



Parish News

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

**February
2020**

A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Friends at Grace,
In mid-December, just as the Christmas rush came barreling down, I received a lovely little note in the mail with a check. Vicki Trueman wrote on behalf of her brother, (Byron) Donald Rector, who used to attend Grace when he was well enough to do so, to let us know that he had died this year, on June 24th. She reports that he was very fond of Grace, and that when he was no longer able to drive, some members of Grace gave him rides to church every week. He lived on Maple Avenue in Hatfield. Frank Stone also remembers helping him when he needed to move into an apartment at Derstine Run. When things became more difficult for him, he attended worship there.

Vicki also reported that Donald didn't have much left at the end, but that she was honoring his wishes as expressed in his will by sending Grace 1/4 of his estate as a donation to Grace's ministry. The check enclosed was for \$285. On the one hand, it is a fairly small check, given Grace's end of the year needs. On the other, given that it was one quarter of all that he had left in the world at his death, it was enormously generous! What a moving testament to Grace's ministry of caring!

The letter warmed my heart, though, in another way. The transition workshops of the fall had helped us surface four (4) mission priorities for Grace for this next phase of Grace's life and ministry, and we are working on a 3-year mission plan (2020-2022) based on these 4 priorities. The four are:

1) *Community Outreach for Those in Need* (e.g., coats for

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Letter	1
Pastor's Letter cont.; Stepping Stones	2
Council Report	3
Prayers; phone update; LCT News	4
Minister of Music;	5
February Serving Schedule	6
February Calendar	7
Movie Matinee	8
Ashes; Thanks; WELCA	9
Rice Bowl; Members Thanks	10
Cinderella	11
Alleluias; Clothing Drive; Laurel House	12
Stitch-In	13
Hatfield Christmas Thanks	14
Hatfield Christmas Thanks, cont.	15

- children, Hatfield Pastors' Fund, H3C, the Warming Center, etc.)
- 2) *Fellowship, Warmth and Welcome of the Congregation* (includes care for members – INreach – including the elderly)
 - 3) *Music at Grace and its Rebirth with the Recent Staff Change* (includes past experiences with others and dreams of what might be possible; diversity of musical styles)
 - 4) *Sunday School, VBS, Stepping Stones: Children & Families of Grace and the Community* (includes both the children and families we already have and building and re-building relationships, especially with Stepping Stones families and staff)

There have also been other ways that our mission priorities have been confirmed. Vicki's letter echoes how important the fellowship, warmth and welcome of Grace are, and how good Grace folks are in reaching out to stay connected when people become ill or have trouble coming to worship. It's a moment of pride for us, to know who we are, and who we are called out to be. Their gift has been acknowledged, but if you knew Donald, or even if you didn't but would like to send Vicki a sympathy or thinking of you card, here's her address:

Vicki Trueman
260 Whitewater Circle
Williston, VT 05495

We thank you, Lord, for Donald's life, and for our life together with him at Grace.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Janet S. Peterman, Interim Pastor

Stepping Stones Update

We are in love with February! It's going to be a busy month with a Spring Fund-raiser in the beginning of the month, a visit from the SPCA, and Valentine's Day parties! We will also be enjoying Cookies with a Cop this month as we welcome the Hatfield Police Department! We can't wait to hear about how police officers help us and take care of our community! We are starting to gear up for Summer and Stepping Stones is very excited to welcome 6-9 year old's into our Summer Program! Start thinking warm!

Jessica Moran, Director
Stepping Stones Nursery School and Day Care

Many Hands Make Light Work

Writing Council's Annual Report provided me with the opportunity to see how far we as a Council and us as a congregation have come. But at the same time it demonstrated to me how far we still need to go.

