken on our basket. The average chances on any one basket was 200 tickets. Not bad for the "new kids on the block". The Auxiliary donated \$13500.00 towards the van at their annual Volunteer Luncheon.

The proceeds of all fundraising goes towards a new wheel chair accessible van for the residents. The van has a price tag of \$40,000.00.

Many thanks, Donna Klementisz and MC Reilly



Lutheran
Community
at Telford

New Offering Envelope for the month of MAY

During the month of May you will notice a new yellow envelope in your offering envelope box. This envelope is designated for the Lutheran Community at Telford. You may recall that in the Spring of 2018 Grace became a supporting church to the Lutheran Community at Telford (LCT). There are 13 area Lutheran churches that support the LCT. What do supporting churches do? Their membership provides leadership and help with fundraising for the community. They also provide a community of Lutherans who could eventually consider the LCT as their home when that type of care is needed. The Lutheran Community at Telford provides all levels of care -- independent living, personal care and health care.

When anyone becomes a resident of the LCT, you are provided with a benefit that if for some reason your funds become limited, a benevolent fund is provided to help you. This benevolent fund is provided through fundraisers and your gifts to the fund.

If you have questions about the LCT, please ask Frank Stone, Sr. who serves on the Advisory Committee or Mary Catherine Reilly who serves on the Ladies Auxiliary.

Electronic Photos Wanted: The Communication Team would like to keep our website Photo Gallery page updated with photos of recent events at Grace. If you have any you would like to share, please contact Bonnie Stangl at bjkstangl@verizon.net.

All Welcome to Our Second Mother's Day Dinner

The dinner, prepared and served by the men of Grace on May 9 at 6:30pm, will include a fresh garden salad starter, spaghetti with meat or sausage sauce, French bread and a brownie dessert with ice cream. Gluten free spaghetti will be available. Beverages offered will be lemonade, water and coffee. The price of the ticket is \$10 with scholarships available. Proceeds from the dinner will be used toward the generator fund. For ticket information or questions contact Bruce Schmidt. Tickets will be sold in between church services as well.

Summer Worship Schedule from May 26th through Sept. 1st
One Worship Service at 9:15 pm
Bible Story and Craft Time for Children begins June 2nd

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. (Location depends on the number of children attending) Bible Story and Craft will continue through Sunday, August 25th

Note: NO Bible Story and Craft on the following Sundays:

July 7th August 4th September 1st



Summer Wednesday Evening Fellowship Gatherings

Our Summer Gatherings on Wednesdays at Grace start in June. We begin our time together with dinner and fellowship. Dinner is at **6:30 pm**. Please consider hosting one of our five Wednesday gatherings. As hosts you provide the main course and invite others to bring side dishes. This is a great time to catch up with Grace Friends during the summer when our schedules are busy with traveling and family activities. If you would like to be a host for one of our Wednesday Evening Picnics, please contact Kay Stone.

Picnics will be held on Wednesday June 19th July 10th and 24th
August 7th and 21st

Church Council members will host our first picnic at Grace on June 19th

PICNICS ARE RAIN OR SHINE!!



2019 Hatfield Community VBS

July 14th – July 18th

5:45pm – 8:30pm, dinner included each night

Hosted by: Heidelberg UCC
1101 Cowpath Rd, Hatfield, PA 19440
(215) 368-0442

4yrs – 8th grade, adults also welcome to Bible Study.

Online registration info coming soon!

Check here for more information as it become available or “like” us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranHatfield> to stay in the loop!

Questions? Leave a message at the church office for Laura Slugg. 215-855-4676

BOOKS FOR BABIES~

This year Books for Babies has taken on an additional purpose. Not only are we collecting books for Mitzvah Circle Foundation, but the two local Food Cupboards, EEC and Church of the Brethren have had requests for children books from the families they are serving.

For the third year the H3C, Hatfield Community Christian Coalition, is sponsoring a Book Drive, BOOKS FOR BABIES, from April 7th through Mother's Day, May 12th. We are collecting new and gently used books for all ages of children and especially cardboard books for babies.