It has been challenging - balancing the work that needs to be done with the Transition Team with the everyday work that has to be done to keep Grace up and running. Our Teams have accepted that challenge and have worked diligently to be sure all is working at church, children are being taught Sunday School, our home bound are being visited and filled with delicious soup, the community has received financial donations from the Crop Walk, members who have difficulty hearing now have a wonderful hearing assist system and beautiful music fills our hearts with joy each Sunday. As we begin 2020, will you consider joining one of our Teams? I can guarantee you it is not only satisfying to your soul but is also a lot of fun. There is something for everyone's abilities and every time constraint. Do you know how I got started on a team? An article in Grace Notes said, "Do you have 10 minutes a week to lend a hand to someone that needs it?" I thought, "I can do that and look at me now!" If you have a question about what team might be right for you, ask me or any Council Member and we will find what suits you best.

As we move through this exciting year when we will call our new Pastor, there still will be lots of meetings to attend, thoughtful discussions to have and yes more delicious food to consume. But we will emerge through this process stronger and prepared to welcome new members into a growing congregation with an established mission.



This quote by John. Heywood sums it up. "Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

Peggy Schmidt , Council President

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

<i>John Fischer</i>	<i>Elijah Krout</i>	<i>Doug Boldon</i>
<i>Carol Buffone</i>	<i>Joan Lattanze</i>	<i>Dale Moyer</i>
<i>Suzanne Colville</i>	<i>Laura Cooper</i>	<i>Jennifer Kaler-Thomas</i>
<i>Paige Haldeman</i>	<i>Bob Kaler</i>	<i>Wendy Amparano</i>
<i>Anne Lewis</i>	<i>Nancy Sellers</i>	<i>Pam Matolicz</i>
<i>Ron and Karen Hudson</i>	<i>Cindy Kunkel</i>	<i>Lisa Kane</i>
<i>Dorene Bobb</i>	<i>Beth Brown</i>	<i>Annette Beyer</i>
<i>Joe Hopkins</i>	<i>Liz Bauer</i>	<i>Cassi Lambert</i>
<i>Keira Drissel</i>	<i>Andy Armstrong (Friend of MacDonalds)</i>	
<i>Kristopher Yoder</i>	<i>Mandie and Emmett</i>	<i>Gerry Mason</i>
<i>Xavier Jackson</i>	<i>Joyce Salter</i>	<i>Bill Shaffer</i>
<i>Cindy Mancuso</i>	<i>Pastor Lee (Phila. Korean Church)</i>	
<i>Jim Pluda</i>	<i>Diane Graham Miller (Friend of the Walter Family)</i>	

For all who grieve, including: *The family and friends of Charles' Roney's mother; Bob Darde; Fred Matolicz; Lillian Buschman (Kerry Stone's grandmother); Shannon Ryan; Chip and Anne Wood; Ralph Buffone; Gail Constanzer (Shirley Yoder's sister-in-law); Frank "Chick" Mascaro (Jerry's brother); Millie Anderson; Arline Kratz and Marilyn Homan; Barbara Masser (Ray's wife)*

For all who serve others, including those in active duty, deployed overseas and their families: *Matthew Smyrl; Jessica Murphy (Joan Amundsen's*

Please Note: Jerry and Hazel Mascaro are no longer using their land line. Please call their cell phone to reach them.



NEWS FROM LUTHERAN COMMUNITY AT TELFORD

Telford & Grace Inspired Ministries Employment Opportunities Director of Development HVAC Technician Wait-staff, Part-time Prep Cook, Part-time Dishwasher, Full-time Server, Full-time Cook, Full-time Security Technician, Part Time CNA - Health Care, Full-time RN, Full-time, Part-time, Per Diem Visit our website to apply: www.lctelford.org

Minister of Music

Music ministry at Grace has seen the opportunity for the introduction, and in some ways, a refresher on Setting 8 for worship. I'm delighted to have the implementation of that music as it seems to connect well with a spirit of contemporary but also well grounded musically and has a good accompaniment. I welcome reactions and thoughts of its continued singing for a while.

I am so grateful for the Christmas season and the musicians who helped everything come together. There are so many carols and hymns that while we could not sing all of them, it is my hope the ones we sang lifted your spirits! We welcomed back Connie McCarthy and her niece, Katelyn Klinger and her husband Chris. They played "O Holy Night" with me at the piano and it truly was a beautiful musical offering.

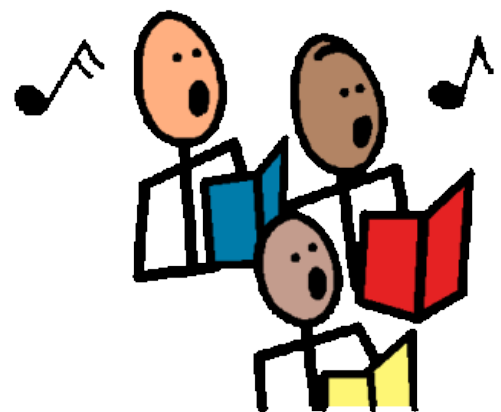
The Sunday School children jumped on board and put together a few simple tunes for the early Christmas service which was a great experience for them and it is my hope that we continue the occasional inclusion of them in ways of music ministry for them and our congregation.

There will be plenty of things to look forward to and I hope the presence of music and a spirit of its gifts bless each of you in the coming months.

I wish to conclude by saying how happy I am and thankful for the choir and their love of music making and their continued support of my leadership. The choir is being asked to participate and help lead music in worship with me at the Telford Lutheran Community this coming March. That service is scheduled for March 8th at 2:30pm.

My sincere gratitude for the opportunity to serve Grace Lutheran Church as your Director of Music Ministry.

Kevin Freaney



February Serving Schedule

Feb	2	9	16	23	26
Communion Assist -1st	Joanne Moyer	Anna Walter	David Kunkel	Andrea Roney	Lori Pluda
Lector - 1st Service	David Kunkel	Peggy Schmidt	Andrea Roney	Kitty Heckler	Kitty Heckler
Acolyte - 1st Service	Bob Smyrl	Walter Family	Ken Seiler	Bruce Schmidt	Lori Pluda
Ushers -1st Service	Ken Seiler & Bob Smyrl	Walter Family	Peggy & Bruce Schmidt	Dave Kunkel & Ken Seiler	Kitty Heckler & Lori Pluda
Greeters - 1st Service	Peggy Schmidt	June Detweiler	Ken & Karen Seiler	June Detweiler	Kitty Heckler
Altar Guild - 1st Service	June Detweiler	June Detweiler	June Detweiler	June Detweiler	Lori Pluda
Comm. Assist- 2nd	Carol MacDonald	NA	NA	Joyce Salter	Kathy Stawasz
Lector - 2nd Service	Beth Krout	Scouts	Frank Stone II	Tami Sarm	Kitty Heckler
Acolyte - 2nd Service	Jayson Tula & Wyeth Slugg	Scouts	Olivia & Sammy Stone	Jayson Tula & Wyeth Slugg	Kathy Stawasz
Ushers -2nd Service	Carol & Paul MacDonald	John & Bonnie Stangl	Kaler Family	Matt Slugg & Jeff Krout	Kay Stone & Kay Deussing
Greeters - 2nd Service	Karen Heacock	Karen Heacock	Carol & Paul MacDonald	MaryJane Moyer	Tami Sarm
Altar Guild - 2nd Service	MaryJane & Dale Moyer	NA	NA	MaryJane & Dale Moyer	Emily Woltmann
Flower Delivery	Kay & Frank Stone	Jeff & Beth Krout	Carol MacDonald	Harold Schaefer	NA
Nursery	Kay Stone & Kathy Stawasz	Jaime Kaler & Crystal Tula	Kerry & Lindsay Stone	Slugg Family	NA
Council Duties:		8am 10:30am	Peggy Schmidt Kay Deussing		

Our **Regular Worship** will be an 8am Communion Service and a 10:30am service with communion on the 1st and 4th Sundays. Sunday School will be at 9:15am unless otherwise noted. Calvary Korean Church will use the sanctuary each Sunday starting at 12:30 pm.