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, wipes and books for babies. Mitzvah Circle Foundation sends a children's hard-backed cardboard book four times a year to the youngest children. They have discovered there is only one book for every 300 homes who are living 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.

Help promote literacy for our families in the Hatfield Community.

If you have any questions or would like to help deliver the books after Mother's Day, please contact MC Reilly.



YOGA (Hatha) CLASS will continue on Wednesdays thru 5/15/19 from 6:30-7:30 pm. All-levels. Poses and sequences will work on using all parts of the body. This will be suitable for those with some yoga experience but also for anyone with little to none, as options will be offered for various poses. The goal is to work on strength and flexibility gradually while gaining an ability to focus on breath and awareness. Where: Grace Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 40 N. Main Street, Hatfield, PA. \$5/class, ages 16 and up. An Exercise mat is needed. Questions contact Kathy Stawasz.

It's never too late to say "Thank You".

I received a Christmas card in the mail this week, and the envelope was all dirty and ripped up. It was held together with multiple pieces of scotch tape at the ripped places. There was even a staple holding the flap down. Needless to say the card was crumpled as well.

That being said, it is the message inside that I am sharing today.

The message read-

"Thank you for your Holiday household items it was truly needed plus the gift cards helped to give her Christmas. I had nothing to give her. God Bless all of you. Thank you".

Some families asked for nothing but gift cards, and they would receive an Angel Box of nonperishables as well as gift cards.

Against all odds and three and a half months later, this "Thank You" found its way to you. MC Reilly

Many thanks to Harold Schaeffer and the Communication Team for completing the project that now gives us the ability to record services at Grace and provide hearing assistance during services to a limited number of attendees. Future plans include posting the sermons on the Grace website and distributing CDs of the service to our shut-ins.

Stepping Stones Update:

As we move towards the end of the school year we have explored some exciting things within the school! Children and teachers alike are enjoying getting back outside into the warm sunshine and we begin putting our snow stuff away to quickly get ready for the Summer. We've celebrated Easter with egg hunts and had our own celebrations of our risen Lord within our classrooms. We've discussed the color purple and what it means for Lent and now we look towards our Nursery School Graduation in May and our journey to the end of the school year. It promises to be fun in the sun!



Grateful Grace Update

In 2018 our **Grateful Grace** offering was given to aid the people in Puerto Rico after the disaster from Hurricane Maria (Fall 2017). Pastor Lutcher contacted Pastor Andreas Wagner at St. Peters Lutheran Church, North Wales. Their congregation did several mission trips to Puerto Rico. Pastor Wagner gave Pastor Lutcher the contact information for Pastor Sharon in Puerto Rico. This is the thank you note that Pastor Lutcher received a month ago from Pastor Sharon (in her own words).

Good Afternoon Pastor David Lutcher, my name is Sharon Ríos Concepción. I am the Pastor of Ascensión Lutheran Church at Santa Rosa, Dorado. I am wrote to you to said thank you so much for the offering Grace Lutheran Church sent to us of a total of \$1, 000, for the purpose of help the community suffer because of hurricane or fire dissaster. We assign \$500.00 to Ms. Keila Rivera who recently lost her house do to a fire. The opher \$500 we will use it to help anothers persons in our community who needs help on the reconstruction of their houses do to Hurricane María. God bless you all. Thanks, Pastor Sharon

Through your gifts to Grateful Grace, you have spread God's love and care to the people of Puerto Rico.

Our Grateful Grace project for 2019 is to help the community of Pollocksville, North Carolina through "The Filling Station", a food cupboard that was created by the Pollocksville Presbyterian Church. Pastor Lutcher's friend, Lyle Swanger traveled to our area in September 2018 to avoid the flooding from Hurricane Florence. Many of you provided supplies for Mr. Swanger to take with him when he returned to Pollocksville. "The Filling Station" seeks to feed the people of their community with food and the opportunity for fellowship. Their "slogan" came from the building where a placard was found that was required for all propane gas vehicles. On the placard was the number 1075. Someone from the church went to the Bible – to Psalms 107:5 which reads "They were hungry and thirsty, their lives were slipping away." And this food cupboard was born:

THE FILLING STATION 107:5

You can read more about the "The Filling Station" on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/FS1075/>

NOTE: Gifts to the Grateful Grace project are accepted at any time. Grateful Grace is our response to the many gifts our church received during the fire that took place in December 2011. Since 2013 we have been helping others through our Grateful Grace project.