Entire Month: Love Clothing Drive
Sun Feb 2, 2020 **Regular Worship Schedule - Laymen Playmen Install**
 6:00 pm Cub Pack 510
 Tue Feb 4, 2020 7:00pm Stitches
 Wed Feb 5, 2020 10:00am WELCA
 6:30pm Yoga
 Thu Feb 6, 2020 6:30pm Cub Pack 510
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Sun Feb 9, 2020 **Regular Worship Schedule - Scout Sunday**
 Mon Feb 10, 2020 7:30pm Christian Connections
 Tue Feb 11, 2020 7:00pm Property Committee
 7:15pm Worship and Music
 Wed Feb 12, 2020 6:30pm Yoga
 Thu Feb 13, 2020 6:30pm Cub Pack 510

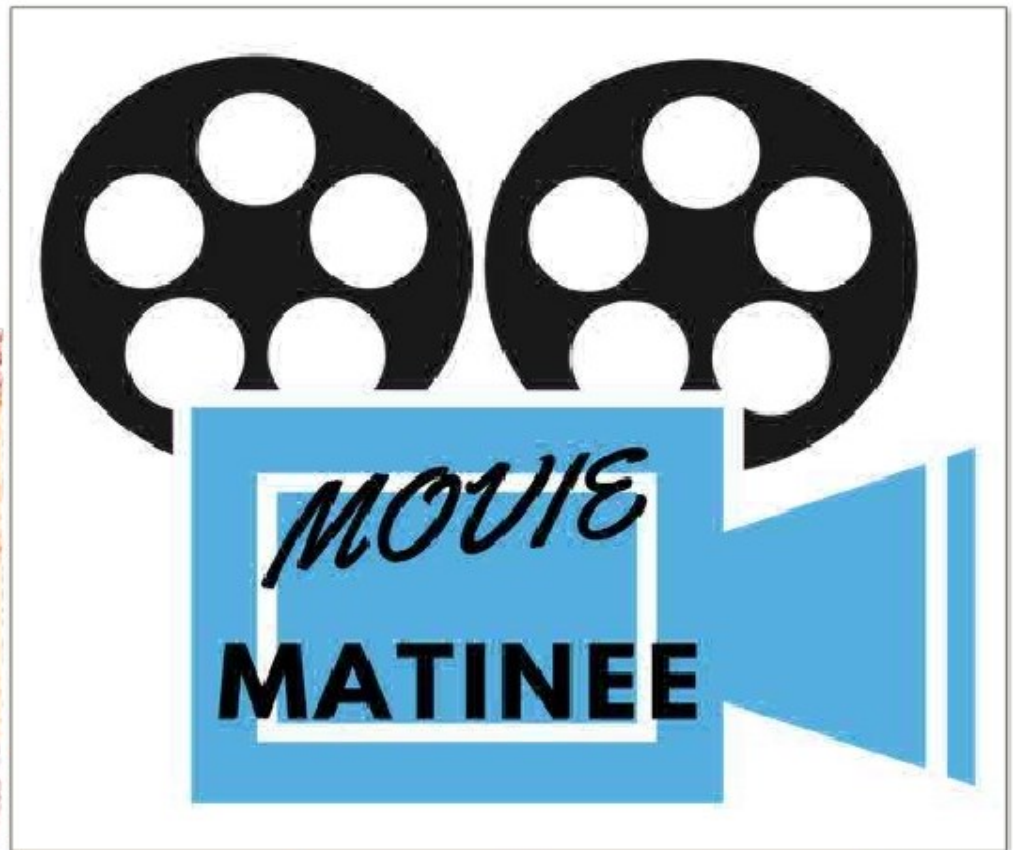
Sun Feb 16, 2020 **Regular Worship Schedule**
 Tue Feb 18, 2020 7:00pm Council
 Wed Feb 19, 2020 6:30pm YOGA
 Thu Feb 20, 2020 6:30pm Cub Pack 510
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Sun Feb 23, 2020 **Regular Worship Schedule**
 12noon Movie Matinee
 Wed Feb 26, 2020 12noon Ash Wednesday Service - Soup after
 6:30pm Yoga
 7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service
 Thu Feb 27, 2020 6:30pm Cub Pack 510



Worship with Holy Communion on Ash Wednesday, Feb 26th: Noon and 7:30 pm with soup lunch served after the noon service.
You're invited!