Have you heard of LAMPa (Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in PA)

The LAMPa Mission Statement is *In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, we advocate for wise and just public policies in Pennsylvania that promote the common good.*

To advocate is to plead the cause of those suffering injustice. Advocacy ministry is rooted in Scripture, Lutheran theology and our baptismal calling to strive for justice and peace in all the earth*. It is expressed by advocating with and for our neighbors in need, for the sake of the common good, in places where important political and economic decisions are being made.

LAMPa is a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and serves as a State Public Policy Office of the ELCA. LAMPa's vision is centered in the ELCA strategic direction to "Step forward as a public church that witnesses boldly to God's love for all that God has created." Find out more at: <https://www.lutheranadvocacypa.org/>

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

John Fischer

Ralph and Carol Buffone

Suzanne Colville

Paige Haldeman

Sue Deitch

Al Godshall

Cindy Kunkel

Dorene Bobb

Joe Hopkins

Keira Drissel

Muriel Rosenfelt

Richard Badman

Annette Beyer

Sue Weiland's granddaughter, Aubrey

The Family and Friends of Charles and Andrea Roney (Charles' Mother passed away)

The Family and Friends of John Cisler

The Family and Friends of Carol & Paul MacDonald on the death of Carol's Father,

Robert Hallock "Hal" Williams

The Family and Friends of Fred Matolicz

Silvia Light

Joan Lattanze

Laura Cooper

Bob Kaler

Nancy Sellers

Ron and Karen Hudson

Chip Wood

Beth Brown

Liz Bauer

Andy Armstrong (Friend of MacDonalds)

Kristopher Yoder

Xavier Jackson

Dale Moyer

Elijah Krout

Joan Amundsen

Jennifer Kaler-Thomas

Wendy Amparano

Pam Matolicz

Marilyn Homan

Shannon Ryan

Helen Godshall

Cassi Lambert

Mandie and Emmett

Margaret Stangl

Layla Lapino

Hatfield Borough's Roll and Stroll May 13, 5 pm to 8 pm

Ride the Borough's trolley to Grace and pick up your FREE tomato plant. Children will be making their own Blessed Beaches. There will be information on Vacation Bible School and Stepping Stones Preschool. Refreshments will be served. In the parking lot, the Partnership TMA will be distributing FREE bike helmets to children in grades K-8th (while supplies last) and the trikes will be there! Volunteer Needed! Please sign up in the Narthex.



Rice Bowl 2019

The *Giving in Service Team* would like to thank the congregation for supporting our **Rice Bowl project** during the Lenten Season. Your gifts totaled \$2322 through April 14th, Palm Sunday. 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.



Got Too Much Stuff? Sell It At Spring Fling Flea Market

May 18th from 8 am to 12 noon

Have too much "stuff"? Cleaning out your closet and want to make some extra cash? Sell it at Grace's Spring Fling Flea Market. Spaces are \$10.00 for a 10 X 10 outdoor space. Please bring your own tables and chairs. In the event of rain, the Market will be held inside. To reserve your space call 215-855-4676 or email Graceassistant40@gmail.com . A bake sale and refreshments will be available.

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 the Pastor or a Church Council member know if you would prefer that you and/or your child's image not be used.