FEBRUARY
23



**CHRISTIAN CONNECTIONS
COMMITTEE PRESENTS
A MOVIE MATINEE**

**Fellowship Hall
February 23rd 12 pm - 3 pm**

Food: We'll provide Soup, Bread and drinks for lunch and popcorn for snacking.
You bring sides, chips and desserts.

Fun: Watching a family friendly movie to please all ages!

**Questions? Contact Laura Slugg 215 429 0005
or mcslugg@mac.com**

Palm into Ashes

There's a flow to the liturgical year that we feel sometimes in the scripture readings, how they relate to one another and move through the year. Sometimes we can notice that flow in another way. This year's ashes are made from last year's palm.

It's possible to buy ash already prepared, and palm needs to be burned outside using a very hot fire (The palm is string-y and hard to burn, even when quite dry). This year, we'll be gathering last year's palm – and any other older palm you've had sitting around – during the month of February, from 2/2 through 2/23, when we'll burn it to make the ashes for this year's Ash Wednesday. Bring it with you to worship and place it in the basket with the other palm.



Ashes to Go

Pastor Peterman will be offering Ashes to Go in the sanctuary with a simple prayer and blessing to Stepping Stones families around drop off and pick up times on Ash Wednesday, Wednesday, February 26th. Members and friends of the congregation are also welcome to participate. Check Grace Notes or call the church office if you'd like to know the times.

Thank you members and friends of Grace for your generous financial gift at Christmas. How thoughtful of you to let me choose something for myself! I appreciate your kind remembrance, and the many ways you have opened your hearts to me. In this month of Grateful Grace, count me in! Thank you,
Yours in Christ, Pr. Janet Peterman

WELCA will meet Wednesday, February 5th at 10am at Grace. We will have a Bible Study and prepare Valentine Cards for Shut-ins and military members. Bring a Valentine or two to share as well as a brown bag lunch. Dessert will be provided. Come and join us!

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.

Rice Bowl Project Begins Sunday, March 1st

What is the Rice Bowl? During each Sunday in Lent a special offering is observed for the Rice Bowl. These gifts provide food for many in our neighborhood as well as around the world. **In your offering envelope box, special envelopes are provided for each of the six Sundays in Lent.**

Our gifts will be shared with three organizations. The first is the **Hatfield Food Cupboard** at Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church which provides food to those in need in the Hatfield area. The second organization is **Manna on Main Street** in Lansdale which provides food and hot meals for those in the Lansdale area. Finally, we will share a portion of our gifts with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America **World Hunger Project**.

It is our hope that you will consider giving your extra gifts by simplifying your life in some way or by making an intentional effort to put others before your needs and wants. The **Rice Bowl** allows small gifts to come together to make a big difference in the lives of those in need. The *Giving in Service Team* encourages you to share part of your grocery budget by serving one simple meal a week and give that savings to the **Rice Bowl**.

Member Thanks:

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ, WELCA, INreach, Carolers, Communion Ladies, and Grace members: Hi. Cookies were enjoyed by all. Butterfly sun catcher is up and catching sun every day. A big thanks to Joyce for a nice communion & to Kay for the WELCA gifts. Carolers/choir, I so miss singing in choir and inviting me to sing carols along with you made my day extra special. I hung all your beautiful cards on my door & enjoyed seeing them everyday. You all made my Christmas bright, special, & merry. Merry Christmas & Happy 2020.

Love in Christ Jesus, Suzanne Colville.

Dear Pastor Peterman & family at Grace - Thanks so very much for coming to visit me, calling me, and for all your cards. Thank you for your Christmas cards & cookies from others at church. It's been a long time and a painful time. Hope to see you when the doctors say OK.

Love, Joan Roeder

Celebrating our 33rd Year
The Laymen Playmen, Inc.

Proudly Present

2020



Music by Richard Rodgers, Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
As presented by CBS-Television, March 31, 1957

Thursday Feb. 6 8:00 PM

Friday Feb. 7 8:00 PM

**Saturday Feb. 8 2:00 PM
& 8:00 PM**

Sunday Feb. 9 2:00 PM

Thursday Feb. 13 8:00 PM

Friday Feb. 14 8:00 PM

**Saturday Feb. 15 2:00 PM
& 8:00 PM**

Sunday Feb. 16 2:00 PM

Tickets:

www.laymenplaymen.org

Or: 215 ~ 368 ~ 9484

TICKETS

Adults	\$15.00
Seniors (65+)	\$10.00
Students (6 to 18)	\$10.00
Children (5 & under)	\$5.00

Group discounts &
Gift Certificates available

All performances at Lansdale United Methodist Church

300 N Broad St. Lansdale PA 19446

Based on the Hebrew word, hallelu yah, meaning “**Praise the Lord,**” Alleluia has been a word of great praise to God in the life of the church and was prominent in early Christian liturgies. Because of the penitential character of the season of Lent in the Western church, singing or saying the word "alleluia" has historically been suspended during Lent's forty days. This period of individual and congregational reflection on the quality of our baptismal faith and life suggests that the joyful nature of alleluia is more appropriately reserved for our Easter celebrations when it is given full and jubilant voice.

We invite children and the congregation to color an Alleluia and place it in the box, and on Transfiguration Sunday they will be “Locked UP!” BOOM.

The treasure chest will remain near the pulpit. Then on Easter Sunday these Alleluias will be released and hung up all over the church and we then can sing and shout Alleluia with much joy and gusto!

Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!!! Alleluia!!!!

“Sharing the Love” Clothing Drive-

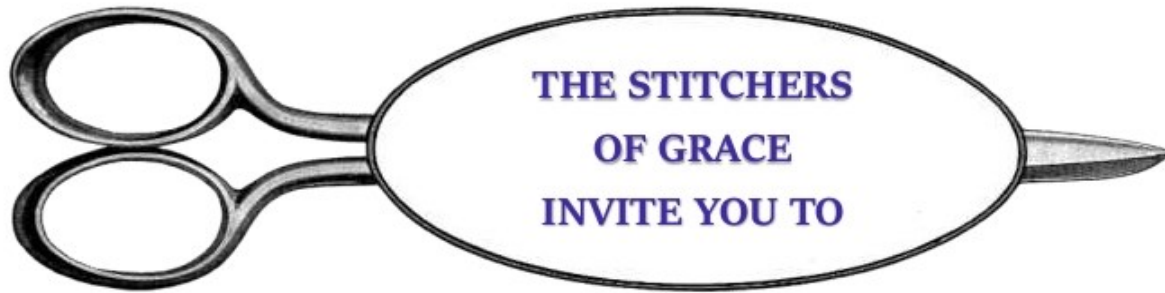
Mitzvah Circle Foundation is in immediate need of children’s clothing especially boys’ clothes. The H3C is sponsoring a clothing drive throughout the month of February. Please bring your donations to church of gently used, clean clothes or new clothing for girls and boys sizes 3-16/18.

Help us “share the love” of clothing to needy children in our community.

Laurel House Valentine’s Day Project 2020

The *Giving in Service Team* invites you to support 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 during **January and February** 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 9th.***

What is Laurel House? Laurel House is a comprehensive domestic violence agency, providing supportive and preventative services throughout Montgomery County. Through the help of local churches and community groups, the women and children are provided with everyday supplies and personal care items.



OUR SPRING 'STITCH-IN'



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.

DATE: Saturday, March 28, 2020

TIME: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **Doors Open at 9:30 a.m.