May Serving Schedule

May	5	12	19	26
Communion Assist - 8am	Anna Walter	Karen Seiler	Ken Seiler	One
Lector - 8am	Kitty Heckler	Kitty Heckler	Davie Kunkel	Service
Acolyte - 8am	Walter Family	Ken Seiler	Davie Kunkel	At 9:15 am
Ushers- 8am	Walter Family	Davie Kunkel	Peggy & Bruce Schmidt	See Servers
Greeters -8am	Diane Ball	Diane Ball	Diane Ball	Below:
Communion Assist - 10:30	John Kerney	N/A	N/A	Lori Pluda
Lector -10:30	Carol Mac-Donald	Frank Stone II	Laura Slugg	Kerry Stone
Acolyte-10:30	Kathy Stawasz & Carol Mac-Donald	Olivia & Frank Stone II	Wyeth Slugg & Seth Herculini	Olivia Stone
Ushers-10:30	Harold Schaefer & Rich Woltmann	Kay Stone & Kay Deussing	John & Bonnie Stangl	Walter Family
Greeters - 10:30	Crystal Tula	Cindy Mancuso	Dan & Tami Sarm	Dan & Tami Sarm
Flower Delivery	Harold Schaefer	Lori Pluda	Mary Catherine Reilly	Kay & Frank Stone
Nursery - 10:30	Slugg Family	Bonnie & Kim Stangl	Jaime Snyder & Crystal Tula	N/A
Altar Guild:	Janice Swartz; Rich & Emily Woltmann			
Council Duties:	Laura Kratz, Kay Deussing			

The **Regular Worship Schedule** is an 8am communion service and a 10:30am service. Sunday School is at 9:15am unless otherwise noted. The **Summer Worship Schedule** starts on May 26th. Worship and Communion will be every Sunday at 9:15am and there will be no Sunday School unless otherwise noted. Calvary Korean Church will use the sanctuary each Sunday starting at 12:30 pm.

Wed May 1, 2019 10am Fred Matolicz Funeral
 6:30pm Yoga
 7:30pm Laymen Playmen

Sun May 5, 2019 Regular Worship Schedule

Tue May 7, 2019 7pm Stitches
 7pm Transition Team

Wed May 8, 2019 10:00am WELCA
 6:30pm Yoga

Thu May 9, 2019 6:30pm Mother's Day Dinner

Sun May 12, 2019 Regular Worship Schedule

Mon May 13, 2019 5pm Hatfield Roll & Stroll
 7:30pm Christian Connections

Tue May 14, 2019 7:15pm Worship & Music

Wed May 15, 2019 6:30pm Yoga

Thu May 16, 2019 10am H3C meeting

Sat May 18, 2019 8am Spring Fling Flea Market

**Sun May 19, 2019 Regular Worship Schedule - newsletter items due
 Last Day of Sunday School**

Mon May 20, 2019 7:15pm Giving In Service Meeting

Tue May 21, 2019 7pm Church Council Meeting

Sun May 26, 2019 Summer Worship Schedule

Mon May 27, 2019 Happy Memorial Day - church office closed

Tue May 28, 2019 10am Newsletter mailed



WELCA will meet on May 8 at 10am. Bring a bag lunch and dessert will be provided. All Women are invited to participate.

Food for thought:

Only the one who isn't rowing has time to rock the boat.



Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12th

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 5th.**

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.

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 4, 2019 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!

The **Grace Website Members Only Page password** has changed . Call the church office during business hours to obtain the new password and review the latest serving schedule and team meeting minutes.

Carnation Order Form



Mother's Day Carnations
Single Stem Carnations
\$2.50 each
Orders due Sunday, May 5th

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 12th

PLEASE FILL IN:

In **memory** of: _____

FROM: _____

In **honor** of: _____

FROM: _____

Proceeds benefit the women and children of Nehemiah's Way



Office Phone: 215-855-4676
Church Office:
Kathie Afflerbach, Admin:
graceassistant40@gmail.com

Pastor Janet Peterman, Interim
Cell: 215-327-8727
pastorgracehatfield@gmail.com

Stepping Stones –
Jessica Moran, Interim Director
steppingstonesoffice@verizon.net

May 2019

- May 9 Mother's Day Dinner
- May 13 Hatfield Roll & Stroll
- May 18 Spring Fling Flea Market
- May 19 Last Day of Sunday School
- May 27 Happy Memorial Day



See More Important Details Inside

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