COST: \$15.00 Advance/\$20.00 at the Door
(Includes Lunch and Snacks)

PLACE: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 40 North Main Street, Hatfield, PA; **Across from the Hatfield Post Office



For Reservations and/or Questions, please contact Peggy Schmidt at (peggy@tailsoftheafterlife.com – 267-222-8449) or Wendy Walter at (wwalter@verizon.net - 215-721-1418)

**Door Prizes & Raffles*

**Class Sessions for those interested in making "Wooly Lavender" Flowers*



Hatfield Christmas Committee, 2019

Over the past 15 years the Hatfield Christmas Committee has received many thank you notes from numerous families in the Hatfield Community. None of this successful outreach could happen without all of your help and generosity. It is a surprise there are so many pockets of poverty in such an affluent and diverse area. Many families, this year, had circumstances beyond their control. Parents who were without work, families needing to move, sickness, and other circumstances that made Christmas for their children well out of their financial reach.

With your help we were able to create 90 boxes of nonperishables that are not able to be purchased with food stamps. We delivered 65 of these boxes to Oak Park Elementary School alone. We served 24 families and provided Christmas gifts of clothing, books, diapers, shoes and boots, coats and toys- All of this with your help, donations and love.

Please read the sincere notes and best wishes to you. Thank you for all you do and may God Bless You in your New Year.

Hatfield Christmas Committee,
Mary Catherine Reilly, Kitty Heckler

“Mary Catherine,
We appreciate the Hatfield Christmas Committee's contribution to the Oak Park Elementary School Holiday Giving. You truly did a wonderful thing! Your generosity had a direct benefit to our students and their families. I have attached a sample of the thank you notes that we received from our families.

Thank you again for your kindness.

Melinda Schewe, Counselor
Oak Park Elementary School, North Penn School District

“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”.

“Thank you so much for thinking of my family this year. Your thoughtful gifts will made my children so happy. I've been going through a lot this year with my husband being

out of work and my landlord asking me to move so he can sell the property. I didn't know how I was going to get a new place to live let alone how I was going to buy gifts for my children so thank you for helping me give my kids a great Christmas."

"The Angel Box of nonperishables was a very nice surprise and was put to good use. We are humbled by the outpouring of giving by the Community."

"We are very grateful for everyone's help. You really showed the Christmas Spirit. May God Bless and Anoint and Place a hedge of protection upon you all."

"Thank you for spreading love."

Below are some more notes in the recipients own handwriting:

Thank you so much for
all the wonderful books,
toys and clothes that
were given to my daughter.
We appreciate and are very
thankful for your thoughtful
gifts. It helped make
Christmas very special
for us. The angel box
was a very nice surprise
and was put to good use.
Thank you to everyone!
We are humbled by the outpouring of giving by
the community

Peace
on
Earth!

Thank you and
best wishes for a
new year
Sincerely
#24

12/12/19

Thank you so much for
the holiday care package
and the holiday gifts.
They are such a blessing!
Have a great holiday!
Oak Park Family
Feliz Navidad!

Dear, Hatfield Community
Christmas Committee

Thank you so much
for everything that you
do for my family and
all the other families!
May God bless you
always
Family #4



Office Phone: 215-855-4676

Church Office:

Kevin Freaney Admin:

graceassistant40@gmail.com

Pastor Janet Peterman, Interim

Cell: 215-327-8727

pastorgacehatfield@gmail.com

Stepping Stones(215-369-2052)

Jessica Moran, Director

[steppingstonesoffice@](mailto:steppingstonesoffice@verizon.net)

[verizon.net](mailto:steppingstonesoffice@verizon.net)

Important Dates

- Feb 6-9 Laymen Playmen present *Cinderella*
Feb 14 Happy Valentine's Day
Feb 13-16 Laymen Playmen present *Cinderella*
Feb 23 Movie Matinee
Feb 26 Ash Wednesday



See More Important Details Inside

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